

# Building Your First HF Station

## Course Description

Presenter: George T. Williams Jr., N6NKT, [n6nkt@yahoo.com](mailto:n6nkt@yahoo.com)

WebEx Session: October 28, 2017 @ 7pm  
Login available at 6:40pm

One of the many tasks of being a Ham Radio Operator is to determine what equipment is needed to get on high-frequency (HF). It is fairly easy to chat with friends to determine what UHF or VHF handheld unit to purchase but when comes to HF; it is more difficult because there are few components that all need to work together.

In this WebEx session, I will attempt to answer the following questions to get you started in building your own basic Ham Radio HF Station;

- What is a Ham Radio Shack?
- What is the best location for the Ham Shack?
- What is the difference between base, mobile and portable station?
- What is “multi-band” and “multi-mode” stuff?
- What are the various components required for HF radio operation?
  - Power Source (AC or DC)
  - HF Radio (also known as a rig or transceiver)
  - CW Key (used for transmission of Morse Code)
  - Antenna
  - Various cables to connect all the components together correctly
  - Antenna Tuner, is this required?
  - Test Tools such as DVM, SWR/Power meter and Antenna Analyzer
  - Computer/Laptop
  - Grounding your equipment
- What do you need to operate various “Digital Modes”

This Elmer session does not require any previous knowledge of HF operation or equipment. The goal of this session is to provide basic information for you to understand what may be needed for you to setup your first HF ham station.

This Elmer session will not discuss what equipment to acquire or what is the best or worst. Selection of equipment is a personal thing and research is required by you to make your own selection to meet your needs.

Bio: I was first licensed as a Technician in 1987 and currently holding an Extra Class License. Over the years, I have borrowed and purchase various HF related equipment for my home, car and field operation. I also setup and operated in the field for various radio contests, Summit On The Air (SOTA) and DXpedition such as Conway Reef (3D2C). I am also the Radio Officer for the Silicon Valley Chapter or American Red Cross.