

The purpose of the tests is to ensure that licensees operate their stations safely and without causing interference to others. Also, it teaches you to become a Professional Communication Station Operator, and the knowledge gained gives you the confidence to pursue projects that you may have never dreamed of. Licensed Amateurs gain great privileges, and the trust put in Amateurs by Governments all over the world, especially in times of disaster, is great. It is a truly revered and special hobby, with a camaraderie seldom found elsewhere. **Why not contact your local Amateur Club Station, and experience for yourself some High Tech Communications FUN!**

PLEASE JOIN US!

We all look forward to meeting you on the Air!

☆ **NEW EASY ENTRY LEVEL FOUNDATION LICENCE** ☆

LIC	BANDS (M/GHz)	TX PWR	TESTS REQU.	JUST SOME OF THE MODES YOU CAN USE.
FOUNDATION	3.5*, 7, 21 MHz - SSB, AM, CW. 28, 144 & 430 MHz - SSB, AM, CW, FM.	3W FM AM CW 10W SSB	BASIC Foundation Theory & Regulations BASIC Foundation Practical	FM Repeaters & Simplex, World Linked Repeaters, FM VHF/UHF DX, Local and World HF Comm.'s, SSB, CW. (WEEKEND COURSE!) <i>*Restricted Band Access</i>
STANDARD	3.5*, 7, 14, 21, 28, 52*, 144, 430 MHz, 1.2, 2.4, 5.6 GHz	30W FM AM CW etc. 100W SSB	STANDARD Theory ADVANCED Regulations ADVANCED Practical	MOST MODES AS BELOW with some minor restrictions i.e. No TV. <i>*Restricted Band Access</i>
ADVANCED	ALL 23 AMATEUR BANDS ALL MODES 1.8 MHz - 250 GHz, SSB, AM, CW, FM, VSB, TV etc.	120W FM AM CW etc. 400W SSB	ADVANCED Theory ADVANCED Regulations ADVANCED Practical	ALL MODES FM Repeaters & Simplex, World Linked Repeaters, Packet (RF Email), Vehicle Tracking, All Digital Modes, HF DX, VHF/UHF/SHF - DX - SSB, AM, FM, VSB - . Also TV transmission, Slow Scan TV, work Satellites, Astronaut Comm.'s, Moon Bounce, Meteor Scatter and much much More!

What you need to do ...

The exam may be undertaken in one session¹ OR as part of a course of training.²

- Study Reg's, Theory and Practical as an independent student, at home using Internet and/or Multi-Media courses¹ or through an attended class².
- Arrange for and sit the desired multi choice tests & practical¹ if applicable.
- Await your results from the WIA. (approx. 1 - 2 weeks.)
- The Aust. Comm.'s & Media Authority will then issue you with a Certificate of Proficiency, Amateur Licence and allow you to pick a call sign.

NEW EASY ENTRY FOUNDATION LICENCE

The new Foundation Licence is an **EASY** entry level licence designed to get you **ON AIR FAST!** It offers generous band privileges at lower power levels. Everything you need to know to gain your Foundation Licence is in the **Foundation Licence Manual**, available from the WIA Web Site, Clubs or by Email, Fax or Postal order. ▶ ▶ ▶

You can gain your Licence in a weekend ... and your ON THE AIR!

AMATEUR RADIO MAGAZINE

available from your local Newsagent.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION AND AN AMATEUR RADIO STATION DEMO, PLEASE CONTACT A CLUB NEAR YOU

CONTACTS

Wireless Institute of Aus. (WIA) - www.wia.org.au
ACMA (Licensing) - www.acma.gov.au

LOCAL CONTACTS & STATION DEMO'S

COURSES

Multi-Media and On-Line courses for the **Standard** and **Advanced** Certificates. Please visit ...
The Radio & Electronics' School or **Email**.

FOR MORE INFO. ON AMATEUR RADIO
please go to ...
www.users.on.net/mickeymouse

This Brochure is intended as a guide only - please consult the ACMA & WIA for detailed information.

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AMATEUR RADIO
COMMUNICATIONS EXPLORATION

"It's a Great Hobby"

TAKE THE CHALLENGE AND EXPLORE THE WORLD

NEW EASY ENTRY FOUNDATION LICENCE

INFORMATION BROCHURE

The graphic features a central globe with various radio-related icons: a satellite, a radio tower, a laptop, a microphone, and a space station. The globe is surrounded by stars and a crescent moon. The text is arranged in a vertical flow, starting with the title at the top, followed by the slogan, the main challenge text, the license title, and finally the brochure title at the bottom.

WHAT IS AMATEUR RADIO?

Amateur radio is great fun. It is the most interesting, educational, democratic and rewarding hobby in the world today. Amateur Radio (AR), (also known as "Ham Radio" due to Amateurs skills), is the personal use and experimentation with radio equipment for local, worldwide and space communications. Radio Amateurs communicate with other Amateurs across town or around the world on special sets of radio frequencies allocated for our specific use. We are legally licensed to talk with any of the other three million Amateur's in more than 300 countries around the world, including Amateurs stationed at the North and South Poles, and even Astronauts as they circle our planet.

Signals transmitted from AR stations may travel a few metres or can circle the Earth, and even bounce off the moon to be received on the other side of the planet. You would be amazed at the different types of communication available to us, all free to explore. No timed calls or charges, and no wires, just great fun and friendship with everyone sharing a common interest.

WHO ARE AMATEURS?

Well, we are just ordinary people with an interest in the magic of radio, and how a voice can travel through space from the other side of the world and be captured by a piece of wire, to be received loud and clear at our station. Once licensed, we wonder why we waited so long, as the enjoyment of the hobby gets better and better as you explore the endless possibilities.

Amateur Radio Operators are truly citizens of the world. Our call signs are passports into most countries via the airwaves. National boundaries, politics, colour, sex, age or occupation are no barrier to AR, with very few countries not allowing this great hobby. Amateurs enjoy talking all over the world and beyond, either on regular schedules or as chance contacts. Many have formed life long friendships with people they have never met, while others take the opportunity to travel interstate or overseas to visit their Amateur friends.

WHAT DO RADIO AMATEURS DO?

Amateurs enjoy operating from their home stations, from their car, boat, yacht, aircraft or while out walking or hiking and on outings and Amateur expeditions. We talk about a wide variety of subjects, some technical, while others also enjoy taking part in the many radio contests held.

Today, our own Amateur Mobile & Satellite Networks allow us to talk to the world, including Amateurs at the Poles and Astronauts in space using hand held transceivers the size of a modern mobile phone.

Amateur Radio Operators communicate mainly by voice, but use video, a vast range of digital modes, Morse code, and even use the Internet to link local repeaters to other repeaters all around the world.

Local repeater systems located in high areas re-transmit signals allowing large distances to be covered. The ultimate repeaters are our own Amateur Satellites, which were built by Amateurs and lifted into space by the various space agencies around the world. Truly amazing for a hobby, don't you think?

Amateurs also transmit live and recorded broadcast quality television from their own TV stations, or just chat via "videophone". They also send digital photographs and other computer data over the radio waves. Packet Radio is just one example, and is used for Email, screen chat and many other purposes including tracking vehicles positions and speeds on real time computer maps. There are just so many facets to AR that it's impossible to mention them all here. The hobby is what you choose to make of it.

Amateurs (Std & Adv Lic. Class's) are entitled as part of their licence privileges to build their own equipment or modify second hand commercial units, then test and use them in their own station. Most Amateurs build and erect their own antenna systems and pursue a vast range of simple to complex electronic projects. As most AR equipment is commercially available, Amateurs can also choose to buy some or all of their transmitters and other station equipment. It's completely up to you. **Even with \$100 and a Foundation Licence, you can talk to stations world wide.**

The social aspects are great too, on and off the air. You can join the Wireless Institute of Australia (WIA) and/or one of the many local clubs or groups and enjoy the variety of events they hold. You may also choose to assist in a major event like the World Rally Championship, or numerous others, where skilled Amateur Volunteers supply the communications over their extensive Amateur Radio Network. Also, in times of disaster, Amateur's skills are often called upon around the world to supply vital communications where "normal" communications are disrupted. Just some examples were when AR was responsible in alerting the outside world of Cyclone Tracey's devastation in Darwin and the Terrorist attacks and cyclone's in the US.

The possibilities in Amateur Radio are endless, you could build a simple transmitter, or even a satellite for launch in to space. The only limit is your imagination, and how involved you become is entirely up to you.

WHO CAN BECOME A RADIO AMATEUR?

The short answer is YOU CAN! Radio Amateurs are men, women and youngsters, the able and the disabled from all walks of life. As Radio Amateurs they have tremendous fun, make great friendships and gain a huge sense of personal satisfaction and achievement. **In Australia, there is no minimum age for obtaining an Amateur Radio Licence. AR provides an excellent introduction into astronomy, the absorbing world of computers & IT, electronics and radio, so many young Amateurs go on to choose careers in these fields.**

Radio Amateurs also include many retirees and people with disabilities who find that AR opens the world to them from the comfort of their own homes, keeps them active and alert and opens new horizons every day. Many famous people such as King Hussein of Jordan and King Juan Carlos of Spain have become Radio Amateurs. **Dick Smith is another of the many well known personalities who enjoy AR. Our own Andy Thomas (VK5JAT & W5MIR) is not only an Astronaut for NASA, but an Australian Amateur Radio Operator.** Andy has talked to hundreds of Australian Amateurs from space while aboard MIR, the ISS and the Space Shuttle on his many missions. As most Astronauts hold Amateur Licences, there continues to be many contacts made to and from the Space Shuttle and International Space Station. **You might just find yourself talking to a celebrity!**

HOW CAN I BECOME AN AMATEUR?

You can begin as a listener on the amateur bands now, but to transmit you must have an Amateur Communication Station Licence that is issued by the Australian Communications & Media Authority (ACMA). In return for being granted a Licence for life, and thousands of "channels" in 23 frequency bands to operate in, all with their own unique and special characteristics, Radio Amateurs are required to pass tests in basic electronic theory, practical & regulations. The tests are not hard, and the study enjoyable because you are learning about something you are interested in. **Many 10 – 16 year olds are Amateurs along with many adults who never completed school! ... ANYONE CAN DO IT!**