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Amateur Radio History

- **Spark Gap Transmitters**
- **The typical amateur radio operator / licensee was technically inquisitive.**
- **Many Hams built their own transmitters (CW) and receivers (CW)**
- **Technology Changes (Super-regeneration receivers over to superheterodyne Receivers).**
- **CW only & SSB (~1950)**
- **Later on, Receivers and Transmitters (Kits and pre-builds) were available. No transceivers were available.**

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Early Amateur Radio Products

- Eico
- EF Johnson
- Hallicrafters
- Hammarlund
- Ameco
- Collins
- Drake

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JOHNSON
Viking
RANGER

MODEL SX-115
the hallicrafters co.

HAMMARLUND
HQ-ONE SEVENTY-A

COLLINS RADIO

One of the finest superheterodyne receivers made.

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Drake equipment was economical and state of the art for the time.

The Drake 2B was considered a poor man's Collins 75-A4.

The Drake 4 Line Twins (Tx & Rx) were considered the poor man's Collins S-Line.

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Commercial Kit Building

- Separates (RX & TX) and Transceivers
- EF Johnson (transmitters and antenna matchers)
- Heatkit
- Eico
- Ameco
- World Radio Labs
- Knight Kit
- A majority of hams built kits to learn electronics

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Kits

The SB-101 and SB301/401 looked & operated like the Collins S-Line.

Demise of Kit Building

- **Invasion of the Japanese**

- **Kenwood**
- **Yaesu**
- **Icom**

Hams found the law of economics. (Hams are always frugal).

The “Big Three” provided the same quality as Heathkit & Drake at the same or lower prices. The Japanese provided more bells & whistles.

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NB
PROC
LOAD
PLATE
DRIVE
VOX
METER
AGC
SEND
GAIN
DELAY
RIT/XIT
BAND
AF-RF
PHONES
MODE
MIC-CAR
FIX
RF ATT
IF SHIFT-NOTCH
VBT-TONE
HEATER
POWER
HF TRANSCEIVER

YAESU
FT-101
PLATE
LOADING
POWER HEATER
PRESELECT
MIC GAIN-CARRIER
PHONES
MODE
AF GAIN-RF GAIN
BAND
CLARIFIER
MIC

POWER
AF-SQL
PHONES
MIC
XMIT
USB
14.273.5
VFO A
12
HF TRANSCEIVER IC-735
SSB
CW
AM
FM
NB
ATT
PRE AMP
AGC
COMP
VFO
A=B
SPLIT
PBT
NOTCH
RIT
MEMO
M-VFO
SCAN
DOWN
M-CH
UP

Demise of *local* parts availability

- **Loss of Hughes-Peters**
- **Loss of Thompson Radio**
- **Loss of Whitehead**
- **Loss of Radio Shack**
- **Hams are on the hunt for parts depots.**
- **Digikey**
- **Newark**

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Revitalization of Home brewing

- **Limited radio/transmitter kits (mostly low power SSB & CW)**
- **Interface kits (Radios to Controllers)**
- **Remote transmitter interface kits**
- **CW Keyer Kits, Voice Keyer kits**
- **Digital interface kits RTTY, FT8, Pactor III, etc …**
- **Wire antennas**
- **Antenna controllers**

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- **CPU Kits (Arduino, Raspberry Pi, etc…)**
- **PC interface boards to Kenwood, Icom, Yaesu, Flex, Elecraft**
- **N1MM and other logging programs**
- **Chinese kits (HF, VHF, UHF radios, Nano VNA, etc …)**
- **SDR (Dongles, circuit boards, direct sampling SDR, etc.….)**
- **Elecraft Kits (Through hole kits and “Bolt Together”)**
- **HobbyPC Kits (Hard Rock 50 Amplifier, etc…)**

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Tools required for basic Kit building and/or station maintenance

- Soldering iron, solder, solder-wick, solder guns.
- Hand tools (screw drivers, wrench sets (Metric & ANSI), etc…)
- VOM digital and/or analog
- VSWR Meter (peak reading if using SSB)
- Coax and Coax jumpers, crimpers
- Dummy Load
- Ethernet cables, connectors, crimpers
- Ethernet cable continuity checkers (~$7)

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Numerous older kits

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Heathkit DX 20 CW

Vintage HEATH Cantenna RF Load Resistor HN-31

Kenwood TS-830S HF Ham Radio

Kenwood TS-440s HF Transceiver

Kenwood TS-430s HF Transceiver

Kenwood TS 520 80-10M HF SSB/CW Base Ham Amateur...

Kenwood TS-520SE

Hallicrafters HT-32 SSB/CW/AM Amateur...

Collins 32S-3 Vintage Wing Emblem Ham Radio Transmitt...

Vintage Drake T-4XB Tube Ham Radio Transmitter

JOHNSON VIKING ADVENTURER , 50 WATT CW...

WRL GLOBE CHIEF 90 TRANSMITTER

EF Johnson Viking Ranger II AM/CW Transmitter Free...

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