

# What is APRS

**Automatic Packet Reporting System (APRS)** is an [amateur radio](#)-based system for real time tactical digital communications of information of immediate value in the local area.<sup>[1]</sup> APRS data is typically broadcast on a single shared frequency (depending on country) to be repeated locally by area relay stations and digipeaters for widespread local consumption. In addition, all such data is typically ingested into the APRS Internet System (APRS-IS) via an internet connected receiver ([igate](#)) and distributed globally for ubiquitous and immediate access. Shared information contains global coordinates, altitude, speed, heading, text messages, alerts, announcements, and bulletins. The most visible aspect of APRS is its capability of map display. Anyone may place any object or information on the map, and it is distributed to all maps of all users in the local RF network or to anyone monitoring the area via the Internet. Any station, radio, or object broadcasting [GPS](#) coordinates to the APRS system can be automatically tracked over time. Other prominent map features are weather stations, alerts and objects and other map-related amateur radio volunteer activities including [Search and Rescue](#) and signal direction finding.

APRS has been developed since the late 1980s by Bob Bruninga, [callsign](#) WB4APR, currently a senior research engineer at the [United States Naval Academy](#). He still maintains the main APRS website. The acronym "APRS" was derived from his callsign

Thanks to Marc with did some excellent, as usually, research I have put his notes into a PDF as a start on APRS

<http://ncarc.net/sites/default/files/APRS.pdf>

Please check out these sites for further details;

<https://www.amazon.com/GlobalSat-BU-353-S4-USB-Receiver-Black/dp/B008200LHW>

<http://www.byonics.com/tinytrak/>

<https://www.argentdata.com/catalog/index.php?cPath=22>

Also a very good video on how to create on with a cell phone;

<https://www.argentdata.com/catalog/index.php?cPath=22>

