

D-STAR and Yaesu Fusion

Digital voice reception in CustomTaskbarMC

Windows x64 • RTL-SDR and SDRplay

The taskbar receives a signal from your SDR receiver and passes it to DSD-neo. The decoder converts the digital transmission into speech played through your computer speakers. The modulation selected in each memory determines which decoder the application uses.

You need a working, up-to-date CustomTaskbarMC package with support for both modes, an SDR receiver with an antenna, and DSD-neo. The taskbar starts the decoder automatically. You do not need to launch DSD-neo separately or install a virtual audio cable.

1. Download and install DSD-neo

The tested configuration uses DSD-neo 2.6.1 for Windows x64. To reproduce this setup, download the ZIP package below, rather than the Source code archive.

[DSD-neo 2.6.1 release page](#)

[Download: dsd-neo-msvc-x86_64-native-v2.6.1.zip](#)

1. Close the taskbar and extract the downloaded ZIP archive.
2. Press Win+R, enter %LOCALAPPDATA% and confirm. Create the CustomTaskbarMC, Tools and DSDNeo folders inside one another if they do not already exist.
3. In the extracted package, find the folder containing dsd-neo.exe. Copy its entire contents, including the DLL libraries, into your DSDNeo folder.

```
%LOCALAPPDATA%\CustomTaskbarMC\Tools\DSDNeo\dsd-neo.exe
```

Example path in your Windows user profile:

```
C:\Users\<username>\AppData\Local\CustomTaskbarMC\Tools\DSDNeo\  
    dsd-neo.exe  
    mbe-neo.dll  
    sndfile.dll  
    ...all other files from the same package folder
```

Do not copy just the EXE. Keep all supplied libraries together. <username> means the profile folder name of your Windows account. The easiest option is %LOCALAPPDATA%: Windows automatically opens the correct local data folder for the signed-in user.

2. Set up your receiver

Follow the section for your device. If your receiver already works in the taskbar, you do not need to reinstall its driver.

RTL-SDR, including RTL-SDR Blog V4

1. Connect the RTL-SDR receiver to USB. Close any other applications using it.
2. If the device has not been configured yet, download Zadig from its official website. Run it, choose Options → List All Devices, then select the receiver's interface, usually Bulk-In, Interface (Interface 0).
3. Select WinUSB for that interface and click Install Driver or Replace Driver. Check the device name before confirming. Zadig is used for RTL-SDR; SDRplay uses its own installer.
4. Use the complete taskbar package. The rtlSDR.dll and libusb-1.0.dll libraries should be next to CustomTaskbarMC.exe. A Blog V4 requires an x64 library with V4 support.

[Zadig - official download](#)

[RTL-SDR - USB driver setup guide](#)

[Blog V4 - setup guide and manufacturer library links](#)

If an older taskbar package does not support V4, obtain the x64 library as described in the manufacturer's guide and place it in the taskbar application folder. Do not copy libraries from DSDNeo into that folder.

SDRplay

1. Download Hardware API Windows from SDRplay. The tested setup uses API 3.15; the taskbar's RSP1B support requires API 3.14 or later.
2. Run the installer and keep the default installation location. The installer places the driver, service and libraries in the system; they do not belong in the DSDNeo folder.
3. Connect the SDRplay receiver, close other applications using it, and start the taskbar.

[SDRplay Hardware API - Windows download](#)

Shared decoder: RTL-SDR and SDRplay use the same DSDNeo folder. You do not need two separate decoder installations.

3. Configure channel memories

1. Open the panel for the receiver you are using and select the MEMORY tab.
2. Create or select a bank named Digital. Enable SCAN for that bank.
3. Add your channels, assign them to the Digital bank and select their modulation in the MODULATION column. The table below shows the tested example setup.

Channel name	FREQUENCY MHz	MODULATION	VOLUME
D-STAR 145.550	145.550	DStar	1.0
Yaesu Fusion	145.450	Ysf	1.0

Enter frequencies in MHz, using the decimal separator required by your Windows settings, for example 145.550 or 145,550. These are example frequencies used during testing. For your own station or repeater, enter its receive frequency.

4. Enable ENABLED and leave SKIP unchecked for each channel. Start with VOLUME at 1.0. Naming a channel D-STAR does not select its modulation: you must choose DStar.
5. Press Enter to finish editing the cell. In RTL-SDR, click Apply to scanner, then Overwrite Startup Default to keep the settings for the next launch. In SDRplay, use Apply + save default.

Receiving one frequency

Press Scanner STOP to stop scanning, then select the required memory, for example with the Memory +/- buttons. Check the frequency and modulation at the top of the panel: D-STAR or YSF. Stopping the scan keeps reception active on the selected channel.

Scanning mixed modulation types

Click Scanner START. FM, AM, D-STAR and YSF memories can share the same scan list. The taskbar selects the reception mode for each memory. On a digital channel it looks for a recognized transmission; no digital transmission should mean that scanning continues rather than staying on the channel indefinitely.

For the first check, enable only the Digital bank or hold on a single channel. If the same frequency is also stored as FM, the scanner may stop on that FM memory first and play digital noise instead of decoded speech.

4. Check reception and troubleshoot

After installation, restart the taskbar, select a digital channel and check reception during a known transmission. You should hear intelligible speech from the computer. If the transmission includes an identifier, the decoder may also recognize the station's callsign.

Symptom	What to check
Decoder missing or unable to start	Check that dsd-neo.exe is in the current user's DSDNeo folder, together with all DLLs from the downloaded package. Extract the complete package again if needed.
Only crackling or digital noise	Check MODULATION: DStar for D-STAR, Ysf for Yaesu Fusion. Verify the frequency and make sure the scanner has not selected a duplicate FM memory.
Receiver not found or busy	Check USB and the driver. Close other SDR applications. For SDRplay, check the API installation; for Blog V4, use a library with V4 support.
Speech breaks up or sounds distorted	Use the updated taskbar version. Start with VOLUME at 1.0. Reduce RF GAIN for very strong signals; improve the antenna or tuning for weak signals.
Memory is skipped during scanning	Enable SCAN for the bank and ENABLED for the memory, turn off SKIP, finish editing and apply the settings to the scanner.

RTL-SDR starting point: the test worked with a 1.024 MS/s sample rate, manual RF GAIN of 14.4 dB and RTL AGC disabled. These values suit the tested signal and antenna; they are not mandatory settings for every location.

Two different gain controls: RF GAIN changes the receiver signal level, while VOLUME changes the loudness of the decoded speech. Increasing VOLUME does not fix reception errors.

Keep these essentials in mind

Install the complete DSD-neo package in DSDNeo, use the correct receiver driver, and select the right frequency and memory modulation. The taskbar starts the decoder and supports both scanning and reception held on one frequency.

This guide describes the setup verified on 21 September 2026. Download links appear alongside the relevant steps. Newer DSD-neo releases may use a different package layout; version 2.6.1 above matches the tested setup.