

**Getting Started on [DMR](#) (Digital Mobile Radio)
[Visit DMR Texas for More Information](#)
[or Join Groups IO](#)**

You must have a valid Amateur radio license to access the [DMR radio networks](#). Similar to DSTAR, you first must be vetted before you can access the network. The process is really simple – IF you are computer literate and have everything in order with the FCC. If not, the process can be very confusing to say the least. I have tried to put together a HOW TO set of instructions with links to the various websites to go with them.

Step 1 - Get an electronic copy of your license - You must enter your [FRN #](#) and Password. **If you do not have an FRN and Password** you need to get one.

<https://apps.fcc.gov/coresWeb/publicHome.do> [CLICK HERE](#)

The FCC will send a PDF format document to your email address. The name of the document will look like this – 00061578462021322248270E.pdf - Our government at work....

Normally (depending on how you set up your computer) this will be saved to your DOWNLOADS folder. I recommend for the time being, to copy and paste this document to your desktop so it will be handy.

If you do have an FRN and Password proceed to the link below

<https://wireless2.fcc.gov/UlsEntry/licManager/login.jsp> [CLICK HERE](#)

After you log in, choose which call sign (if you have more than one license - business or club, etc). Near the top of the page in green is a tab that lets you either Change your paper authorization preferences [here](#), or download your official electronic authorizations [now](#). You will receive a pdf of your license with that includes a watermark and is a valid document.

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Step 2 - Obtain a DMR ID Number. DMR ID's are issued by <https://www.radioid.net/> You must [register with radioid.net](#) to receive an ID number. (This number is used to program your radio and join different networks) You will need your FCC License Document pdf file to register. **DO NOT LOSE your login information - print and save this.**

When I registered I received a 7 digit ID number plus 4, 6 digit repeater ID numbers. Many folks use hot spots (miniature low power simplex radio / computer combinations that connect to the DMR networks).

In order to set up your radio and connect to a network you must have a valid [Radio ID](#) and to receive an ID number you must have a [valid ham license](#), so there is reasonable integrity in the network.

Many hams use the [Brandmeister](#) Network - Again you must first register with Brandmeister

and register your ID number to get access to their network. The Brandmeister network requires your ID number and basic information and a email address. If you have a hot spot on Brandmeister you must also choose a password for hotspot security. There is also the [TGIF Network](#), and many [C-Bridge Networks](#). Locally, the [Troy](#) and [Gatesville](#) Repeaters are connected to the [C-Bridge2 Network](#). There is also a [Lone Star C-Bridge Network](#) with a repeater in Bryan.

Step 3 - A little about DMR. Motorola developed a business radio system called [Moto Turbo](#) several years ago. John Rayfield Jr, (KR0Y) is a ham and Motorola dealer who developed a computer / internet system to network these Motorola radios and repeaters over wide geographic areas. His system is called a C-Bridge. There are MANY different C-Bridge networks in the world. Motorola and Hytera brand repeaters communicate with C-Bridges for wide are communications.

There is also a radio interface board called a [Pi-Star](#) that consists of a combination of a Raspberry Pi computer plus an interface board that joins a radio. You can build a repeater or simplex access point using a Pi Computer plus a Pi-Star ([MMDVM / STM32](#)) - (multi mode digital voice modem) board.

So far we have a network, plus access points which may be a small hotspot or a wide area long range repeater. These are interconnected using an internet connection capable of supporting voice bandwidth communications.

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