RF and Microwave Engineering Roadmap (12 Weeks)

Week 1: Introduction to RF & Microwave

- Basics of RF (Radio Frequency) and Microwave ranges.
- Applications: Radar, Satellite, Wireless Communication, Biomedical.
- Frequency bands and their uses.

Week 2: Electromagnetic Waves and Transmission Lines

- Maxwell's Equations recap.
- Wave propagation in different media.
- Types of transmission lines: Coaxial, Microstrip, Stripline.

Week 3: Transmission Line Theory

- Reflection coefficient, VSWR.
- Impedance matching.
- Smith Chart introduction and usage.

Week 4: RF Components and Circuits

- Resistors, capacitors, inductors at RF frequencies.
- RF filters, attenuators, and couplers.
- Decoupling and grounding techniques.

Week 5: Microwave Network Analysis

- S-parameters (Scattering parameters).
- 2-port network theory.
- Measurement and interpretation of S-parameters.

Week 6: Passive Microwave Devices

- Directional couplers, power dividers.
- Isolators and circulators.

Design and working principles.

Week 7: Active Microwave Devices

- Microwave diodes: Gunn, IMPATT, PIN.
- Transistors: MESFET, HEMT, LDMOS.
- Small signal and large signal modeling.

Week 8: Microwave Amplifiers and Oscillators

- Low-noise amplifiers (LNA).
- Power amplifiers (PA).
- Oscillator design and stability criteria.

Week 9: Microwave Antennas

- Basics of antenna parameters: Gain, Directivity, Efficiency.
- Antenna types: Dipole, Patch, Horn, Array antennas.
- Antenna design using simulation tools.

Week 10: Microwave Measurement Techniques

- Vector Network Analyzer (VNA) usage.
- Spectrum Analyzer and Power Meter.
- Calibration and error correction methods.

Week 11: RF and Microwave System Design

- Design of RF front-end for wireless systems.
- Radar system basics.
- Simulation tools: HFSS, ADS, CST overview.

Week 12: Project / Case Study

- Design, simulate, and test a microwave filter, antenna, or amplifier.
- Document methodology, simulation results, and real-world applications.