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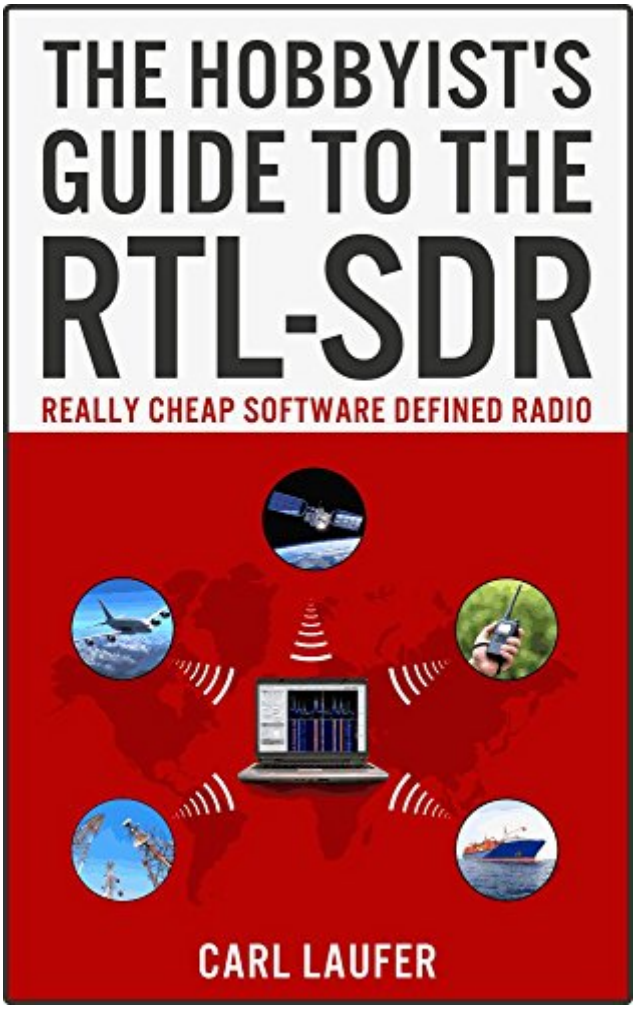
The Hobbyist's Guide To The RTL-SDR: Really Cheap Software Defined Radio



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Synopsis

Available for PC, Mac, smart phones, tablets or Kindle devicesA comprehensive guide to the RTL2832U RTL-SDR software defined radio by the authors of the RTL-SDR Blog. The RTL-SDR is a super cheap software defined radio based on DVB-T TV dongles that can be found for under $20. This book is about tips and tutorials that show you how to get the most out of your RTL-SDR dongle. Some projects described in this book are also compatible with other wideband SDRs like the HackRF, Airspy and SDR Play. What's in the book Learn how to set up your RTL-SDR with various free software defined radio programs such as SDR#, HDSDR, SDR-Radio and more.Learn all the little tricks and oddities that the dongle has.A whole chapter dedicated to improving the RTL-SDR's performance.Dozens of tutorials for fun RTL-SDR based projects such as ADS-B aircraft radar, AIS boat radar, ACARS decoding, receiving NOAA and Meteor-M2 weather satellite images, listening to and following trunked radios, decoding digital voice P25/DMR signals, decoding weather balloon telemetry, receiving DAB radio, analysing GSM and listening to TETRA signals, decoding pagers, receiving various HF signals such as ham radio modes, weatherfax and DRM radio, decoding digital D-STAR voice, an introduction to GNU Radio, decoding RDS, decoding APRS, measuring filters and SWR with low cost equipment, and many many more projects!Guide to antennas, cables and adapters.This book is updated several times a year to ensure information is fresh and up to date. Updates are available for free for all customers. Note: To update the book you must manually contact Kindle support and request the update. Last updated to edition 5 on 3 December 2015. Note: The 2016 update is a little delayed, but it will be released shortly.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

It was a compilation of many articles that I found over the internet in doing research into the topic. It was nice to have all the details in one location but not a lot of new content. Was worth the money to anyone who just got a RTL-SDR dongle and wants a single place to to read how to use it rather than search around for the information via search engines. I noted that a lot of people got the dongles for the RTL-SDR purpose and were frustrated in figuring how to use it. This book is for them.

It’s obvious that Carl Laufer is very knowledgeable and spent a great amount of time to compile this guide to SDR. I read the majority of the book prior to ordering my hardware. His advice and expertise allowed me to make prudent purchases allowing me to get started on a shoe string budget. I have enjoyed the hobby for a few weeks now and largely in part due to this guide my experience is progressing along very well. The book can be somewhat technical at times, but since I already have a decades long background in radio and computers this has allowed me to marry both into a rewarding and challenging hobby - Software Defined Radio. I heartily endorse this guide. FYI I purchased the Kindle version.

This book is a compilation of current data in the up and coming world of Software Defined Radio. If there is any doubt in you mind as to the future of SDR, this book quickly displays the possibilities of the science and gets your attention.I’ve noticed that even discrete radios are coming out now with internal SDR functions, allowing for more ’bang for the buck’ so to speak, in the purchase of feature rich devices.I’ve been involved in electronics and radio since the days of vacuum tubes. This relatively new science has me fascinated and spell-bound to say the least. Even scanner radios are incorporating software defined functions that make tedious frequency inputting a matter of just entering a zip code! Just imagine that feature.Actually, SDR is like adding another dimension to

physical radios. Once the physical world is translated into the digital world, the sky is the limit. If you doubt this at all, buy this book and skim through its various paragraph headers; or the detailed table of contents that in itself is the result of software sorting and publishing.I have a Kindle, but haven't as yet figured out how to 'move' the book onto it. The author mentions that this is an option, but I'm failing to accomplish that as of this writing.

This a nice book however 90% of the information is very wrong and outdated, for instance gsm decoding has not worked on kali linux for many years until 2 weeks ago when scoyok and slick97477 released a walkthrough for gsm on kali linux. Also needs to be stated that alot of the information from this book has been taken from mostly online tutorials that were already done or very outdated. If i would have known this i would have not spent 15 dollars on this book i would have just looked the tutorials up online like the book states most of the time for more detailed information.

An excellent compilation of available RTL-SDR resources, and then some. For me I found a lot of new material concerning antennas and project tutorials. As a reminder, don't forget to reward your favorite SDR software author for their hard work which made this hobby so interesting and economical.

This book will tell you all you need to know to get started with an RTL-SDR system. In addition, it covers a number of issues in detail, provides links to online sources for hardware and software. Finally, there is a list of projects to try with your new SDR. If you're getting started, this book will get you well and truly on the way. The only thing lacking is a decent tutorial in installing GNU Radio, which can be a daunting task.Overall, a highly recommended book for anyone looking to explore low cost SDR technology or is looking for a new project to try.

As someone who didn't have a clue about what RTL-SDR is, this guide works, especially the early sections. They're clear and straightforward. I struggled with the detail in some of the later sections, and missed not having more - in some cases - about why you'd want to use a particular program, what it could accomplish, how it might be interesting. Still, it's worth the money just to have everything in one place.

Although I've not yet implemented any of the information in the book, it seems to be clear enough

and full of information, including links to get the software needed for each kind of usage. Why not five stars then? Because the field of SDR is growing and changing so fast that no print document can stay current. I got the downloadable version and there's supposed to be a way to contact the publisher to get the latest update, but it seemed to me there could be a way to assure that the one I bought was the latest--I'm not sure and haven't gone to the trouble to contact the update source.

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