Understanding signal strength at a given location

To understand if your meter location has suitable network signal strength for submitting meter readings there is a simple test that can be performed on your mobile phone. Most mobile phones can carry out this test.

When testing your signal strength, move to the location where you want to take the reading and wait for 60 seconds for the signal readings to catch up. Next you need to record the signal strength, carrier, and network type (2G, 3G, 4G, LTE, etc.).
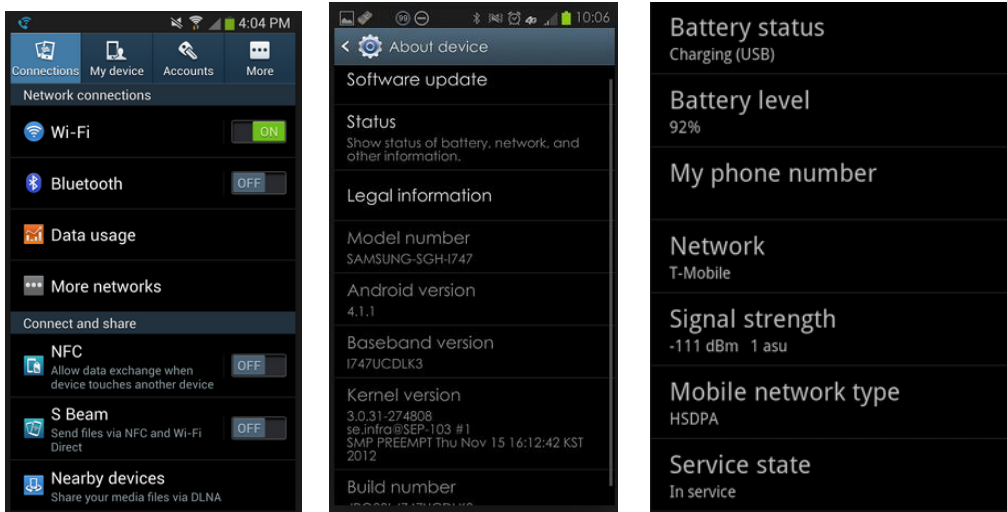
You will be looking to locate a negative number between **-40** to -**130**.
The negative number at the top of your screen is the decibel signal strength reading. The closer this number is to zero, the better your cell signal, and suitability for meter readings. You should also see the carrier name and then the network type.

The best signal you can get is -40.

To locate your decibel strength please use the following guide:

<u>If you have an Android Phone:</u>
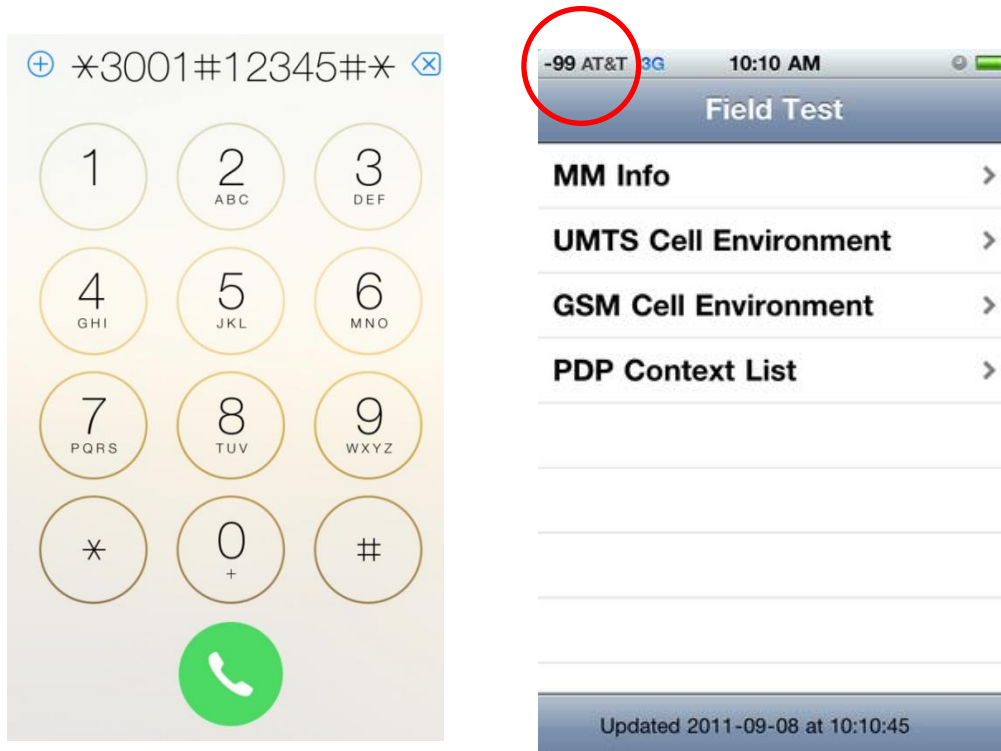
Go to "Settings" > "More" > "About Device" > "Status".

Depending on the model you may also find the details located in "Settings" > "About Phone", and under either Network or Status.

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If you have an iPhone:

Dial the following number, ***3001#12345#*** (including the asterisks and hashtag) and press the "Call" button.

The negative numbers will appear where the bars/dots were in the top left corner of the screen.

To exit this setting and return to the bars/dots press the home and return to the main menu screen.

There are also apps you can download that will show you the signal strength in decibels along with other information. Go to the App Store and search for "cell signal" to find available apps for your device.

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