

In my opinion, this is the best free app for music lovers. It's "Radio Garden", a global radio station dial that allows you to drop in on any radio station broadcasting live. The layout, or user interface, is simple but fascinating. Spin the globe, pick a spot, and tune in. I use it all the time but everytime I mention it, no one has heard about it. If you're a fan of music, it needs to be on your phone.

TRT 121
STD OUT

SUPER

0-8 Jamey Tucker

ON-CAMERA TEASE

Everyone loves streaming music and we all have our favorite apps but this may be the best streaming app you've never heard of. I'm Jamey Tucker coming up with a music app you need to try.

ANCHOR INTRO

WE ALL HAVE OUR FAVORITE MUSIC STREAMING APP. WHETHER IT'S SPOTIFY, APPLE MUSIC, YOUTUBE, OR AMAZON. THE PROBLEM IS YOU'RE LISTENING TO THE SAME MUSIC ALL THE TIME.

AN APP YOU'VE PROBABLY NEVER HEARD ABOUT, LETS YOU LISTEN TO MUSIC YOU'VE NEVER HEARD, IN PLACES YOU'VE NEVER BEEN. OUR CONSUMER TECHNOLOGY REPORTER JAMEY TUCKER SAYS, IF YOU'RE A FAN OF MUSIC, IT'S AN APP YOU'VE GOT TO HEAR.

PACKAGE SCRIPT

Streaming music on popular streaming apps like Spotify, Apple, and Amazon is usually fine, but it can get monotonous because their algorithms push music those services think you'll enjoy.

But this streaming music app just may be the best free app in the app stores.

Radio Garden is a non-profit app that's 100% free if you don't mind some pop-up ads now and then. Open the app to see a 3D globe of the world that spins as you drag your finger over it. All those green dots are radio stations, live and on-the-air. Thousands of them.

Hover over one to tune in. I enjoy listening to a station in Ireland for authentic Irish music on St. Paddy's Day and zoom into a station in Glenisland, Ireland.

(sound of a traditional Irish tune)

Need to feel like you're in the Florida Keys? Zoom into A1A.

In Lyon, France there are radio stations that play only Jazz, Blues, Soul, and every other genre.

I spin the globe again to find an all-reggae station in Nigeria.

(reggae song playing)

Over 30 thousand stations to choose from and the app is "planting seeds" of new stations every week.

Find one you like and add it to your favorites, but it's fun just spanning the globe and dropping in on a city and station. You may learn a bit about their culture, and geography. I'm Jamey Tucker and Radio Garden is the app of the day.

ANCHOR TAG

THE APP IS BASED IN AMSTERDAM. IT IS FREE FOR IPHONE AND ANDROID DEVICES. IT'S ALSO AVAILABLE ON THE WEB AT RADIO-DOT-GARDEN.

WEB STORY

Streaming is the most popular way for people to listen to music. Spotify, Apple, Amazon, Pandora, and YouTube Music are great apps to listen to the tunes you're looking for, but discovering new music isn't always easy.

Those apps use algorithms to push music your way that they think you'll like, based on your listening history. What generally happens over time is that you continue seeing music of the same genres and artists.

Remember radio? You may have some stations programmed into your car but listening to radio stations on your phone is likely an afterthought.

Radio Garden is a way to listen to any radio station from anywhere in the world for free.

A non-profit app from a company in Amsterdam, Radio Garden appears on the screen as a 3D globe with thousands of green dots. Each green dot is a radio station broadcasting live. By spinning the globe and zooming into a country or city, you can choose which station to tune into.

As a fan of all types of music, I've enjoyed Radio Garden more than any of the various streaming apps as I can discover music and bands I'd never even heard about.

For example, for St. Patrick's Day, I zoomed into Glenisland, Ireland to listen to a local broadcast from a station that plays traditional Irish music.

Spinning the globe again I found reggae stations in Nigeria, Brazil, and even Moscow. The city of Lyon, France has over a dozen radio stations playing different genres. There are blues, soul, funk, reggae, pop, country, and jazz to select from stations playing music, uninterrupted by commercials.

Other stations I've found play beach music from A1A, a local station in Greenland that plays just about anything, and heavy metal stations in Germany. If you've got a favorite sports team, I suggest tuning into a sports talk station from the area.

You'll hear commercials from those stations and there are some pop-up ads in the app but other than that, it's a good dose of music from those regions.

The app is free to use but a few bonus features such as timers that turn off the music automatically and no pop-up ads cost about \$25 a year to help fund the app. You can also listen online in a web browser at www.radio.garden.

The app is available for iPhone and Android devices.