

Radio 1 Fact Sheet

Production and distribution

- The Radio 1 Breakfast Show with Nick Grimshaw (old) or Gregg James (new) is broadcast weekdays from 06.30-10.00 am.
- The Breakfast Show has been running since 1967, but Nick Grimshaw took over as the 15th presenter in 2012.
- The music is largely playlisted – what is going to be played on daytime Radio 1 is decided by a committee; they choose around 40 records each week for repeated daytime play (A-list records get 25 plays a week, B-list 15, and C-list eight to 10)
- Choices are partly guided by what's already popular with young people online; many older artists are not included as the network is trying to keep an under-30 audience.
- There is also a Brit List which helps push featured new British artists.

Ownership and funding

- The Radio 1 Breakfast Show is produced by the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) and broadcast on BBC Radio 1.
- The BBC Radio 1 service licence states Radio 1's remit is 'to entertain and engage a broad range of young listeners with a distinctive mix of contemporary music and speech. Its target audience is 15-29 year olds and it should also provide some programming for younger teenagers. It should offer a range of new music, support emerging artists - especially those from the UK - and provide a platform for live music. News, documentaries and advice campaigns should cover areas of relevance to young adults'.
- Radio is funded by the Television licence fee. In 2016/17 Radio 1 had a budget of £34.7 million (over £6m less than it had been in 2013/14).
- The BBC is a Public Service Broadcaster, producing programmes for the benefit of the public, funded by the public, not owned by the state and not driven by commercial interests.
- Radio 1's programmes should exhibit some or all of the following characteristics: high quality, original, challenging, innovative and engaging, and it should nurture UK talent.
- The service should deliver its remit by producing a wide range of programmes that expose listeners to new and sometimes challenging material they may not otherwise experience. It should reflect a diverse range of new and UK music.
- Radio 1's daytime programmes should offer a mix of music, information and entertainment and use an extensive playlist to introduce unfamiliar and innovative songs alongside more established tracks.
- In the evening specialist presenters, covering a broad range of musical genres, should support artists at the forefront of new music, assisting their growth and development.
- A wide range of live events should be covered from around the UK and beyond and live music should be featured throughout the schedule, with sessions and concerts from both established acts and experimental new bands. Radio 1 should encourage its listeners to take part in music events and activities.

Maintaining audiences

- The Show's audiences are declining – as are the audiences for BBC Radio 1 as a whole. As the BBC's Media Centre posted on 26 October 2017: 'BBC Radio 1 posted a reach of 10.5m listeners aged 10+ (from ... 10.9m last year) and the Radio 1 Breakfast Show with Nick Grimshaw attracts 5.29m listeners per week compared to ... 5.7m last year

Technology

- BBC says that Radio 1 should encourage the take-up of DAB and other digital technologies, in particular by promoting 1Xtra and making high quality content available on digital platforms.
- Radio 1 should experiment with new technologies as they become available to ensure its young audiences have the maximum opportunity to access programmes as and when they want.
- The show uses digital media for production, distribution and promotion. Social media accounts aid interactive relationship with their audience.

Regulation

- The Agreement is an important constitutional document because together with the Charter, it establishes the BBC's independence from the Government. The Charter sets out how the BBC should work and states its mission, which underpins all its regulation: 'The Mission of the BBC is to act in the public interest, serving all audiences through the provision of impartial, high quality and distinctive output and services which inform, educate and entertain'.

Categorisation

- Audiences are categorised and measured by RAJAR (Radio Joint Audience Research), which is the official body in charge of measuring radio audiences in the UK. It is jointly owned by the BBC and the Radiocentre on behalf of the commercial sector. Unfortunately subscriptions for the full service are expensive – but a lot of newspaper articles discuss the changing make up of the audience
- The BBC aims to reflect a diverse young audience for Radio 1; its Service License 2016 says it should be: reflecting and representing the whole UK population.
- BBC Radio 1 should play a part in this purpose amongst its audience, particularly focusing on the diversity of young people in the UK today. Its presenter line-up, music and content should reflect the audience it is targeting