

Radio Noise Problems & Possible Solutions

It is best to eliminate the interference at its source. Here's a list of possible solutions:

- The most obvious is to turn off the offending device.
- Try a battery operated radio to see if the interference is coming in from the AC 120v line or through the air or both.
- Turn off the circuit breakers to see if the noise stops. If it does then you know it is something in your house. Turn off one circuit at a time to isolate where it is coming from.
- Use a battery operated radio as a direction finder. Turn the radio until the loudest noise is heard and the front and back of the radio will point to the noise origin.
- Carry a radio around the neighborhood and see if you can find the origin of the noise. Ask other neighbors if they have problems (with radio noise obviously).
- If a power pole is suspected, call the utility company and they will check the area and possibly wash the insulators. Dirty power pole insulators are sometimes a cause of difficult-to-find radio interference.
- If you have a hum in your receiver from AC line noise sometimes grounding can reduce the hum greatly. Unfortunately most receivers except stereo receivers do not have a ground connection. Finding a good earth ground may also be difficult.