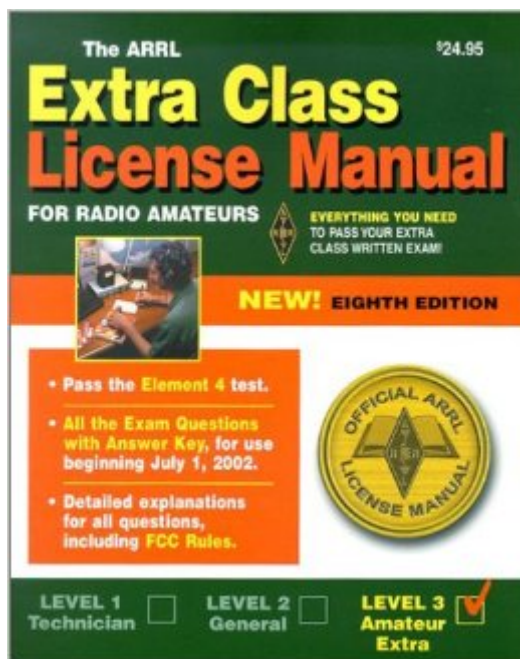


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# The ARRL Extra Class License Manual For Radio Amateurs, 8th Edition



## Synopsis

All You Need To Pass Your Extra Class Exam! Pass the 50-question Extra Class test. All the Exam Questions with Answer Key, for use July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2012. Detailed explanations for all questions, including FCC rules. The ARRL Extra Class License Manual is your ticket to every privilege granted to Amateur Radio Operators. Our expert instruction will lead you through all of the knowledge you need to pass the exam: rules, specific operating skills and more advanced electronics theory. The Extra Class license is the highest of all three US Amateur Radio licenses. To upgrade to Extra Class you must already hold a General Class license (or have recently passed all of the exams required for a General Class license). Upgrading to an Extra license only requires passing a written examination. As an Extra Class licensee, you will have full privileges on all frequencies authorized by the FCC for Amateur Radio. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

## Book Information

Paperback: 1 pages

Publisher: Amer Radio Relay League; 8 edition (June 2002)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0872598659

ISBN-13: 978-0872598652

Product Dimensions: 1.2 x 7.2 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 2.1 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (91 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #1,897,480 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #76 in [Books > Humor &](#)

[Entertainment > Radio > Reference](#) #735 in [Books > Engineering & Transportation > Engineering](#)

[> Telecommunications & Sensors > Radio](#) #6628 in [Books > Education & Teaching > Studying &](#)

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## Customer Reviews

Now that there's no longer a 20 wpm code requirement for Extra, there's very little reason why almost any ham with some good basic math skills can't upgrade, given a book this good. All it takes is reading the book and flipping to the questions to check your understanding of the material as you finish each section. I found it took me about a week to do that and I passed with just one mistake (which kills me because if I'd taken more time, I should have gotten that one, too!) I found the book quite logical, well-written and very methodical at explaining the material. I only spotted two minor

errors: A garbled explanation of DeMorgan's Theorem as "logic polarity" on page 7-5, and the schematics of three oscillators on page 7-42, each with two connections to Vcc but none to ground. The whole point of the book is to help you pass a multiple choice exam where all the questions are taken from a fixed pool and everyone knows what they are. But the book nicely avoids the trap of simply helping you memorize the answers and focuses instead on explaining the concepts so that when you read a test question, you're capable of doing whatever calculations are required and you know why one specific answer is the best. The only places where I felt the author might have offered a little more discussion were in presenting the formulas for second and third-order intercept points on page 4-22 (it took me several hours to figure out where these came from!) and in the section on phased vertical antennas (page 9-20), where you're given 15 charts to memorize but little explanation of how you might intuitively figure out what shape to expect as an alternative to the rote memorization. I recommend this book. Go get your Extra!

I haven't taken a upgrade exam since 1984 so I was a bit intimidated with the prospect of another FCC Exam. I researched the Web for information about where to find the most complete study guides for the Extra exam. I actually found the Question Pool on the Web, but I didn't just want to "Memorize the Test" as some have done in the past. I wanted the reasons for the answers and to refresh my now Older mind. The ARRL Study Guide was Very Thorough and yet to the point. The sections were broken up nicely so you can study each section and take a break. The question pool is in the back of the book and the answers reference the page in the study guide where its reasoning comes from. Perfect for me! It was an Excellent Review of some material and a Great Teacher of the New material that I had to learn in order to upgrade to the highest class in amateur radio. I Passed, Thanks to the ARRL Extra Class Study Guide. Kevin KA1KOJ

Some of the material in this book is actually more difficult than the questions on the test I took, but I think that's a good thing. The book goes through by each group and subgroup that is tested on the Element 4 Exam, explaining all potential items that could be covered on the test. It reads like a textbook, and it seemed to be free of errors and is very understandable throughout the book. I read through the entire book once, then reread some of the harder sections a few times. I used no other books or CDs, and took practice tests online at sites like qrz.com and eham.net until I got a consistent pass rate. Within three months of passing my Elements 1, 2 & 3, I took the Element 4 and passed with flying colors (missed only 4 questions out of 50).

This is "must have" for anyone going for their Extra Class license. The problem with the book is that the writer assumes you have a previous knowledge of electronics and math. It's "heavy" with math, which is a bit odd since most VEC exams only include two or three math questions. The theory part is also loaded with some information you'll never see in an exam. I would recommend the Extra Class manual from W5YI first, but since there is still a wealth of information in the book, I'd still recommend getting it. The Extra Class exam is "tough" so you need all the information you can get your hands on. A few other observations, the writing style is "DRY" with some difficult syntax and there are some editing errors, but since it's the first printing, these things happen. The ARRL has been helping Hams get their licenses and upgrades for around 90 years so in spite of the basic difficulties with this book you really need it as a resource and reference even after you pass your exam. BTW, when I took my Extra Class exam, I was actually so stressed, there was sweat dripping off my face. I passed first time though. Good Luck !! :-)

I was completely satisfied; studied with this book for three weeks and had no trouble with the exam. You should be aware, however, that the example questions in this book are from the 2002 question pool, while the exam currently uses a 2003 question pool. There's not a great deal of difference, but to avoid surprises you should download the 2003 pool from the ARRL web site and study that too. KE7FIZ (Extra)-- response to comment: Yes, there is now a later edition with the current pool. If buying used, be aware of which edition you're getting.

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