

If you have a choice of PCs or radios, here are some factors to consider.

PC

- For stability and reliability, you should use XP or Windows 2000
- If you use AGW PE Pro, you **MUST** use one of these!
- Your PC should have a serial port. Otherwise, your options will be limited
If there is no serial port, you will need either:
 - A USB/serial adaptor (do NOT buy a Belkin! A Keyspan is recommended), or
 - A PCMCIA/serial card, or
 - Use a TNC with a USB connection, eg TNC-X or microTNC, both of which require you to use AGW PE Pro
- RAM and speed are not critical provided it can run XP or Win2000 OK (about 256K RAM and 300MHz speed should be OK)

Radio

A frequent choice of radios is an older mobile VHF radio:

- It can be very reasonable in price
- It is generally a good performer, except the receiver may overload easily
- But it will require more skill and attention to adjust the audio volume correctly

However, consider some of the more recent VHF radios that have separate packet connections. These provide fixed audio levels and are easier to keep adjusted

Exercises:

1. Send a note giving some of the above details to kb2wf@yahoo.com.
In the title of your email, place your callsign and the Section number

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to ask for help.