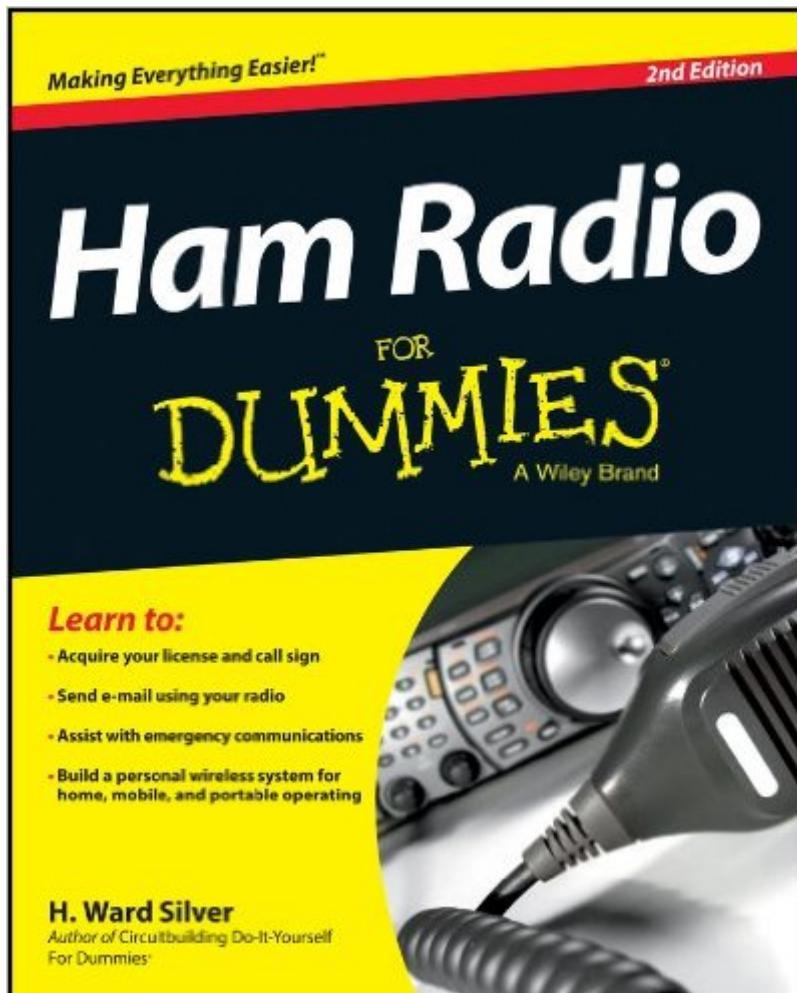


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# Ham Radio For Dummies



## **Synopsis**

An ideal first step for learning about ham radio Beyond operating wirelessly, today's ham radio operators can transmit data and pictures; use the Internet, laser, and microwave transmitters; and travel to places high and low to make contact. This hands-on beginner guide reflects the operational and technical changes to amateur radio over the past decade and provides you with updated licensing requirements and information, changes in digital communication (such as the Internet, social media, and GPS), and how to use e-mail via radio. Addresses the critical use of ham radio for replacing downed traditional communications during emergencies or natural disasters Provides updates to all documentation of the American Radio Relay League Explains recent changes to picking your own call sign Places a special emphasis on the major reasons people get into amateur radio: emergency communication, digital communication, and do-it-yourself science Looks at online mapping and charting of websites Whether you're just getting turned on to ham radio or already have your license, Ham Radio for Dummies, 2nd Edition helps you with the terminology, the technology, and the talknology.

## **Book Information**

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## Customer Reviews

I'm always a bit suspicious of the "Dummies" and "Idiots" books, as many of them really short on information. But this book is really full of information about how to get started in ham radio. It is well organized and well written. One note: this has very little detail about how to pick out your first radio; plenty of general information, but it is not a product selection guide. But if you read it, you will realize, as the author recommends, that the best way to buy a radio is to make some friends in the ham radio community and get some help picking out equipment. But I can't recommend this book enough....really helpful.

The author is a well-known radio amateur who writes a regular column in QST, the largest ham radio magazine. In this book he gives a broad overview of the hobby, introducing the newcomer to its many facets. It takes the reader through the process of earning a ham license, then shows the new ham what he can do with that license. I plan to buy a copy for each graduate of our radio club's licensing course. The new edition of the book (August, 2013) updates all the information in the original. Outstanding book for anyone with an interest in amateur radio.

My goals with this book were twofold, picking up knowledge helping me get licensed, and picking up skills to actually operate the gear. The book has a general overview of everything HAM can do. It's not pretty deep on actual details. For someone new to the subject, it actually was kind of surreal. Photos of 1970 automotive dashboard, CRT monitors, moving TO 9600 bps rates. There's also a lot of general life advice like searching the internet or to be early for meetings. I wasn't sure if the author understood the "for dummies" was a tongue-in-cheeks concept. At any rate, this is advice not specific to HAM radio. There's a lot of detail on how to get licensed. Disappointingly, it's all about the process of getting licensed, not the skills or knowledge to get licensed. There's extensive information about building your own antenna, how to organize a computer desk and multiple stationary radios, and designing your own room dedicated to HAM radio. Once again, in a for dummies book, is that going to be of interest to someone new to the subject? In summary, somewhat entertaining overview of everything you can do with a HAM radio that you'll want to read front to back. I wished I had gotten a book focusing more on the beginner and teaching hands-on skills.

You are not going to automatically pass the Amateur Radio Tech License with this book but almost. A very, very good introduction to the Ham Radio world but you need to seek out a class- for techs or do a lot of study with ARRL's questions and answers. Over all this is an excellent book - just do

some additional study and really understand the rules and concepts.

This is a great book, well written and comprehensive. I know of Extra class hams that bought this book and learned some new stuff! Whether you're just interested in Ham radio or you've been a ham since the Novice days, this should be in your library. I highly recommend it.

As is common with the "Dummies" books, it serves as a good outline, and provides links to more in depth material on the subjects it outlines. A very good guide that touches on the many aspects of Ham Radio.. Could be the "jack of all trades" book, as I said, a great outline of the hobby, that can direct you to more in depth material that may interest you.

This is an excellent starter book for anyone wanting to get into han radio but doesn't know anything about the technology or regulations and procedures. Also a great book for anyone wanting to learn about electronics even if they don't want to get into ham radio.

Very good book for new Hams or people getting back into ham radio. Explains most all of the modes of operation including the newer digital types. A good guide for the not highly experienced ham. A great refresher.

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