

Choosing a Radio, Deep Dive

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Disclaimer

- I am not going to tell you what radio to buy
- All hams have a bias (positive or negative) toward manufactures and radios including me
- To find the best radio for you, you will have to do the work
- A better antenna will improve you signal more then a better radio

My Biases

- In our household we have three ICOM radios and one Yeasu radio
 - IC-7100 Mobile HF, VHF and UHF, IC-7300 base HF, IC-7610 base HF
 - Yeasu FTM-400XD C4FM, Mobile VHF, UHF used as a base
- Previous Radios
 - ICOM-740 80-10M HF only receive ham bands (my first radio, used for 5 years)
 - Kenwood TS-850S 160-10M HF (used for over 20 years)
 - ICOM IC-821H All Mode VHF, UHF, Satellite base (used for 10 years)
 - FlexRadio 6600M 160-6M HF (used for 3 months)

Overview

- This is a follow-on to my presentation given on February 15, 2021
- We will deep dive into the following three topics
 - Choosing your first HT
 - Choosing your first VHF/UHF base station
 - Choosing your first HF radio

Questions Only You Can Answer

- How much money can you spend?
- What do you want the radio to do for you?
- How will it fit in with your current or planned station?

How to Evaluate Radio Choices

- QST Magazine reviews: <http://www.arrl.org/reviews-listed-by-manufacturer>
- eHam user reviews: <https://www.eham.net/reviews>
- YouTube search
- Hamvention, after COVID shutdown
- Dx Engineering, after COVID shutdown

YouTube Reviewers

- laboenligne.ca, Pascal Villeneuve, VA2PV 15.2K subscribers
- Bob Nagy, AB5N 8.16K subscribers
- Ham Radio Crash Course, Josh Nass, KI6NAZ 191K subscribers
- Dave Casler, KE0OG 90K subscribers
- Matthew Kaskavitch, K0LWC 9.46K subscribers

2M/70CM Local Repeaters

Distance	FM	C4FM	DMR	D-Star
10 miles	6	6	1	0
25 miles	45	8	7	2
50 miles	Too many to count	18	25	9

Digital Modes

Mode	Initial Setup	Radio Programming	Network Navigation
C4FM	Easy	Easy	Easy
DMR	Hard	Hard	Radio Dependant
D-Star	Hard	Easy	Easy

First HT

- I only considered new HTs that work on 2 meter and 70 centimeter
- If a QST review is available I give the month and year it was published, you need to belong to ARRL to download a copy
- I give the eHam rating x.x/yy. x.x is the rating from 1 to 5 and yy is the number of people that reviewed the radio. I also provide the url to the reviews
- I provided the url to one YouTube review
- I provided a link to a reseller with the lowest price I could easily find

Choosing Your First Analog HT

- BaoFeng GT-5R 5W Dual Band FM Radio [Upgraded Legal Version Of UV-5R] \$24.99
- QST Review: None
- eHam Review: None
- YouTube Review: <https://youtu.be/1JyM8oNtoaE> by Dave Casler, KE0OG
- Buy from Radioddity: <https://www.radioddity.com/collections/consumer-radios-amateur-radios/products/baofeng-gt-5r>

BaoFeng GT-5R Dual Band FM \$24.99

- Pro
 - Low cost
 - Works just like UV-5R
 - Meets FCC emission requirements
- Con
 - No S-meter
 - Receiver easily overloaded
- Would I buy one: Yes, for loaner or emergency go bag



Choosing Your First Analog HT

- Radioddity GA-510 Dual Band FM \$64.99
- QST Review: December 2020
- eHam Review: 4.0/2, <https://www.eham.net/reviews/view-product?id=14878>
- YouTube Review: <https://youtu.be/bpCK9F4NWrQ> by Dave Casler, KE0OG
- Buy from Radioddity: <https://www.radioddity.com/collections/consumer-radios-amateur-radios/products/radioddity-ga-510>

Radioddity GA-510 Dual Band FM

\$64.99

- Pro
 - Includes two batteries
 - Includes programming cable
- Con
 - Front panel programming instructions are incorrect
 - No S-Meter
- Would I buy one: Maybe as a gift, wait for more reviews



Choosing Your First Analog HT

- Yaesu FT-4XR 2 Meter/70cm Dual Band FM Handheld \$89.95
- QST Review: May 2019
- eHam Review: 4.7/15, <https://www.eham.net/reviews/view-product?id=13969>
- YouTube Review: <https://youtu.be/b-VG9774Z3A> by Josh Nass, KI6NAZ
- Buy from DXEngineering: <https://www.dxengineering.com/parts/ysu-ft-4xr>

Yaesu FT-4XR Dual Band FM \$89.95

- Pro
 - Solid entry level HT
- Con
 - Similar radio FT-65R at same price. Why?
- Would I buy one: Yes, as a gift for a new ham

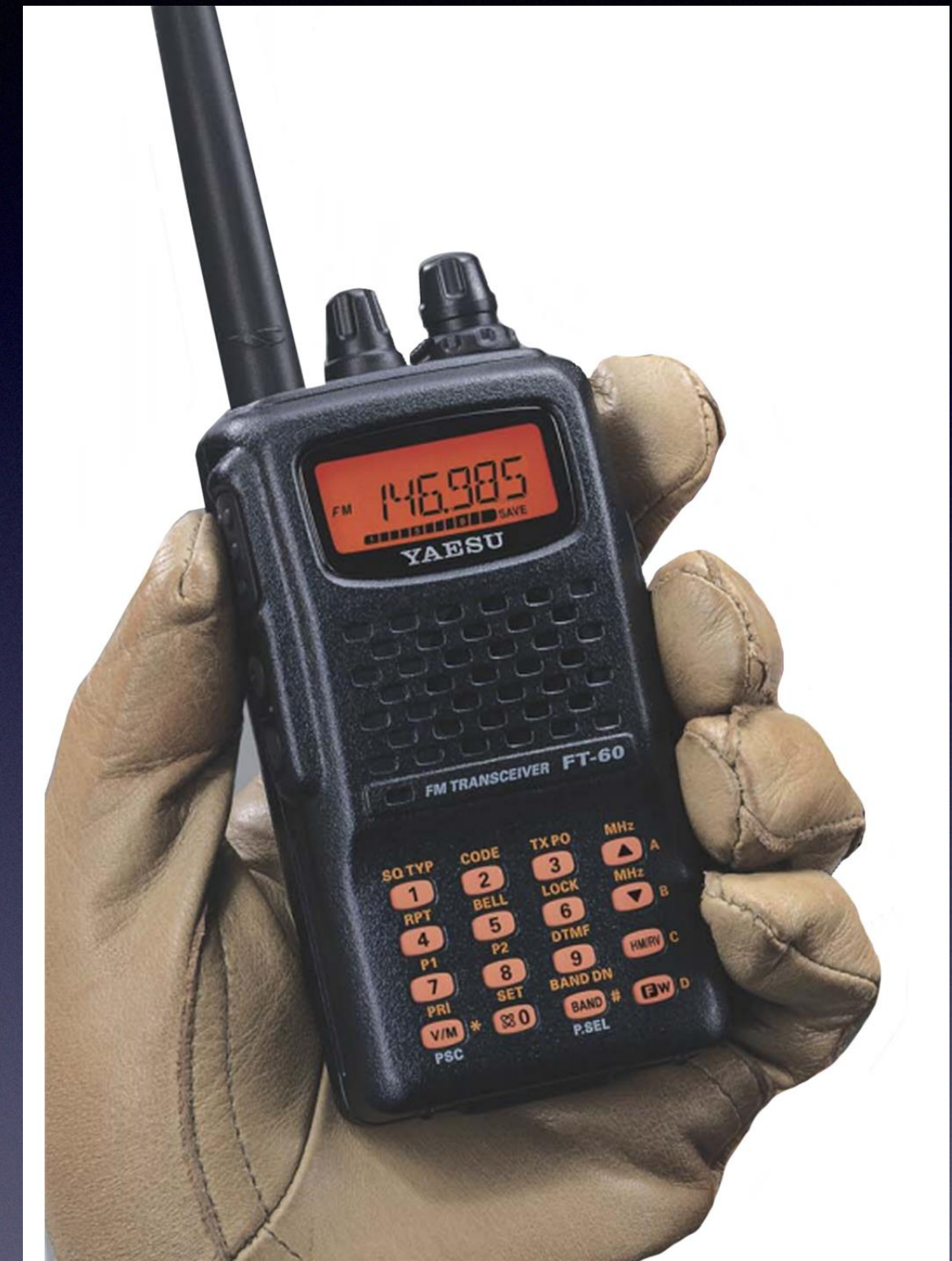


Choosing Your First Analog HT

- Yaesu FT-60R 144/430 MHz Dual-Band FM Handheld \$154.95
- QST Review: February 2005
- eHam Review: 4.6/323, <https://www.eham.net/reviews/view-product?id=4286>
- YouTube Review: <https://youtu.be/o1N6IMrmGGs> by Tony Milluzzi, KD8RTT
- Buy from DXEngineering: <https://www.dxengineering.com/parts/ysu-ft-60r>

Yaesu FT-60R 144/430 MHz Dual-Band FM \$154.95

- Pro
 - Dedicated volume, Squelch and memory/vfo knob
 - Long and proven track record
- Con
 - No modern features/gimmicks
- Would I buy one: Yes, if I wanted rugged analog only HT



Choosing Your First Digital HT

- AnyTone AT-D868UV Dualband DMR \$158.99
- QST Review: November 2018
- eHam Review: 4.1/23, <https://www.eham.net/reviews/view-product?id=13608>
- YouTube Review: <https://youtu.be/ihLNAMDEE9k> by Matthew Kaskavitch, K0LWC
- Buy from BridgeCom Systems: <https://www.bridgecomsystems.com/products/anytone-at-d868uv-dual-band-dmr-handheld-radio>

AnyTone AT-D868UV Dualband DMR

\$158.99

- Pro
 - Good battery life
 - Includes programming cable and software
 - Good and loud audio
- Con
 - Stiff antenna, will need to replace
 - Software and menu mismatch
 - No S-meter
- Would I buy one: No, I bought the newer version of this radio



Choosing Your First Digital HT

- Alinco DJ-MD5TGP VHF/UHF Dualband DMR Handheld \$159.95
- QST Review: December 2019
- eHam Review: 3.8/16, <https://www.eham.net/reviews/view-product?id=14131>
- YouTube Review: <https://youtu.be/xxFZEVhuynM> by Patrick Turner, K3NYJ
- Buy from Ham Radio Outlet: <https://www.hamradio.com/detail.cfm?pid=H0-016332>

Alinco DJ-MD5TGP DMR \$159.95

- Pro
 - Built-in GPS Receiver
 - 4000 channels, 250 zones, 250 scan lists
 - 10,000 Talk Groups, 250 Radio ID, 160,000 contact lists
- Con
 - Complex menu system
- Would I buy one: No



Choosing Your First Digital HT

- Yaesu FT-70DR dual band C4FM HT \$174.95
- QST Review: March 2018
- eHam Review: 4.1/59, <https://www.eham.net/reviews/view-product?id=13447>
- YouTube Review: <https://youtu.be/qivJbW7AYk0> by Pascal Villeneuve, VA2PV
- Buy from DXEngineering: <https://www.dxengineering.com/parts/ysu-ft-70dr>

Yaesu FT-70DR dual band C4FM HT

\$174.95

- Pro

- Wide band receiver including air band
- Good sounding speaker
- Programming cable and software included

- Con

- Desktop charger not included must buy separately

- Would I buy one: Yes, I have one for C4FM use.



Choosing Your First Digital HT

- AnyTone AT-D878UV PLUS Dual Band DMR \$238.99
- QST Review: July 2019
- eHam Review: 4.2/22, <https://www.eham.net/reviews/view-product?id=14113>
- YouTube Review: <https://youtu.be/uYCO-yntNzQ> by Pascal Villeneuve, VA2PV
- Buy from BridgeCom Systems: <https://www.bridgecomsystems.com/collections/amateur-handheld-radios/products/anytone-at-d878uv-plus-bluetooth-gps-programming-cable-with-support>

AnyTone AT-D878UV PLUS Dual Band DMR \$238.99

- Pro
 - All features of the AT-D868UV
 - Analog APRS Transmit Only & GPS
 - DMR Roaming
 - Bluetooth enabled & remote PTT switch
- Con
 - No APRS Receive
 - No S-meter



- Would I buy one: Yes, I bought one to try DMR, but a newer version came out today for \$299.99

Choosing Your First Digital HT

- Yaesu FT3DR 2m/70cm Dual-Band C4FM \$389.95
- QST Review: April 2020
- eHam Review: 2.9/38, <https://www.eham.net/reviews/view-product?id=14360>
- YouTube Review: <https://youtu.be/3EjaEVhm2co> by Josh Nass, KI6NAZ
- Buy from DXEngineering: <https://www.dxengineering.com/parts/ysu-ft-3dr>

Yaesu FT3DR 2m/70cm Dual-Band C4FM \$389.95

- Pro
 - All accessories from FT2DR can be used
 - Color screen
- Con
 - Incremental upgrade of FT2DR
- Would I buy one: No



Choosing Your First Digital HT

- KENWOOD TH-D74A 144/220/440MHz Tri-Band Handheld With D-Star & APRS \$729.95
- QST Review: April 2017
- eHam Review: 4.6/48, <https://www.eham.net/reviews/view-product?id=13063>
- YouTube Review: <https://youtu.be/hUgQL9rGEB4> by Bob Nagy, AB5N
- Buy from Ham Radio Outlet: <https://www.hamradio.com/detail.cfm?pid=H0-015269>

KENWOOD TH-D74A 144/220/440MHz Tri-Band Handheld With D-Star & APRS \$729.95

- Pro
 - The only D-Star HT you can buy new
 - Includes 220 MHz band
 - Includes HF receiver, AM, SSB and CW
 - APRS
- Con
 - Price
- Would I buy one: No



Why No Icom?

- Icom is only shipping a single band HT
- ICOM IC-V86 2M 7 Watt FM HT \$124.95 eHam 4.4/9, QST May 2020
- The new dual band HT ID-52A US model is indefinitely delayed

HT Summary

Model	Price	Modes	eHam	Notes
BaoFeng GT-5R	\$24.99	FM	NR	Cheap, disposable HT
Radioddity GA-510	\$64.99	FM	4.0/2	Includes extra battery
Yaesu FT-4XR	\$89.95	FM	4.7/15	Yaesu answer to BaoFeng
Yaesu FT-60R	\$154.95	FM	4.6/323	My choice for FM
AnyTone AT-D868UV	\$158.99	DMR, FM	4.1/23	Old version of AT-D878UV
Alinco DJ-MD5TGP	\$159.95	DMR, FM	3.8/16	Large memory, GPS
Yaesu FT-70DR	\$174.95	C4FM, FM	4.1/59	My choice for C4FM
AnyTone AT-D878UV PLUS	\$238.99	DMR, FM	4.2/22	My choice for DMR
Yaesu FT3DR	\$389.95	C4FM, FM	2.9/38	Top of the line Yaesu
KENWOOD TH-D74A	\$729.95	D-Star, FM	4.6/48	Deluxe HT

First VHF/UHF Base Station

- I only considered new radios that work on 2 meter and 70 centimeter and in most cases use a mobile radio as base station to save money
- If a QST review is available I give the month and year it was published, you need to belong to ARRL to download a copy
- I give the eHam rating x.x/yy. x.x is the rating from 1 to 5 and yy is the number of people that reviewed the radio. I also provide the url to the reviews
- I provided the url to one YouTube review
- I provided a link to a reseller with the lowest price I could easily find

Choosing Your First VHF/UHF Base

- Yaesu FTM-7250DR 50W C4FM/FM Dual-Band Digital \$249.95
- QST Review: December 2018
- eHam Review: 3.8/38, <https://www.eham.net/reviews/view-product?id=13881>
- YouTube Review: <https://youtu.be/KoCuDYHUyoE> by Curtis Mohr, K5CLM
- Buy from DXEngineering: <https://www.dxengineering.com/parts/ysu-ftm-7250dr>

Yaesu FTM-7250DR 50W C4FM/FM Dual-Band Digital \$249.95

- Pro
 - Lowest price 50 watt radio
 - Analog & C4FM voice
 - Small
- Con
 - Not simultaneous dual band
 - No C4FM data, location or picture features
- Would I buy one: No



Choosing Your First VHF/UHF Base

- Icom IC-2730A VHF/UHF FM Transceivers \$269.95
- QST Review: November 2015
- eHam Review: 4.1/37, <https://www.eham.net/reviews/view-product?id=12180>
- YouTube Review: None
- Buy from Ham Radio Outlet: <https://www.hamradio.com/detail.cfm?pid=71-001866>

Icom IC-2730A VHF/UHF FM Transceivers \$269.95

- Pro
 - 50 Watts of output on VHF and UHF
 - Wideband receiver covers 118–174 and 375– 550 MHz
- Con
 - No digital modes
- Would I buy one: No



Choosing Your First VHF/UHF Base

- Alinco DR-735T VHF/UHF Transceivers \$319.95
- QST Review: October 2016
- eHam Review: 4.1/16, <https://www.eham.net/reviews/view-product?id=12982>
- YouTube Review: <https://youtu.be/UHUhAq-v7as> by Ed Hoey, N1UHF
- Buy from DXEngineering: <https://www.dxengineering.com/parts/alodr-735t>

Alinco DR-735T VHF/UHF Transceivers \$319.95

- Pro
 - Large Screen
 - Two independent receivers
 - Has cross band repeater mode
- Con
 - No digital modes
- Would I buy one: Yes, if I needed FM only



Choosing Your First VHF/UHF Base

- Icom ID-4100A VHF/UHF Dual-Band FM/D-Star \$319.95
- QST Review: December 2017
- eHam Review: 3.6/15, <https://www.eham.net/reviews/view-product?id=13406>
- YouTube Review: https://youtu.be/baBfkP_v_RE by Chris Kelleher, W3CTK
- Buy from DXEngineering: <https://www.dxengineering.com/parts/ico-id-4100a>

Icom ID-4100A VHF/UHF Dual-Band FM/D-Star \$319.95

- Pro
 - Has D-Star
 - GPS
- Con
 - Some negative review on eHam
- Would I buy one: No, eHam score too low



Choosing Your First VHF/UHF Base

- Icom ID-5100A Dual Band VHF/UHF FM/D-Star \$399.95
- QST Review: February 2015
- eHam Review: 4/46, <https://www.eham.net/reviews/view-product?id=11729>
- YouTube Review: https://youtu.be/fNMIM5M_7ds by Bob Nagy, AB5N
- Buy from DXEngineering: <https://www.dxengineering.com/parts/ico-id-5100a-d>

Icom ID-5100A Dual Band VHF/UHF FM/D-Star \$399.95

- Pro
 - Cross band repeater
 - Dual receive any mode/band
 - Auto repeater program for D-Star and FM
- Con
 - Not much D-Star in our area
- Would I buy one: Yes, if I wanted D-Star



Choosing Your First VHF/UHF Base

- Kenwood TM-V71A Dual Band Transceiver \$399.95
- QST Review: November 2007
- eHam Review: 4.5/106, <https://www.eham.net/reviews/view-product?id=6712>
- YouTube Review: <https://youtu.be/oz8ngJ48Ctg> by Johnny Twist, W5KV
- Buy from DXEngineering: <https://www.dxengineering.com/parts/kwd-tm-v71a>

Kenwood TM-V71A Dual Band Transceiver \$399.95

- Pro
 - Full duplex radio
 - Cross band feature
 - Good receiver
- Con
 - Small screen
 - No modem feature/gimmicks
- Would I buy one: no



Choosing Your First VHF/UHF Base

- AnyTone AT-D578UVIIIPRO Triband DMR/FM \$399.99
- QST Review: June 2020
- eHam Review: 4.4/13, <https://www.eham.net/reviews/view-product?id=14493>
- YouTube Review: <https://youtu.be/l-cJSASvs9k> by Josh Nass, KI6NAZ
- Buy from BridgCom: <https://www.bridgecomsystems.com/collections/amateur-mobile-radios/products/at-d578uv>

AnyTone AT-D578UVIIIPRO Triband DMR/FM \$399.99

- Pro
 - DMR
 - Full duplex, could use for satellite work
 - 4000 channels + VFO; 10,000 Talk groups with 200,000 digital contacts
- Con
 - 20 Watts max on 1.25M (220Mhz)
- Would I buy one: Yes, if I wanted a DMR base



Choosing Your First VHF/UHF Base

- Yaesu FTM-300DR C4FM/FM Dual-Band Digital Mobile \$459.95
- QST Review: April 2021
- eHam Review: 4.4/8, <https://www.eham.net/reviews/view-product?id=14679>
- YouTube Review: https://youtu.be/_8nI5x3y6-8 by Jason Johnston, KC5HWB
- Buy from DXEngineering: <https://www.dxengineering.com/parts/ysu-ftm-300dr>

Yaesu FTM-300DR C4FM/FM Dual-Band Digital Mobile \$459.95

- Pro
 - C4FM
 - Full Duplex
 - 50 watts on both VHF & UHF
- Con
 - Smaller screen then FTM-400XD
- Would I buy one: Yes, if I did not already own the FTM-400XD



Choosing Your First VHF/UHF Base

- Icom IC-9700 VHF/UHF Multimode \$1,499.95
- QST Review: January 2020
- eHam Review: 4.2/35, <https://www.eham.net/reviews/view-product?id=14225>
- YouTube Review: <https://youtu.be/3xyGuOvVQsU> by Bob Nagy, AB5N
- Buy from DXEngineering: <https://www.dxengineering.com/parts/ico-ic-9700>

Icom IC-9700 VHF/UHF Multimode

\$1,499.95

- Pro

- All mode and D-STAR DV and DD
- 100W-2M, 75W-70CM & 10W-23CM
- Satellite normal/reverse tracking
- 99 satellite channels

- Con

- Overkill if you are only doing FM
- Would I buy one: Yes, if I wanted to do satellite or VHF/UHF DX



VHF/UHF Base Summary

Model	Price	Modes	eHam	Notes
Yaesu FTM-7250DR	\$249.95	C4FM, FM	3.8/38	Cheapest
Icom IC-2730A	\$269.95	FM	4.1/37	Has all the basics
Alinco DR-735T	\$319.95	FM	4.1/16	My choice for FM
Icom ID-4100A	\$319.95	D-Star, FM	3.6/15	Some negative reviews
Icom ID-5100A	\$399.95	D-Star, FM	4/46	My choice for D-Star
Kenwood TM-V71A	\$399.95	FM	4.5/106	Old but well liked by many
AnyTone AT-D578UVIIIPRO	\$399.99	DMR, FM	4.4/13	My choice for DMR
Yaesu FTM-300DR	\$459.95	C4FM, FM	4.4/8	My choice for C4FM
Icom IC-9700	\$1,499.95	See note	4.2/35	My choice for satellite/DX

NOTE: Icom IC-9700 modes: CW/AM/SSB/SM/RTTY & D-STAR DV & DD

First HF Radio

- I only considered new radios that do HF with 100 watts
- If a QST review is available I give the month and year it was published, you need to belong to ARRL to download a copy
- I give the eHam rating x.x/yy. x.x is the rating from 1 to 5 and yy is the number of people that reviewed the radio. I also provide the url to the reviews
- I provide the Sherwood Engineering dynamic range in dB and the ARRL dynamic range classification if available
- I provided the url to one YouTube review
- I provided a link to a reseller with the lowest price I could easily find

Choosing Your First HF Radio

- Icom IC-718 HF \$599.95
- QST Review: July 2000
- eHam Review: 4.6/425, <https://www.eham.net/reviews/view-product?id=947>
- Sherwood Engineering DR: None, ARRL DR: None
- YouTube Review: <https://youtu.be/2QTOIUWIfI4> by Evan Shelp, KC2USH
- Buy from DXEngineering: <https://www.dxengineering.com/parts/ico-ic-718>

Icom IC-718 HF \$599.95

- Pro
 - Includes DSP noise reduction and auto notch (UT-106 module)
 - 160, 80, 40, 30, 20, 17, 15, 12, 10
 - Receiver 0.030-29.999 MHz

- Con
 - No internal antenna tuner

- Would I buy one: Yes, as a gift for a new general



Choosing Your First HF Radio

- Yaesu FT-891 HF and 6-Meter \$609.95
- QST Review: June 2017
- eHam Review: 4.2/114, <https://www.eham.net/reviews/view-product?id=13042>
- Sherwood Engineering DR: 70 dB, ARRL DR: Below Average
- YouTube Review: <https://youtu.be/Q7UWDolGs7Y> by Julian W, OH8STN
- Buy from DXEngineering: <https://www.dxengineering.com/parts/ysu-ft-891>

Yaesu FT-891 HF and 6-Meter \$609.95

- Pro
 - Small and Portable
 - IF DSP
 - TCXO +/- 0.5ppm (-10 C to 50 C)
- Con
 - Difficult to use
 - No internal antenna tuner
- Would I buy one: No



Choosing Your First HF Radio

- Icom IC-7100 HF/VHF/UHF \$899.95
- QST Review: July 2014
- eHam Review: 4.4/160, <https://www.eham.net/reviews/view-product?id=11080>
- Sherwood Engineering DR: None, ARRL DR: Below Average
- YouTube Review: <https://youtu.be/5idsMio68P8> by Tom, WA2IVD
- Buy from DXEngineering: <https://www.dxengineering.com/parts/ico-ic-7100>

Icom IC-7100 HF/VHF/UHF \$899.95

- Pro
 - Control head separated from main body
 - HF, 2 M and 70 CM all mode
 - D-Star
- Con
 - No internal antenna tuner
- Would I buy one: Yes, we have on in our car



Choosing Your First HF Radio

- Icom IC-7300 HF Plus 50 MHz \$1,099.95
- QST Review: August 2016
- eHam Review: 4.7/367, <https://www.eham.net/reviews/view-product?id=12742>
- Sherwood Engineering DR: 97 dB, ARRL DR: Top Performance
- YouTube Review: https://youtu.be/f9_F4qjx1zo by Pascal Villeneuve, VA2PV
- Buy from DXEngineering: <https://www.dxengineering.com/parts/ico-ic-7300>

Icom IC-7300 HF Plus 50 MHz

\$1,099.95

- Pro

- Direct SDR with Spectrum Scope
- Internal 3:1 Antenna Tuner
- Easy to use

- Con

- Carry strap extra cost option

- Would I buy one: Yes, Elaine, KC8FOS uses it.



Choosing Your First HF Radio

- Yaesu FT-991A HF/VHF/UHF Multi-Mode Transceivers \$1,129.95
- QST Review: May 2018
- eHam Review: 4.8/18, <https://www.eham.net/reviews/view-product?id=12991>
- Sherwood Engineering DR: 72 dB, ARRL DR: Average
- YouTube Review: https://youtu.be/_T9TzI_vbvU by Tom Medlin, W5KUB
- Buy from DXEngineering: <https://www.dxengineering.com/parts/ysu-ft-991a>

Yaesu FT-991A HF/VHF/UHF Multi-Mode Transceivers \$1,129.95

- Pro
 - Spectrum Scope
 - HF, 2 M and 70 CM all mode
 - C4FM
- Would I buy one: No



Choosing Your First HF Radio

- Kenwood TS-590SG HF and 6 Meter \$1,399.95
- QST Review: July 2015
- eHam Review: 4.8/95, <https://www.eham.net/reviews/view-product?id=12043>
- Sherwood Engineering DR: 92 dB, ARRL DR: Above Average
- YouTube Review: <https://youtu.be/pKWA7r42e9E> by Johnny Twist, W5KV
- Buy from HRO: <https://www.hamradio.com/detail.cfm?pid=71-001829>

Kenwood TS-590SG HF and 6 Meter

\$1,399.95

- Pro
 - Very good analog radio
 - Easy to use
 - Antenna out jack for SDR
- Con
 - TCXO and Voice modules are option extra cost items
- Would I buy one: No



Choosing Your First HF Radio

- Yaesu FTDX10 Compact HF/50 MHz 100W Hybrid SDR \$1,698.95
- QST Review: None
- eHam Review: 4.8/21, <https://www.eham.net/reviews/view-product?id=14869>
- Sherwood Engineering DR: 107 dB, ARRL DR: None
- YouTube Review: <https://youtu.be/qmpJV6ZggOE> by Josh Nass, KI6NAZ
- Buy from DXEngineering: <https://www.dxengineering.com/parts/ysu-ftdx-10>

Yaesu FTDX10 Compact HF/50 MHz 100W Hybrid SDR \$1,698.95

- Pro
 - Spectrum Scope
 - Excellent Receiver
- Con
 - 300 Hz roofing filter is optional
- Would I buy one: Maybe, if this came out at the same time as the IC-7300



Choosing Your First HF Radio

- Icom IC-7610 HF/50MHz All Mode Transceivers \$2,999.95
- QST Review: October 2018
- eHam Review: 4.5/101, <https://www.eham.net/reviews/view-product?id=13607>
- Sherwood Engineering DR: 98 dB, ARRL DR: Top Performance
- YouTube Review: <https://youtu.be/SWcjoGkaYhM> by Pascal Villeneuve, VA2PV
- Buy from DXEngineering: <https://www.dxengineering.com/parts/ico-ic-7610>

Icom IC-7610 HF/50MHz All Mode Transceivers \$2,999.95

- Pro
 - Two Independent Receivers
 - Good NR and NB
 - High Quality Sound
- Con
 - No customizable button
- Would I buy one: Yes, this is my HF radio.



Choosing Your First HF Radio

- Yaesu FTdx101D MF, HF and 6-Meter Transceiver \$3,099.95
- QST Review: November 2019
- eHam Review: 4.2/33, <https://www.eham.net/reviews/view-product?id=14249>
- Sherwood Engineering DR: 110 dB, ARRL DR: Top Performance
- YouTube Review: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_knXvgNWmic by Josh Bob Nagy, AB5N
- Buy from DXEngineering: <https://www.dxengineering.com/parts/ysu-ftdx-101d>

Yaesu FTdx101D MF, HF and 6-Meter Transceiver \$3,099.95

- Pro

- Two Independent Receivers
- Excellent Receivers
- Good NR and NB

- Con

- Many Roofing Filters are optional extra cost and are not user installable

- Would I buy one: No



Choosing Your First HF Radio

- Kenwood TS-890S HF & 6-Meter Transceiver \$3,799.95
- QST Review: June 2019
- eHam Review: 4.9/59, <https://www.eham.net/reviews/view-product?id=14060>
- Sherwood Engineering DR: 105 dB, ARRL DR: Top Performance
- YouTube Review: <https://youtu.be/Yow7fYhMcZo> by Mark Jones, G0MGX
- Buy from HRO: <https://www.hamradio.com/detail.cfm?pid=H0-016466>

Kenwood TS-890S HF & 6-Meter Transceiver \$3,799.95

- Pro
 - Excellent Receivers
 - 3 custom buttons
 - Most roofing filters included
- Con
 - Only one receiver
- Would I buy one: No



First HF Radio Summary

Model	Price	eHam	ARRL DR	S DR	Notes
Icom IC-718	\$599.95	4.6/425	None	None	Cheapest
Yaesu FT-891	\$609.95	4.2/114	Below Average	70 dB	Small & Light
Icom IC-7100	\$899.95	4.4/160	Below Average	None	Good Mobile
Icom IC-7300	\$1,099.95	4.7/367	Top Performance	97 dB	New to HF Ham
Yaesu FT-991A	\$1,129.95	4.8/18	Average	72 dB	Shack-in-a-box
Kenwood TS-590SG	\$1,399.95	4.8/95	Above Average	92 dB	Good Analog
Yaesu FTDX10	\$1,698.95	4.8/21	Not Reviewed	107 dB	Entry Level DX
Icom IC-7610	\$2,999.95	4.5/101	Top Performance	98 dB	Good mid-tier
Yaesu FTdx101D	\$3,099.95	4.2/33	Top Performance	110 dB	DX and Contest
Kenwood TS-890S	\$3,799.95	4.9/59	Top Performance	105 dB	Mid-tier

Questions?

Thanks