

WHICH RADIO SHOULD I BUY?

Price	How much are you willing to spend and how much are you going to use it?
Programming	Does it require proprietary software that you have to pay for vs. free software or manufacturer supplied. CHIRP is free, check compatibility with your radio. https://chirpmyradio.com/projects/chirp/wiki/Home . Some radios can be programmed wirelessly via Bluetooth
Battery capacity	Battery capacity - how long will it last. Sometimes you can get two batteries with the initial purchase. Very difficult to find someone that will ship extra batteries after the sale.
Battery charging	Many radios now charge with USB-C vs having to use a drop in cradle
Transmit Power	An HT is primarily useful to access a repeater so just enough power to access a repeater. Personally I'm not a fan of 10W next to my head.
Water proof	Dustproof, splash resistant or waterproof?
Display	Some displays are easier to read in daylight
Capability	VHF, UHF, DMR? What do you need? Dual band, tri-band (220 MHz) Do you want to listen to Aircraft? Some have Airband receive. Make sure it will receive 108 - 137 MHz AM
Part 97 certified	Check to see if it's FCC Certified
Architecture	System on a chip or heterodyne receiver? https://www.google.com/search?q=super+heterodyne+vs+system+on+a+chip&rlz=1C1ONGR_enUS1140US1140&oq=super+heterodyne+vs+system+on+a+chip&gs_lcrp=EgZjaHJvbWUyBggAEEUYOdIBCDcwNThqMG03qAIAAsAIA&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8
Accessories	Batteries, antennas, lapel microphone, ear piece (helpful for hands free use)
Reviews	Check out reviews on Amazon or YouTube. Find a local ham who has the equipment and get an opinion or physically see the equipment