

You probably hear a radio every day without thinking much about it. Radio is just one of the things you have grown up with.

When radio first began, however, everyone thought it was wonderful that music and words could be sent all over the world without wires.

You can find out for yourself the excitement of the early days of radio and learn how a radio works by building one for yourself.

## Requirements

- \_\_\_a. Build a crystal or diode radio. Check with your local craft or hobby shop or the nearest Scout shop that carries a crystal radio kit. It is all right to use a kit.
- \_\_\_b. Make and operate a battery-powered radio, following the directions with the kit.

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Many good kits are available for making crystal sets. This is the first kind of radio that was invented. Crystal radios get their power from the radio signal, so you will need a long, high antenna to make yours work. Even with a good antenna, there will be enough power only for a small ear-phone.

A transistor radio also can be built from a kit. This kind of radio gets its power from a battery, so it might be able to operate a loudspeaker. Ask an adult to help you. Follow directions carefully, and you'll have a thrill of "tuning in on the world."

Hang a map on the wall (one you have pasted onto cardboard) and keep track of all the stations you get.

Maybe you know someone who is an amateur radio operator or "ham." Ask to see his or her transmitter and receiver. Ask about some of the faraway places he or she has contacted by radio.

