

So, you would like to get your first amateur radio license?

Or, you have your technician or general class license and would like to upgrade?

With the Internet, this is easy to do.

There are several online study guides and even more online testing sites.

If you would like to get your technician license, I believe if you follow the following three steps, you can easily test for your first license and upgrade.

1. Obtain a copy of Dan Romanchik's study guide website at <http://www.kb6nu.com/tech-manual/> The study guide for the technician PDF download is free, and for a small fee, you can obtain ones for your Kindle and Nook. This is one of the better study guides out there. He explains what you are studying about without going in astro-physics. I would recommend that you simply print off the entire PDF and study from it as you have time. If you are interested in the general or extra class license, Dan has study guides for those, for a nominal fee.

A great online study site is <https://hamstudy.org/> This is also a free site, including free registration. If you register, it maintains a history of your practice study scores.

2. Download the entire technician exam pool questions, with only the correct answers at: <http://www.k8tb.org/hiad/hiad.htm> Print this up, and keep it with you.

3. Online Testing: Remember, there are 394 questions on the technician pool, 456 questions in the general class pool, and some 702 in the extra !

<https://www.qrz.com/hamtest/>

<http://hamexam.org/>

<http://www.eham.net/exams/>

<http://aa9pw.com/>

<http://www.hamradiolicenseexam.com/index.html>

<http://www.nc4fb.org/wordpress/>

Now, what to do? Start studying with Dan's guide, review with the print-out of the questions with only the correct answers. Then, slowly, test yourself with the online testing resources. Do not get discouraged when you first start and see yourself with a 30% pass rate. It will go up. You need to memorize, well and often. I also recommend to study about 30-45 minutes a day, every other day. Do not study continuously, your brain needs a rest, and you will remember better.

If you live in the West Michigan area, the Lowell and Holland amateur radio clubs offer "Ham in a Day" study sessions, every two months between them. These five hour sessions achieve a 95% pass rate. Between the Lowell and Holland club, there is also a VE test session every month. More information is at:

<http://tinyurl.com/holo-hiad-ve>

Additionally, the Grand Rapids Amateur Radio Association holds test sessions on the second Friday of every month: <http://www.w8dc.org/pages/exams.html>

Tom Bosscher K8TB