

The Amateur in You, Part 1

What have you been pondering?



Facets of the craft

Once you get licensed, it's not always apparent what you can do with ham radio besides talk with your brother on a hike. In fact, there are many activities available to you, and you might just find that more than one appeals to you. Here's a short list of ham radio activities that an operator can get into:

Nets

[Local](#), [social](#), [HF](#), and [themed](#)
[Faith-based](#) ([Area](#), [ERC](#), church)
Emergency ([ARES](#), [RACES](#), [CERT](#))
[Start your own](#)

Service

Government ([city](#), [county](#), [state](#), [national](#))
Community ([CERT](#))
Religious ([ePrep](#), [ERC](#))
Weather ([Skywarn](#), [NWS](#))
Outdoors ([TERT](#), [ultra-marathons](#), [parades](#))

Contesting

[QSO parties](#)
[Field Day](#) ([summer](#), [winter](#))
[DXing](#), [spotting](#), [logging](#)

Digital radio

[FT8](#), [FT4](#), [JS8Call](#), [JT-65](#), [JT-9](#)
[DMR](#), [Fusion](#), [D-STAR](#), [AllStar](#)
[RTL-SDR](#)
[PSK31](#), [Packet](#), [NBEMS](#), [RTTY](#)

Direction-finding

[Fox hunts](#)
[DFing gear](#)

DIY

[Antennas](#)
[Projects](#)

Installation

[Building](#), experimenting, repairing

Space

[Satellites](#) ([how-to article](#))
[ISS](#) ([International Space Station](#))
[EME](#) ([moonbounce](#))
[Space weather](#) ([propagation](#), [conditions](#))

Social gatherings

[Clubs](#), [swap meets](#), [hamfests](#), [conventions](#)
Barbecues, picnics, potlucks, luncheons
Ice cream socials, ad-hoc gatherings

Giving back

Become a [VE](#) ([Volunteer Examiner](#))
Teach [ham radio courses](#)
Be an [Elmer](#)

[Monitor](#)

More

[Morse code](#) / [CW](#)
Repeater-chasing (verification)
[ATV](#) ([amateur television](#))
Join [ARRL](#)

How about you?

Ham radio is a hobby, a tool, a craft, and a social medium. What's your favorite ham radio activity? Can you think of others? If you have questions about any of these, feel free to ask one of the club leadership!

