

NEW HAM KIT



SOME HELPFUL INFORMATION TO GET
YOU STARTED



WELCOME TO THE WORLD OF AMATEUR RADIO

EM/TG 2021-2

Now that you are a new ham there are a few things you need to do after you receive your call sign.

1. Join the Tri-Cities Amateur Radio Club or a club in your area. (WWW.W7AZ.ORG) There is an application form to mail in.
2. Join ARRL as soon as you get your call sign. WWW.ARRL.ORG
3. Set up your ARRL email account that will forward messages to your regular email. It will typically be: (your call sign) @ARRL.NET
4. Set up a QRZ account and enter your information. www.QRZ.COM
5. Set up and ECHOLINK account. This app will allow you to connect to local repeaters as well as repeaters all over the world using your cell phone or computer. It's very handy. www.Echolink.org
6. Get a radio for at least the 2 Meter VHF band. It can be a HT (Handy Talky) or a mobile radio with an external antenna.
7. Program your 2 Meter radio for the local repeaters. This will require setting the frequency, the offset and the tone.
 - a. This can be done manually for any repeater you want to use.
 - b. The preferred method is to use radio programming software that can let you download all the repeater info within a range from your location.
 - i. Chirp
 - ii. RT Systems
8. Join in on social nets to get to know other hams. The morning net for the TCARC is Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday at 7:30 AM on the W7AZ repeater. It is 146.64 Mhz. That repeater uses a Negative offset and a tone of 100HZ.
9. Ask for help. There are people that are very willing to help you get started.
10. Get on the air and have some fun!!

THEY CALL OUR HOBBY AMATEUR RADIO. THE WORD "AMATEUR" COMES FROM THE LATIN "AMATOR" MEANING **LOVER**. WE'RE LOVERS OF RADIO. WE'RE ENAMORED OF THE NOTION OF COMMUNICATION OVER GREAT DISTANCES WITHOUT ANY PHYSICAL CONNECTIONS.

OF COURSE, THE NONBELIEVERS DON'T UNDERSTAND OUR OBSESSION.

"COULDN'T YOU JUST PICK UP THE TELEPHONE AND CALL THE PEOPLE YOU'RE TALKING TO?"

BLASPHEMY!!! THEY DON'T "GET IT" AND PROBABLY NEVER WILL

JOIN THE TRI-CITIES AMATEUR RADIO CLUB: HERES WHY

1. As a new ham you need to meet other ham radio operators that can help answer questions and get you started right.
2. The monthly meetings have a demonstration or talk about a relevant topic each month. During COVID restrictions we have held our meetings on the air using the 146.64 repeater W7AZ.
3. There is a well-equipped ham shack available to club members and experienced hams that can show you how to use it.
4. The club operates three repeaters (W7AZ 146.64 Johnson Butte; W7VPA-R1 146.76 and W7VPA-R2 449.1 Rattlesnake Mtn) in the Tri-Cities area that service SE Washington and NE Oregon.
5. The Club conducts a morning social net 5 days a week. The subject areas change every day. The conversation is always interesting and it is very casual. You can always ask technical questions of the net control operator and others in the group.

THE SOCIAL NETS ARE A GOOD WAY TO BREAK INTO HAM RADIO AND MEET SOME PEOPLE THAT CAN HELP YOU FIGURE OUT THINGS.

THE CLUB WEB SITE IS www.W7AZ.org AND IT IS A GOOD PLACE TO VIEW PHOTOS OF CLUB ACTIVITIES, LEARN WHAT IS BEING PLANNED AND YOU CAN LOOK THROUGH THE "EQUIPMENT FOR SALE".

A MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION IS INCLUDED IN THIS KIT, OR YOU CAN DOWNLOAD YOUR APPLICATION FROM THE WEB SITE.

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BECOME A MEMBER OF THE ARRL. HERE'S WHY.

1. The ARRL promotes Amateur Radio and works on your behalf with the FCC.
2. As a member, you will receive the QST magazine which is a great source of information, projects you can do and inspirational stories.
3. They do equipment reviews.
4. They provide a ham radio email address that is typically (your callsign@ARRL.NET) which makes contacting other hams easier.
5. They are a source for a great number of publications.

GET SET UP ON QRZ. Why should I sign up?

1. QRZ is a world wide database of ham radio operators.
2. QRZ lets you look up call signs and read bios of the operator.
3. Ham radio operators from all over the world can learn about you.

GET SET UP ON ECHOLINK: This is great!! You can talk to people all over the world as a Tech using radio, or your cell phone, tablet or computer. It's easy to do and so handy when traveling. You use the internet to connect to a local or distant repeater and then you can talk to anyone connected to that repeater using their radio.

www.Echolink.org

GET A RADIO:

If you are going to be a HAM RADIO OPERATOR, you really should have a radio.

As a TECHNICIAN, a great place to start is with an inexpensive HT or Handy Talky. A 2M /70CM hand held radio is a good first radio. Connected to an external antenna, you can connect to local repeaters and extend your range.

After that, invest in a mobile rig and power supply.

Get it programed for the local repeaters and get on the air.

As a General or Extra, the possibilities are endless and it really depends on what you are interested in but it is still a good idea to have the basics of a HT and a 2M/70CM mobile rig.

JOIN IN ON LOCAL SOCIAL NETS.

We are very fortunate to have some really wonderful social nets in the Tri-Cities area. The social nets are valuable in a number of ways. As a new HAM, the social nets are a great way to get over "MIC FRIGHT". You will learn by listening and participating. It gives you a chance to hear how things are done. In no time at all, you will feel like an expert. You will get to know other hams and they will get to know you.

The conversation is always interesting. The NET CONTROL operators that conduct the nets keep it fresh and fun. As Forest Gump said, "Life is like a box of chocolates...you never know what you are going to get." That is true of the social nets. It's always different.

THE “**TRI-CITIES AMATEUR RADIO OPERATORS**” FACEBOOK PAGE IS ANOTHER SOURCE OF FRIENDSHIP AND INFORMATION. YOU WILL FIND POSTINGS OF CLUB EVENTS, CLUB MEETINGS, KIT BUILDING, AND ADVICE ON SETTING UP YOUR STATION, JUST TO MENTION A COUPLE. IT IS ALSO A GOOD PLACE TO MEET OTHER HAMS THAT COULD HELP YOU ENJOY YOUR NEW HOBBY.

https://www.facebook.com/groups/125115840876899/?multi_permalinks=3774467979274982

AS YOU CAN SEE MEMBERSHIP IN THE TRI-CITIES AMATEUR RADIO CLUB HAS A LOT TO OFFER.

FROM VIRTUAL AND IN-PERSON CLUB MEETINGS, TO HAM RELATED PROGRAMS, DEMONSTRATIONS AND A WELL EQUIPPED “HAM SHACK” THAT IS OPEN TO MEMBERS. WE ALSO HAVE SOME TEST EQUIPMENT YOU CAN CHECK OUT. THIS IS A GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN AND SERVE OUR COMMUNITY IN TIME OF DISASTER.

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SOME REALLY GOOD STUFF!
TRI-CITIES REPEATER FRQUENCIES LIST.
FAVORITE “SIMPLEX” FREQUENCIES.
HAM RADIO EQUIPMENT MANUFACTURERS.
HAM RADIO EQUIPMENT SUPPLIERS.
WEB SITES FULL OF INFORMATION.
A BOOK YOU MIGHT WANT TO HAVE.
LIST OF AMATEUR RADIO FREQUENCY BANDS.
THE “CONSIDERATE OPERATOR’S FREQUENCY GUIDE”.
LOCAL AMATEUR RADIO CLUBS

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS

WE RECOMMEND THAT YOU JOIN ONE OF THE LOCAL HAM RADIO CLUBS AND REPEATER ASSOCIATIONS. JOIN IN DURING OUR VIRTUAL "ON THE AIR" MEETING THE FIRST MONDAY EVERY MONTH AT 7:PM LOCAL TIME

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SIMPLEX AND REPEATER FREQUENCIES

SIMPLEX 146.520

SIMPLEX 146.580

SIMPLEX 446.000

WF7S 146.800 – OFFSET PL TONE = 123

LOCATION: Spout Springs. Oregon

WF7S 146.620 – OFFSET PL TONE = 123

LOCATION: Pasco, Washington {WIRES-X}

W7AZ 146.640 – OFFSET PL TONE = 100

LOCATION: Johnson Butte, Tri-Cities, WA.

W7VPA 146.760 – OFFSET PL TONE = 100

LOCATION: Rattlesnake Mtn. Tri-Cities, WA.

N7LZM145.410 – OFFSET PL TONE = 100

LOCATION: Jump Off Joe Butte, Tri-Cities. WA. {Echolink IRLP}

W7UPS 145.390 – OFFSET PL TONE = 103.5

LOCATION: Horse Heaven Hills, Tri-Cities, WA. {Echolink IRLP}

AL1Q 146.960 – OFFSET PL TONE = 74.4

LOCATION: Walla Walla, Washington

KD7DDQ 147.280 + OFFSET PL TONE = 103.5

LOCATION: Pikes Peak, Walla Walla, WA.

AL7HO145.490 – OFFSET PL TONE = 103.5

LOCATION: Plymouth, Washington

AL7HO147.020 + OFFSET PL TONE = 103.5

LOCATION: Plymouth, Washington

KH6IHB147.140 + OFFSET PL TONE = 127.3

LOCATION: Walla Walla, Washington

KA7SSB147.180 + OFFSET PL TONE = 100

LOCATION: PROSSER

N7LZM147.220 + OFFSET PL TONE = NONE

LOCATION: Johnson Butte, Tri-Cities, Washington

W7NEO147.320 + OFFSET PL TONE = NONE

LOCATION: Benton City, Chandler Butte {Fusion – WIRES-X}

W7UPS443.950 + OFFSET PL TONE = 123

LOCATION: Tri-Cities, Washington

W7AZ 449.100 – OFFSET PL TONE = 100

Location: Rattlesnake Mtn. Tri-Cities

W7JWC443.775 + OFFSET PL TONE = 203.5

LOCATION: Kennewick, Washington {IRLP}

AL1Q443.4500 + OFFSET PL TONE = 123

LOCATION: Herten Park, Walla Walla

AL7HO443.7500 + OFFSET PL TONE = 103.5

LOCATION: Plymouth, Washington {WIRES-X}

KL7NA444.2500 + OFFSET PL TONE = NONE

LOCATION: Walla Walla, Washington

WB7WHF444.8750 + OFFSET PL TONE = 141.3

LOCATION: Prosser, Washington

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CLUBS AND REPEATERS

SPOUT SPRINGS REPEATER ASSOCIATION

www.wf7s.net

TRI-CITIES AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

www.w7az.org

YAKIMA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

www.w7aq.com

KAMIAK BUTTE AMATEUR REPEATER ASSN.

www.kbara.org

W7UPS REPEATER

www.w7ups.com

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AMATEUR RADIO EQUIPMENT MANUFACTURERS AND SUPPLIERS

HAM RADIO OUTLET	www.hamradio.com
DX ENGINEERING	www.dxengineering.com
GIGA PARTS	www.gigaparts.com
MFJ ENTERPRISES	www, mfjenterprises.com
RADIODDITY	www.radioddity.com
ICOM AMERICA	www.icomamerica.com
YAESU	www.yaesu.com
KENWOOD RADIO	www.kenwood.com
ALINCO	www.alinco.com
DIAMOND ANTENNAS	www.diamondantenna.net
COMET ANTENNAS	www.natcommgroup.com

INFORMATION WEBSITES

EVERYTHING YOU WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT HAM RADIO

www.hamsphere.com

AMERICAN RADIO RELAY LEAGUE (ARRL)

THIS IS OUR PUBLIC VOICE TO THE FCC

www.arrl.org

WE RECOMMEND YOU JOIN THE ARRL FOR IT'S MANY BENEFITS AND
TIMELY MAGAZINE "QST".

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION (FCC)

www.fcc.gov

MAGAZINES: QST www.arrl.org

CQ www.cq-amateur-radio.com

LOTS OF INFORMATION AND STRAIGHT ANSWERS:

www.eHam.net

THE ONE BOOK YOU SHOULD HAVE NEAR YOUR RADIO: FCC RULES AND
REQUATIONS PART 97

ANOTHER RECOMMENDED BOOK WITH LOTS OF GOOD INFORMATION: "ARRL
HANDBOOK"

