

The New Heath GR-64 SWL Receiver



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If you are like the usual ham you enjoy listening to your favorite amateur band as much as possible. However, monitoring the local gang or keeping a lookout for band openings is not always convenient. When you're working in the basement shop or in the garage you're often not within audible range of the shack. The obvious solution to this problem is to get a second receiver. Duplicating the expensive receiving gear you have in your shack would be economically unwise, so a search for something less costly is in order. Consider then, the Heath GR-64 receiver kit.

This receiver certainly fulfills our desire to keep cost down. It offers many desirable features besides. (Over 100,000 other people have thought so too, as indicated by Heath's sales records.) The GR-64 has a standard broadcast band which other members of the family may listen to when you are not receiving on the ham bands. Frequency coverage is 500 kc to 30 mc.

The receiver uses a 12BE6 in the converter to produce a 455 kc *if*. A 12BA6 *if* amplifier stage not only amplifies the 455 kc signal, but functions as a beat frequency oscillator as well. Detection is performed by a 12AV6 and a 12AQ5 amplifies the audio to drive the built-in 5" round speaker or ear phones. Power is provided by a transformer operated power supply using silicon diodes in a full-wave doubler-rectifier circuit.

Although the receiver has no rf amplifier stage, direct comparison tests with a well-known \$450 receiver were surprisingly good. Alternately using the same antenna on both receivers, almost all signals heard on the higher priced model were heard on the GR-64. Selectivity seemed to be the main difference.

An outdoor long-wire antenna is recommended for best results.

A large etched circuit board and uncrowded chassis lay-out make construction easy. Assembly time is approximately 14 hours.

Features of the GR-64 receiver include an "S" meter, a large slide-rule main tuning dial, a bfo, and provisions for an external Q multiplier. The all steel cabinet is finished in a gray wrinkle with an attractive silver trim. The front plastic feet on the bottom of the cabinet are slightly longer than the rear feet, so the receiver sits at a jaunty angle that makes tuning easier.

All things considered the Heath GR-64 is a good buy.

GR-64 Specifications

Frequency Coverage	.. 550kc to 30mc (in four bands)
Circuit Superhetrodyne
Controls On-Off/Volume, Band Switch, Main Tuning, Fine Tuning, bfo, ANL (Noise Limiter) Mode Selector (AM-STBY-CW)
Tube Complement	.. 12BE6 Oscillator and mixer 12BA6 <i>if</i> amplifier and bfo 12AV6 Detector and audio amplifier 12AQ5 Audio output
Antenna Impedance	.. High Z
Power Supply Transformer operated, silicon diode in a full-wave-doubler circuit
Power Requirements	.. 117vac @ 30 watts
Dimensions 13 1/2" wide x 6" high x 9" deep
Weight 11 1/2 lbs.
Price \$39.95

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