

TYPES OF AMATEUR RADIO LICENCE

There are three types of Amateur Radio Licence are available:

Foundation:

Permitted to use Amateur Bands from 160 Metres to 70 Cm except 10 Metre band. Commercial equipment has to be used and it must not transmit more than 10 watts. In addition, it is permitted to use frequencies between 0.1357 and 0.1378 MHz with a power limitation of 1 Watt. However, it is likely to be difficult to find commercial equipment for this band.

Holders of Foundation Licences can not:

- Supervise other operators
- Operate abroad or Maritime Mobile

Intermediate:

Permitted to use all Amateur Bands. The equipment can be home made or commercial. 0.1357- 0.1378 MHz is limited to 1W, 1.850-2.000MHz is limited to 32W and 431-432MHz is limited to 40W. You may use up to 50 Watts on all the other Amateur Bands.

But Intermediate Licence holders can not:

- Operate abroad or Maritime Mobile

Advanced:

Permitted to use all Amateur Bands. The equipment can be home-made or commercial. 0.1357- 0.1378 MHz is limited to 1W, 1.850-2.000MHz is limited to 32W, 51 to 52 MHz is limited to 100W and 431-432MHz is limited to 40W. Up to 400 Watts can be used on other Amateur Bands.

Advanced licence

Amateur Radio Callsigns

The UK, for Amateur Radio purposes, is divided into geographical areas. A letter is allocated to each of these areas and used as the second letter of most callsigns. These are called the "Regional Secondary Locator" letters.

Regional Secondary Locators

- D = Isle of Man
- E = England (only used in Intermediate Callsigns)
- I = Northern Ireland
- J = Jersey
- M = Scotland
- W = Wales

Foundation: Call-signs commence with: **M3, MD3, MI3, MJ3, MM3, MU3 or MW3**

Intermediate: Call-signs commence : **2E0, 2D0, 2I0, 2J0, 2M0, 2U0 or 2W0**
2E1, 2D1, 2I1, 2J1, 2M1, 2U1 or 2W1

Advance: Call-signs commence with: **G, GD, GI, GJ, GM, GU or GW** and were followed by a single digit number.

UK amateurs licensed before April 1997 were issued with callsigns commencing with "G". Following that date, "M" callsigns issued.

M0, MD0, MI0, MJ0, MM0, MU0 or MW0
M1, MD1, MI1, MJ1, MM1, MU1 or MW1

When the "0" and "1" series are exhausted other numbers, yet to be announced, will be used.

UK callsigns are varied depending on the location of the licensee at the time. For example, when G4EGQ goes to Wales he becomes GW4EGQ.

The remainder of a UK callsigns is three letters.

Club Callsigns

If a callsign is issued to a club there are several special privileges. (See [BR68] 1.(8) a,b,c & d).

[Information only, not tested in Advance Exam:

[These Club Regional Locators must be used in order to take advantage of these privileges:]

[GT or MT in the Isle of Man	GN or MN in Northern Ireland
]		
[GH or MH in Jersey	GS or MS in Scotland
]		
[GP or MP in Guernsey	GC or MC in Wales
]		
[GX or MX in England]

[QUESTION 5]

The holder of callsign GW3XYZ lives in Swansea.

What callsign should be used when he is operating his radio transmitter in from his car in London? (/M is added when mobile)

- a) G3XYZ/M b) GX3XYZ/M c) GL3XYZ/M d) G8XYZ/M

[QUESTION 6]

Which of the following is a "Advanced" callsign?

- a) M3AAA b) G8AAA c) MW3AAA d) 2U0AAA

Mobile operation

When operating as a pedestrian or on a vehicle or vessel (on non tidal waters) the suffix /M is added to the callsign.

When operating from a craft on the sea or in a tidal estuary the suffix /MM is used. (MM stands for Maritime Mobile)

Temporary Location "/P"

When operating a fixed (not mobile) Amateur Radio transmitter, at an address other than the one shown on the licence, /P should be added after the callsign. EG G4EGQ/P

[1.(11)(b)]

Also the "position" of this Temporary Location should be "announced" every 30 minutes during transmissions, to an accuracy of at least 5KM [7.(3)(a)].

Suitable "descriptions" of the Temporary Location would be:

The full Post Code	Latitude & Longitude
6 fig National Grid Reference	IARU locator
Address/geographical description accurate to 1KM. [note v]	

Long-term operation away from Main Address

If it is intended to operate from another address for some time, the use of "/P" and the need for frequent location announcements, can be avoided by:

Writing, in advance, to the Operations Manager of the Radiocommunications Agency/ Ofcom in whose district you will be.

[7.(3)(b)]

Give your callsign clearly...

Your callsign will be your identity over the radio waves.

If you don't transmit it clearly, confusion will result.

When using telephony, (IE speech) it is best said phonetically.

The Amateur Licence permits the use of any well-known (polite) words (EG GOLF FOUR EXTREMELY GOOD QUALITY)

but the official phonetic alphabet is preferred.[note u]

(EG GOLF FOUR ECHO GOLF QUEBEC)

When using Morse Code, the callsign should be sent at a manual speed

[note x (b)]

Use of your callsign when transmitting

The callsign should normally use the same type of transmission (mode) as the 'conversation. [7.(1) (d/e)]

Your callsign should also be given when you call (CQ), looking for someone to talk to.

It should also be given:

- at the start and finish of a conversation with another Amateur.
- when ever the frequency of transmission is changed.[7(1)(a/b/c)]

If the conversation is not in Morse or speech then the Amateur should arrange that his callsign is sent(in Morse or speech) every 30 minutes at a speed of 20 words per minute or less.

For example, in packet communication, the computer software is arranged to send the Amateur's callsign in Morse Code every 30 minutes.

[7.(1)(f)]

[QUESTION 7]

How often should callsign be sent in a long conversation?

- every a) 15 b) 20 c) 30 d) 60 minutes.

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