

Mobiles: Resource 4: Investigation of radiation from mobile phones

Aim: Detecting strengths of microwaves (radiation) from mobile phones.

Time: 25-30 minutes

Equipment needed:

- Microwave detector (COM Environmental Microwave Monitor);
- Mobile phones.

What to do:

- 1 Ensure that all mobile phones are switched off.
 - 2 Place the microwave detector and the mobile phone about 1 m apart on a table. Switch on the mobile phone and NOTE what happens to the strength of the microwaves detected.
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- 3 Switch off the phone and NOTE what happens on the detector.
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- 4 Without moving the phone or the detector, make a call. NOTE how the microwave strength varies. THINGS TO NOTE ARE:
 - Variation in strength once the mobile phone is connecting with the mast.
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- Signal strength when you are not talking.
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- Signal strength when you are talking.
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- 5 Repeat the experiment by:
 - sending a text message
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- getting someone to call the phone. NOTE what happens to the signal from the phone when a call is being received.
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