



Artifact Showcase

Emerson Model 602

Emerson was noted for making small attractive inexpensive table models. This FM-only plastic cabinet Model 602 is from 1949. In that era, AM radio was much more popular than FM, and so most radios sold were AM only. AM/FM radios were gradually gaining in popularity, but it was rare to find a radio designed for FM only.



This radio covers the then “new” 88-109 Megahertz FM band that was adopted just after World War II. Prior to that, the abandoned “old” FM band had covered 42-50 Megahertz.

With its relatively small speaker and monaural rather than stereo FM (which came along in the early 1960s), this model was definitely not high-fidelity.

Small towns around the U.S. often did not have FM stations in 1949, so this model might have been purchased by someone in a major urban area that did.

We appreciate your support of the museum so that historical artifacts like this one, and the stories that go with them, can be preserved for future generations. THANKS!