


Welcome to The Villages Amateur Radio Club "Radio Day"



Choosing a Ham Radio

Your guide to selecting the right equipment

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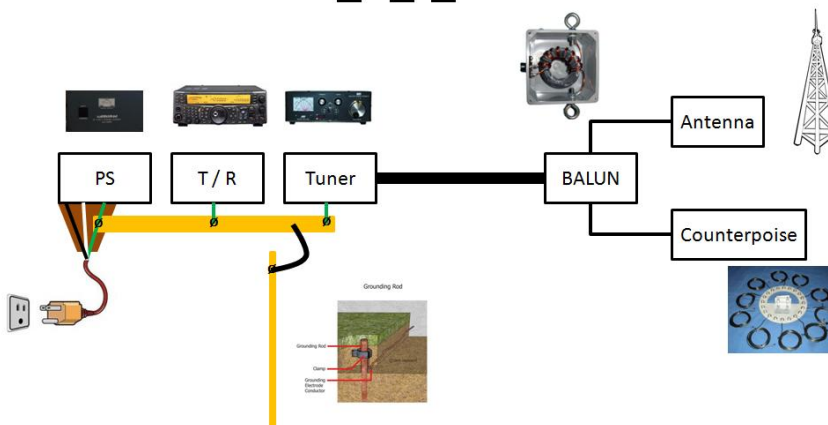
The link below is a 24 page guide covering gear for the VHF, UHF and HF bands equipment. It is written for the new Ham. It is not a buyer's guide!

<http://www.arrl.org/files/file/Get%20on%20the%20Air/Choosing%20a%20Ham%20Radio.pdf>

VHF & UHF



HF



Here is a list of topics you will want to discuss today between your QSOs

Basic Operating

- Using a HT and a Repeater
- Initiating a Call
- Responding
- Q Signals
- Direct Contacts
- Calling CQ
- RST Reports
- Answering CQ
- CW Contacts

Choosing Your First Radio

- Handheld FM Transceivers
- Mobile FM Transceivers
- Mono or Dual Band, Split?
- HF, VHF, & UHF in one
- HF Base Stations

Choosing Your First Antenna

- Handheld Rubber Ducky
- Mobile Magnetic Mounts
- Mobile Fixed Mounts
- J Poles
- Attic VHF, UHF, HF
- Portable HF
- Stealth HF Options

Amateur Radio Bands

- Band Restrictions
- RAC Band Plan
- ARRL Band Plan
- Popular Bands
- HF Bands
- Canadian Allocation
- U.S. Allocation

Operating Modes

- CW
- AM
- SSB
- FM
- RTTY
- Packet
- JT65
- PSK-31
- SSTV

Amateur Activities

- DXing
- Emergency Operation
- Contesting
- QRP
- Special Events

Contesting

- Types of Contests
- Contest Activity
- Categories
- Scoring
- Contest Software
- Submitting a Log

Propagation

- The Ionosphere
- Daily Patterns
- Seasonal Patterns
- Sunspot Cycle

QSL Cards

- Choosing a Card
- Card Contents
- Sending QSLs
- QSL Direct
- QSL Managers
- Via the Bureau
- eQSL

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The link below is a 67 page guide covering operating on all bands for USA HAMs "Operating Procedures for the Radio Amateur" It is written for the new Ham. It is a how to guide with good examples!
<http://www.arrl.org/files/file/Get%20Licensed/1-Eth-operating-IARU-ENGLISH-version3-2010.pdf>

VHF & UHF Repeater Calls

It may seem obvious but you need to know your call sign before you begin. You might also want to review the appropriate phonetics in case someone asks you to clarify your call sign. **K4VRC**

To Initiate a Call

1. Press the mike button on the HT and say "K4VRC listening." Of course you would use your own call sign.

That might be all you need for a response. But if there is no response (which is quite likely) then you might try again but this time say "K4VRC is monitoring and listening for a call."

Usually you don't need to call CQ on a repeater although there is nothing wrong with that. We will look at calling CQ shortly.

2. You get a response something like "K4VRC this is W1AW in Newington, CT, returning. My name is Phil. Back to you. W1AW"

At this point you want to wait for the repeater's tone to indicate it is okay to proceed.

3. Press your mike button and respond. At this point the discussion can be whatever you make it. Give your name and location and any other information you wish to Phil and when you are ready say "Over" or "Back to you."

It is a good idea and the law to give your call sign frequently so after a longer transmission you would say "W1AW this is K4VRC. Over."

The use of the terms "over" or "back to you" are a courtesy that lets the other operating know that you are finished talking and are

turning the operation back to him or her.

4. At the end of the contact you would finally say goodbye or 73 and sign off by saying "W1AW 73, this is K4VRC clear and monitoring." That is if you intend to continue to monitor. If not you could say "...clear and QRT" instead.

SSB HF Phone Contacts

Whether you are operating HF, VHF or UHF without a repeater the procedure is essentially the same. In each case you will be transmitting directly by radio waves to another amateur's radio. You only need to set the operating band and frequency without the need for an offset or tone to access a repeater. However, depending on your radio and antenna it may be necessary to tune the antenna before beginning.

Station	Date	Time	Freq	Mode	RST

READABILITY

- R1 Unreadable
- R2 Barely readable
- R3 Readable with difficulty
- R4 Readable with no difficulty
- R5 Perfectly readable

SIGNAL STRENGTH

- S1 Faint signals, barely perceptible
- S2 Very weak signals
- S3 Weak Signals
- S4 Fair signals
- S5 Fairly Good signals
- S6 Good signals
- S7 Fairly strong signals
- SS Strong signals
- S9 Very strong signals

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SSB PHONE DAILY NETS

3am-5am	BBC Net	3.973 MHz
3am	HHH Net	7.190 MHz
4:45am-6am	Earlybird	3.940 MHz
6:55am	Florida Traffic Net	3.940 MHz
7am	Talk Shop Net	7.188 MHz
7am	72 Ragchew	7.272mhz
7:30am-3pm	Ecars	7.255 MHz
8am	Mich/FI Net	14.242 MHz
8am-12pm	SouthCars	7.251 MHz
8:30am-2pm	Midcars	7.258 MHz
9am	Connecticut/FI Net	14.242 MHz
9am	Beautiful Day Day	14.305 MHz
12pm	Florida Midday Traffic Net	7.242 MHz
6pm	Florida Sideband Traffic Net	3.940 MHz
7pm EST	Georgia SSB net	3.975 MHz
6pm - 9pm	Night Watch	7.192 MHz
8pm	Texas Ragchew Net	28.360 MHz
8pm	NC Traders Net	3.398 MHz
8pm	Texas Ragchew Net	28.360 MHz

SSB DX WINDOWS

160m:	1.840 to 1.850 MHz
80m:	3.775 to 3.800 MHz
40m:	7.045 MHz
20m:	14.190 to 14.200 MHz
17m:	18.145 MHz
15m:	21.290 to 21.300 MHz
10m:	28.490 to 28.500 MHz

PSK 31 WINDOWS

160m:	1.800 to 1.810 MHz
80m:	3.590 to 3.595 MHz
40m:	7.035 to 7.037 MHz
40m:	+/- 7.090
30m:	10.130 to 10.140 MHz
20m:	14.070 to 14.075 MHz
17m:	18.100 to 18.102 MHz
15m:	21.070 to 21.080 MHz
12m:	24.920 to 24.925 MHz
10m:	28.070 to 28.080 MHz

SSTV WINDOWS

80m:	3.730 to 3.740 MHz
40m:	7.035 to 7.050 MHz
20m:	14.220 to 14.235 MHz
15m:	21.330 to 21.346 MHz
10m:	28.670 to 28.690 MHz

RTTY WINDOWS

160m:	1.800 to 1.810 MHz
80m:	3.580 to 3.600 MHz
80m:	Japan: 3.525 MHz
40m:	7.035 to 7.045 MHz
40m:	7.080 to 7.100 MHz
30m:	10.140 to 10.150 MHz
20m:	14.080 to 14.099 MHz
17m:	18.095 to 18.105 MHz
15m:	21.080 to 21.110 MHz
12m:	24.915 to 24.929 MHz
10m:	28.080 to 28.150 MHz

CW DX WINDOWS

160m:	1.830 to 1.840 MHz
80m:	3.500 to 3.510 MHz
40m:	7.000 to 7.025 MHz
20m:	14.000 to 14.025 MHz
17m:	18.075 MHz
15m:	21.020 to 21.025 MHz
12m:	24.695 MHz
10m:	28.020 to 26.025 MHz