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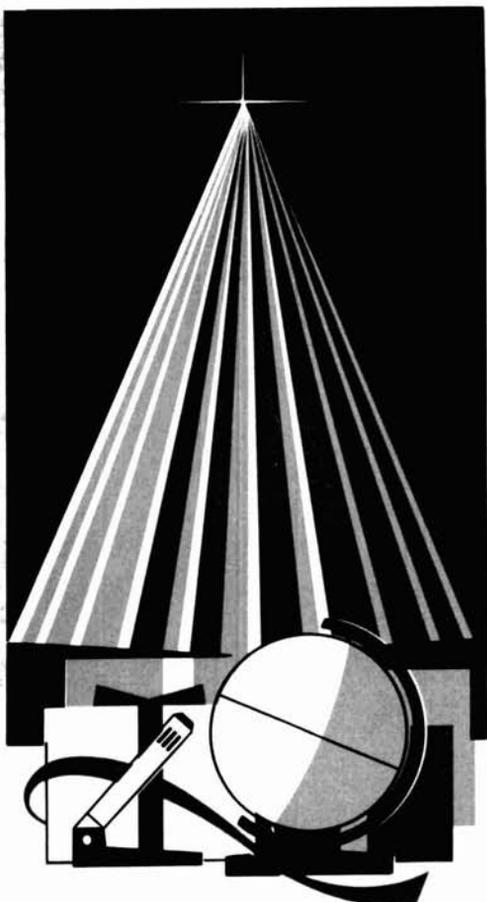
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DECEMBER 1975

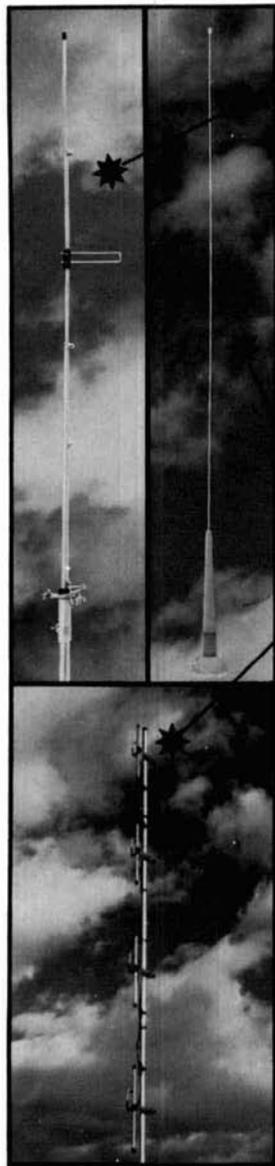


this month

- S-line frequency synthesizer 8
- introduction to microprocessors 32
- 1296-MHz bandpass filters 46
- uhf frequency scaler 50
- cumulative index 114

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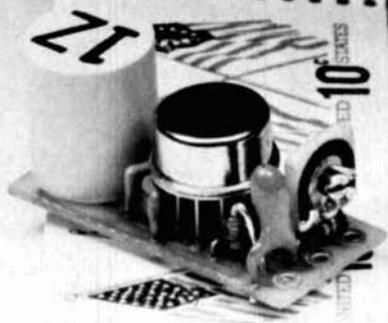
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volume 8, number 12

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ham radio magazine is
published monthly by
Communications Technology, Inc
Greenville, New Hampshire 03048

subscription rates

U.S. and Canada: one year, \$8.00
two years, \$13.00; three years, \$18.00
Worldwide: one year, \$10.00
two years, \$17.00; three years, \$24.00

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Communications Technology, Inc
Title registered at U.S. Patent Office
Printed by Wellesley Press, Inc
Framingham, Massachusetts 01701, USA

Microfilm copies of current and
back issues are available from
University Microfilms
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48103

Second-class postage
paid at Greenville, N.H. 03048
and at additional mailing offices



contents

8 Collins S-line frequency synthesizer
Robert S. Stein, W6NBI

28 high-frequency linear amplifier
William S. Skeen, W6WR

32 introduction to microprocessors
David G. Larsen, WB4HYJ
Peter R. Rony
Jonathan A. Titus

36 squelch circuits for transistor radios
Robert C. Harris, Jr., WB4WSU

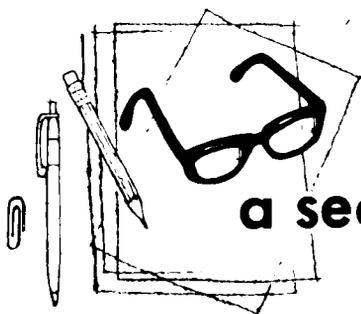
40 2304-MHz power doubler
Norman J. Foot, WA9HUV

46 1296-MHz bandpass filters
H. Paul Shuch, WA6UAM

50 uhf frequency scaler
Douglas R. Schmieskors, Jr., WB9KEY

114 1968-1975 cumulative index

4 a second look	60 new products
142 advertisers index	142 reader service
99 flea market	58 short circuits
52 ham notebook	6 stop press



a second look

by Jim
fisk

Beginning this month we are presenting a series of articles on microprocessors by Dave Larsen, WB4HYJ, Peter Rony and Jonathan Titus, authors of the popular series of *Bugbooks*.^{*} Not since the development of the transistor in 1948 has any product or technology offered such an exciting promise of things to come as the microprocessor — literally a computer on a chip.

Computers in the 1960s are credited with revolutionizing the engineering and accounting fields by replacing people power with instantaneous electronic computation and retrieval. Microcomputers in the 1970s are expected to extend these benefits into areas where existing computer technology has never before penetrated, including amateur radio. Several groups are now working on microprocessor controlled vhf-fm repeaters, future OSCAR satellites will carry an on-board microprocessor for systems maintenance and control, and VE3SAT and others are already using microprocessors for ASCII communications through OSCARs 6 and 7.

Other amateur applications such as RTTY speed control, RTTY-ASCII or RTTY-Morse conversion, and automatic Morse code copiers are a natural for microprocessors. Automatic satellite tracking systems, log keeping, transmitter tuneup and control, and antenna pointing systems are other straight forward microprocessor-based systems which will see widespread use in the future. If, for example, you're a DXer

and hear a rare VP8 on 20 meters, you would just punch VP8 into your keyboard and your beam would automatically come around to the correct heading. If you were operating on CW you would only have to tap out VP8 in Morse code — the microprocessor would convert the Morse characters into machine language, translate that into a beam heading, and turn on your antenna rotator.

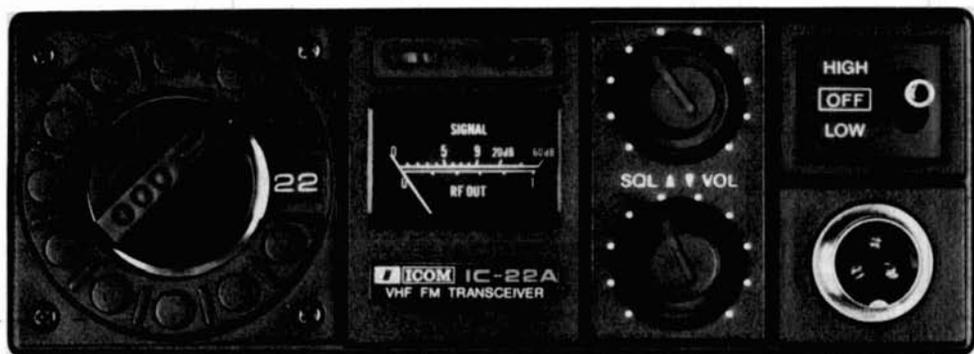
Until recently the cost of microprocessor chips put them out of reach for most amateur applications, but as more and more manufacturers have gotten into the act the prices have dropped dramatically. The popular 8-bit 8080 microprocessor which was originally developed by Intel, for example, was selling for \$300 to \$400 a little more than a year ago, dropped to about \$150 this past summer, and is now available from one source for under \$30. Although these prices are still a bit high for the amateur experimenter, industry sources predict that microprocessors will sell for \$5 or less within a couple of years, perhaps as early as 1977.

In addition to the microprocessor series in the magazine which is designed to familiarize amateurs with this important new technology, during 1976 *ham radio* will be presenting a series of one-day microprocessor seminars at various hamfests across the country including SAROC in Las Vegas (January 9th), Miami (January 24th) and Dayton (April 23rd and 24th). The fee for the seminar is \$50 and includes \$35 worth of books. Since seating is limited, early registration is recommended — write to *ham radio* for details.

Jim Fisk, W1DTY
editor-in-chief

^{*}*Bugbook 1 and II, Logic and Memory Circuits Using TTL Integrated Circuits; Bugbook III, Microcomputer Interfacing Experiments using the Mark 80, an 8080 system, \$35 the set from Ham Radio Books, Greenville, New Hampshire, 03048.*

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ANY HOPE THAT DOCKET 20282 — Restructuring — would be out by the end of this year has been much too optimistic. FCC Safety and Special Services Chief, Charles Higginbotham, W3CAH, feels that sometime next spring is a much more realistic target, and even then some aspects may require reexamination as additional dockets or oral proceedings such as the ARRL has requested. A tremendous amount of work has already gone into analyzing the mountain of Comments with the task far from done, and problems associated with CB's explosion aren't helping the effort.

SECRECY PROVISIONS of the Communications Act of 1934, Section 605, deserve a lot more attention by Amateurs than they've been getting. A strict interpretation of Section 605 forbids the disclosure of anything heard on the air except broadcast and Amateur transmissions — and that includes mentions of frequencies or any other information regarding the overheard signals!

Since This Ban applies to CB as well as other services, it could put a severe crimp in some of the recently publicized CB clean-up efforts conducted by Amateur groups.

The Intent Of Section 605 is quite clear — how likely an Amateur is to be cited for violating it is not.

REQUIREMENT FOR MULTIPLE COPIES for submissions to the FCC was upheld by Commissioners after consideration of a petition for its elimination submitted by W6NJU. Additional copies are necessary to insure the submission reaches all who should see it, but in their review of the requirement reductions were found possible.

Effective October 14 the number of copies required for comments on a Notice of Proposed Rule Making was reduced from 15 to 12 (original plus 11 copies) — other requirements not likely to affect Amateurs were also reduced. In their rejection of W6NJU's petition the Commissioners also noted that single copy submissions are now and have been accepted although they do not receive as wide circulation as those that meet the requirement.

Ham Radio/HR Report readers should not forget our long standing public service offer. Send your FCC submission directly to us and we'll make all the necessary copies and mail them to the Commission for just \$1.00 per page of original document.

REPEATER FUNDING may become an issue with the FCC if some flagrant abuses aren't corrected. Though use of a club's dues to pay for repeater maintenance is well within the Amateur rules, the solicitation of money for the use of a given repeater or its facilities (such as autopatch) is almost certainly a violation of Part 97.112, "No remuneration for use of station."

OSCAR ORBITAL PREDICTION BOOKLET produced by W6PAJ will replace HR Report's monthly prediction sheets for HR Report subscribers in 1976. W6PAJ's handy booklet will be sent without charge to any subscriber who asks for it — dropping the monthly sheets was done in recognition that a vast number of subscribers did not use them and HR Report sheets were a duplication of effort.

6000 MILE OSCAR QSO was completed between G3IOR and W6CG! Using meteor scatter techniques on selected orbits as the Satellite was over the horizon between them, successful two-way communications were finally exchanged between the two over a period of two weeks. Congratulations to both!

CIVIL SERVICE ADMINISTERED Amateur Radio exams have not been as popular in the test areas as expected. At the mid-point of the two-year program (which runs until next July) no specific conclusions have been drawn and FCC Field Operations people are watching it carefully.

BARRY ELECTRONICS WILL CONTINUE as a major Amateur Radio supplier despite Barry's tragic loss in a boating accident on Long Island Sound. Barry's wife Kitty vows she and the crew will keep the business going just as before.

LAISH/BY QSLs received by several west coasters are pretty exciting wallpaper but little else. It's now considered certain that he operated only from shipboard.

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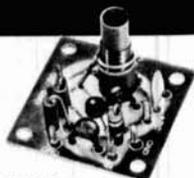
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frequency synthesizer

for the Collins 75S receiver

Complete description
of a frequency synthesizer
that converts the
Collins 75S-series of
communications receivers
to general-coverage use
from 3.4 to 30 MHz

During the past few years, the use and application of frequency synthesis in both receivers and transmitters has increased tremendously. A quick perusal of the ads for vhf transceivers is all the evidence needed to verify this fact, although there are also many high-frequency military and commercial (non-amateur) transmitters and receivers which employ frequency synthesizers to generate specific frequencies required within those units.

The advantages of having a general-coverage receiver in the ham shack are manifold and were discussed in a previous article describing a synthesizer for use with the Drake R-4 series receivers¹. This article will describe a frequency synthesizer to supplement or replace the high-frequency oscillator crystals in a Collins 75S-1, 75S-2 or 75S-3, resulting in a receiver which covers 3.4 through

Robert S. Stein, W6NBI*

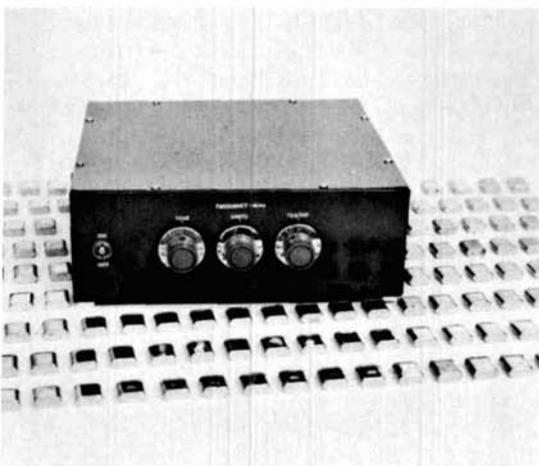
*1849 Middleton Avenue, Los Altos, California 94022.

30 MHz. Only minor electrical changes are required in the receiver; no holes need be drilled nor other mechanical modifications made.

Before proceeding with the description of the frequency synthesizer which makes this possible, a review of the receiver conversion process is in order. The 75S-1, 75S-2 and 75S-3 receivers all utilize identical crystal-oscillator and first-mixer circuits, so that the discussion is applicable to any one of the receivers.

The local-oscillator (LO) frequency injected into the first mixer is 3.155 MHz higher than the low-frequency end of the desired 200-kHz tuning range. Since the high-frequency oscillator is crystal controlled, this requirement is translated to a crystal which will generate the proper frequency. For example, the 3.8- to 4.0-MHz band requires a 6.955-MHz crystal (3.8 plus 3.155 MHz), which is supplied with the receiver. Collins specifies that the receiver

5-line frequency synthesizer with some of the 128 crystals from the Collins CP-1 crystal pack, which it replaces.



will tune from 3.4 to 30 MHz with the proper crystal. It should be noted that for receiver frequencies above 12 MHz, frequency doubling takes place in the plate circuit of the crystal oscillator; therefore the *crystal* frequency is one-half the frequency injected into the first mixer. Nevertheless, the *injection* frequency is always 3.155 MHz above the lower band edge.

In order to cover the entire range of 3.4 to 30 MHz in 200-kHz increments, 133 crystals would be required, starting with a 6.555-MHz crystal for the 3.4- to 3.6-MHz band, a 6.755 MHz crystal for the 3.6- to 3.8-MHz band, and so on. Even with the 28 crystal positions available in the 75S-3A, it is obvious that a complete set of crystals would not only be impractical to use, but prohibitively expensive. However, if we can generate frequencies of 6.155 through 32.955 MHz every 200 kHz, and substitute them for the crystals in the hf crystal oscillator, we can achieve all-band coverage within the specified tuning range of the receiver. The frequency synthesizer to be described does exactly that.

basic phase-locked loop frequency synthesizer

Although the basic phase-locked loop frequency synthesizer has been explained in previous articles, a brief review at this time will simplify the detailed explanation of this specific synthesizer. Fig. 1 shows the basic phase-locked frequency synthesizer. A stable reference frequency is applied to one input of a phase comparator. The output of the phase comparator is a dc voltage which passes through a lowpass filter and controls the frequency of a voltage-controlled oscillator (vco). The oscillator generates the desired frequency, which may be any multiple of

the reference frequency. The vco output is also applied to a frequency divider whose function is to divide the vco output frequency to the same frequency as that of the reference oscillator.

Let's assume that the reference oscillator frequency is exactly 5 kHz and that an output frequency of 6555 kHz is required. If we have a divider or programmable counter which will divide by 1311, the signal input to the phase comparator will also be 5 kHz when the vco output is exactly 6555 kHz. This is accomplished by the phase comparator producing a dc output change and brings the vco back to 6555 kHz. Thus, the output frequency is locked to the reference frequency, and has essentially the same stability as the reference oscillator.

By using a frequency divider which can be programmed, it is possible to obtain virtually any number of discrete frequencies which are integral multiples of the reference frequency, all of which are phase locked to the reference oscillator. The lowpass filter keeps the reference frequency from modulating the vco and establishes the lock-up time of the loop.

75S synthesizer

A block diagram of the 75S hfo frequency synthesizer is shown in **fig. 2**. The loop reference is a 100-kHz crystal-controlled oscillator, which is divided by ten and then by two, resulting in a 5-kHz reference signal which is applied to one input of the phase comparator. The other input to the comparator is the divided vco frequency, which will be discussed presently. The output from the comparator is a function of the dif-

ference between the two input frequencies and is applied to the loop filter, consisting of an active and a passive lowpass filter. The resultant dc controls the vco frequency by changing the capacitance of a varactor diode. The vco output, 6.555 to 32.955 MHz in 200-kHz steps, is amplified to a suitable level and routed to the receiver.

The vco output is also applied, via an isolating source follower, to a Schmitt trigger, which converts the amplitude and waveform of the vco output to one that is compatible with the TTL integrated circuits in the frequency divider.

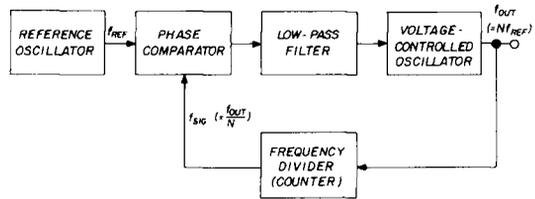


fig. 1. Basic phase-locked frequency synthesizer. The frequency divider is a variable-modulus, or programmable, counter.

The vco frequency divider is a variable-modulus counter which can be programmed to divide by any factor between 1311 and 6591 in steps of 40 (i.e. 1311, 1351, 1391, 1431, etc.). An examination of the discrete vco frequencies to be synthesized will reveal that the largest common factor is 5 kHz, thereby establishing the reference frequency. Steps of 200 kHz in the vco output are obtained by changing the counter modulus in steps of 40 (40 x 5 kHz = 200 kHz). Since each vco frequency ends in 5, the least significant digit in the number by which the vco frequency must be divided to yield 5 kHz will always be 1. Therefore the first counter always provides a 1-count. The three remaining counters are programmed by the front-panel frequency-

control switches and establish the first three digits of the frequency divisor.

Preselected binary-coded-decimal (BCD) outputs from each counter, plus the output from the Schmitt trigger, are fed to a decoder circuit, which produces

Trimmer capacitor C3, in series with the crystal, permits adjustment of the crystal frequency. The output of the oscillator is shaped and buffered by a third gate, U1C.

The 100-kHz signal is divided down

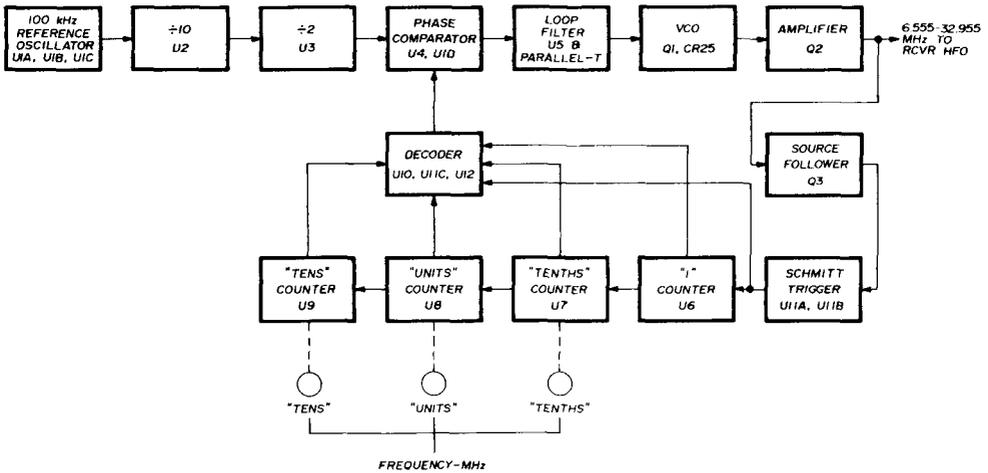


fig. 2. Block diagram of the Collins 75S hfo frequency synthesizer. The only tuning controls are the front-panel TENS, UNITS, and TENTHS rotary switches.

the divided-down vco signal applied to the phase comparator. The decoder also resets the counters (actually this is its primary function), but that signal path has been omitted from fig. 2 because it is not pertinent to overall signal flow. Details of the counter and decoder functions will be explained in greater detail under their circuit descriptions.

reference oscillator and phase comparator

The 100-kHz reference oscillator and its frequency dividers, the phase comparator, and the loop filter are shown in fig. 3. The reference oscillator consists of gates U1A and U1B, two sections of an MC846P quad 2-input NAND gate. The gates are configured as a multivibrator and the 100-kHz signal is developed by connecting crystal Y1 as part of the signal path between the gates.

to 10 kHz by U2, a 7490 decade counter. The output of the 7490 is then divided by two by one flip-flop in U3, a 7474 dual D-type flip-flop, resulting in the 5-kHz reference which is applied to pin 3 of phase comparator U4.

The phase comparator comprises U4, another 7474 dual D-type flip-flop, and the remaining gate section of U1. It compares the phase difference between the 5-kHz reference and the vco frequency divided by the counter modulus (f_{VCO}/N), and produces a digital pulse output whose duty cycle is a function of the phase difference. This digital output is partially filtered by R3 and C6 to a sawtooth which is applied to the inverting input of U5.

U5 is an LM3900 quad op amp, one amplifier section of which is used as the active element in the loop filter. It attenuates the ac components of the sig-

nal from the phase comparator and thereby produces a dc output which varies in accordance with the phase difference between the inputs to the com-

will be improved.) Additional attenuation of harmonics of the reference frequency is accomplished by R22, R34, C18 and C38 in the vco (fig. 4).

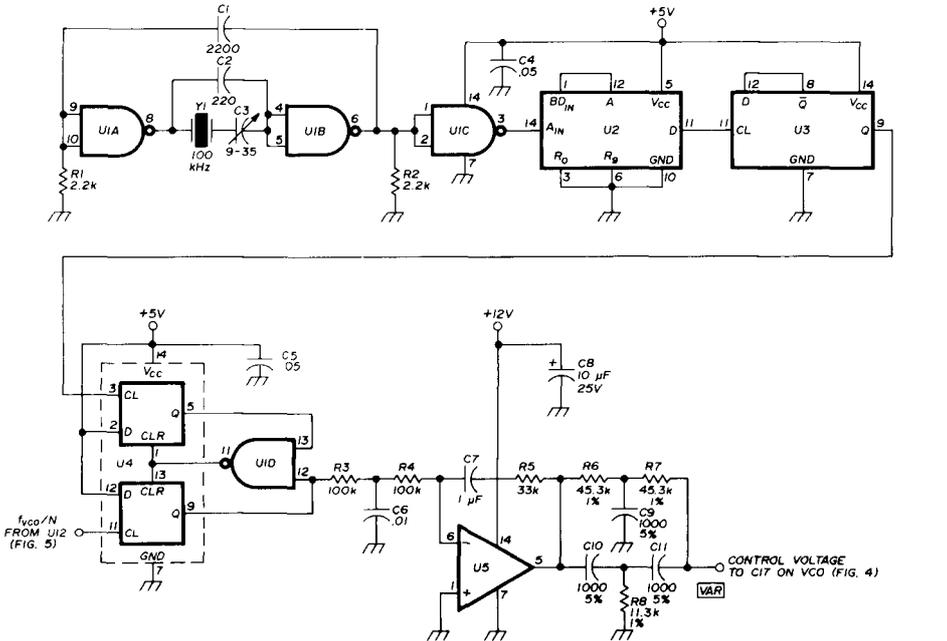


fig. 3. Schematic of the crystal oscillator and its frequency dividers, the phase comparator, and the loop filter, Integrated circuits are listed in table 1 (page 20). C7 must be a polycarbonate- or polyester-film type capacitor.

parator. The gain of the loop filter, its frequency response, and the loop lock-up time are determined by the values of R3, R4, R5 and C7^{2,3}.

Additional filtering of the 5-kHz loop reference frequency is needed to prevent modulation of the vco, which would produce spurious sidebands on both sides of the desired frequency. A parallel-T filter, consisting of R6 through R8 and C9 through C11, provides a minimum of 35 dB attenuation at 5 kHz. (This figure is based on worst-case conditions using five-percent capacitors. If two- or one-percent capacitors are used, or the capacitors are selected by bridge measurement, the attenuation

voltage-controlled oscillator

The vco is built as a separate, shielded unit to eliminate stray pick-up from the digital circuits and from ac fields. The oscillator consists of Q1, an E300 (or equivalent) n-channel fet, in a Colpitts circuit with varactor CR25 connected in series with C38 across the tank circuit. The varactor is a Motorola MV1401 and has a ratio of maximum-to-minimum capacitance of approximately ten, as compared to usual ratios of two to four for conventional varactors. (It also happens to be the most expensive single component in the entire synthesizer.) Despite the large capacitance ratio, the oscillator cannot

cover the entire range of 6.555 to 32.955 MHz without switching. This is accomplished by diode switching, using switch section S3-D of the *tens* divider switch (fig. 5).

In the zero position of the *tens* switch, diodes CR26 and CR27 do not conduct, so coils L1 and L2 are each effectively in series with a 33- μ H choke (L4 and L5) to ground. The high value of this inductance has only stray effect on the circuit; thus the oscillator frequency is essentially determined by coil L3 and the tank-circuit capacitance. When the *tens* switch is set to position 1 or 2, one of the diodes is biased into

The oscillator output is taken from the source of Q1 and coupled to the base of amplifier Q2. The amplifier, a type 2N2219 npn transistor, is a broad-band stage which feeds the hf oscillator circuit in the receiver through an isolating 5-dB L-pad, R27 and R28. Also applied to the output circuit is the +12-volt power supply, which is decoupled from the vco signal by rf choke L8 in series with current-limiting resistor R32. This dc source is used to actuate a sensitive relay in the receiver, as will be explained later.

The output of Q2 is also coupled to Q3, an n-channel fet configured as a

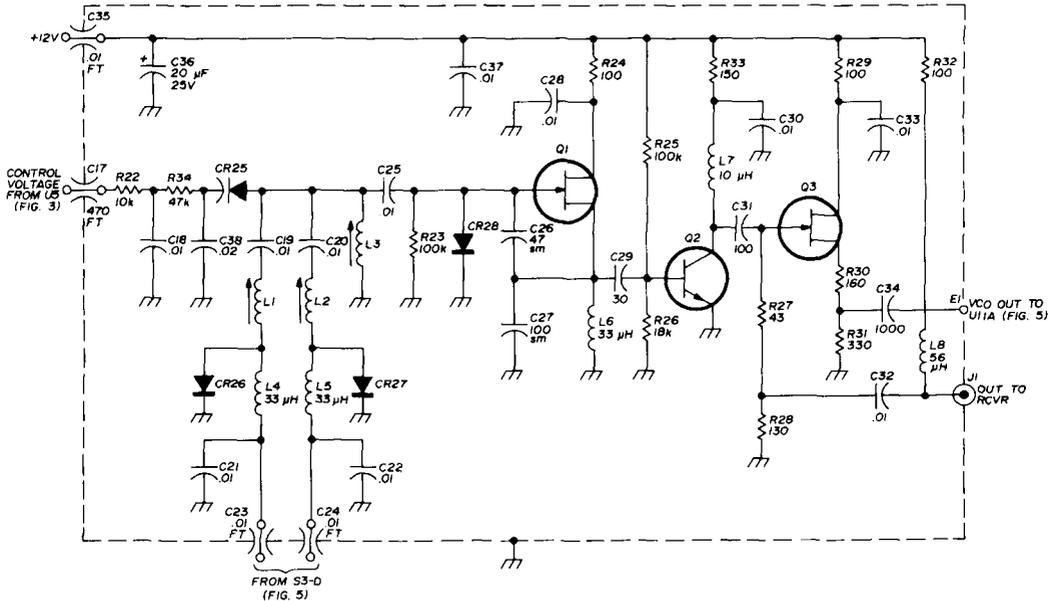
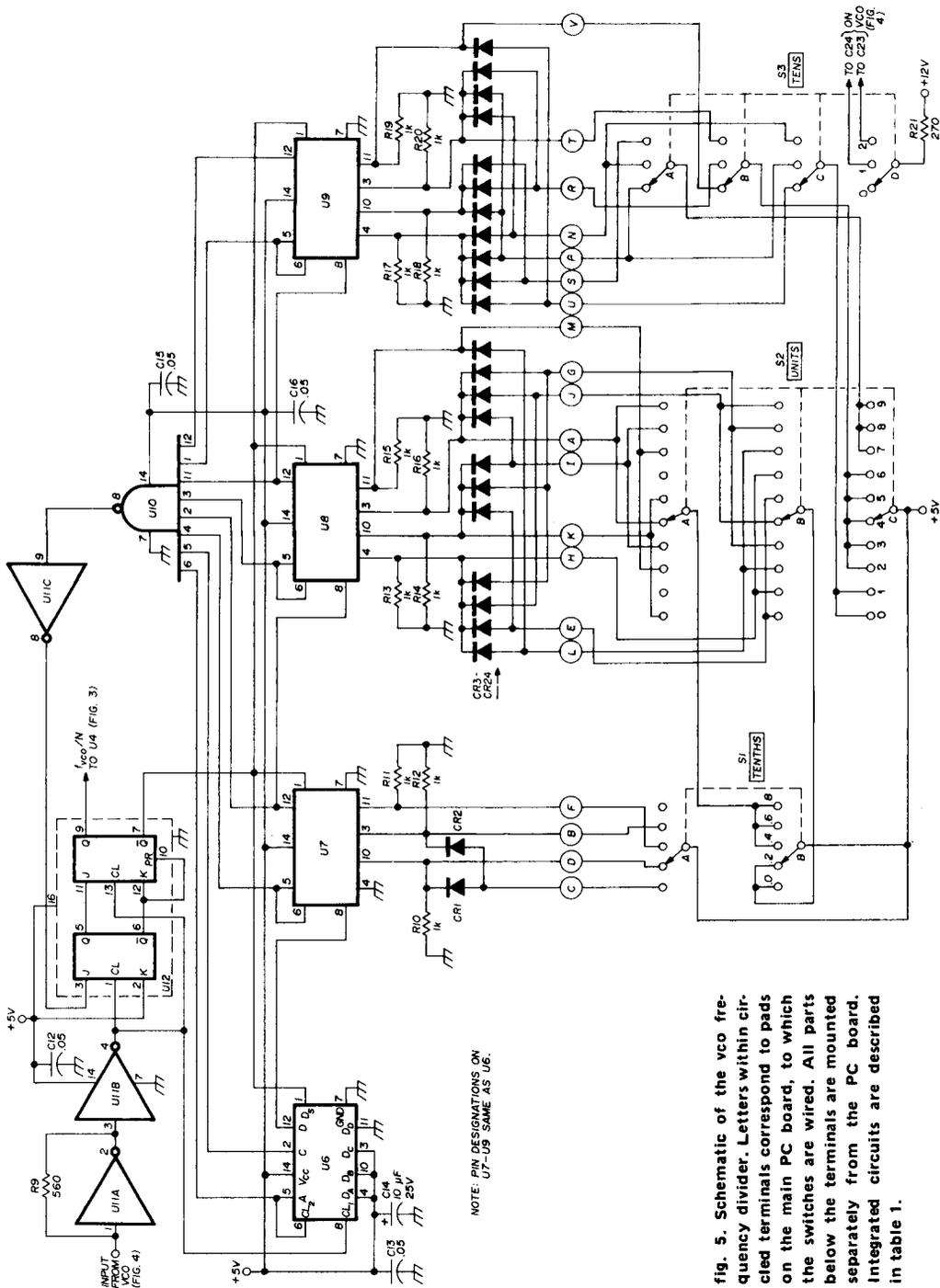


fig. 4. Schematic of the vco. See table 1 for coil-winding data and descriptions of parts not identified on the schematic.

forward conduction and brings the low end of the associated coil close to rf ground, shunting L3 and thereby lowering the tank-circuit inductance. Resistor R21 in series with the switch arm limits diode current to a safe value.

source follower. The source load is made up of two resistors, R30 and R31, which form a 6-dB L-pad in the output. The source follower drives the Schmitt trigger in the digital portion of the synthesizer and, with the L-pad, keeps



NOTE: PIN DESIGNATIONS ON U7-U9 SAME AS U6.

fig. 5. Schematic of the vco frequency divider. Letters within circled terminals correspond to pads on the main PC board, to which the terminals are wired. All parts below the terminals are mounted separately from the PC board. Integrated circuits are described in table 1.

any digital signals from feeding back into the vco.

frequency divider

Fig. 5 shows the vco frequency divider and its associated front-panel switches. Note the use of the word *divider* in its singular form; the counters used in the divider circuit function as an integral circuit (no pun intended), rather than as separate divider stages such as are used to divide the 100-kHz crystal frequency down to 5 kHz. Because this is quite different from the usual frequency multiplier or divider stages familiar to most amateurs, as evidenced by the many inquiries received following publication of the R-4 synthesizer article¹, it seems appropriate at this point to explain the operation of a typical variable-modulus, or programmable, counter.

Let us consider a basic two-stage frequency divider, as shown in fig. 6. Each of the counters is a decade counter, that is, a counter which produces one output pulse for every ten input clock pulses. However, each counter is presettable, which means that its count may be programmed or modified by setting its data inputs (D_A , D_B , D_C , and D_D) either high or low. The data-input subscripts indicate the binary weighting assigned to each input: A=1, B=2, C=4, and D=8. There is also a fifth data terminal, D_S ; this is the data-enable input, which must be set prior to and during the interval that the data inputs are applied. In the simplified circuit shown, we will assume that D_S must be set high to enable the data inputs.

Conventional digital terminology designates the first pulse in a pulse train as 0, so that the tenth pulse, which produces an output from a decade counter, is therefore designated number 9. The total number of clock pulses, N_{max} , which can be counted before an output

is produced from a ripple-through counter (another name for the circuit shown in fig. 6) is

$$N_{max} = N_1 \times N_2 \times \dots \times N_n$$

where N_1 is the modulus of the first counter, N_2 is the modulus of the second counter, and so on. Since each counter in fig. 6 has a modulus of 10, $N_{max} = 100$. But remember that this will be clock pulse 99, since we start with pulse 0.

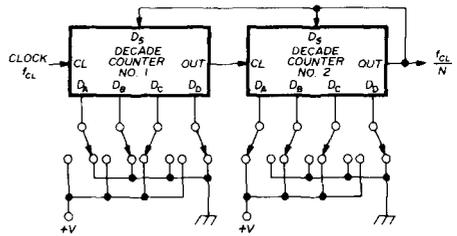


fig. 6. Basic variable-modulus counter.

Now let's assume that we want the circuit of fig. 6 to divide the clock frequency by 25. If the counters are up-counters (as are all those used in this synthesizer), their data inputs must be preset with the nine's complement of the desired divisor. (Nine's complement simply means the difference between nine and the desired count.) The preset data to be entered, N_D , is determined by the equation

$$N_D = (N_{max} - 1) - D$$

where D is the frequency divisor. Since N_{max} is 100 for our circuit,

$$N_D = (100 - 1) - 25 = 74.$$

The least significant, or units, digit corresponds to the count of the first counter, since it is counting unit clock pulses; the most significant, or tens, digit corresponds to the count of the second counter because it is counting tens

of clock pulses. Therefore counter number 1 must be preset with a 4, and counter number 2 must be preset with a 7. To do this, D_C (having a binary weight of 4) of counter number 1 is set high and all other data inputs are set low. On counter number 2, D_A , D_B and D_C are set high (binary weighting: $1 + 2 + 4 = 7$) and D_D is set low. What we have done is to preset the counters so that each is in the state which would exist following the clock pulse having the same number as the preset data. Since counter number 1 has been preset with a 4, it will produce an output after five clock pulses have occurred (corresponding to the 5 in the desired divisor of 25). *Thereafter*, the first counter will count by *ten* until D_5 is set high by the output of counter number 2. Similarly, because counter number 2 has been preset with a 7, it will produce an output after it has counted two pulses from the first counter, completing the count of 25. This output is applied to the D_5 inputs of both counters and re-enables the data inputs, starting the count over.

If we analyze the operation of the counters, we can see that by presetting the first counter with a 4, the elapsed time between clock pulse 0 and clock pulse 9 was shortened by four clock-pulse intervals. In the same way, by presetting counter number 2 with a 7, the elapsed time between clock pulse 9 (the first output pulse from the first counter) and clock pulse 99 (N_{max}) was shortened by 7 times 10 clock-pulse intervals. Assuming a clock frequency f_c , with a period t_c ,

$$t_{out} = 99t_c - 4t_c - 7(10t_c) = 25t_c$$

and

$$f_{out} = \frac{1}{t_{out}} = \frac{1}{25t_c} = \frac{f_c}{25}$$

The preceding analysis may be extended to any number of cascaded counters and to hexadecimal as well as decade counters. However, actual opera-

tion will be limited by the propagation delays through the counters and the set-up times required for the data inputs. As previously stated, the D_5 inputs must be enabled *before* and during the time period that the preset data are entered. Since the preset data are dc levels, it follows conversely that they are entered shortly after the generation of the output pulse, which is applied to the D_5 inputs. If the clock frequency is too high, the counters may toggle but too much time may elapse, because of propagation delays, between the output pulse following the terminal clock pulse (equivalent to pulse 99 in our basic circuit) and the arrival of the next clock pulse (pulse 0). This will prevent the data inputs from being enabled prior to the arrival of clock pulse 0, and will result in an erroneous count.

Another problem which often arises when using a circuit similar to that of **fig. 6** is caused by the short duration of the output pulse. The output pulse from counters which are used in these circuits has the same width as the clock pulse. Thus the output pulse of counter number 1 is the same as the clock pulse (although with greater time intervals between pulses), and since counter number 2 is toggled by the output of counter number 1, its output pulse width will also be the same as the clock-pulse width. Furthermore, as soon as the output pulse resets the data-enable inputs, both counters resume their preset state and the output pulse disappears. This condition, along with the narrow pulse width, may not permit the data inputs to be enabled for the minimum time which is required by the counter.

The propagation delay may be minimized by decoding the BCD outputs of the counters. These outputs have the same binary weighting as the corresponding data inputs. Thus when the terminal condition of 99 is reached in **fig. 7**, outputs A and D of each counter

will go high, causing the output of the AND gate to go high and enable the data inputs. The advantage of this circuit lies in the reduction in the delay time between clock pulse 99 and the D_S enabling pulse. In **fig. 6**, the delay is equal to the propagation delay through the two counters, or through a total of eight flip-flops. In **fig. 7**, the delay is equal to the propagation delay through only one flip-flop (flip-flop A in counter number 1) plus that of the gate. This occurs because at clock pulse 98, outputs A and D of counter number 2 are high, as is the D output of counter number 1. Clock pulse 99 needs to propagate only through the first flip-flop in counter number 1 to cause output A to go high, resulting in the required enabling output from the gate.

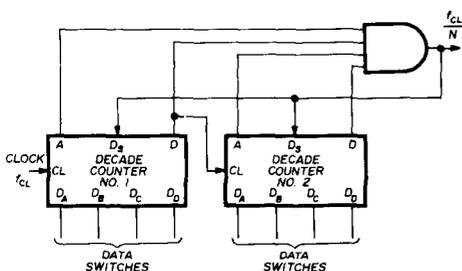


fig. 7. Basic variable-modulus counter with decoded outputs.

This technique of decoding may be used in various circuit configurations. In many cases, it may be necessary to decode outputs which are other than those of the terminal count in order to enable the data inputs before the arrival of clock pulse 0. It may also be necessary to utilize flip-flops in addition to the decoding gate in order to enable the D_S inputs with a pulse whose width is greater than the clock-pulse width. This may result in some preset factors being unusable, but rarely are all moduli of a variable-modulus counter utilized.

Returning now to **fig. 5**, we see that

the vco frequency divider is a four-stage variable-modulus counter comprising U6, a 74S196 or 82S90 presettable decade counter, and U7 through U9, each a 74196 or 8290 presettable decade counter. The signal from source follower Q3 in the vco is converted to TTL level by U11A, one section of a 7404 hex inverter. The inverter functions as a Schmitt trigger by virtue of the connection of R9 between the input and output. Additional shaping is provided by U11B, and the resultant output clocks counter U6 and both flip-flops in U12.

As stated previously, only the counts of the last three counters in the chain need be varied, since U6 provides a fixed count. The counts are controlled by *tenths* switch S1, *units* switch S2, and *tens* switch S3. **Fig. 5** shows the switches set for a receiver frequency of 4.2 MHz; the corresponding vco frequency is therefore 7.355 MHz. Since the reference frequency is 5 kHz, the vco frequency must be divided by 1471. U6 provides the least significant count of 1. The next significant count of 7 results from setting the data inputs of U7 to the nines' complement of 7, or 2. It can be seen that +5 volts are applied to pin 10 (input D_B) through S1-A, while the remaining data inputs are either grounded directly or are pulled low by resistors R11 and R12. Similarly, it can be seen that U8 provides a count of 4, and U9 a count of 1 for the most significant digit.

The complexity of the switching circuits is the result of labelling the switches so that they indicate the low end of the receiver's 200-kHz tuning range, rather than the dividing count or the vco frequency. Steering diodes CR1 through CR24, in conjunction with the switches, route the 5-volt supply to the appropriate data inputs.

The BCD outputs of the counters are decoded in U10, a 7430 8-input NAND gate, the output of which is inverted by

U11C and applied to pin 3 of U12, a 74S112 dual J-K flip-flop. Both flip-flops are used to re-enable the counters and require three clock pulses after pin 3 is set high by U11C. This means that instead of decoding when the BCD outputs of the counters total 9999, decoding should take place when the BCD outputs total 9996, so that the data inputs of the counters are enabled three clock pulses later, immediately following the terminal BCD state of 9999. However, I found it necessary to shorten the propagation time between the terminal clock pulse and the last-occurring input to U10, and therefore chose to decode a count of 9995. (Note that the A and C outputs from U6 provide the least significant digit of 5.) Since this re-enables the data inputs one clock pulse early, the extra clock pulse is accounted for by presetting U6 for a count of 2, which keeps the least significant digit in the frequency divisor at 1.

Because the preset enabling pulse for the counters must be low, the \bar{Q} output from pin 7 of the second flip-flop in U12 is used. The complementary Q output from pin 9 is applied to the phase comparator for comparison with the reference frequency.

power supply

The synthesizer draws approximately 425 mA from its power supply, which is shown in fig. 8 along with the interconnections of the main pc board and the vco unit.

Full-wave bridge rectifier CR29 through CR32 is supplied from T1, a 16-volt, 0.5-ampere transformer. The 12-volt supply for op amp U5 on the main board and for the vco is obtained from the output of U13, a fixed 12-volt regulator. The drop to regulated 5 volts for the logic circuitry takes place in U14, a similar 5-volt regulator. LED CR33, connected to the 5-volt supply through current-limiting resistor R35, serves as a pilot light.

construction

Most of the parts comprising the synthesizer are mounted on two printed-circuit boards, the main board and the vco board. The large main board contains all of the digital circuits and the phase detector, while the entire vco, except for the feedthroughs and output connector, is built on the separate vco board. Figs. 9 through 12 show the foil patterns and parts locations for the two boards*.

The interior photograph shows the construction of the prototype unit, which is enclosed in a *steel* utility box measuring 10x10x3-1/2 inches (25.4x25.4x8.9 cm). It is imperative that a steel enclosure be used because of the strong magnetic field around the receiver caused by the power transformer. The phase-detector circuit and the vco in the synthesizer are extremely sensitive to ac fields, and when the unit was first enclosed in an aluminum box, it was impossible to eliminate a 60-Hz hum on received signals except when the synthesizer was placed directly in front of the receiver. Since this is hardly consistent with good "human engineering" practice, the aluminum housing was discarded and a steel box was substituted.

An enclosure was intentionally selected which was larger than might be expected, because of the sensitivity of the synthesizer to stray fields. This proved to be a wise choice (sometimes you luck out!), since the physical placement of the power transformer within the box became the next problem. Rather than fool around with compartment shielding, I mounted the transformer, rectifiers, and filter capacitor on a small piece of sheet steel. The steel shields the rest of the unit from the transformer

*A set of two drilled and plated boards is available from the author for \$14.50, postpaid in the U.S.A. Questions will be answered if accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

field when the power supply assembly is positioned so that the steel plate is vertical and the transformer is on the side away from the main board.

Even with the arrangement described, the placement of the power supply assembly is critical. I suggest that the assembly be mounted temporarily,

left-hand wall of the enclosure, with their pins extending into the interior. Apply a thin layer of silicone heat-transfer compound between the regulators and the housing to aid in dissipating heat.

The three rotary switches, the power switch, and the LED pilot light are

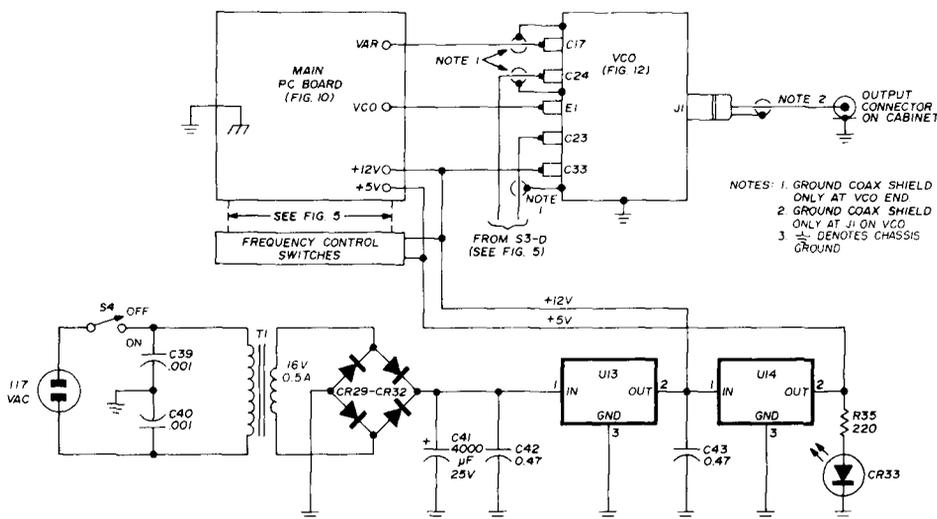


fig. 8. Schematic of the power supply and interconnections of the assemblies comprising the synthesizer. Diodes and integrated circuits are described in table 1.

with long leads, when the unit is constructed. Then after all adjustments have been made and the synthesizer is functioning, the final location can be determined by moving the assembly around until any hum on a received signal disappears. You may find that moving it one way or the other by as little as a half-inch (1 cm) may make a big difference.

On the other hand, this problem can be eliminated, and a smaller cabinet used, if the power supply is made a separate unit and connected to the synthesizer proper by means of a cable. The choice is yours.

The two voltage regulators (U13 and U14) are mounted on the outside of the

mounted on the front panel. On the rear is the coax output connector. Four rubber bumpers are mounted on the bottom to prevent scratches from the hardware which fastens the parts to the enclosure.

When assembling the parts on the main PC board, a socket or Molex pins should be installed at U11 for the integrated circuit. It may be necessary to select a 7404, since its upper frequency limit is being pushed. But at the current price of 25 to 35 cents each, it is much more economical to buy three or four than to buy the devices which would be required for a more sophisticated Schmitt trigger. More about this later.

The main board is connected to the

frequency-control switches from 20 pads, designated A through V, along the front of the board, as shown in **fig. 5**. The remainder of the connections appear in **fig. 8**. All connecting leads to and from the board should be soldered in place on the board before connecting the other ends. Leave plenty of wire on each lead to make the connections to the parts which are not on the board so that if any troubleshooting must be done it will not be necessary to unsolder the wires. Shielded wiring is made with RG-174/U coax. All wiring, except for that between the "VCO" pad and E1 on the vco, carries dc only, making lead length noncritical. The board is mounted on four standoff posts; in order to prevent ground loops, three of the four should be non-metallic or should be insulated from the ground plane on the board, so that only a single metallic post grounds the main board to the cabinet.

The vco printed-circuit board is enclosed in a 2-1/8x2-5/8x2-3/4 inch (5.4x6.7x7 cm) mini-box. Feedthrough terminal E1 and feedthrough capacitors C17, C23, C24 and C33 are mounted on one side of the box, and J1 is placed on one end, corresponding to the leads designated in **fig. 12**. Use solder lugs under the outsides of the feedthrough capacitors which are to have shielded leads attached. The PC board is fastened to the side of the box on which the feedthroughs are mounted by means of small right-angle brackets which are soldered to the ground plane of the board. The feedthroughs and J1 are then connected to the appropriate pads on the board, using short lengths of bare wire.

The vco mini-box must be mounted so that there is only a single return to common ground, in order to prevent ground loops. When mounting the vco,

table 1. Semiconductor and miscellaneous parts list.

CR1-CR24	1N34A, 1N100, 1N270 or equivalent germanium diode	Q2	2N2219
CR25	Motorola MV1401 varactor	Q3	2N5458, 2N5459 or Motorola MPF103
CR26,CR27	1N658	S1	2-pole, 5-position, non-shorting rotary switch
CR28	1N914 or 1N4148	S2	3-pole, 10-position, non-shorting rotary switch
CR29-CR32	1N4001 or equivalent 50 PIV, 1 amp silicon rectifier	S3	4-pole, 3-position, non-shorting rotary switch
CR33	Hewlett-Packard 5082-4882, Motorola MLED655, Radio Shack 276-041 or equivalent light-emitting diode	U1	Motorola MC846P quad 2-input NAND gate
E1	insulated feedthrough terminal	U2	7490 decade counter
L1	5-3/4 turns no. 28, closewound on 0.211" (5.5mm) diameter slug-tuned form (Miller 25A014-4)	U3,U4	7474 dual D-type flip-flop
L2	10-3/4 turns no. 28, closewound on 0.211" (5.5mm) diameter slug-tuned form (Miller 25A014-3)	U5	National LM3900 quad op amp
L3	20 turns no. 30, closewound on 0.211" (5.5mm) diameter slug-tuned form (Miller 25A014-3)	U6	74S196 or Signetics 82S90 presettable decade counter
Q1	Siliconix E300, 2N5397 or 2N5398	U7,U8,U9	74196 or Signetics 8290 presettable decade counter
		U10	7430 8-input NAND gate
		U11	7404 hex inverter (see text)
		U12	74S112 dual J-K flip-flop
		U13	7812 or National LM340-12 12-volt regulator
		U14	7805, National LM340-5 or LM309K 5-volt regulator

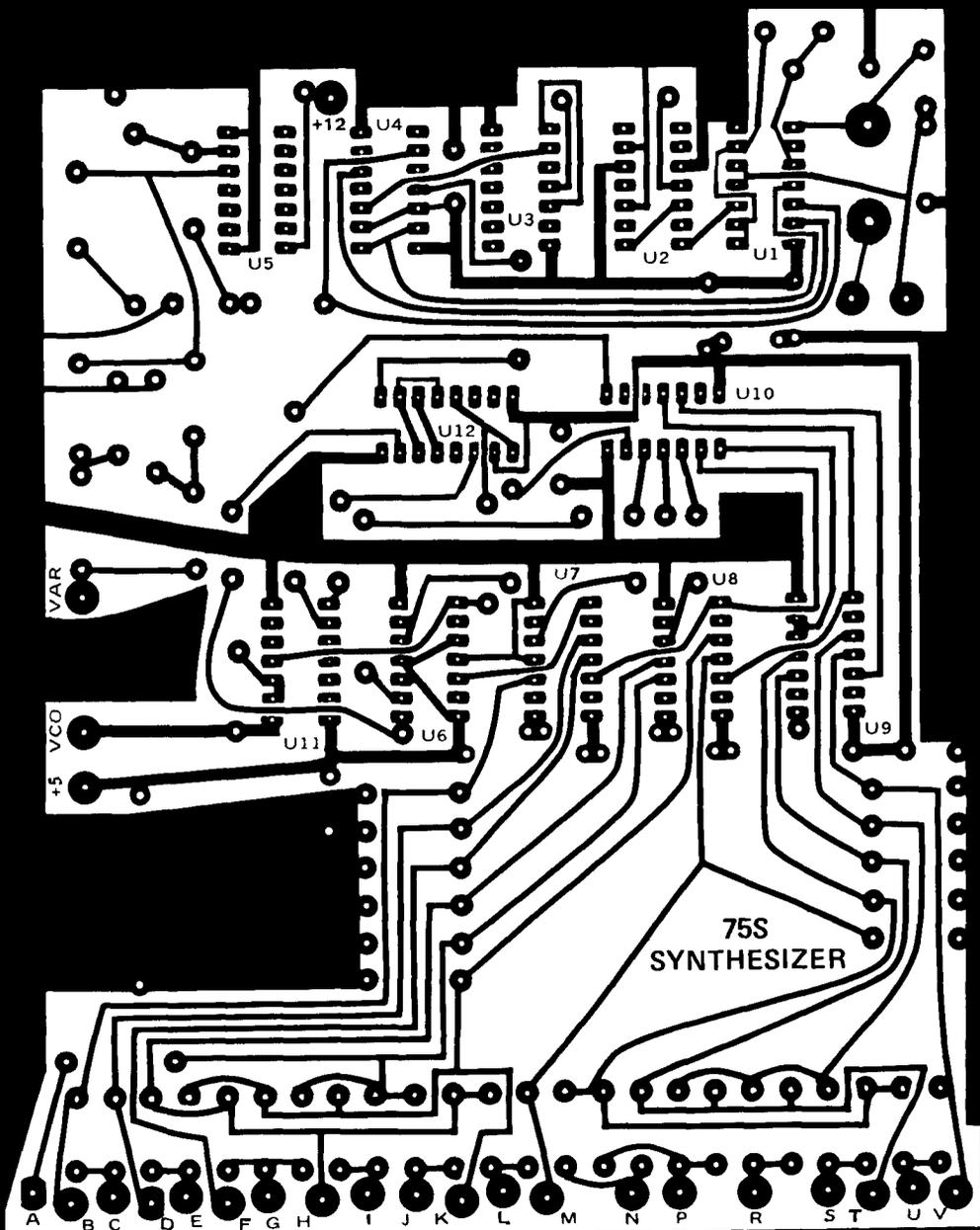
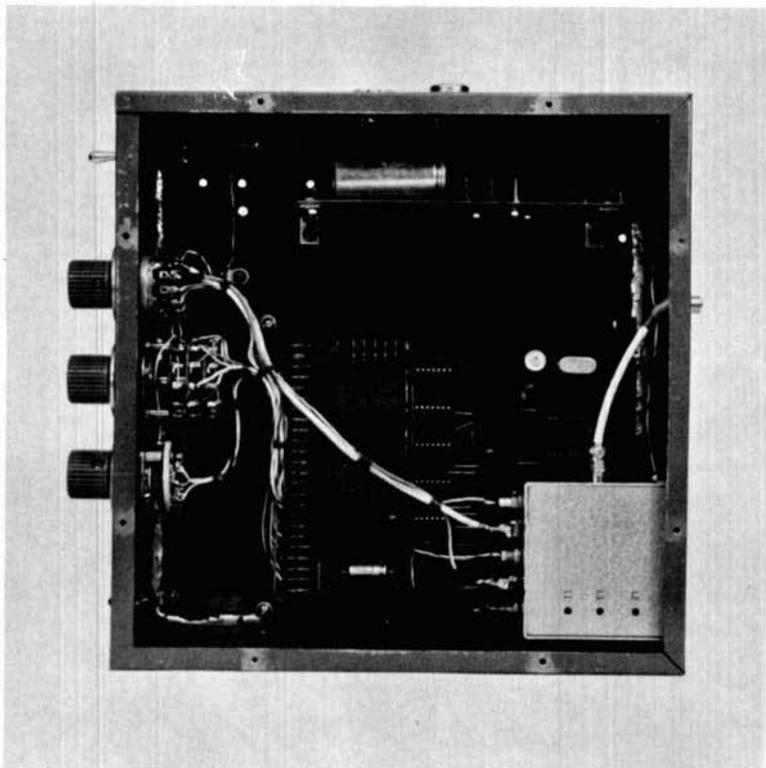


fig. 9. Foil pattern of the main printed-circuit board.

be sure to position it so that the feed-throughs are close to the side of the main PC board on which are located the pads designated "VAR" and "VCO." The lead between E1 on the vco and the

will probably have little detrimental affect). The cable between the synthesizer and the receiver *must* be the 95-ohm type or 93-ohm RG-62/U.

The power transformer should sup-



Interior of the assembled synthesizer. The power supply components are located to the left of the main PC board (top). The vco is mounted on the rear wall just above the main board (bottom right). Note the holes in the vco enclosure which provide access to the tuning slugs of the coils mounted on the vco board inside.

"VCO" pad on the main board should not be more than 3 or 4 inches (7.5 or 10 cm) long. The shields of the leads going to capacitors C17, C23 and C24 are grounded to the solder lugs under those capacitors.

The coax between J1 and the output connector on the rear of the cabinet should be 95-ohm type, such as RG-180/U or RG-195/U (although using a very short piece of 50-ohm RG-174/U

ply 16 to 17 volts ac at approximately 0.5 ampere. Any higher voltage only results in greater heat dissipation in regulator U13. The method by which this voltage can be obtained by modifying an inexpensive 24-volt transformer is described in reference 1.

The numbered positions on the rotary switch knobs were made by using number transfers on the skirts of the knobs. Several heavy coats of Krylon

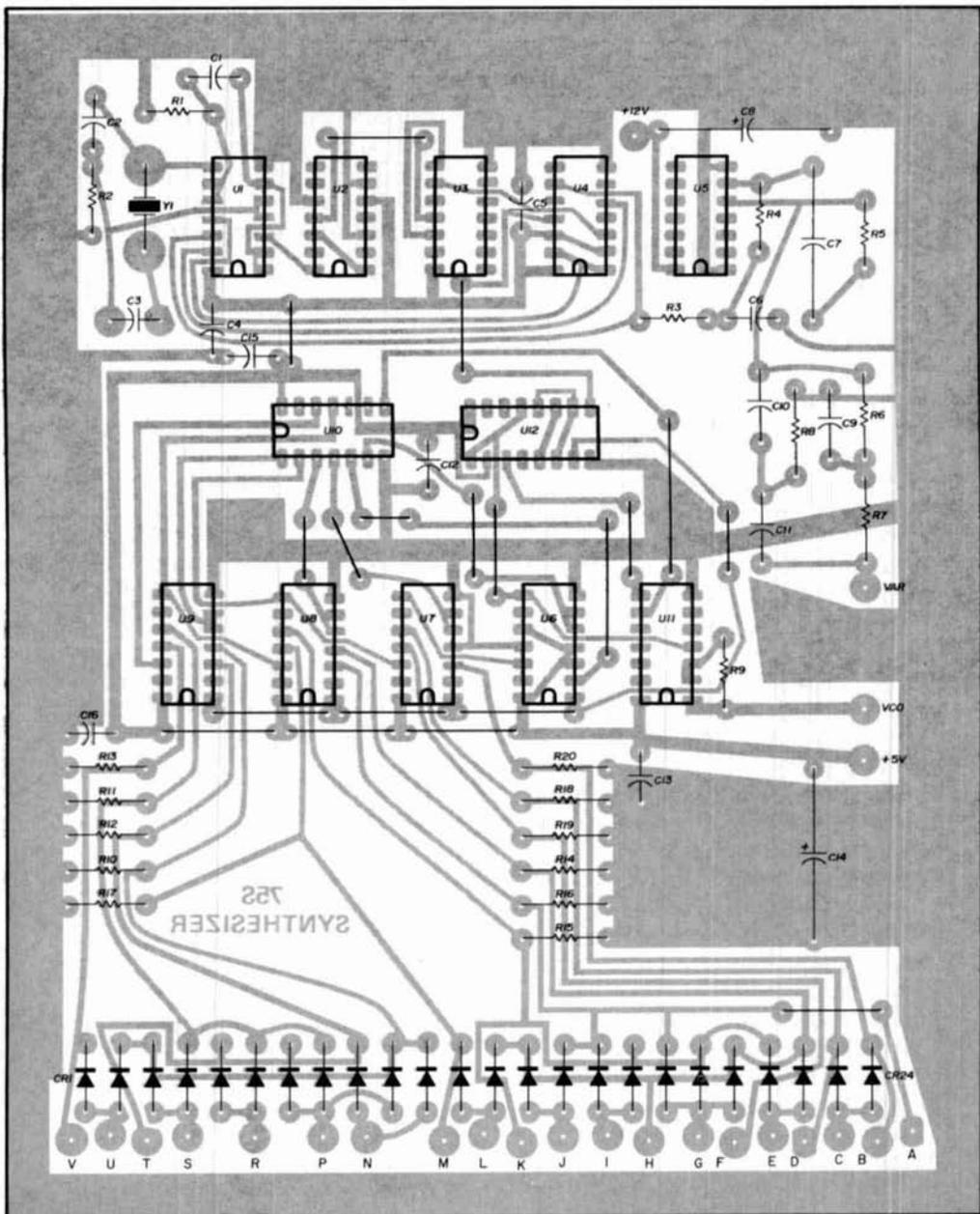


fig. 10. Location of parts on the main printed-circuit board.

fixative were sprayed on to keep the numbers from peeling off. The panel markings can be applied in the same manner. If you are fortunate enough to

have access to a Selectric Composer, or even a good electric typewriter, the panel labeling can be typed on frisket, which is an adhesive-backed translucent

acetate. The material is virtually invisible when applied to a grey panel, against which the black type effectively contrasts. Frisket is available at art-supply dealers.

receiver modifications

At the beginning of the article, I indicated that only minor modifications had to be made to the receiver; these are shown in **fig. 13**. The synthesized crystal frequency is introduced into the receiver via the *spare* jack on the rear apron. The added components must be placed close to the oscillator-mixer (V3) tube socket, and the shielded connection to the *spare* jack made with 93- or 95-ohm coax, e.g. RG-62/U, RG-180/U or RG-195/U.

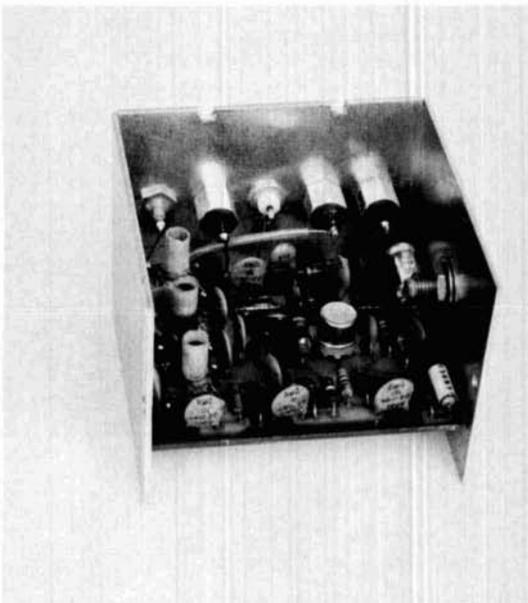
The existing coax lead in the receiver between *bandswitch* S1 and pin 2 of V3 is disconnected from V3 and rewired to the added relay. This relay may be a reed or "crystal can" type; its coil resistance must be at least 500 ohms in order to minimize the voltage drop across R32 in the vco.

When the synthesizer is off or is disconnected from the receiver, the normally-closed relay contacts complete the circuit between S1 and V3, allowing the receiver to function as if no changes had been made. When the synthesizer is turned on, the relay is energized by the 12-volt supply in the vco through R32 and L8 (see **fig. 4**), disconnecting the crystals and applying the synthesized crystal signal to the control grid (pin 2) of the oscillator section of V3. The 56- μ H choke at the relay coil isolates it from the rf signal path.

A new *preselector* scale may be added to the receiver so that you don't have to consult or memorize the preselector chart in the manual. **Fig. 14** is a full-scale reproduction of the new *preselector* scale and may be cut out, or photocopied if you prefer not to mutilate the magazine.

Remove the *preselector* knob and

pointer and attach the scale to the front panel of the receiver, using either a spot of rubber cement or a small piece of double-sided sticky-back tape in each corner. The scale shows the approximate settings of the *preselector* control; the letter at the end of each scale segment indicates the *bandswitch* position to be used.



Construction of the vco sub-chassis. Inductors L1, L2 and L3 are at left. Output connector is at right. Feedthrough capacitors and input connector are on rear panel. All other components are mounted on the printed-circuit board at bottom.

alignment and test

After all wiring and connections have been checked and rechecked, the synthesizer is ready for the few adjustments necessary to set the vco on frequency. The only test equipment absolutely necessary is an electronic voltmeter, although a frequency counter and oscilloscope can be helpful.

Apply power to the synthesizer and

check the supply voltages to make sure that they are within five percent of the nominal values. Then make sure the reference oscillator is working by bringing a lead from the receiver antenna jack close to the crystal. Harmonics of the 100-kHz oscillator should be heard in the receiver. The oscillator may also be checked with a scope; 100-kHz square waves should be observed at pin 3 of U1, and 5-kHz square waves should be present at pin 9 of U3. If the oscillator is not working, adjust trimmer capacitor C3, although it is not necessary for the crystal to be oscillating at exactly 100 kHz at this time.

Connect an electronic voltmeter between ground and feedthrough capacitor C17 on the vco. Set the rotary switches to 9.8 MHz and adjust the tuning slug of L3 until a meter reading of 10 volts is obtained. Rotate the *units* switch toward zero, noting that the voltmeter reading drops with each change in the switch setting until position 3 is reached. Then rotate the *tenths* switch to zero, noting that the voltage continues to drop. (Actually, any switch setting below 3.4 MHz is invalid, since it is below the tuning range of the receiver preselector.) A frequency counter connected to the output of the synthesizer should indicate approximately 12.955 MHz with the frequency switches set to 9.8 MHz, and 6.155 MHz with the switches set to 3.0 MHz. The exact frequencies will be obtained only if the crystal is set to exactly 100 kHz, which adjustment is not made until the vco is aligned.

Next, set the rotary switches for a frequency of 19.8 MHz, and adjust the slug in L2 for a voltmeter reading of approximately 10 volts. *Do not touch the slug in L3.* Again turn the *units* switch toward zero and note that the voltage drops at each switch position, including position 0. Turn the *tenths* switch to 0 and make sure that the voltage also decreases with each step. A

counter should indicate about 13.155 MHz and 22.955 MHz respectively for the minimum and maximum *units* and *tenths* switch settings.

Finally, set the rotary switches for a frequency of 29.8 MHz and adjust L1 as described in the preceding adjustment. The frequency range of the vco with the *tens* switch in position 2 is 23.155 to 32.955 MHz. If you find that it is not

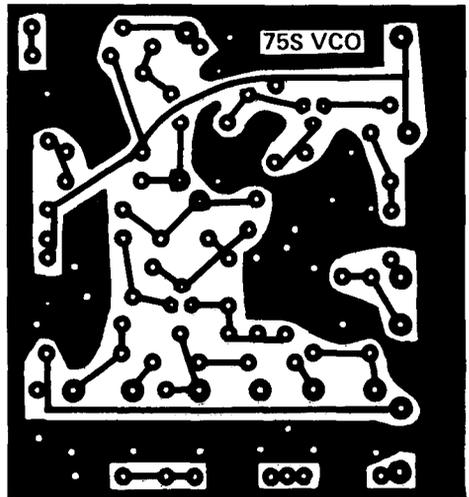


fig. 11. Foil pattern of the vco printed-circuit board.

possible to obtain a 10-volt reading on the voltmeter at switch settings of 29.8 MHz, but that at some lower frequency the loop starts to lock up (as indicated by incremental changes in the voltage as the *tenths* or *units* switch positions are changed), you must change U11. I tried four 7404 hex inverters in the circuit; two worked at the highest frequency and two quit at about the 26-MHz switch settings. Thus there is every probability of getting at least one better-than-average IC out of three or four.

Connect the synthesizer output to the *spare* jack on the receiver, using a cable made from 93- or 95-ohm coax,

Turn on the receiver and synthesizer and set the synthesizer switches to one of the WWV frequencies suitable for good reception. Set the receiver *band-switch* and *preselector* control to the settings specified for the frequency selected. WWV should be heard when

ing on the synthesizer and setting its switches to the desired frequency. Then set the receiver *bandswitch* and *preselector* control to the appropriate positions and tune.

One minor difference will be noted when using the synthesizer. On the

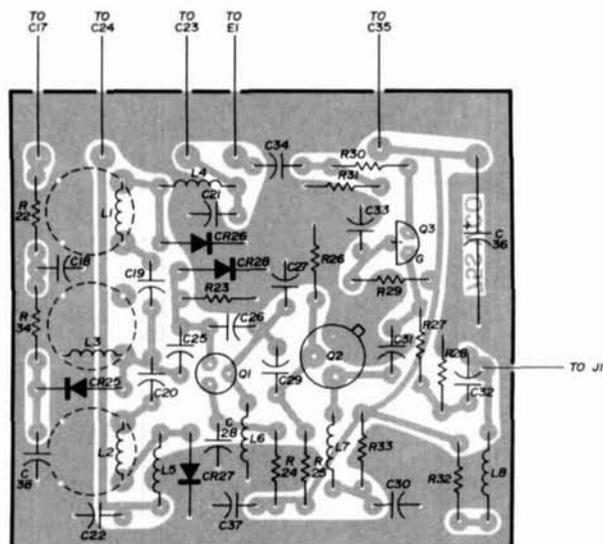


fig. 12. Location of parts on the vco printed-circuit board.

the receiver is tuned to zero. Then allow the synthesizer and receiver to warm up for about a half-hour.

Wrap a few turns of one end of an insulated wire around V2 in the receiver and bring the other end close to the 100-kHz crystal in the synthesizer. Carefully adjust the crystal trimmer capacitor in the synthesizer to zero-beat with WWV. It may be necessary to retune the receiver slightly when doing this because changing the frequency of the crystal changes the synthesizer output frequency, which is now the receiver hfo frequency.

That completes the alignment — you now have a general-coverage receiver.

Operating the receiver with the synthesizer involves no more than turn-

ing on the synthesizer and setting its switches to the desired frequency. Then set the receiver *bandswitch* and *preselector* control to the appropriate positions and tune.

One minor difference will be noted when using the synthesizer. On the

10-meter band, the 200-kHz segments start at 28.0 MHz and progress in 200-kHz increments so that you tune from 28.4 MHz, 28.6 MHz, etc. In other words, while each segment throughout the synthesizer range will start with an even *tenths* digit, the crystals supplied with the receiver set the 10-meter segments at 28.5, 28.7, and 28.9 MHz.

There is one precaution which *may* be necessary. Even with the prototype unit enclosed in a steel box, there was still a very small amount of 60-Hz pick-up from the receiver transformer when the synthesizer was placed next to either side of the receiver. (The condition also exists with the synthesizer on top of the receiver, but this arrangement would block the heat convection flow

from the receiver and should not be used anyway.) Simply moving the synthesizer 3 to 4 inches (7.5 to 10 cm) away from either side eliminated the stray pick-up. It is entirely possible that this condition may not manifest itself with all receivers, and it will undoubtedly depend on the physical locations of the assemblies within the synthesizer cabinet. In any event, the synthesizer is still close enough to the receiver for convenient operation.

conclusions

The synthesizer satisfies all the requirements necessary to make any Collins 75S a general-coverage receiver. Spurious signals are down a minimum of 80 dB on all frequencies, and are down better than 90 dB on most. The major spurs appear 10 kHz either side of the incoming signal, and are caused by the second harmonic of the 5-kHz reference frequency. The reference frequency itself is weaker than the harmonic because of the attenuation provided by the parallel-T filter. Although the suppression of the spurious sidebands was achieved at the expense of fast lock-up time, a one- or two-second lock-up is of little consequence, since it takes that long to move your hand from the synthesizer switches and tune the receiver.

The synthesizer has not been used with a 75S receiver operating in transceive mode with a 32S transmitter, al-

PRESELECTOR

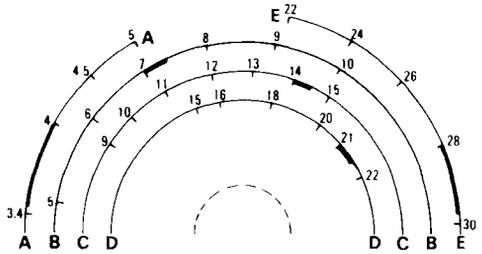


fig. 14. New receiver preselector scale for the Collins 75S receiver.

though there is little reason to doubt that it will work. There should be sufficient sideband attenuation to keep spurious outputs from the transmitter at least 60 dB down. The only possibility of trouble might be rf getting back into the synthesizer from the transmitter, which would be simply a shielding problem. However, until and if new amateur bands are forthcoming, there is no reason to use the synthesizer for transmitting except possibly on part of the 10-meter band.

acknowledgements

The following were instrumental in enabling me to complete this project; without their assistance this article would never have been written: Cliff Buttshardt, W6HDO, for the use of his 75S-3 receiver; Duke Moran, W6SPB, who etched the prototype PC boards; Paul Zander, WB6GNM, for his invaluable help in the design of the phase-locked loop; and Bob Melvin, W6VSV, who listened to my problems and even made a suggestion or two.

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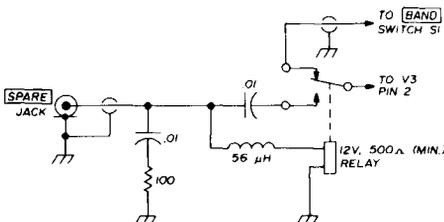


fig. 13. Wiring changes to be made to the Collins 75S receiver. Make sure that the relay will pull in when it is connected in series with a 110-ohm resistor to a 12-volt dc supply.

ham radio



100-watt linear amplifier for QRP rigs

A compact
rf amplifier
for ultra low power
amateur transmitters

To dispose of the first question apt to be asked — “Why add a linear amplifier to a QRP rig since it defeats the whole idea of QRP operation?” — I’d like to say that while 2 to 5 watts can do wonders during the day, night operation is a different story. The prevailing sunspot activity precludes the predictable propagation conditions of 10 or 15 years ago, even on the 40- and 80-meter bands. A little boost to the output of a QRP rig means the difference between fun and drudgery during nighttime operation. When good conditions return, a linear amplifier probably won’t be needed for low-power work.

I built this amplifier to augment a homebrew rig that didn’t live up to my expectations — the rig had only about 5 watts output on ssb. The linear amplifier described here should prove to be a useful adjunct to low-power transmitters in the 2 to 10 watt range.

W. S. Skeen, W6WR*

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circuit

The schematic (fig. 1) is simple, effective, and uncluttered. A grounded-grid, grounded screen circuit is used without the usual blower for tube cooling. Any of the Eimac 4X or 4CX tubes will perform equally well.

In the late 1950s, I witnessed some tests at Eimac that were run to see what these tubes would do without forced air cooling. The tests indicated that the tubes would dissipate 60 to 70 watts under key down operation — however, the tubes were mounted *in the open*, with no restriction to ambient air flow. Under intermittent operation, it appears

that a tube of this family could safely dissipate at least 50 watts; perhaps a little more if cooling fins are provided. Again, the qualifier is: unrestricted air flow around the tube. A further advantage is that the heater-cathode isolation in these tubes is excellent; no filament chokes are required at this power level.

One other precaution should be observed. Although the heater is rated at 6.0 volts $\pm 5\%$, it is recommended that 6.0 volts be considered the upper limit. A 50-ohm, 10-watt resistor in series with the primary of a 6.3 Vac, 2.5 amp filament transformer should do the trick. The heater contributes a large part of the heat to be dissipated, and tube life is prolonged by keeping the heater voltage on the low side.

A noninductive, 1-watt carbon resistor (R1) of a few hundred ohms is provided for situations where excitation is excessive with no provision for reducing it. The resistor should be selected to obtain recommended operating conditions. While this amplifier is a two-band affair for 80 and 40 meters, additional taps can, of course, be provided for other bands on the pi-net output coil.

operating conditions

The amplifier has a power gain of about ten with both grids grounded, so 5 watts input should yield about 50 watts output, with a plate current of 100 mA and E_b at 1 kV. This current is 100 mA as read on the meter in the CW mode. Although up to 150 mA can be obtained with 7 watts input on CW, it is recommended that the series grid resistor be switched in to hold the plate current to 100 mA on ssb or 150 mA on CW. As with any low duty cycle amplifier, don't hold the key down longer than necessary.

Static plate current (no drive) is about 10 mA. Linearity could be improved by a higher idling current, but observations with a spectrum analyzer indicate that, with 10 mA static plate current, the bandwidth is entirely

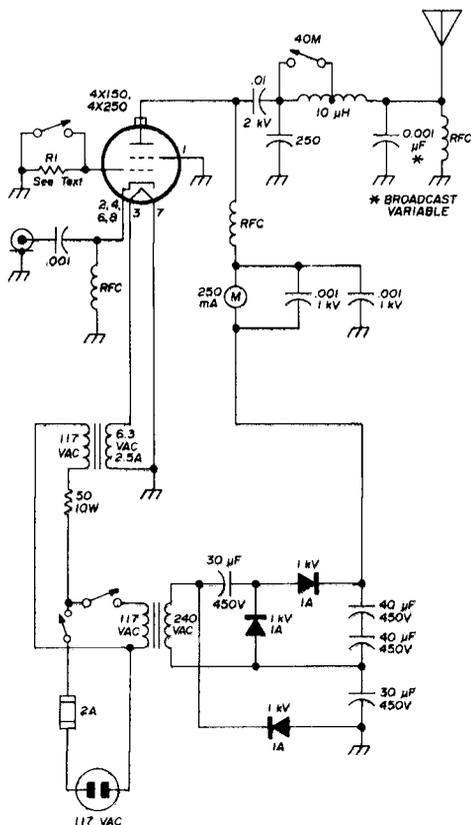
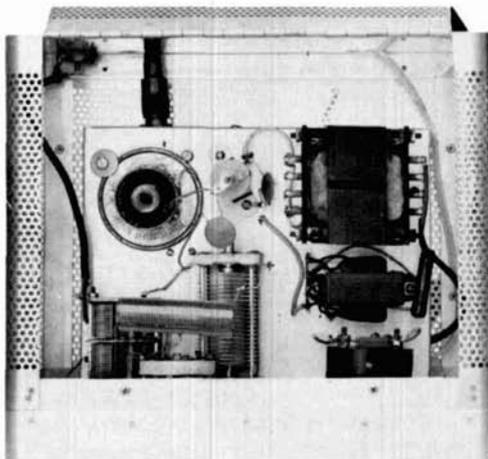


fig. 1. QRP linear schematic. Any of the 4X or 4CX series of tubes may be used. Up to 50 watts dissipation is possible without a blower providing tube is mounted in the clear.

acceptable, and reports have been universally good.

construction

An aluminum chassis, 2x6x9 inches (5x15x23cm) in an LMB cabinet constructed with perforated aluminum for sides top and bottom, easily contains the amplifier with power supply. The



Chassis layout. Power transformer (upper right) is a 50VA isolation transformer. Note air space around tube.

LMB cabinet (model CO-2) measures 6½ inches high by 10 inches deep by 13 inches wide (16.5x25x33cm) excluding hood. The chassis was purposely selected to improve air circulation. The tube socket is mounted as close as possible to one rear corner, both for short leads from coax connectors and again to improve cooling by air circulation over the chassis edge (see photo).

While the built-in screen bypass capacitor of the SK-600 socket is superfluous, open space around the tube pins permits air flow around the header (tube base). Old timers will remember that these tubes also fit in a loctal socket. A 4-inch (10.2cm) square piece of perforated aluminum with chassis cutout should also be suitable.

The grid resistor shorting switch, if used, should be mounted close to the tube, which means a shaft extension. The rf chokes are ordinary garden-variety 2 mH, 100 mA chokes with the exception of the plate choke; but even here, tests indicated that the smaller chokes should hold up.

The 10- μ H pi-net coil (46 turns, 7/8 inch [2.2cm] OD, 3 inches [7.6cm] long, air wound) is barely large enough to cover the low end of 80 meters and is tapped at slightly less than one-half for 40 meters. The coil is mounted on the switch. A paralleled BC tuning capacitor suffices for the output. Additional fixed capacitance to total 1000 pF can be used, if necessary, for 80 meters.

power supply

A 50-VA isolation transformer is used with 120 Vac input and 240 Vac output to a voltage tripler arrangement that provides the 1-kV plate supply. Inspection of recent catalogs indicates that 115/230 V primary, 115 V secondary transformers are about all that are available now (about \$10). In this case, the secondary may be used for the primary with a slight loss in output voltage and regulation. The filter capacitors and diodes mount under the chassis, and since there isn't much else there, no under chassis photograph is provided. A separate heater transformer and switch are provided. The tube heater should be allowed to warm up at least a half minute before applying plate voltage. Static plate current provides "bleeder" protection.

summary

This small linear compares favorably, both in size and performance, with commercially built units of the same power class. It has held its own with other 200-watt-plus units and has provided many solid contacts during the worst interference hours of the evening.

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an introduction to microprocessors

Microprocessors are probably the single, most exciting development in the entire field of electronics, and in this article, the first of a series on microprocessors, we would like briefly to compare them to programmable calculators for typical laboratory applications.

The best description of what a microprocessor is, and isn't, was given by Laurence Altman in a recent issue of *Electronics*:¹ "A microprocessor is not a computer but only part of one. To make a computer out of a microprocessor requires the addition of memory for its control program, plus input and output circuits to operate peripheral equipment . . . What a microprocessor is, then, is the control and processing portion of a small computer or microcomputer. Moreover, it has come to mean the kind of processor that can be built with LSI mos or, more recently, bipolar circuitry, usually on one chip. Like all computer processors, microprocessors can handle both arithmetic and logic data in bit-parallel fashion under control of a program. But they are distinguished both from a minicomputer processor by their use of LSI with its lower power and costs, and from other LSI devices (except calculator chips) by their programmable behavior."

Thus, a microprocessor is not a totally self-contained computer-on-a-chip, nor is it able to complete with and replace the central processing unit (CPU) within a computer. Existing

microprocessor chips are simply much too slow for such applications. The niche that microprocessors will soon fill is in the creation of "smart" input/output devices to a computer that relieve the computer of the drudgery associated with the data acquisition from and the control of such devices. In other words, microprocessors will shortly become very important tools in computer interfacing, a trend that will accelerate as the price of microprocessor chips declines, as more individuals develop the capability to handle such chips, and as more manufacturers incorporate such chips in laboratory instruments and other types of devices that communicate with computers.

The advantages of interfacing with microprocessors are at least fourfold:

1. **Microprocessor communications are simple.** The communications capability of a microprocessor system is a big point in its favor. Most such systems come with a built-in asynchronous serial port, and thus can communicate with teleprinters or with any device that also has an asynchronous serial port. The microprocessor is not inherently limited to only a single asynchronous port; it is

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very easy to add more such ports and thus permit the microprocessor system to communicate serially with other external devices such as laboratory instruments that are interfaced with Analog Devices' *Serdex* modules.

Microprocessor systems have parallel input ports for inputs from various digital sensor instruments, including voltmeters, panel meters, frequency meters, and counters. Any type of digital circuit that can supply parallel digital data can be used in conjunction with a microprocessor system.

2. Microprocessor systems are inexpensive. Such systems currently range in price from several hundred dollars to several thousand dollars, depending upon the capability of the system. They are available from Intel, Prolog Corporation, E & L Instruments, Control Logic, and other companies. The number of manufacturers that offer microprocessor systems is increasing rapidly.

3. Microprocessor systems are flexible and powerful. Microprocessors have the ability to make decisions. (Is an input value from a digital sensor too high or too low? If it is too high, then open a valve and release pressure on the system. If it is too low, then open another valve and add gas to the system.)

Microprocessors use software to replace hardware; i.e., microprocessor programs replace complicated hard-wired random logic digital electronic circuits that perform a variety of functions, including sequential logic, non-sequential logic, simple arithmetic calculations,

and comparison of digital signals. Manufacturers of microprocessor systems provide you with both read/write memory, for temporary data and program storage, and with read-only memory, which is easily programmed with the aid of a PROM programmer. Once you have written and tested a program using read/write memory that can acquire data and perform desired control operations, you can "burn" it into a programmable read-only memory (PROM) IC and then use that chip day after day to operate the microprocessor system.

You never have to worry about a power failure causing your program to be erased. The program can remain in the PROM for up to twenty years; it is always available for reloading into a read/write memory. The program can be easily modified to accommodate changed data acquisition or control requirements. You can develop a whole repertoire of PROM chips to accomplish different functions.

4. Microprocessor systems are capable of handling most laboratory data acquisition requirements. Current microprocessor systems can acquire digital data at the rate of five hundred 16-bit words per second. Higher data acquisition rates are occasionally claimed by manufacturers, but they frequently overlook the real software overhead that is needed, for example, to input the data, check if the data are ready, and compare the data to make sure that they are within the right range of values.

In the area of mathematical computations, microprocessors can perform integer multiplications and divisions, i.e., 3 times 4 or 5 divided by 7, with reasonable accuracy. A floating-point package available with the 8-bit Intel microprocessor allows you to perform additions, subtractions, multiplications, and divisions over the range of $\pm 10^{32}$ to $\pm 10^{-32}$. This package requires four read-only memories, which means that 1000 words of your microprocessor are

This is the first of a new series of articles on the subject of microprocessors which we will be presenting in future months. Material presented here is reprinted with permission from *American Laboratory*, June, 1975, copyright © International Scientific Communications, Inc., Fairfield, Connecticut, 1975.

dedicated to the floating-point package. Execution times are slow, so you must worry about the following types of questions: Do you acquire a data point and then operate upon it and still have sufficient time to acquire the next data point? Or must you store a complete block of data and then operate upon the block as a whole? If you store a block of data, how much additional memory is required for the microprocessor? Finally, is the system sufficiently complex and expensive that it can be replaced by a minicomputer or programmable calculator?

The strong point of the microprocessor is that it can perform control functions quickly, easily, and inexpensively. The microprocessor can turn devices on and off. It can regulate physical parameters such as temperature, pressure, velocity, and flow. Since it lacks special functions such as log, χ^y , sine, cosine, square root, hyperbolic sine, and hyperbolic cosine, it cannot perform sophisticated mathematical computations. This is one reason why many individuals are looking very seriously at programmable calculators, which start in the vicinity of \$3000; are available from Wang, Tektronix, and Hewlett-Packard; and allow the user to program with complex functions such as sine, cosine, log, and χ^y . The programmable calculators, however, are not nearly as convenient to use as microprocessors in the control of equipment and processes.

As a final point, we would like to caution you about making any long-term decisions concerning both microprocessors and programmable calculators. The comments above apply to today's technology, which is precisely what you can do today. The price/performance ratio changes from day to day so that a decision that is valid today may not be the same one that would be proper in a month or a year from now; e.g., 8-bit bipolar microprocessors now available from Intel have cycle times of 50 nanoseconds. This speed is a little bit

difficult to precisely define for the user, but it represents probably a decade of improvement in overall microprocessor speed when compared to any microprocessor available a year ago.

If you can postpone your problem, you may find that you can solve it differently and/or less expensively a year from now. Digital electronics is without doubt the fastest changing technological field today. You, as an amateur, engineer or scientist, will be a major beneficiary of the changes that are occurring. However, to take proper advantage of the new technology, you will have to spend some time learning the jargon and understanding the tradeoffs that can be made.

Microprocessor equipment, if cared for properly, has an operational life of at least ten years but a functional life that may only be several years. A reasonable strategy would be to postpone the purchase of a microprocessor until the price/performance ratio justifies a purchase, and then to go ahead and purchase a system with the knowledge that the same system will probably cost at least 20% less for the same performance a year later. We believe that not too much time will pass before all of us who are involved in research or manufacturing and depend upon instrumentation will have to take advantage of the power of microprocessors if we are to continue to have viable products or research programs.

We recommend that you give careful consideration to the ability to interface newly acquired digital instruments to future ones that will come on the market within the next several years. We emphasize again that the existence of asynchronous serial ports on your digital instruments will allow you to hedge your bets for the future.

reference

1. L. Altman, "Single-chip microprocessors open up a new world of applications," *Electronics*, April 18, 1974, page 81.

ham radio



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squelch circuits

for transistor radios

Agc-activated squelch
can easily
be added
to portable
transistor radios

Inexpensive transistorized portable radios can become excellent monitor receivers for vhf operators (a-m and fm) with the addition of one of the simple squelch circuits presented in this article. The squelch will get rid of the constant and fatiguing hash and noise usually put out under no-signal conditions, making the portable a much more useful and enjoyable radio to listen to. I have had much success in adding the circuits shown here to several portables. It should be possible to adapt this same basic approach to just about any existing portable receiver.

A brief explanation of squelch circuitry seems appropriate at this point.

During no-signal conditions, the audio output of a receiver is random and unpleasant noise. When a signal is received, the gain of the receiver is reduced or limited by agc action, and the level of noise output is reduced. The greater the signal strength, the lower the noise output, and hence the term "receiver quieting." By adding circuitry which detects the degree to which the receiver has been quieted, and by using this circuitry to mute or un-mute the audio output, squelch may be added to the receiver.

Note, that with the squelch I have just described the operator may adjust the sensitivity of his receiver in terms of a minimum signal-to-noise ratio needed to produce an audio output signal. By making this signal-to-noise ratio sufficiently high, the operator can be sure that whenever the receiver produces an audio output it will contain a signal of a

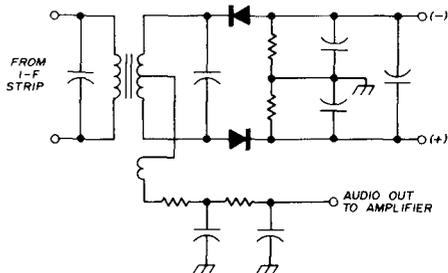


fig. 1. A typical ratio detector found in many transistor radios. Agc voltage may be taken from the (+) or (-) terminals.

Robert Harris, Jr., WB4WSU, 801 Tucson Road, Virginia Beach, Virginia 23462

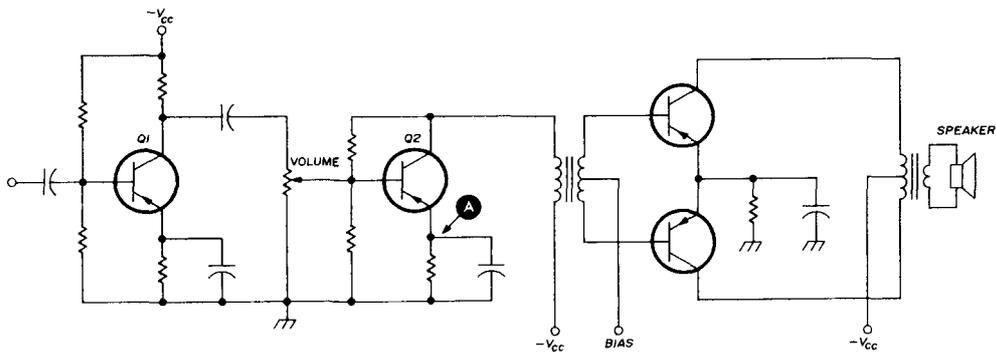


fig. 2. The audio section of most portables will closely resemble the circuit shown here. Point A in Q2's emitter is a control point for muting the audio output.

certain minimum readability. At first this might sound like intentionally reducing the sensitivity of your receiver, but this is not so. With sophisticated circuits, the opening of the receiver squelch alerts the operator to the presence of marginal level signals that might otherwise have gone unnoticed in the noise. Unfortunately, these noise-operated squelch circuits are somewhat complex, and they are beyond the scope of this article.

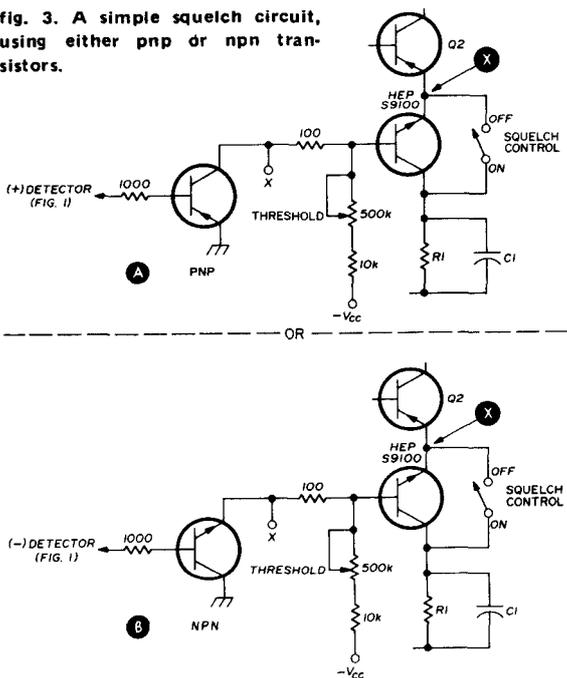
Another method of producing squelch action is to make use of the agc or other signal level dependent voltages to control audio muting. The only drawback with this approach is that sufficiently strong noise or interference will also open the squelch. However, for the purpose intended here they work quite acceptably.

detector

Most inexpensive portable receivers use the common ratio detector similar to the one shown in fig. 1. This detector develops significant positive and neg-

ative voltages during signal conditions, either of which may be used for control of the audio muting. Generally, the audio section of a portable receiver will closely resemble the circuit of fig. 2. Audio from the detector is coupled to Q1, a preamplifier, (which is sometimes omitted in inexpensive sets). The output is coupled through the volume control

fig. 3. A simple squelch circuit, using either pnp or npn transistors.



to the driver stage, Q2, which in turn drives the output stage. These sections are easily located by finding the audio transformers associated with them, and it is seldom necessary to resort to a schematic to find the desired stages.

plete muting are shown in fig. 4. In these circuits, the emitter signal path of the driving transistor is not broken, but the biasing of the driver is upset when no signal is present. But with even a small signal present, the bias is sharply

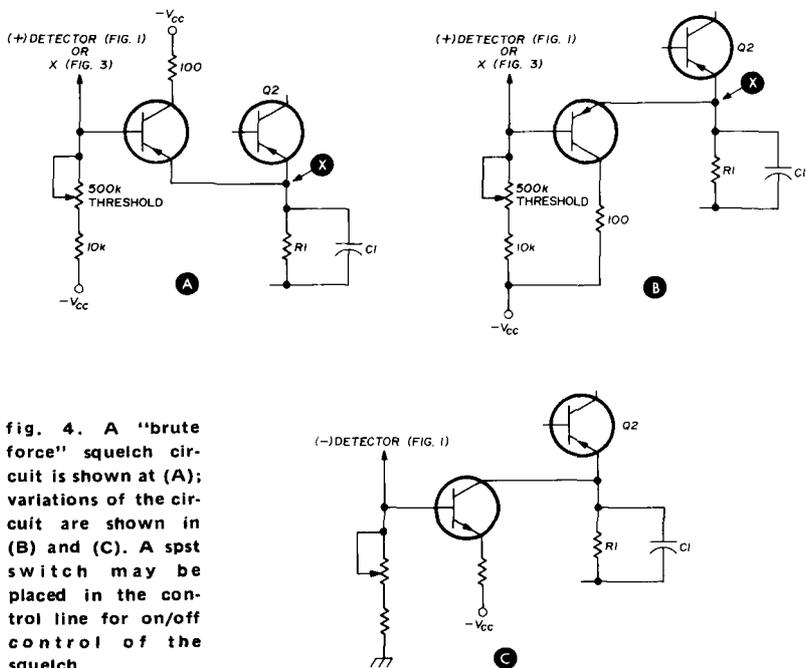


fig. 4. A "brute force" squelch circuit is shown at (A); variations of the circuit are shown in (B) and (C). A spst switch may be placed in the control line for on/off control of the squelch.

simple squelch

The point marked X in the emitter of Q2 is a convenient point to add squelch control to the audio stages. By breaking the circuit at this point and adding the muting circuit of fig. 3A, a simple squelch circuit is obtained. In some cases, small amounts of signal or noise will leak through even when this stage is supposedly squelched. Also, an increase in distortion may be noticed at high volume levels. A variation of this circuit is also shown, using an npn transistor, in fig. 3B.

improved design

Somewhat more positive acting squelch circuits which do not tend to cause distortion or suffer from incom-

returned to normal and audio output is restored.

conclusion

The several approaches to agc-controlled squelch shown here can be easily adapted to most portable radios. Receivers using both npn and pnp transistors may be accommodated, and junk box transistors seem to work a great percentage of the time. If you are unable to locate a source of agc voltage, do a little poking around with a vtvm until you find a voltage source that varies with signal strength. That is all that is needed to add squelch to a portable radio, making it a much more useful and enjoyable low cost monitor receiver.

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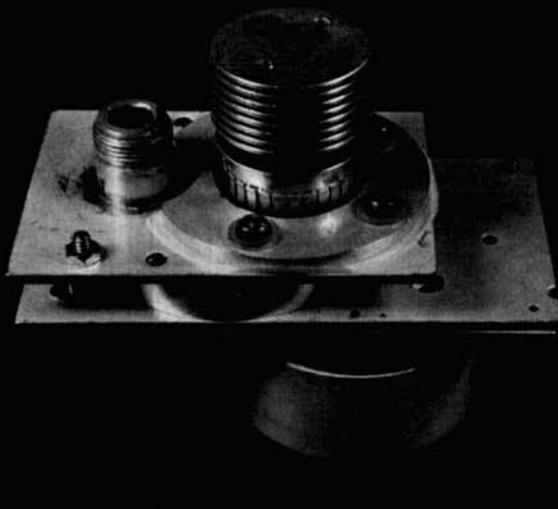
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1152- to 2304-MHz power doubler

Construction of
a single-tube
frequency doubler
for 2304 MHz
that provides
5 dB power gain

A 2C39 power amplifier capable of providing 30 watts output on 2304 MHz was described in the February, 1975, issue of *ham radio*.¹ Its design involves a combination of the best characteristics of various experimental 2.3 GHz amplifier models I have built and tested over the past three years. Each succeeding version differed from the previous one in ways which both improved performance and simplified construction.

During the same three-year period, on-the-air tests over a ten-mile path were performed between WA9HUV and both W9DCN and K9CNN, first working 432/2304 crossband, and later using 2304 MHz two-way. Signals were well over S9 on 2304 MHz, in spite of the 1296-MHz antenna used by W9DCN. Contacts over longer distances have

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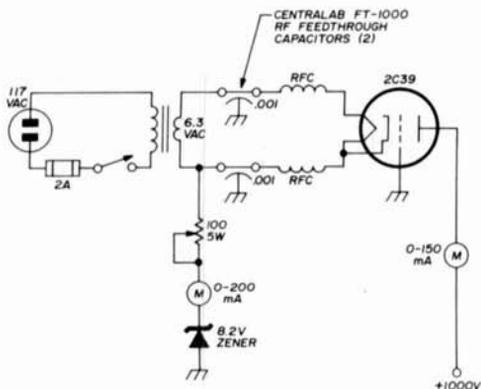


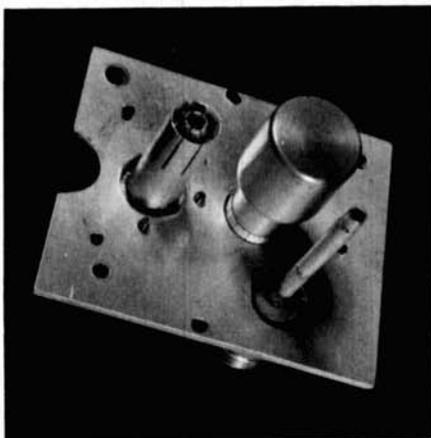
fig. 1. Circuit diagram for the 1152 to 2304 MHz power doubler using a 2C39 which provides approximately 5 dB gain. Rf chokes are 8 turns no. 18 tinned copper, airwound on 3/16" (5mm) mandrel, turns spaced slightly.

been solicited, but none have yet been tried. It is hoped that this article, together with the preceding one which described the 30-watt power amplifier, will provide the impetus necessary to develop new interest in the 2304 MHz band.

frequency doubler

Having arrived at a reasonably good basic design, attention was focused on

Complete cathode partition assembly showing the heater/cathode line (left), piston tuner (center) and cathode coupler (right).



developing a companion doubler stage capable of driving the power amplifier to full power output with drive to spare. Rather than starting from scratch, it was decided to convert one of the earlier power amplifiers into a doubler by lengthening the cathode cavity to 1-3/8 inch (35mm). No changes were made to the amplifier plate circuit. The resulting doubler circuit is very similar to the power amplifier.

Because the doubler plate circuit is identical to that of the companion power amplifier, only the doubler cath-

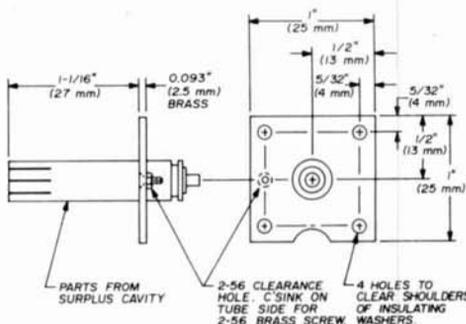


fig. 2. Heater/cathode assembly uses parts from surplus 2C39 amplifier. Use the mounting plate as a template to locate the four 2-56 tapped holes for assembly with the cathode partition.

ode circuit will be described here. Details of the plate circuit can be obtained from reference 1.

heater-cathode assembly

The heater-cathode assembly shown in fig. 2 is nearly identical to the one used in the amplifier except that the heater-cathode line extends into the cavity 1-1/16 inches (27mm). The 2-56 brass flat-head machine screw holds a solder lug to connect the cathode side of the heater to the appropriate circuitry (this detail was omitted from the amplifier article). Attach the screw to the plate with a 3/16 inch (4.5mm)

hexagonal nut and then sand the inside surface of the plate flat to make sure the screw head does not project beyond the surface of the plate. Finally, position the plate over the finger-stock assembly and solder the two together as shown in fig. 2.

The completed heater-cathode assembly should be insulated from the cathode partition with insulating shoulder washers and 0.005 inch (0.1mm) Teflon sheet.

cathode piston tuner

The cathode partition is identical to the one described for use with the amplifier and is shown in fig. 3. Rather than using a brass bushing from an old volume control for the piston trimmer, a 3/4 inch (19mm) diameter brass cylinder 5/8 inch (16mm) long is soldered to a length of 1/4 inch (6.5mm) diameter brass rod. Then a 1-1/4 inch (32mm) length of 3/8-32 threaded brass sleeving is slipped over the 1/4 inch (6.5mm) shaft and soldered in place as shown in fig. 4. Soldering should be done with the aid of a propane torch, using solder sparingly. Finally, the tuner and sleeve

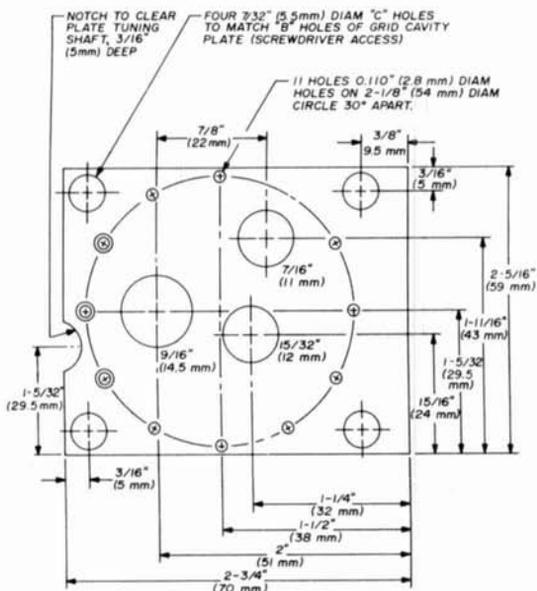


fig. 3. Cathode partition. Holes marked with the letter C are screwdriver clearance holes to facilitate assembly. Material is 0.093" (2.5mm) brass.

assembly are screwed into the tuner bushing from inside the cathode partition.

If 3/8-32 threaded brass tubing is not available, use 3/8-28 threaded lamp fixture brass tubing which is obtainable in most hardware stores. In this case, the tuning shaft should be made of 5/16 inch (8mm) diameter brass rod to fit inside the lamp hardware. Test the threaded tubing with a magnet to make sure it is not brass-plated steel. Before reassembly with the cathode cavity, the cathode input coupling circuit is assembled as described in the next section.

Helical springs are used to put pressure on the threads of the tuning piston trimmer threads. These springs, which are used on the amplifier as well as the power doubler, are 9/32 inch (7mm) inside diameter. A brass collar with set screws is used at the far end of the tuning shaft to place the spring in compression. These springs are quite important

Exterior view of the cathode partition.



as tuning is likely to be erratic if they are omitted.

cathode coupling assembly

The 1/8 inch (3mm) and 5/32 inch (4mm) OD brass tubing needed to fabricate the cathode coupler (fig. 5) can be obtained from most hobby shops. The connector end of the assembly is soldered to the center conductor of the type-N coaxial connector. The 1/8 inch (3mm) end is slotted with a fine (32 teeth per inch) hacksaw blade. Spread the slotted end slightly to provide a tight slide fit with the cavity end of the coupler assembly.

The cavity end is screwed into the 3/16 inch (5mm) diameter hole in the grid cavity plate. Solder a flat brass washer on the cavity end as shown to provide a good rf contact on the inside of the cavity.

When assembling the cathode partition on the cathode cavity, slide the connector end of the coupler into the cavity end. If the instructions have been carefully followed, the two parts should slide together without interference.

tuning up

The circuit diagram of the frequency doubler shown in fig. 1 is identical to the amplifier wiring diagram except for

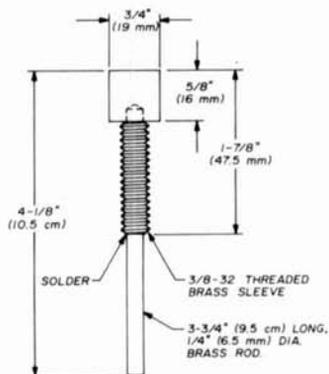
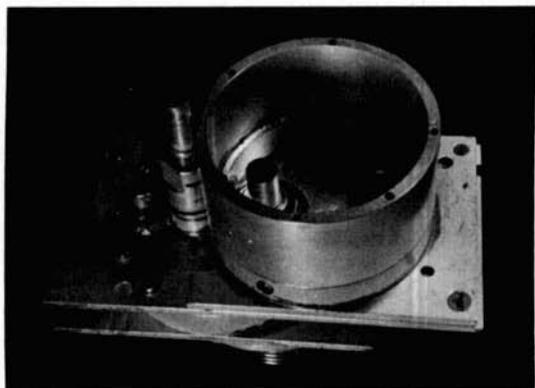
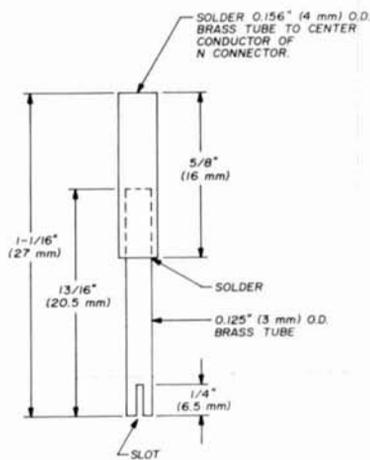


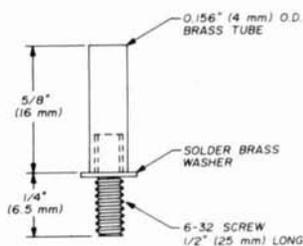
fig. 4. Cathode piston tuner assembly. Brass rod is soldered to 3/8-32 threaded sleeve.



View of cathode cavity before installation of the cathode partition. Since an earlier model of the 2304 MHz power amplifier was modified for use as a doubler, parts in this do not correspond exactly with figs. 2 through 5.

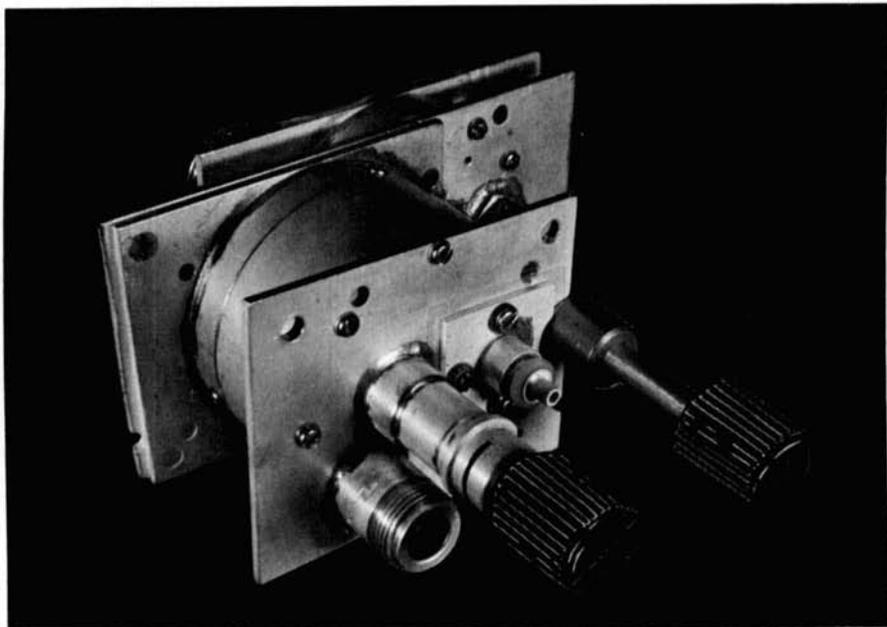


CONNECTOR END OF ASSEMBLY



CAVITY END OF ASSEMBLY

fig. 5. Cathode coupling assembly. Brass tubing can be obtained from most hobby shops.



Front view of completely assembled 1152 to 2304 MHz power doubler.

component values and the meter ranges. A 7.6-volt zener diode is used instead of the 6.3-volt unit to reduce the conduction angle of the plate current for better doubler efficiency. The quiescent (no-

drive) plate current should be set to approximately 25 mA by adjusting the position of the slider on the 100 ohm variable resistor.

Measurements were made using a calorimeter which indicate that the doubler has a power gain of approximately 5 dB. It is interesting to note that this doubler provides about 8 dB more power output on 2304 MHz than would be expected from a varactor doubler with the same drive power. Therefore, with less than one watt of drive at 1152 MHz, more than sufficient output is obtained to drive the power amplifier stage to full output. It is recommended that the primary winding of the doubler plate supply transformer be controlled with a variable transformer so that drive to the power amplifier can be adjusted to the desired level.

reference

1. Norman J. Foot, WA9HUV, "Power Amplifier for 2304 MHz," *ham radio*, February, 1975, page 8.

ham radio



"Just replace capacitor C10 . . .
than you'll be back on the air."

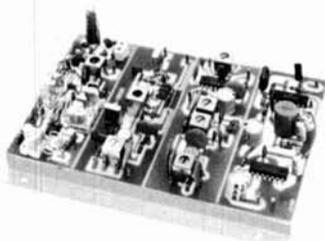
INSTRUCTIONS

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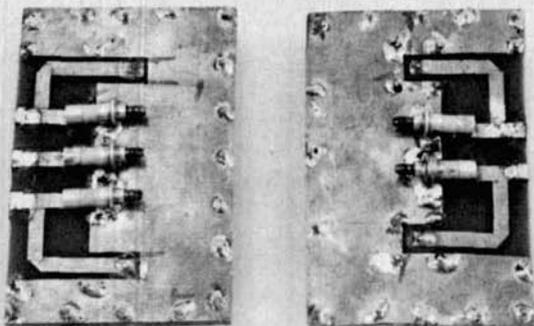
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Season's Greetings From The Staff At VHF Engineering





microstripline bandpass filters

for 1296 MHz

Miniature
bandpass filters
for the amateur
1296-MHz band

H. Paul Shuch, WA6UAM, 14908 Sandy Lane, San Jose, California 95124 ■

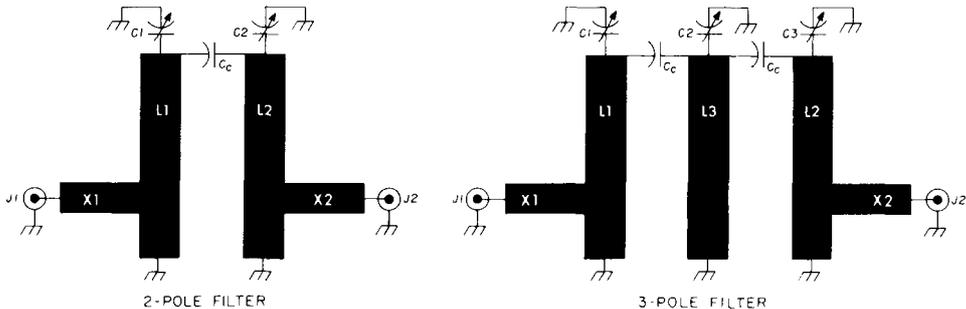
Uhf experimenters frequently need to filter out spurious or image responses, usually with coaxial or trough-line resonators.¹⁻⁵ Although properly designed coaxial and trough-line filters offer exceptional skirt selectivity and minimum insertion loss, they are large and bulky and require access to sheet-metal cutting and forming equipment. The 1296-MHz filters presented here are based on printed-circuit microstripline techniques and are easily duplicated in the home workshop.

Two- and three-pole bandpass filters for 1296 MHz are shown schematically in fig. 1. In each of the filters parallel-resonant sections, consisting of microstripline inductors and piston trimmer capacitors, are loosely top coupled. The input and output striplines are tapped down on the inductors to provide a match to 50 ohms. The two-pole bandpass filter is functionally equivalent to the filters used at the input of the RF and LO ports of my 1296-MHz double-balanced mixer.⁶ In the design presented here, however, the coupling capacitor, C_c , formerly a 0.5 pF chip capacitor, has been replaced by the stray coupling capacitance between the stator ends of trimmers C1 and C2.

As can be seen from the swept frequency response curve in fig. 2, these microstripline filters are relatively low-Q devices. The steepness of the rejection skirts may be sacrificed somewhat to minimize passband insertion loss, which for this design averages around 1 dB.

construction

Full-size artwork for the printed-



- C1-C3 1-5 pF ceramic piston trimmer
- C_c Stray coupling capacitance between stator ends of trimmer capacitors
- J1, J2 SMA or equivalent microstripline launchers (E. F. Johnson 142-0248-001 or similar)

- L1, L2, L3 Microstripline inductor, 0.5" (13mm) long, 0.1" (2.5mm) wide, spaced 0.3" (7.5mm) center to center. Bottom ends strapped to groundplane with thin copper strap
- X1, X2 50 ohm microstripline, 0.1" (2.5mm) wide, any length. Centerline tapped to L1 and L2 0.2" (5mm) from grounded end

fig. 1. Two- and three-pole microstripline bandpass filters which tune the range from 1100 to 1500 MHz. Full-size printed-circuit layouts for these filters are shown in fig. 3.

circuit microstripline filters is shown in fig. 3 and is designed for 1/16 inch (1.5mm) thick G-10 epoxy-glass printed-circuit board, double clad with 1 ounce copper.* The unetched side of the board serves as a groundplane. Board dimensions are such that the filters mount easily in a miniature die-cast aluminum box such as a Pomona 2417. The cutaway view of fig. 4 shows the method of mounting the piston trimmer capacitors on the circuit board.

With the circuit values shown, these filters can be adjusted to resonate anywhere in the range between 1100 and 1500 MHz. The easiest method to adjust for resonance at 1296 MHz is to connect a weak-signal source through the filter into a receiver, and adjust the trimmer capacitors for maximum received signal. Since the output impedance of the signal source and the input impedance to the receiver may deviate

substantially from 50 ohms, it's a good idea to temporarily install fixed attenuators at the input and output of the filter while tuning as shown in fig. 5. There is a certain amount of interaction between the trimmer capacitors so the adjust-

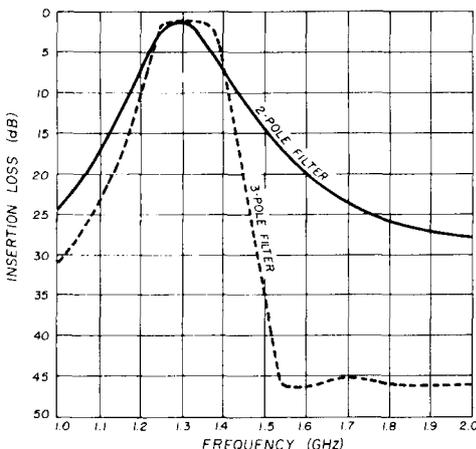


fig. 2. Swept frequency response of the two- and three-pole microstripline filters (measured with a Hewlett-Packard network analyzer and X-Y plotter). The 3 dB bandwidth is 150 MHz and passband insertion loss is about 1 dB. The 20-dB bandwidth is 320 MHz for the 3-pole filter, 570 MHz for the two-pole design.

*Tuned and tested two- and three-pole bandpass filters for 1296 MHz are available from Microcomm. For complete specifications and prices, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to Microcomm, 14908 Sandy Lane, San Jose, California 95124.

ments should be repeated several times to insure that you have the filters tuned for minimum insertion loss.

If the filter is to be used to reduce the spurious output of a local-oscillator chain, alignment to the desired passband frequency is most easily accomplished by placing the filter in the line between the LO and the mixer and adjusting the filter for maximum indicated mixer current (fig. 6).

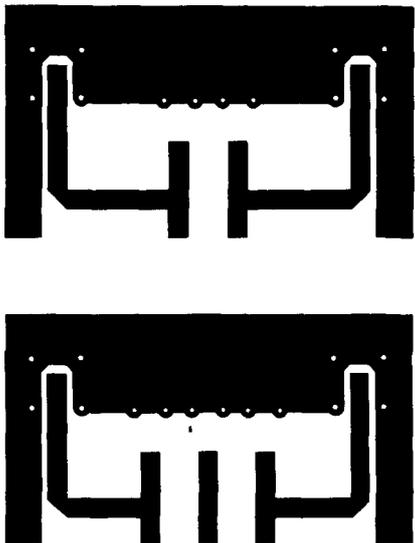


fig. 3. Full-size artwork for the two- and three-pole bandpass filters for 1296 MHz which are designed for 1/16" (1.5mm) double-clad G-10 epoxy-glass circuit board.

applications

Most amateurs who are active on 1296 MHz will probably want to have several of these bandpass filters available on their workbench. In general, accurate measurements on any two-port device are enhanced by the application of filtering at each port. Microstripline amplifiers, for example, tend to be extremely broadband; since transistors tend to have higher gain at lower frequencies, any low-frequency spurious which is applied to the amplifier will be ampli-

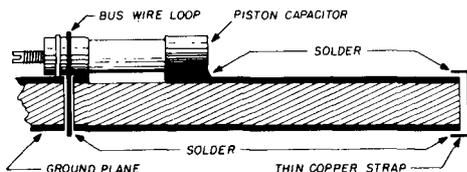


fig. 4. Method of mounting the piston trimmer capacitors on the microstriplines.

fied more than the desired in-band signals. It is not unlikely, in fact, for lower frequency, out-of-band signals to actually force an amplifier into gain compression. Bandpass filters at the input and output of an amplifier under test will thus aid considerably in making accurate gain and dynamic range measurements.

In operational equipment it's a good idea to place bandpass filters between each wideband stage as shown in fig. 7. The filter's 1 dB or so of insertion loss is more than offset by the elimination of image signals and spurious responses. For maximum image rejection it is recommended that the more selective three-pole filter be installed between all active stages. In the local-oscillator chain, where harmonically related spurious signals are separated from the passband by an octave or more, the simpler two-pole resonators are usually sufficient.

acknowledgements

I would like to thank Marvin Wahl, W6FUV, for critiquing the design of these filters, and Stu Rumley, WB6LOU, for assisting in the swept-frequency response measurements.

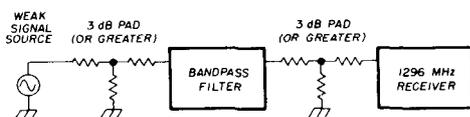


fig. 5. Using a weak-signal source to align a filter to 1296 MHz. The 3 dB attenuators swamp out any impedance mismatches.

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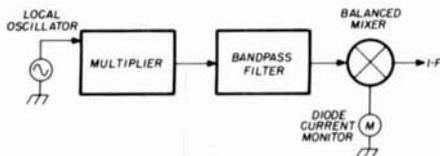


fig. 6. Bandpass filter can be adjusted to the local-oscillator output frequency by tuning the filter for maximum mixer current.

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2. John Specialny, Jr., W3HIX, "1296-MHz Converter," *73*, November, 1962, page 6.
3. Donald Nelson, WB2EGZ, "Modernizing a Classic 1296-MHz Converter," *QST*, December, 1969, page 21.
4. N. H. Sandford, VK4ZT, "Solid-State 1296-MHz Converter," *ham radio*, November, 1970, page 6.
5. William O. Troetschel, K6UQH, "1296 Revisited," *QST*, July, 1973, page 40.
6. H. Paul Shuch, WA6UAM, "How to Use Double-Balanced Mixers on 1296 MHz," *ham radio*, July, 1975, page 8.

ham radio

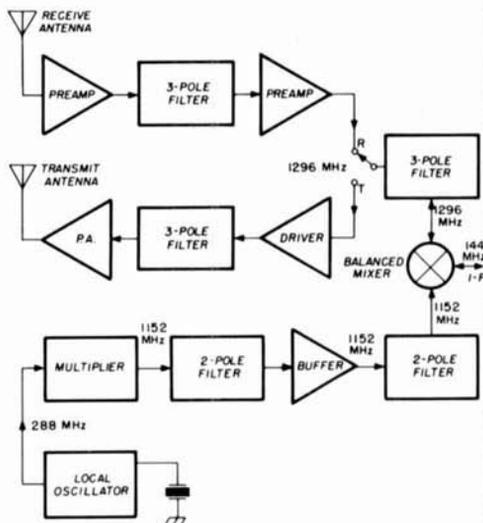


fig. 7. Installation of bandpass filters in a typical 1296-MHz transmitter and receiver. Three-pole filters are recommended between active stages, as discussed in the text.



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Fig. 1 SSB signal **before** processing. See the high peaks and the low valleys. Our NCX-3 is putting out only 25 watts average power.

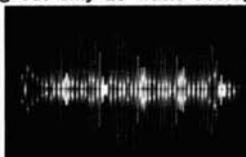


Fig. 2 SSB signal **after** processing with LSP-520BX. The once weak valleys are now strong peaks. Our NCX-3 now puts out 100 watts of average power.

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uhf frequency scaler

New Fairchild 11C90 decade counter IC is a direct plug-in replacement for the popular 95H90 that extends operation to above 500 MHz

Fairchild Semiconductor has introduced another outstanding IC in the 11C00 series¹ which should be of immediate interest to amateurs — the 11C90, a pin-for-pin replacement for the popular 95H90 that has a *minimum* guaranteed toggle frequency of 520 MHz from 0°C to +75°C. At its best, the new 11C90 is

Doug Schmieckors, WB9KEY, 22065 McClellan Road, Cupertino, California

a complete front end for a 700 MHz frequency counter (typical toggle frequency at 25°C).*

The 11C90 uhf divide-by-10/11 prescaler makes use of Fairchild's Isoplanar II technology for high speed with reasonable power dissipation. Pins which were unused on the 95H90 decade prescaler are used on the 11C90 to provide a reference voltage which centers the input clock voltage about the switching threshold and allows direct capacitive coupling to the signal source or test antenna. An on-chip ECL-to-TTL level converter is capable of driving ten TTL loads and eliminates the need for any external output interface circuitry.

circuit operation

To take full advantage of the 11C90's uhf counting ability, a circuit such as that shown in fig. 1 should be built or derived from an existing 95H90 layout.^{2,3} Pin 13 (TTL V_{EE}) should be tied to ground (low) if the TTL output (pin 11) is used. If only the ECL output

*The 11C90 is available now from franchised Fairchild distributors worldwide for \$16.00 in small quantities.

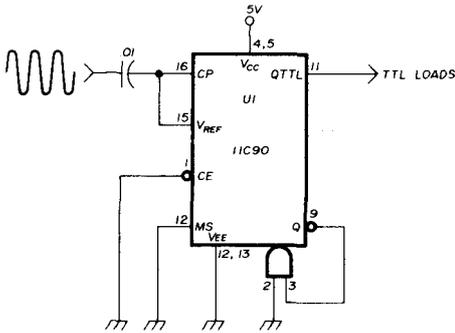


fig. 1. Divide-by-10 uhf prescaler has a minimum guaranteed toggle frequency of 520 MHz. Typical toggle frequency at 25°C is 700 MHz.

(pin 8) is used, pin 13 may be left open to reduce power consumption.

A reference voltage is generated internally across a 400-ohm resistor to the V_{BB} supply and is present at pin 15 (V_{ref}). This completely eliminates any need for an external biasing network.

Pins 6 and 7 of the 11C90 are uncommitted 2000-ohm resistors which are internally connected to the mode control inputs, $\overline{M1}$ and $\overline{M2}$. When tied high (+5 volts) these resistors allow the associated mode control input to be driven from TTL; if these inputs are left open or tied low, the mode control inputs offer, respectively, unterminated or terminated ECL loads to the drivers.

The mode control inputs are useful primarily when the 11C90 is employed in the divide by 10/11 mode to produce

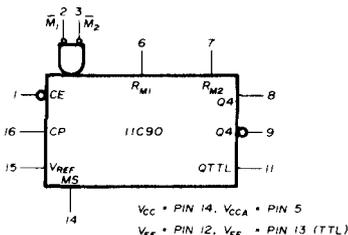


fig. 2. Logic symbol for the Fairchild 11C90. Mode control inputs $\overline{M1}$ and $\overline{M2}$, and $\overline{RM1}$ and $\overline{RM2}$ inputs are discussed in text. The IC includes a built-in ECL-to-TTL converter.

non-standard divide ratios such as those used in pulse swallowing for frequency synthesis. The 11C90 logic symbol (fig. 2) and truth table in table 1 should aid in understanding the device.

Circuit layout, although not critical, can be used to enhance the high-frequency operation of the 11C90. Proper power supply decoupling, broad ground connections, short signal runs, and short leads (sockets are *not* recommended) will all help the user to reap the maximum performance that has been built into the device. The 11C90 typically requires only 65 mA as compared to 90 mA for the 95H90, so it runs much cooler than its predecessor.

table 1. Mode selection for the 11C90. Low is indicated by L, high by H.

M1	M2	module divide by
L	L	11
H	L	10
L	H	10
H	H	10

summary

The 11C00 family of sub-nanosecond logic now consists of nine devices ranging from the 11C05 prescaler to the 11C01 gate package, and includes the 11C58, a 150-MHz voltage-controlled monostable oscillator which features a 4:1 frequency range with 2-volt dynamic range. These new devices obviously open up a whole new range of frequency synthesizer possibilities, but that's another story.

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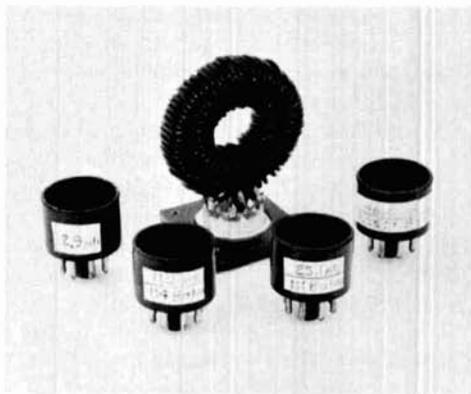
ham radio



quadrifilar toroid

The prevalence of roller inductors in transmitters and antenna couplers attests to the need for adjustability. The quadrifilar toroid limits the adjustability to discrete steps but offers the advantages of small size, internal field requiring little if any shielding, and balun applications.

The ends of the four, parallel, tightly-coupled windings are connected into the desired configuration by an octal socket and tube base. Of several octal sockets I tested those with "wrap-around" pins consistently measured



Construction of the quadrifilar toroid which is based on an Amidon T-200-6 powdered-iron toroidal core.

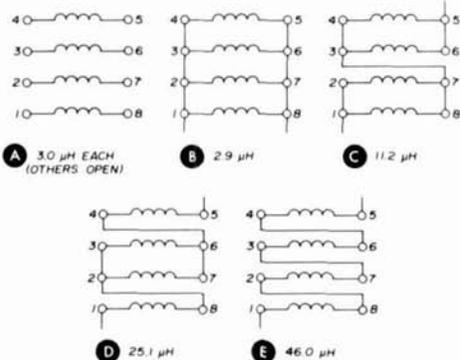


fig. 1. Five methods of interconnecting the four quadrifilar windings, and the measured inductance values of each configuration. Winding consists of 16 quadrifilar turns of no. 12 (2.1mm) on an Amidon T-200-6 toroid core.

0.003 dc ohm per contact while the "edge-bite" pins varied from 0.003 ohm for a few pins to many times that value for most. Obviously only the "wrap-around" octal socket is recommended and preferably in ceramic or mica-filled bakelite. If a *low-resistance* 12-point switch or plug-socket can be found, a hexifilar toroid with inductance ratios of 1, 4, 9, 16, 25 and 36 can be built.

This example of a quadrifilar toroid consists of an Amidon T-200-6 toroidal core with four windings of 16 turns each of number 12 (2.1mm) enamelled

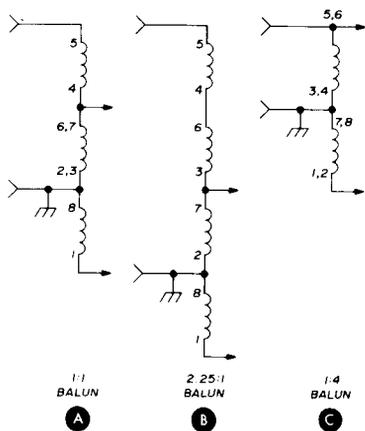


fig. 2. Quadrifilar windings may also be used to build baluns with 1:1, 2.25:1 and 1:4 transformation ratios.

wire. Fig. 1 shows the socket connections and the measured inductance values.

In balun service the four independent windings lend themselves to several configurations; three of the simpler forms are shown in fig. 2. The easy access to the terminals suggests other arrangements.

The frequency response of the 1:1 balun is flat to at least 20 MHz (the limit of my sweep generator) and probably well beyond. Even at one-half and twice termination the smooth roll-off dropped only 30 and 20 per cent, respectively, at 20 MHz.

R.S. Naslund, W9LL

technique speeds antenna tuner adjustment

This article deals with a simple and accurate procedure for tuning or adjusting antenna tuners without using a transmitter or a standing-wave bridge. To avoid some possible confusion the term antenna tuner refers to such devices as Johnson Matchbox, Millen Transmatch, Murch Ultimate Transmatch and most similar homebuilt antenna tuners. Every ham shack should have at least one.¹

In almost every technical article on antenna tuners that is published, you are instructed to make a written record of the dial settings and coil tap points for future use. If you've gone through this you know it's time consuming to search for coil tap points and tune two or three variable capacitors for each tap, trying to find the correct settings for

each operating frequency. Furthermore, going through this procedure on the air generates a lot of unnecessary interference. I deliberately put up a four-band parallel dipole so I could avoid using (or adjusting) an antenna tuner, but because of the high swr the antenna tuner is now back in the line.

The simple technique discussed here for adjusting your antenna tuner does require an additional piece of test equipment which you may not have. However, the necessary test gear, a simple impedance bridge, can be easily built from junkbox parts. Although several RX impedance bridges have been described in the amateur literature,^{2,3,4} the more simple *antennascope*⁵ or antenna impedance meter⁶ are suitable for

1. Ed Noll, W3FQJ, "Antenna Tuners," *ham radio*, December, 1972, page 58.

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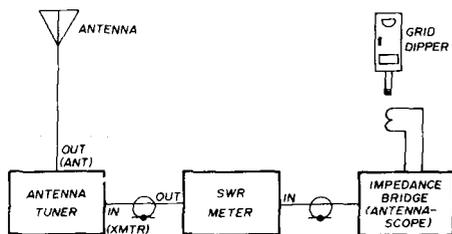


fig. 3. Simple test setup speeds initial adjustment of antenna tuning unit with minimum on-the-air interference.

this application. You will also need a grid-dip meter or low power transmitter as a source of rf for the impedance bridge. A grid-dip meter is highly recommended as it will cause less unnecessary interference.

impedance bridge. When finding the tap point it is suggested that the clip be held by its insulation and moved slowly up and down the coil until you see a downward movement of the bridge meter. That's the tap point you're looking for. This procedure is simplified somewhat if your antenna tuner uses a roller inductor, but the end result in either case is the same.

When the correct tap point has been found, fasten the clip on the inductor and tune the variable capacitor for as perfect a null as possible on the bridge meter. Record the dial settings for future use. When a transmitter, tuned to the same frequency, is connected in place of the impedance bridge, only very minor touchup of the antenna

table 1. Comparison of Transmatch dial settings obtained with three different impedance bridges using the test setup of fig. 3.

bridge type	frequency (MHz)	input capacitor	inductor tap	output capacitor
RX Bridge ³	3.95	98	59	40
	7.25	90	68	0
	14.05	55	3	40
	21.05	90	2	10
Macromatcher ⁴	3.95	95	60	15
	7.25	100	68	0
	14.05	35	4	24
	21.05	90	2	15
Antennascope ⁵	3.95	90	52	10
	7.25	98	68	0
	14.05	30	4	20
	21.05	95	2	15

Set up the test equipment as shown in fig. 3. If you use a grid-dip meter you won't get a reading on the swr meter, but at this point that's not important. Set the impedance bridge to 50 ohms (or 75 ohms if that's the impedance of your transmission line), tune the grid-dipper to the desired operating frequency and couple it to the impedance bridge. The meter on the bridge should swing upscale.

Now locate the tap on the antenna tuner inductor that causes a null on the

tuner should be required for an indicated vswr of 1:1. The data of table 1 show the results I obtained while using this procedure to adjust a Transmatch.⁷ Note the close correlation between dial settings obtained with three different types of impedance bridges. The operating swr for all cases was very nearly 1:1.

Howard Stark, WA4MTH

7. Lewis G. McCoy, W11CP, "The Ultimate Transmatch," QST, July, 1970, page 24.



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XF102	14 kHz	2 POLE	\$ 7.95

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burglar-proof alarm

When you are setting up a burglar-proof alarm for your car, you should have an unusual alarm. The more unusual the alarm, the harder it is for a burglar to get into the car. The most important parts of the alarm are the switches used to activate it. These switches must be placed so that they are hard to find, but still allow complete protection. This means that switches should be used to prevent the car from being towed away, as well as being broken into.

After the switches have been placed, you must connect them to some sort of alarm. The alarm device must make a very noticeable sound. This requirement rules out the car's horn because people hear them constantly in a populated area. The best device for the alarm is a siren. There are two types of sirens that can be used, mechanical or electronic. Both types are suitable for the system shown in fig. 4.

In the schematic there is a time-delay switch which is used to eliminate outside control on the car. This is important because it gives the advantage of surprise when a burglary is being committed. The approximate one-minute time delay allows you to enter the car and shut the alarm off. This is enough time to shut the device off if you know how, but not enough if you don't. This stops the burglar from removing anything that is fastened inside the car or searching the interior. The schematic also shows that two switches are used in the driver's door. The second switch is used to activate the circuit with the time delay.

The on-off switch is a simple dpst switch placed somewhere in the middle of your ham gear. This way a burglar will never realize that it is the switch to deactivate the device. Also, the battery and siren are placed in the trunk. This makes it very hard for a burglar to disarm the system.

As noted in the schematic, there are four other switches marked "trunk," "hood" and "limit." These four switches

are very important in deterring a person from stealing your car. The trunk and hood switches are simply placed in the trunk and hood, preventing anyone from opening either one and tampering with anything inside.

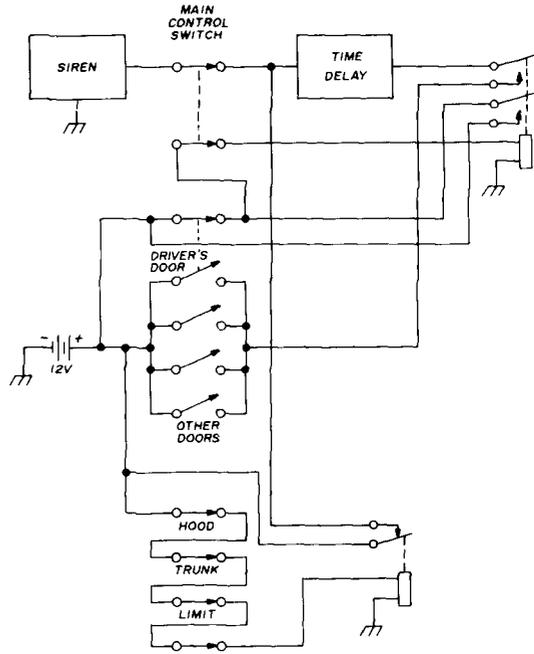


fig. 4. Simple burglar-proof auto alarm. All switches are shown as they would be when the doors, hood and trunk are closed.

The other two switches are harder to place, but they prevent the car from being moved. One of the switches is placed inside the car and is operated by the parking brake cable. Cutting the cable releases the tension on the cable and activates the alarm. The other switch is placed on one of the back shock absorbers. It is a limit switch, operating when the shock absorber is extended to its maximum. This sounds the alarm if the car is being towed away.

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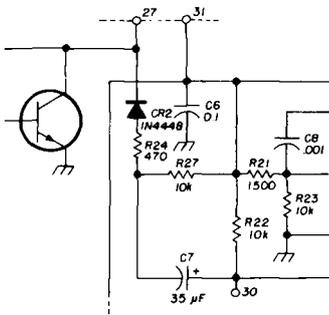
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short circuits

universal tone encoder

A few transceiver models using diode PTT switching will not operate correctly with the Universal Tone Encoder shown in the July, 1975, issue. The problem occurs in the tone-burst mode after the PTT button is released, and results from the charging current drawn by C7. Some transceivers are not able to supply this current and will not return fully to the receive mode.



This problem is solved by adding CR2 and R27 as shown in the schematic above; the polarity of C7 was also reversed in the original schematic. The encoder will now operate with relay- and diode-switched transceivers. The new circuit board incorporates this change. Circuit boards are available from Larry McDavid, W6FUB, 185 South Alice Way, Anaheim, California 92806.

dc latch circuit

In the CMOS dc latch circuit, fig. 2, on page 44 of the August, 1975 issue, the D input of U2A (pin 5) should be connected to the \bar{Q} output (pin 2), not to the Q output (pin 1) as shown.

low-frequency loop antenna

In the article on the loop antenna receiving aid in the May, 1975 issue, no ground return is shown for the fet pre-

amp (fig. 3) or Q multiplier (fig. 4). In both cases the 100k resistor connected to the gate of the HEP802 fet should be grounded.

automatic az/el control

Several errors appeared in the automatic azimuth/elevation rotator control system published in the January, 1975, issue of *ham radio*. In the base diagram for the 558 op amp (fig. 3), the inverting and non-inverting inputs to the lower op-amp are reversed (pin 5 should go to the non-inverting [+] input). In fig. 7 the sensed position output should be connected to the junction of the 100- and 750-ohm resistors, not to the op-amp output terminal. Also, add two to all IC numbers in the second column on page 29 and the first column on page 31 (U11C, for example, should be U13C).

Some readers have found that the frequency-selective amplifier in fig. 4 oscillates. This can be easily solved by increasing the value of the shunt resistance of the bridged-T network. In amplifier U1, for example, the resistor to change is the 7500-ohm unit connected between the two 0.05 µF capacitors.

To eliminate difficulty with rf interference, shunt each rotator motor winding lead with a 0.01 µF disc capacitor at the control unit case. Treat the leads to the rotator potentiometer as illustrated in fig. 1, shown here. In addition, the grounded end of the rotator potentiometer should be fastened to the circuit ground near the comparator, U11. Otherwise, unrelated ground currents may upset the sensed rotator position.

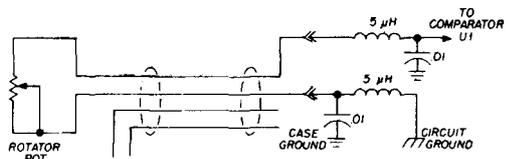


fig. 1. Use the circuit shown here with rotator potentiometer leads to eliminate difficulty with rf interference.

phase modulation techniques

In the article on phase modulation principles and techniques on page 28 of the July, 1975 issue, the value of R in fig. 7 should be 10k. The loss formula shown in fig. 7 should be

$$\text{loss} = 20 \log \left(\sqrt{\frac{X_C}{R^2 + X_C^2}} \right) \text{ dB}$$

communications receiver

In the communications receiver described in the October, 1975 issue (page 32), the KVG XF9E crystal filter has 12 kHz bandwidth, *not* 2.4 kHz. Transformers T1 (fig. 2) and T1, T2 and T3 (fig. 8) are wideband transformers which I5TDJ wound on Ferroxcube 0.25" (6.5mm) diameter toroid cores (permeability of 1000 or more). The Amidon T50-6 cores specified in the article have low permeability and low-frequency performance is poor. For those who have asked, Q6 in fig. 8 which is specified as an HEP S0014 may be replaced with a 2N3866 or 2N4427.

Designer I5TDJ has heard from several amateurs who have built duplicates of this receiver that they sometimes have trouble with the fet crystal oscillator circuits (fig. 8). He subsequently tested a number of fets and found that some circuits would not oscillate with fets with high I_{DSS} because of the large voltage drop across the 1000-ohm drain resistor which biased the fet into the pinch-off region. This can be solved by using low I_{DSS} fets or by reducing the value of the drain resistor to 100 ohms.

radiation hazards

In the September editorial W1D7Y made an error when calculating the power density at 10 watts input to a 30-foot dish. Since the 10 watts is essentially spread over the area of the dish in the near field (within one or two dish diameters), the power density at 10 watts input is 0.061 mW/cm². An input of 1642 watts would be required to reach 10 mW/cm².

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The model 525 operates from the 117 Vac line or battery power (8 to 15 volts) may be used for portable or mobile use. Price is \$159. For more information, write to Pagel Electronics, 6742-C Tampa Avenue, Reseda, California 91335, or use *check-off* on page 142.

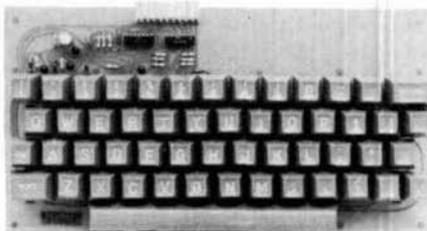
hamtronics catalog

Hamtronics, Inc., long known for its vhf preamplifiers and fm communications receiver kits for amateur and monitor applications, recently announced a new catalog, which is available to readers in return for a self-addressed, stamped envelope. It lists many new products, including a high performance version of its famous standard vhf preamp. This kit, which is wired in series with the coaxial antenna lead of vhf communications receivers of various operating frequencies, boosts the receive signal by 20 dB or more, depending on the frequency. It operates from +12 Vdc, and is constructed on a PC board. Cost of the kit is \$9 (wired and tested, \$14).

The second new product is a two-stage grounded-gate preamplifier for uhf receivers in the 400-500 MHz range, including amateur, commercial, and monitor receivers. It provides 20 dB gain, and is priced at \$15 (kit) or \$30 (wired and tested). A companion uhf converter kit is available for operation on various i-f frequencies, thereby converting a vhf receiver into a uhf receiver. The converter kit is priced at \$20 plus crystal.

A new improved vhf receiver for fm communications has also been introduced in this catalog. It consists of a vhf converter board and a i-f/audio board. The converter is also available separately

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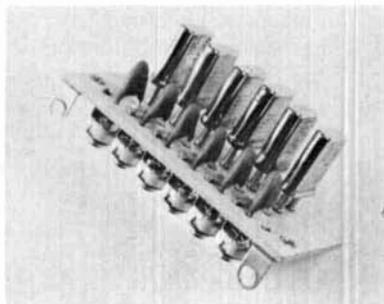
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noise in electronics

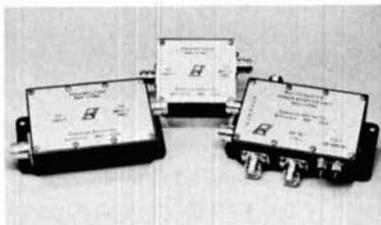
Why is noise important? What is shot noise? How can noise figure be measured using a signal generator? These and dozens of other pertinent questions are answered in this new book for the amateur, engineer and technician. They provide the reader with a basic understanding of noise characteristics and noise measurement techniques for practical applications.

The author first introduces the reader to noise with explanations on white, pink, man-made, atmospheric and galactic noise. The remainder of the book answers questions about thermal noise, shot noise, noise bandwidth, special considerations for noise, signal-

to-noise ratio, noise figure and other miscellaneous noise characteristics.

Here's an opportunity to learn about flicker noise, noise power, the effect a-m detectors have on noise and dozens of other noise-related subjects. Easy-to-understand answers are detailed without the complex mathematical manipulations usually required with noise associated calculations. Illustrations, examples, and tables of solutions are provided to further explain the answers. 96 pages, softbound, \$3.95 from HR Books, Greenville, New Hampshire 03048.

multicoupler/ preamplifier



The new multicoupler set from Radiation Devices features an antenna-located preamplifier and provides preamplification of signals at the base of a broadband high-frequency antenna to overcome coaxial cable loss. Preamplifier BBA-1/PMS-3 has greater than 9 dB gain over the band from 2 to 50 MHz. It receives power via the coaxial cable connecting it to the Multicoupler/Power Adapter Unit MPU-1. The MPU-1 provides four isolated signal ports to receivers or other equipment. Intermodulation and cross-modulation distortion products are greater than 60 dB below the desired signal at zero dBm output level. The unit operates from 115 Vac, 50 to 400 Hz.

For more information, contact Radiation Devices Company, Post Office Box 8450, Baltimore, Maryland 21234, or use *check-off* on page 142.



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WALL PHONES type 554 or 90 rotary dial available in beige, orange, yellow, red, blue, black, less ringer, new \$14.95

SPACE MAKER WALL PHONE rotary dial. Available in turquoise, black, beige, white. Less ringer, new \$17.50 each. Less ringer, used \$12.50 each.

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3 lines - 3 hold buttons - \$22.50 each.

6 button - 5 line 1 hold - \$27.50 each.

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Available in beige, green, orange and black. (List 1st, 2nd, and 3rd choices in colors for all above phones.)

"MINI WALL" PHONES (ITT) WITH TOUCH PAD available in pink, beige, green, black, blue, ivory and yellow. New \$27.50 each.

2 VOLT STORAGE BATTERY Polystyrene encased 2 volt rechargeable battery rated at 20 amp hours. Each \$2.50.

FACSIMILE UNIT Transmitter and receiver. 12" x 12" x 6". Used in many offices, sends 2-way message complete with 60 cy power supply, with conversion sheets. All for \$14.95 ea.

FAX PAPER 350 ft. roll \$10.00.

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LINEMAN BELTS complete with safety strap unpadding - \$12.50, padded \$17.50. State waist size. pole climbers, complete with pads and straps \$12.50.

FOR RTTY HAMS 88 MH COILS - 5 for \$1.25.

CV-89A/URA-8 CONVERTERS \$99.50.

CV591 CONVERTERS - Used with R390A/URR for single side band reception \$75.00.

URR-35 RECEIVER 225 to 400 MHz like new - \$69.50.

NOTE: Trendline and Miniwall Phones with ringers \$4.50 additional, others \$3.50.

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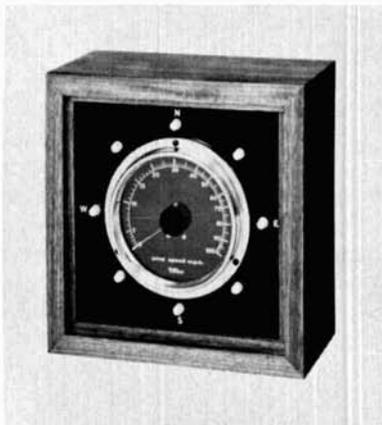
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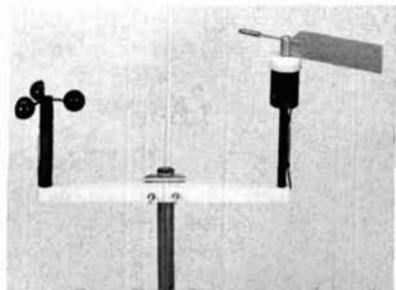
wind direction and velocity meter



Knowing wind speed and direction will allow you to trim that big beam antenna for minimum wind resistance when the next storm arrives. The model 75C Brunswick Wind Set by TMAC Products consists of a wind-speed transmitter, wind-direction transmitter, an indicator mounted in a handsome console, and all cables and mounting hardware. The transmitter units are low profile; the entire assembly measures only 12-3/4 inches high by 24 inches long (53 by 61cm) and may be mounted on any convenient surface.

The wind-speed transmitter consists of a dc generator coupled to a 5 1/2-inch (14cm) diameter, spherical cup rotor assembly mounted on a 1-inch (2.5cm) diameter pvc pipe support. Wind speed is indicated by a 6-inch (15cm) diameter, 250-degree linear taut band pivot and jewel movement. Readout is in mph, with 1-mph divisions between 0 and 100 mph inscribed in white against a contrasting background.

The wind-direction transmitter uses hermetically sealed reed switches actuated by a magnet in an environment-protected, low-friction assembly. Wind direction is indicated by eight panel lamps, one at each cardinal compass point, located around the periphery of the wind-speed indicator. *Intercardinal*



compass points are indicated by the illumination of two adjacent lamps. Thus, 16 compass points may be indicated; at least one indicator lamp will be on at all times. The instrument is powered by 110 V, 60-Hz. Price and additional information are available from TMAC Products, P.O. Box 28341 (Lincoln Village Branch), Columbus, Ohio 43228, or use *check-off* on page 142.

miniature touch-tone encoders

Data Signal has announced a new line of solid-state crystal-controlled Touch-Tone encoders which use a CMOS encoder IC. Only $\frac{1}{4}$ inch (6.5mm) thick, these self-contained units provide Touch-Tone capability to repeater stations or provide data entry. They are designed to be mounted directly on the side of hand-held portables, on the front of mobile transceivers, or on the dashboard of vehicles. The circuitry is completely rf proof, and all electronics are contained *within* the keyboard. Keyboards with 12 Touch-Tone digits are available in three sizes: $2\frac{1}{4} \times 3$ inches (57x76mm), $1\frac{1}{2} \times 2$ inches (38x51mm) and $2 \times 1\frac{1}{2}$ inches (51x38mm). The 16-digit keyboard is 2 inches (51mm) square. These keyboard encoders, type DTM, require only three external connections and are priced at \$49.95.

Also available from Data Signal is a sub-miniature Touch-Tone encoder and keyboard which is designed for use with

2 NEW VHF POWER METERS



27-450 MHz

Continuous Frequency Coverage

SPECIFICATIONS

Model C1277

Frequency Range	27-450 MHz
Wattmeter Accuracy	10% FS
Power Capability	
SSB	50 Watts Entire Range
CW	50 Watts 100-225 MHz
	25 Watts 27-300 MHz
	15 Watts above 300 MHz
Connectors	Type "N" Standard (UHF on request)

(Model C1297 Covers 30-250 MHz
at 200 Watt Power Rating)

Model C1277 \$89.50 plus tax
Model C1297 \$89.50 plus tax

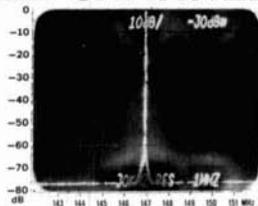
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MODEL 34 WATTMETER



A4950



A8949

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model — power output — gain — price

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A4960 - 50W - 8db - \$192.

A8949 - 100W - 10db - \$270.

450 - UHF

MODEL 25 - 30W - 7db - \$167.

MODEL 30 - 30W - 9db - \$194.

MODEL 50 - 50W - 5db - \$251.

OTHER PRODUCTS

ECHO III FM REPEATER - \$949.

MODEL 34 WATTMETER - \$70.

2 METER FM

MODEL C - 25W - 4db - \$69.

MODEL D - 50W - 7db - \$99.

SUPER D KIT - 80W - 3.5db - \$60.

MODEL DS - 80W - 3.5db - \$139.

MODEL E - 35W - 10db - \$80.

SUPER E KIT - 40W - 11db - \$60.

MODEL ES - 40W - 11db - \$115.

10-0 - 100W - 7db - \$209.

1-10-0 - 100W - 14db - \$226.

35-0 - 100W - 4db - \$185.



DYNAMIC

COMMUNICATIONS

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(305) 844-1323



hand-held fm transceivers. The encoder PC board measures a mere 0.8 by 1.2 inch (20x30.5mm) and is easily installed inside hand-held transceivers. The keyboard is available in the same four styles mentioned above and can be mounted on the side of the transceiver. The Touch-Tone encoder and keyboard, type SME, is priced at \$29.95.

In addition to the DTM and SME keyboards and encoders, the major components are also available for amateurs who want to build their own. The keyboard, choice of four styles, is \$8.50. The digital Touch-Tone encoder with 1-MHz HC-6/U crystal is \$12.50 (encoder with *slim* 1-MHz crystal is \$13.50). The miniature printed-circuit board is \$2.50. If you purchase a keyboard, encoder and crystal, the PC board, and all resistors and capacitors are provided free of charge.

For more information, write to Data Signal, Inc., 2212 Palmyra Road, Albany, Georgia 31701 or use *check-off* on page 142.

**dual-trace
oscilloscope adapter**

A new RCA dual-tracer adapter that can be attached to any triggered or recurrent-sweep oscilloscope to update it to dual trace operation is now available.

The RCA WM-541A *Dual-Tracer* Adapter provides two displays on a single-trace oscilloscope for simultaneous viewing of two signals. Applications of the new RCA instrument include comparison tests of gain, frequency, response, distortion, phase shift, and time delay. In addition, the WM-541A can also be used to add additional traces to dual-trace oscilloscopes.

Display modes included in the operation of the instrument are channel A only, channel B only, or both A and B channels simultaneously (chopped or alternate). The switching rate is continu-

ously variable over a range designed to minimize flicker and beat interference.

The RCA WM-541A has additional features which include ac or dc coupling and vertical position controls for both channels; separate, variable sync-level control with polarity reversing switch; a zener-regulated power supply and LED power-on indicator. The inputs and outputs are terminated with BNC connectors for connection to the oscilloscope. The latest cos/mos integrated circuitry is used for high performance operation. The instrument can be used from dc to 10 MHz.

The RCA WM-541A Dual-Tracer Adapter is priced at \$108.00. An optional WG-400A Direct/Low Capacitance Probe and Cable is available for \$15.00.

Additional information on RCA Electronic Instruments is available from RCA Distributor and Special Products Division, 2000 Clements Bridge Road, Deptford, New Jersey 08096, or use *check-off* on page 142.

corrosion-resistant vhf antenna

Most mobile antennas include a stainless-steel whip but here is one that is built entirely of stainless steel, brass, and an elastomer compound. This unit has been developed to meet and overcome two significant obstacles to antenna performance — corrosion and the necessity for a ground plane. The construction materials allow this popular model to live happily in a salt environment. The design has no need for a ground plane; this feature allows this unit to operate perfectly on a wood deck or fiberglass trunk lid.

For further details on this high gain, almost indestructible antenna, write to Gam Electronics, Inc., 191 Varney Street, Manchester, N.H. 03102, or use *check-off* on page 142.

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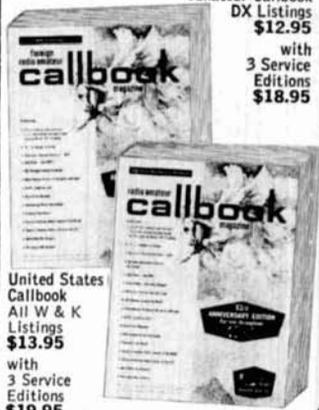
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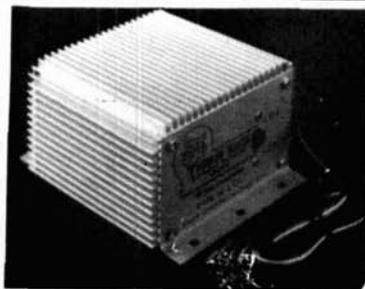


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You may order the system complete—or any of five modules . . . whichever suits your needs best

SRI-200. Terminal unit. Need only be connected to the output of any RTTY converter and to any monitor (either video or 'RF) to copy teletype. Price \$399. * Standard T.V. Set

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SRI-220. Video display monitor. Mounts on top of the terminal to make a compact, desk top unit. — To be announced —

SRI-230. RTTY converter board. Plugs directly into terminal main board. Accepts audio from any receiver. — To be announced —

SRI-240. AFSK board. Plugs directly into keyboard assembly main board. — To be announced —

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synthesized scanning monitor



The new Bearcat 101 is a totally synthesized, five-band scanning monitor featuring a re-programmable custom integrated circuit. In addition to receiving the low (30-50 MHz), high (148-174 MHz) and uhf (450-470 MHz) bands, the unit will also receive the two-meter ham band (146-148 MHz) as well as uhf frequencies from 416 to 450 MHz.

The nerve center of the Bearcat 101 is provided by two exclusive, custom, large-scale ICs: one for *scanning* and the second for a non-volatile *memory* system. With the memory chip, the radio retains all frequencies programmed — without the need for a battery. This feature allows users to order sets fully programmed with frequencies and assures program retention, even if the unit is unplugged or if there is a power outage.

The Bearcat 101 scans 16 channels. Individual lock-out switches are provided for each channel; these are also used in programming frequencies. Channel indicators are light-emitting diodes, providing a scan rate in excess of 20 channels-per-second. Selective Scan Delay, a new feature, permits the listener to remain on a channel for one second longer, in case of a reply on a simplex channel. The Bearcat Selective Scan Delay system permits delay on just those channels desired. Sensitivity in the low and high bands is measured at 0.6 μ V;

on the uhf bands, it typically ranges from 0.6 to 0.9 μV . A six-pole crystal filter offers 70 dB of i-f selectivity.

For more information, write to the Electra Company, Cumberland, Indiana 46229, or use *check-off* on page 142.

precision low-noise op amp

It isn't often that a precision, low noise, ultra-stable, high gain operation amplifier is put into production, and when one is, the cost is usually very high. Not so with a new state-of-the-art amplifier developed by National Semiconductor. Called the LH0044, the new operational amplifier includes all of these features plus low cost.

The LH0044 precision operational amplifier is intended to replace modules and chopper-stabilized monolithic amplifiers and is particularly well-suited for differential mode, inverting, and non-inverting mode applications that require very low initial offset, low offset drift, very high gain and high power supply rejection ratio. In addition, the low initial offset and offset drift of the LH0044 eliminate costly and time-consuming null adjustments.

Specifications include an input offset voltage less than 25 microvolts, long term stability better than ± 1 microvolt per month, a maximum offset drift of only 0.5 microvolts/ $^{\circ}\text{C}$, and a noise level lower than 0.7 microvolts peak-to-peak from 0.1 to 10 hertz. Other performance features include a CMRR and PSRR of 120 dB minimum, open-loop gain greater than 120 dB, and a common mode range wider than ± 13 volts. The power supply range is from ± 2 volts to ± 20 volts.

For more information, write to National Semiconductor Corporation, 2900 Semiconductor Drive, Santa Clara, California 95051, or use *check-off* on page 142.



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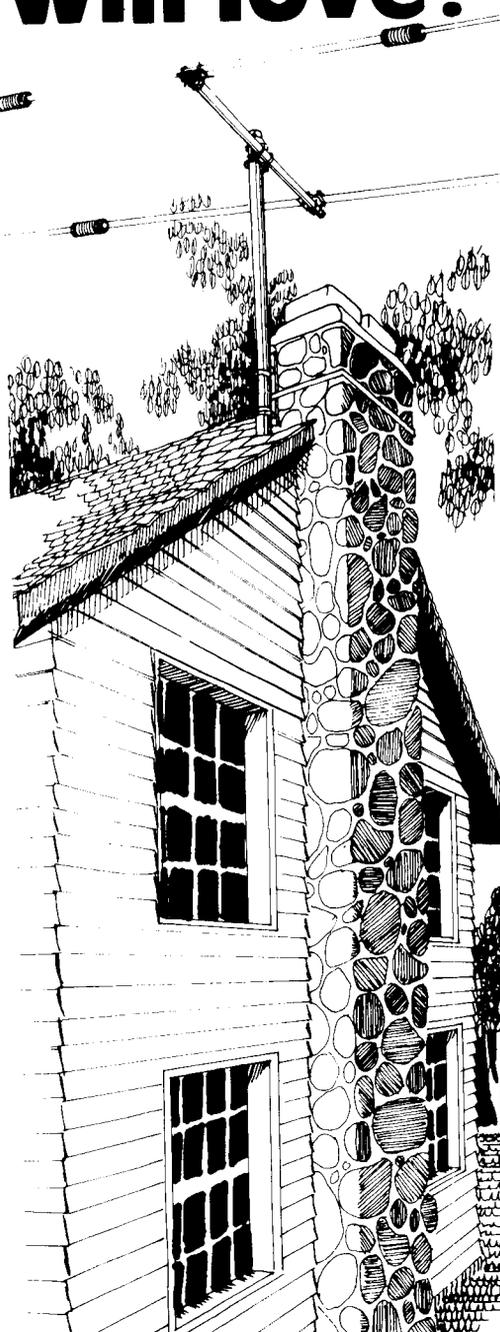
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The trim-tenna™ is designed for the discriminating amateur who wants fantastic performance in an environmentally appealing beam.

It's really loaded! Up front there's a 13 feet 6 inch director with precision Hy-Q coils. And, 7 feet behind is a 16 foot driven element fed directly with 52 ohm coax.

The trim-tenna™ goes up on your roof, tripod, or chimney as easily as a color TV antenna.

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(216) 425-8073



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If your organization has test equip. requirements call or write EEB. Inquiries welcomed.

This Month's Special: **RACAL 6367** - Dual Spectral display unit, for use with 6217 Rcvr (below). Rascal's price \$3775. EEB's price **\$765** new in factory cartons



RACAL 6217 - Receiver 1-30 MHz, SSB/FM/AM .2 to 13 kHz BW - Reconditioned. **\$1975.00**



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ARR-52 SOLID STATE VHF RECEIVER

Easily converted to 2-meter FM. Now set for 163-173 MHz, 16 channels. Includes schematic diagram and conversion details. As described in the Surplus Sidelights Column, (Pg. 58 Oct. CQ).



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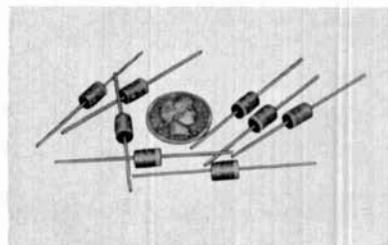
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3000-volt silicon rectifiers



Electronic Devices has announced the development of a miniaturized, high voltage, high current silicon rectifier diode with a surge capacity of 300 amperes. The rectifier is an axial lead type. Electrical specifications for the series 3W3 diode are 3000 peak reverse voltage, 2 amp rating with 300 amp surge capacity. Two other similar designs are available with peak reverse voltages of 2000 and 2500 volts. Fast recovery types are also available. The exceptionally high surge capability and small size of these rectifiers results from a special diffusion process and larger junction with lower forward voltage drop.

For complete information, write to the Sales Manager, Electronic Devices, Inc., 21 Gray Oaks Avenue, Yonkers, New York 10710, or use *check-off* on page 142.

tool catalog

A free tool catalog describing over 2500 individual items is offered by Jensen Tools and Alloys. "Tools for Electronic Assembly and Precision Mechanics" is a 112-page handbook of particular interest to amateurs, electronic technicians, engineers, scientists, and instrument mechanics working on fine assemblies. Section headings include screwdrivers, wrenches, pliers, tweezers, files, shears, knives, microtools, relay tools, power tools, metalworking tools, wire strippers, soldering equipment, lighting and optical equipment, work holders, test equipment, engineering and

drafting supplies and electronic chemicals. New sections include metric tools, books, and wire wrapping tools. A 15-page tool kit section features the world famous Jensen kits for field engineers and kit builders.

Another important feature of the catalog is the inclusion of four pages of technical data on tool selection. These pages include sections on screwdriver selection, machine screw data, tool materials, metal conductivity, color coding, wire and insulation data, solderability of metals, temperature conversion, drill sizes, metal gauges, metric conversion and safety. Five pages of "Tool Terms" are also included.

A free copy of the Jensen catalog may be obtained by writing to Jensen Tools and Alloys, 4117 North 44th Street, Phoenix, Arizona 85018, or by using *check-off* on page 142.

contact cement



Industrial strength *Zipbond* contact cement bonds most materials almost instantly. It is easy to use, with no pre-mixing necessary, and is used directly from the squeeze applicator bottle (production-line dispenser also available). No heat or pressure treatment is needed, and *Zipbond* sets up quickly at room temperature.

Zipbond is impervious to most chemicals, weather and temperatures. Its bonding strength is not affected by most solvents. Low viscosity allows *Zipbond* to seep into tiny spaces most adhesives can't penetrate. It is very econom-

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250 MHz FREQUENCY COUNTER MODEL 4X6C

(includes temp. compensated oscillator —
.0005% from -30° to +60°C.)

SPECIFICATIONS

Frequency Range	500 kHz — 250 MHz
Sensitivity	Less than 80 mV at 150 MHz
Input Z	50 ohms
Max. Input Voltage	15 V rms, 50 V dc
Time Base	Crystal Clock plus-minus 10 ppm 0°C to 40°C ambient
Readout	6 Digit 7 Segment LED
Power	120 V ac
Dimensions	2½" H, 10" L, 7" D
Cabinet	Light blue

PRICE \$270.00 fob Shawnee
(Wired and Tested)

Include \$2.50 to cover
Postage and Insurance



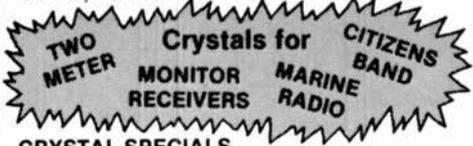
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Div. of Bob When & Son Electronics, Inc.
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Send 10¢ for new catalog

ical, as one drop covers a 1 inch square area to form a colorless transparent bond. For more information write to Instrument Division, Tescom Corporation, 2600 Niagara Lane North, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55441, or use *check-off* on page 142.

audio power amplifier

A new 40-watt (20 watt rms) B high-fidelity amplifier with total harmonic distortion of 0.2 per cent at 15 watts output is now available from Plainview Electronic Supply. This class B, quasi-complimentary amplifier is capable of delivering full output power into a standard 8-ohm speaker with a 500 mV input signal. Supply voltage can be +36 volts or ±18 volts. Frequency response is from dc to 80 kHz.

The hybrid amplifier is designed for use in communications, stereo, public address and intercom systems, and is priced at \$10.65 in small quantities. For more information, write to Bernard Erde, Marketing Manager, Plainview Electronic Supply, 7 Gordon Avenue, Plainview, New York 11803, or use *check-off* on page 142.

transformer catalog

Triad's new *Catalog of Transformers, Inductors, Power Supplies and Circuit Cards*, is now available. The 52-page catalog covers more than 30 categories of transformers, including autotransformers, bridging, driver, input, interstage line matching and voltage correction. The inductor section of the catalog lists audio and filter reactors, high Q reactors, tone control and toroidal inductors.

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New Companion 80 and 160 Watt Linears now available.

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2.5 WATT
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**SPECIAL INCLUDES:
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52-52 CRYSTAL**

\$164⁹⁵



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- 12 KHz Ceramic Filter
- 10.7 IF and 455 KC IF
- .3 Microvolt
- Sensitivity for 20 dB Quieting
- Weight: 1 lb. 14 oz. less Battery
- S-Meter/Battery Indicator
- Size: 8 7/8 x 1 7/8 x 2 7/8
- 2.5 Watts Minimum Output @ 12 VDC
- Current Drain RX 14 MA TX 500 MA
- Microswitch Mike Button

1405 SM

- 6 Channel Operation
- Individual Trimmers on all TX/RX Crystals
- All Crystals Plug In
- 12 KHz Ceramic Filter
- 10.7 and 455 KC IF
- .3 Microvolt
- Sensitivity for 20 dB Quieting
- Weight: 1 lb. 14 oz. less Battery
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Add \$7.50 per Transceiver for Factory Crystal Installation



BC-1 NI-CAD
BATTERY CHARGER

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C. _____ D. _____ E. _____ F. _____

ENCLOSED IS _____ CHECK MONEY ORDER MC BAC
CARD # _____ EXPIRATION DATE _____

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

SIGNATURE _____

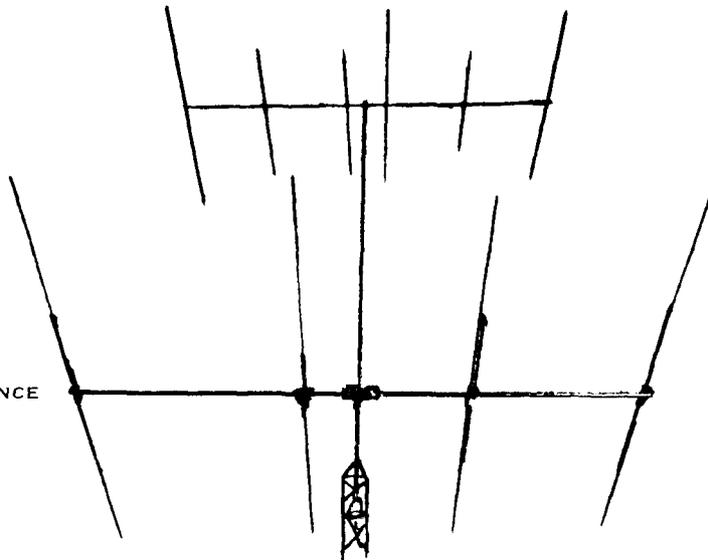
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Wilson Electronics Corp.



WILSON 204 MONOBANDER PLUS DB33

REAL
MONO
PERFORMANCE
ON
10-15-20



The Wilson 204 is the best and most economical antenna of its type on the market. Four elements on a 26' boom with Gamma Match (No balun required) make for high performance on CW & phone across the entire 20 meter band.

The 204 Monobander is built rugged at the high stress points yet using taper swaged slotted tubing permits larger diameter tubing where it counts, for maximum strength with minimum wind loading. Wind load 99.8 lbs. at 80 MPH. Surface area 3.9 sq. ft., Weight 50 lbs., Boom 2" OD.

All Wilson Monoband and Duoband beams have the following common features:

- Taper Swaged Tubing
- Full Compression Clamps
- No Holes Drilled in Elements
- 2" or 3" Aluminum Booms
- Adjustable Gamma Match 52Ω
- Quality Aluminum
- Handle 4kw
- Heavy Extruded Element to Boom Mounts

- **M204** 4 ele. 20, 26', 2" OD **\$139.00**
- **M155** 5 ele. 15, 26', 2" OD **\$139.00**
- **M154** 4 ele. 15, 20', 2" OD **\$ 89.00**
- **M106** 6 ele. 10, 26', 2" OD **\$ 99.00**
- **M104** 4 ele. 10, 17', 2" OD **\$ 64.95**
- **M240** 2 ele. 40, 16', 3" OD **\$299.00**
- **M520** 5 ele. 20, 40', 3" OD **\$269.00**
- **DB54** 5 ele. 20, 4 ele. 15, 40', 3" OD **\$299.00**
- **DB43** 4 ele. 15, 3 ele. 10, 20', 2" OD **\$119.00**
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Call for special Tower, Antenna & Rotor package.

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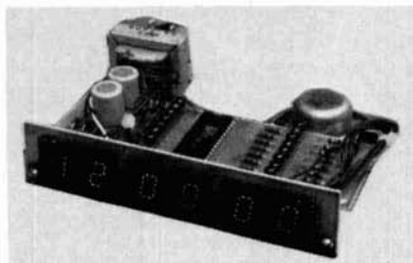
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CK-04

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12HR/60HZ or 24HR/50HZ

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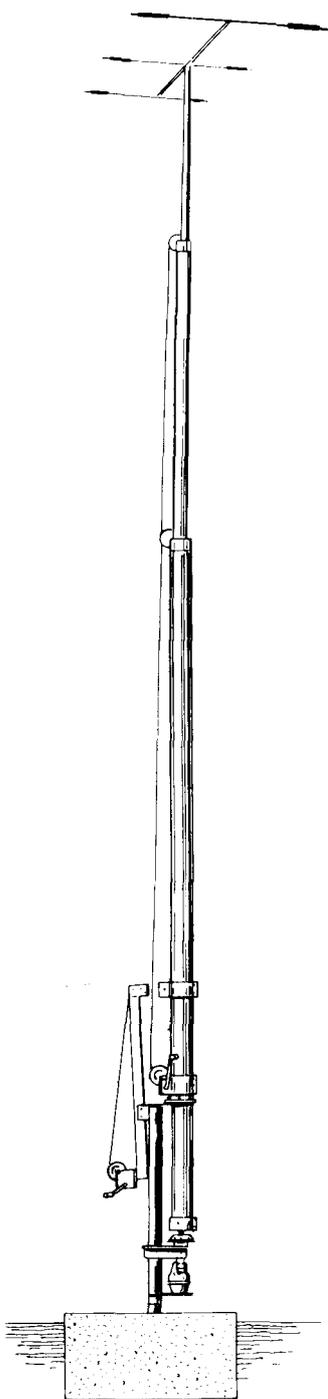
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- Single Tone capability
- Low cost



Style A



Style B



Style C



Style D

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Complete 12 or 16 digit Touch Tone* keyboard encoders for mounting directly to side of hand-held transceivers. All electronics included WITHIN keyboard, nothing to add inside of transceiver. Only 1/4" thick. Ready for easy installation, just add three connections to unit. RF proof. Select keyboard style when ordering.

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Keyboard, your choice of keyboard style	\$8.50
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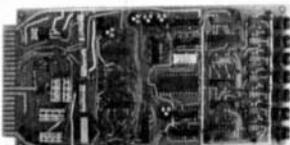


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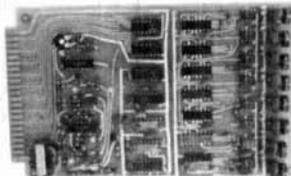
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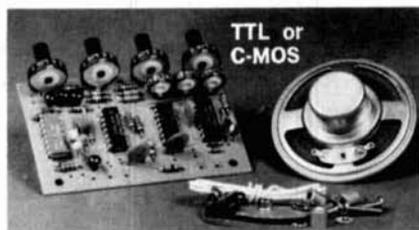


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(FOB Oak Park)

- 4NB NOISE BLANKER for R4C \$ 65.00
- 34PNB NOISE BLANKER for TR4C \$100.00
- DESK MIC for Drake line \$ 39.00
- W4 WATTMETER, 1.8-54 MHz \$ 62.00
- WV4 WATTMETER, 20-200 MHz \$ 74.00
- TR22C, portable FM Xcvr \$229.00



- KR50 KEYER, dual paddle, memory \$110.00
- KR20A KEYER, self completing \$ 67.50



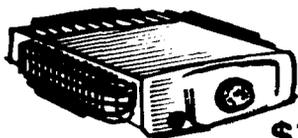
- PLF PREAMP, FET, 2.54 MHz \$ 44.00
- PT XCVR PREAMP, w/switching \$ 69.95



- ARX2K, converts Ringo to Ranger \$ 10.95
- OSCAR TWIST, A144-20T, circular \$ 52.00
- OSCAR TWIST, for UHF \$ 45.00

R43HHT . . . HI BAND MOTRACS

We have just gotten in a limited supply of Hi Band Rail Road Motracs . . .



12VDC operable
2 Frequency
Narrow Band
Less Accs

\$125.00 + shipping

IF SANTA DOESN'T TAKE THE HINT . . .

SEE YOU AT SAROC

MONTHLY SPECIAL LIST AVAILABLE . . . SEND S.A.S.E.

WANTED: Good used FM & test equipment. No quantity too large or small. Finders fee too.



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TELEX: 72:8310

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Sat. 9:30-3:00, Closed Sun. & Holidays.



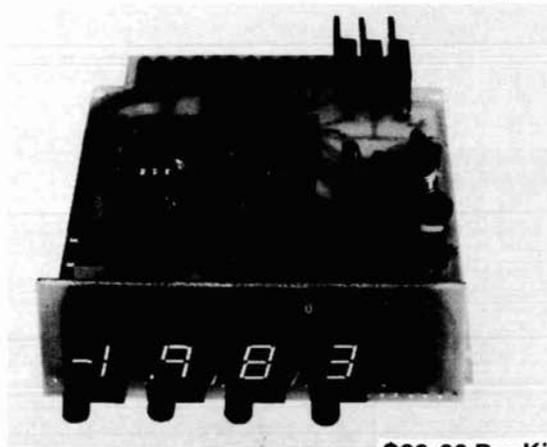
7400N TTL			
SN7400N	16	SN74511N	27
SN7401N	16	SN74523N	27
SN7402N	21	SN74544N	41
SN7403N	16	SN74549A	25
SN7404N	21	SN74569N	22
SN7405N	24	SN74170N	45
SN7406N	45	SN74172N	45
SN7407N	45	SN74173N	45
SN7408N	25	SN74174N	45
SN7409N	25	SN74175N	80
SN7410N	20	SN74176N	47
SN7411N	20	SN74180N	50
SN7412N	42	SN74874	175
SN7413N	85	SN74876	115
SN7414N	70	SN74895A	112
SN7416N	43	SN74866	45
SN7417N	43	SN74888	350
SN7418N	25	SN74896	300
SN7420N	21	SN74908	58
SN7421N	39	SN74911	120
SN7423N	37	SN74926	82
SN7425N	43	SN74936	82
SN7426N	41	SN74944	91
SN7427N	37	SN74954N	91
SN7429N	42	SN74966N	91
SN7430N	26	SN74100N	125
SN7432N	21	SN74107N	49
SN7437N	47	SN74121N	55
SN7438N	40	SN74122N	49
SN7439A	25	SN74123N	105
SN7440N	21	SN74125N	60
SN7441N	110	SN74126N	81
SN7442N	108	SN74127N	300
SN7443N	108	SN74141N	115
SN7444N	110	SN74142N	650
SN7445N	110	SN74143N	700
SN7446N	115	SN74144N	700
SN7447N	89	SN74145N	115
SN7448N	89	SN74148N	250
SN7450N	26	SN74150N	110
20% Discount for 100 Combined 7400's			
CMOS			
CD4000	25	74C10N	85
CD4001	25	74C20N	65
CD4002	25	74C30N	65
CD4006	250	74C42N	215
CD4007	25	74C73N	150
CD4009	58	74C74	115
CD4010	58	74C80N	300
CD4011	25	74C95N	200
CD4012	25	74C107N	125
CD4013	47	74C151	290
CD4016	58	74C154	300
CD4017	135	74C157	215
CD4019	55	74C160	325
CD4020	149	74C161	325
CD4022	125	74C163	300
CD4023	25	74C164	325
CD4024	150	74C173	240
CD4025	25	74C183	275
CD4027	89	74C195	275
CD4028	165	74C02N	55
CD4029	230	74C04N	75
74C105N	27	74C115N	125
74C115N	27	74C115N	125
74C154N	41	74C154N	125
74C155N	121	74C155N	121
74C156N	22	74C156N	130
74C160N	22	74C160N	130
74C161N	45	74C161N	145
74C163N	45	74C163N	145
74C164N	45	74C164N	145
74C165N	47	74C165N	160
74C166N	47	74C166N	160
74C167N	47	74C167N	160
74C168N	47	74C168N	160
74C169N	47	74C169N	160
74C170N	47	74C170N	160
74C171N	47	74C171N	160
74C172N	47	74C172N	160
74C173N	47	74C173N	160
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74C200N	47	74C200N	160
74C201N	47	74C201N	160
74C202N	47	74C202N	160
74C203N	47	74C203N	160
74C204N	47	74C204N	160
74C205N	47	74C205N	160
74C206N	47	74C206N	160
74C207N	47	74C207N	160
74C208N	47	74C208N	160
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74C210N	47	74C210N	160
74C211N	47	74C211N	160
74C212N	47	74C212N	160
74C213N	47	74C213N	160
74C214N	47	74C214N	160
74C215N	47	74C215N	160
74C216N	47	74C216N	160
74C217N	47	74C217N	160
74C218N	47	74C218N	160
74C219N	47	74C219N	160
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74C221N	47	74C221N	160
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74C234N	47	74C234N	160
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74C247N	47	74C247N	160
74C248N	47	74C248N	160
74C249N	47	74C249N	160
74C250N	47	74C250N	160

JAMES CHRISTMAS SPECIALS

DIODES		TTL/LINEAR		CLOCK & CALC. CHIPS	
1N4001	50V @ 1 Amp	15-51 00	7400 Gate	751 80	MM5311N 6 Digit \$2.95
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1N4003	200V @ 1 Amp	15-51 00	7490 Counter	49	MM5313N 6 Digit 2.95
1N4004	400V @ 1 Amp	15-51 00	74100 8 Bit Latch	99	MM5314N 6 Digit 2.95
1N4148	Switching	20-51 00	74154 Decoder	99	MM5316N 8 Digit Alarm 3.95
			74197 Counter	75	MM5325N 8 Digit 4 Font 1.85
			LM301N -LM314H	4/51 00	MM5326N 8 Digit 4 Font 1.95
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2N2907A	PNP Switching	6-51 00	LM309H 5V Reg 10-5		
2N2222A	PNP Switching	6-51 00	LM309K 5V Reg 10-3	99	
2N2904	PNP Amp	6-51 00			
2N2906	PNP Amp	6-51 00			
2N316	PNP RF	6-51 00			
2N5951	NJ Fet	6-51 00			
C10681	3.6 Amp SCR	2-51 00			

MM5262 DYNAMIC
2K RAM \$2.95

DIGITAL VOLTMETER



GENERAL DESCRIPTION

\$39.99 Per Kit
SINGLE UNIT

The JEBO1 is a three and one half digit, auto polarity digital voltmeter, in a kit form. It features several options not available in any commercial digital voltmeter. Its low cost is perhaps the most important feature, which is achieved by offering it in a kit form. A kit allows the user to be used by small OEM's where cost effectiveness is an important factor,

and by the hobbyist who has to be concerned with cost. The unit also features on card regulators, allowing it to be operated off a single plus and minus fifteen volt, unregulated power supply. The unit has a small size of three inches width, three and three quarters of an inch length, and one and a quarter inch height.

JEBO1

DVM

MICROPROCESSOR COMPONENTS

8008 - \$19.95 2102 - \$2.95

CPU'S		RAM'S	
8008	8 bit CPU	519.95	1101 256x1 Static 5 2.25
8080	8 bit Slew 8008	149.95	1103 1Kx1 Dynamic 2.25
4040	4 bit 8080	39.95	2102 1Kx1 Static 2.95
			2107 4Kx1 Dynamic 19.95
			2108 16x1 Static 29.95
AY - 5	1013	6.95	7010 16x1 Static 2.45
			7489 16x4 Static 2.45
			8101 1Kx1 Static 7.95
8723	32x8 Prom	3.00	8101 1Kx1 Static 7.95
1102A	1K x 1 Prom	15.85	8111 1Kx1 Static 3.49
5203D	2K x 1 Prom	14.95	8599 16x4 Tristate 3.49
745787	1Kx1 Prom	7.95	91102 1Kx1 Low Power 3.95
			9129 256x1 Static 6.95
			9129 256x1 Static 6.95
2401	1K DSR	9.95	9415670 4x4 Register 3.95
2533	1K SSR	7.95	93410 256x1 Static 2.95

91102 1K Static RAM Direct Replacement for 2102-1 with 40% Less Current Drawn 2.49

Vector General Purpose Logic CARD Board 14.95
*Very High Noise Immunity * Holds 12 ea. 14 pin DIPs
*44 pin Edge Connector

THE KILOBYTE RAM CARD Per Kit \$49.95
*Complete 1Kx8 Memory * High Noise Immunity Components
*Single 5v supply *500NS Access Time & Kit includes sockets, ICS & Board

4 PDT SWITCHES,
HIGH QUALITY
P.B. TYPES .69

KITS EXAR ICS

XR-2206KA SPECIAL \$17.95

Includes monolithic function generator IC, PC board, and assembly instruction manual.

XR-2206KB SPECIAL \$27.95

Same as XR-2206KA above and includes external components for PC board.

TIMERS STEREO DECODERS

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XR-556CP 1.85 XR-1800P 3.20

XR-2556CP 3.20 WAVEFORM GENERATORS

XR-2240CP SPECIAL 3.25 XR-205 8.40

PHASE LOCKED LOOPS XR-2206CP SPECIAL 4.49

XR-210 5.20 XR-2207CP 3.85

XR-215 6.60 MISCELLANEOUS

XR-567CP 1.95 XR-2211CP 6.70

XR-2567CP SPECIAL 2.99 XR-2212CP 3.79

Special Requested Items

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F568 Decoder 1.95 2513 11.00 8267 2.75

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CA3130 Super CMOS Op Amp 1.49 2524 3.50 8426 3.00

MC1488L JFET 8.95 2526 6.00 8680 1.35

F341 FIFO 8.95 2527 5.00 7487 5.00

A Free Gift...

What do you do with junk equipment? Have you ever discarded equipment that just didn't do the job it was intended to do? Hams are noted for not discarding obsolete and worn out equipment; it goes to the junk box or gets traded at flea markets for something of greater use. However, the day finally comes when it becomes necessary to relegate the totally useless equipment to the burn pile.

A similar situation is presented to us in the Bible in the book of John 15:1-6. As long as we are useful to our heavenly Father we will be upgraded to become less obsolete and more useful. If the worn out equipment and junk in our ham shack had the same advantage we have as mentioned in Acts 16:31: "... Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved . . .", the burn pile would not be necessary. "If anyone separates from me (Jesus), he is thrown away like a useless branch, withers and is gathered into a pile with all the others and burned." John 15:6.

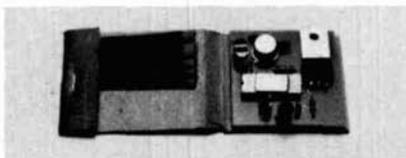
We have such a wonderful opportunity to be removed from the pile being readied for burning and put into service for God. "Sin pays its servants: the wage is death. But God gives to those who serve him: His free gift is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord." Rom. 6:23. Don't find yourself on that burn pile when you have no need to be. Take advantage of this free gift now for we don't know what day the Lord is coming. Turn from your way and give yourself to Jesus and receive this free gift.

HAVE A **Blessed Christmas** 
AND BEST WISHES FOR AN ABUNDANT NEW YEAR

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Andy, Lee, Jane, Denny, Jan, Denny, Mary Jo and Clarissa

500 MHZ SCALER MODULE



ONLY 1.55 x 1.65 x .4 INCHES
FITS RIGHT INTO EXISTING EQUIPMENT

HIGH SENSITIVITY: 35 MV. AT 500 MHZ.
15 MV. AT 150 MHZ.

INPUT IMPEDANCE: 50 OHMS

REQUIRES 12 TO 15 VDC AT 100 MA. MAX.

TTL COMPATIBLE OUTPUT $F_{IN}/10$

OVERLOAD PROTECTED

PS-M PRESCALER MODULE WIRED & TESTED

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Calif. residents add 6% sales tax

WRITE FOR DATA ON ENTIRE LINE OF PRESCALERS

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I-495 to Rte. 119 Groton Exit 19

2 miles on Right

SEE US FOR
KLM's
MULTI-2000



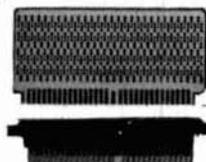
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10.7 MHZ CERAMIC FILTER

\$1.69

NEW! UNIVERSAL BREADBOARD

The most Versatile Breadboard we have seen!



drilled & plated holes
5.75 wide

HEATSHRINK TUBING

1 FOOT CUT LENGTHS

assorted sizes: 1/4, 1/2, 3/4, 1

49¢

1/2 PACK of 10

Holds up to 12, 16 pin IC's or combinations of 8, 14, 16, 24, 28 or 40 pin chips

COMPLETE WITH MATCHING EDGE CONNECTOR \$4.89

Supersedes model TB-01

NEW! 50 or 60HZ TIME BASE KITS

TB-60 Small:
TB-50



other model
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(Use with mos clock chips)

KIT INCLUDES:
drilled plated board
xtal
all parts

Direct interface
ultra low current
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- 48 HOUR MAIL SERVICE
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- QUALITY PARTS - NO JUNK!
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POWER SUPPLY SPECIAL

We brought a large quantity of parts to make a quality power supply for TTL & linear work.



+5V 1.5A
±15V 150 ma
-1% regulation
low ripple

YOU GET: • Drilled & Plated Board
• All components including transformer
• Complete instructions

12.95

MINI POWER SUPPLY KIT

Build your own +5 volt power Module at a fraction of commercial cost!



4.95
3 for 12.50

+5 volt regulated @ 400 MA with overload protection low ripple for TTL work!

4.95 Complete

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- All Components
- Complete Instructions
- Transformer

UNIVERSAL BCD UP/DOWN COUNTING MODULE WITH LATCH



Low Current
Actual size
2 7/8 x 2 3/8"

+12vdc Required
+24vdc

4.95
6 for \$25

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- MOS Counting Chip
- 25 inch Character Phosphor Readout
- Presettable +N Counting to 1MHZ
- Up or Down Counting
- Board fits standard edge connectors
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\$39.95 AND WE PAY POSTAGE!

- Full Factory Warranty
- Instruction Manual
- Battery
- Case



SPECIFICATIONS AND FEATURES

Battery Operation
Pocket Size
Supplied With 9 Volt Battery
Large Nine Digit, Easy To Read Fluorescent Type Display
Algebraic Logic
Scientific Notation - Enter Numbers Or Calculate Results From 10⁹⁹ to 10⁻⁹⁹
Convert Key - Changes Between Floating Point Notation And Scientific Notation.
5 Function, Full Accumulating Memory: Mr, M-, MR, MC, X, M
Transcendental Functions: Sin, Cos, Tan Sin⁻¹, Cos⁻¹, Tan⁻¹, Log, x^y
Trig Functions Calculated In Radians Or Degrees
√ and 1/x Functions
1/x Key
Capability To Calculate √ and x^y
Chain Calculations
Automatic Power On Clear
Trailing Zero Suppression
Automatic Constant
MOS/LSI Solid State Circuitry For Durability And Dependability
Size: 1" x 3" x 5 1/2"
Weight (With Battery): 8 ounces

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COMPLETE MOBILE LED CLOCK KIT

SPECIAL OFFER: PRICES GOOD TILL DECEMBER 18th, 1975



9-16VDC

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\$28.75
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12 or 24 hour MODELS
Please Specify on Order

6 DIGIT LED CLOCK KIT:	bright 1/4" readouts	compare \$16.95
XTAL TIMEBASE KIT:	low current 60HZ .01%	9.95
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COMPLETE INSTRUCTIONS:	with diagrams	—
GUARANTEED:	money back*	—
REPAIR AVAILABLE:	48hr service	—
		Value \$33.65

*WE GUARANTEE ALL COMPONENTS IN THE MK-01 and WILL REPLACE OR REPAIR ANY DEFECTIVE PART WITHIN 60 Days AFTER PURCHASE THAT FAILS UNDER NORMAL USAGE. ANY KIT MAY BE RETURNED TO US FOR A FULL REFUND IF IN THE ORIGINAL PACKAGING AND INTACT. SERVICE IS AVAILABLE AT 20% of the PURCHASE PRICE PLUS RETURN POSTAGE.

NEW!

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This New Unit meets the best spec of all: Its Low Price! The GTX-1 is NOT a "cheap" import. It IS identical to Genave's Land Mobile and Aircraft units for high quality and reliability. Compare performance to Motorola, GE, RCA or any other hand-helds that sell for \$700 or more . . .

GTX-1 HAND-HELD 2-Meter FM Transceiver

**SPECIAL
INTRODUCTORY
OFFER**

NOW CHECK THESE FEATURES:

- All Metal Case
- American Made
- Accepts standard plug-in crystals
- Features 10.7 MHz crystal filter
- Trimmer caps on TX and RX crystals
- 3.5 watts output
- Battery holder accepts AA regular, alkaline or nicad cells
- Mini Handheld measures 8" high x 2.625" wide x 1.281" deep
- Rubber ducky antenna, Wrist safety-carrying-strap included
- 6 Channels
- Factory-direct to You



Accessories Available:

- Nicad Battery Pack
- Charger for GTX-1 battery pack
- Leather carrying case
- TE III Tone Encoder for auto patch

GTX-1
2 Meter 6 channel
Hand-Held
(without encoder)

\$24995

(Reg. \$299.95)

GTX-1T
with Built-In
Tone Encoder

\$29995

(Reg. \$349.95)

**HURRY! STILL TIME FOR
CHRISTMAS DELIVERY.**

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HEY, GENAVE! Thanks for the nice prices! Please send me:

Operate Auto-Patch



GTX-200-T
2-meter FM, 100 channels, 30 watts (incl. 146.94 MHz)

Special Price
\$249⁹⁵



GTX-200
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For Christmas Delivery

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GTX-IT
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Special Price **\$299⁹⁵**

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- Lambda/4 2-M Trunk Antenna** @ \$29.95 \$ _____
- TE-I Tone Encoder Pad** @ \$59.95 \$ _____
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- PSI-9 Port. Power Package** (less batteries) @ \$29.95 \$ _____
- PS-1 AC Power Supply** @ \$69.95 \$ _____

and the following **standard** crystals @ \$4.50 each: _____ \$ _____

Non-standard crystals @ \$6.50 each: _____ \$ _____

(allow 8 weeks delivery.)

For factory crystal installation add \$8.50 per transceiver.

IN residents add 4% sales tax:

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All orders shipped post-paid within continental U.S.

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BankAmericard # _____ Expires _____

Master Charge # _____ Expires _____ Interbank # _____

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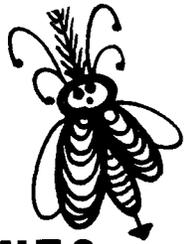
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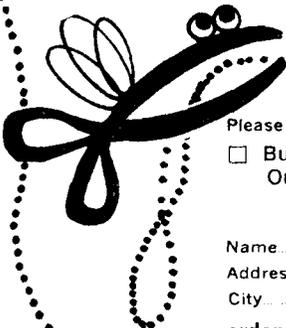
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380 2.5 Watt Audio Amplifier 34 dB (DIP)	\$1.29
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723 Voltage Regulator 3-30 V @ 1-250mA (DIP/TO-5)	\$.58
739 Dual Low-Noise Audio Preamp/Op Amp (DIP)	\$1.00
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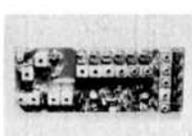
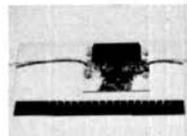
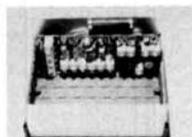
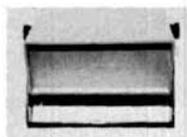
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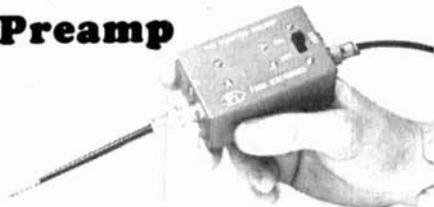
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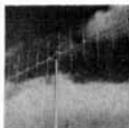
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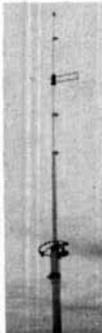


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And the angel said unto them,
Fear not: for, behold, I
bring you good tidings of
great joy, which shall be to
all people.

For unto you is born this day, in the
city of David a Saviour, which is Christ
the Lord.

...And the shepherds returned, glorify-
ing and praising God for all the things
that they had heard and seen, as it was
told unto them.

Luke 12: 10, 11 and 20

We, too, praise God
for his blessings and
wish all of you a
joyous Christmas.

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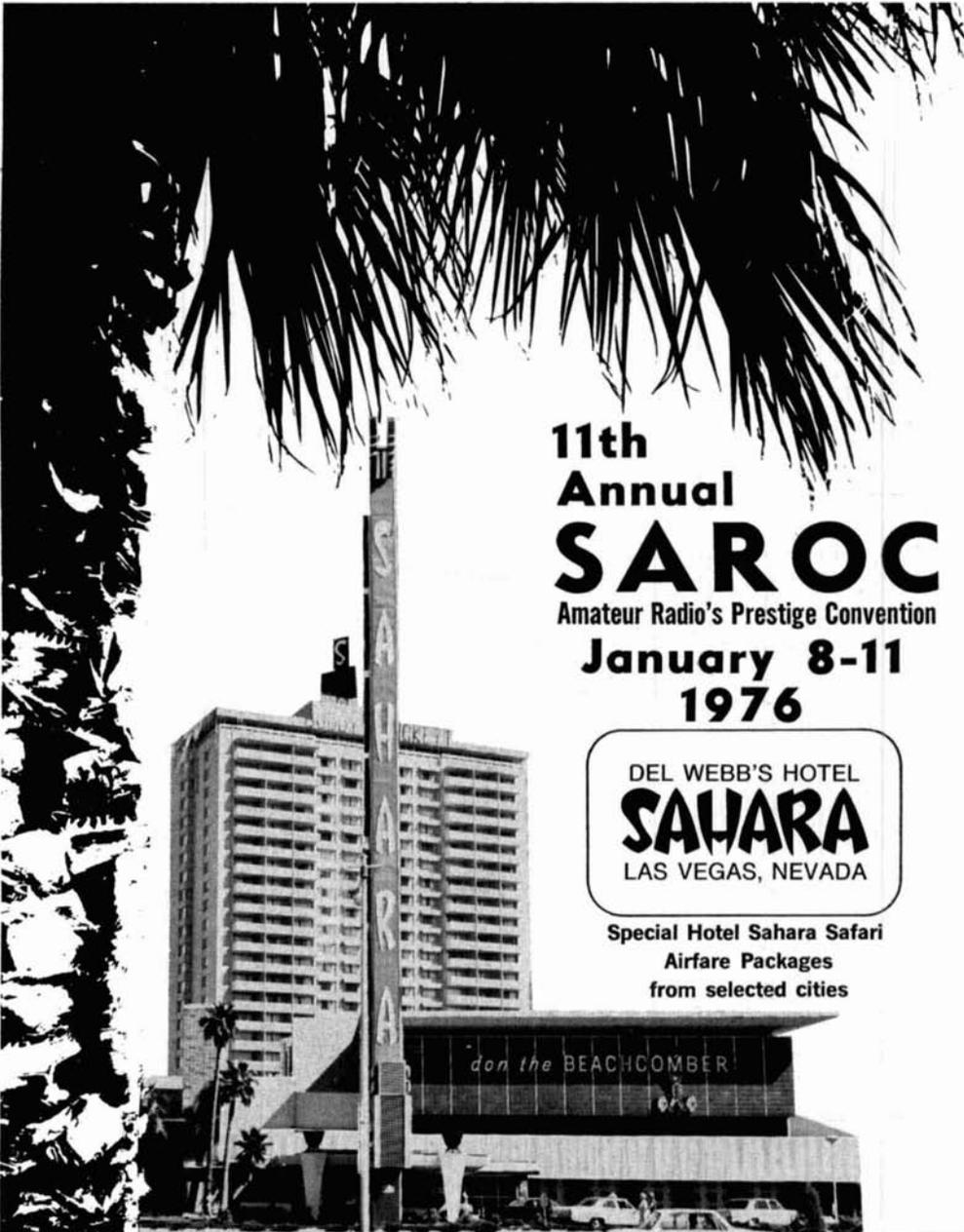
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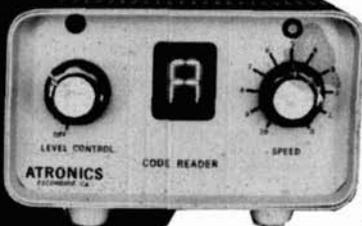
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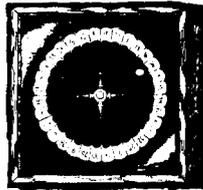
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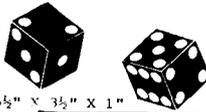
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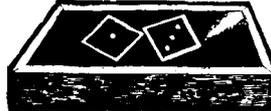
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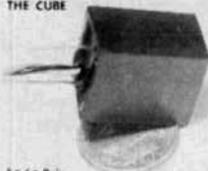
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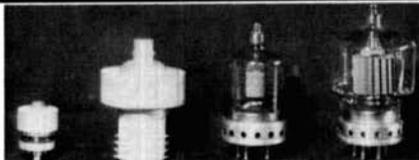
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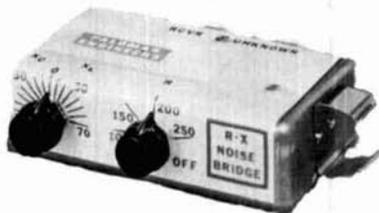
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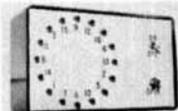
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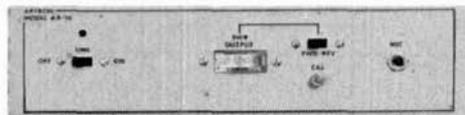
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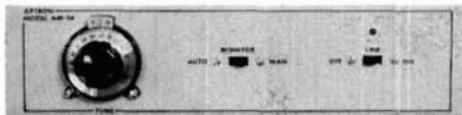


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general

- Antenna control, automatic azimuth/elevation for satellite communications
WA3HLT p. 26, Jan 75
Correction p. 58, Dec 75
- Antenna dimension (HN)
WA9JMY p. 66, Jun 70
- Antennas and capture area
K6MJO p. 42, Nov 69
- Antenna and control-link calculations for repeater licensing
W7PUG p. 58, Nov 73
Short circuit p. 59, Dec 73
- Antenna and feedline facts and fallacies
W5JJ p. 24, May 73
- Antenna design, programmable calculator simplifies (HN)
W3DVO p. 70, May 74
- Antenna gain, measuring
K6JYO p. 26, Jul 69
- Antenna switching, solid-state
W2EEY p. 30, Nov 68
- Anti-QRM methods
W3FQJ p. 50, May 71
- Bridge for antenna measurements, simple
W2CTK p. 34, Sep 70
- Cubical quad measurements
W4YM p. 42, Jan 69
- Dipole center insulator (HN)
WA1ABP p. 69, May 69
- Diversity receiving system
W2EEY p. 12, Dec 71
- Dummy load and rf wattmeter, low-power
W2OLU p. 56, Apr 70
- Dummy loads, experimental
W8YFB p. 36, Sep 68
- Dummy load, low-power vhf
WB9DNI p. 40, Sep 73
- Effective radiated power (HN)
VE7CB p. 72, May 73
- Feedpoint impedance characteristics of practical antennas
W5JJ p. 50, Dec 73
- Filters, low-pass, for 10 and 15
W2EEY p. 42, Jan 72
- Gain vs antenna height, calculating
WB8IFM p. 54, Nov 73
- GDO, new uses for
K2ZSQ p. 48, Dec 68
- Grounding, safer (letter)
WA5KTC p. 59, May 72
- Ground rods (letter)
W7FS p. 66, May 71
- Ground systems, vertical antenna
W7LR p. 30, May 74
- Headings, beam antenna
W6FFC p. 64, Apr 71
- Hook, line 'n sinker (HN)
WA4NED p. 76, Sep 68
- Horizontal or vertical (HN)
W71V p. 62, Jun 72
- Impedance measurements, nonresonant antenna
W7CSD p. 46, Apr 74
- Insulators, homemade antenna (HN)
W7ZC p. 70, May 73
- Isotropic source and practical antennas
K6FD p. 32, May 70
- Measurement techniques for antennas and transmission lines
W4OQ p. 36, May 74
- Measuring antenna gain
K6JYO p. 26, Jul 69
- Mobile mount, rigid (HN)
VE7ABK p. 69, Jan 73
- Power in reflected waves
Woods p. 49, Oct 71
- Reflected power, some reflections on
VE3AAZ p. 44, May 70
- Reflectometers
K1YZW p. 65, Dec 69
- Rf current probe (HN)
W6HPH p. 76, Oct 68
- Rf power meter, low-level
W5WGF p. 58, Oct 72
- Sampling network, rf — the milli-trap
W6QJW p. 34, Jan 73
- Smith chart, how to use
W1DTY p. 16, Nov 70
Correction p. 76, Dec 71
- Standing-wave ratios, importance of
W2HB p. 26, Jul 73
Correction (letter) p. 67, May 74
- Time-domain reflectometry, practical experimenter's approach
WA2PIA p. 22, May 71
- T-R switch
K3KMO p. 61, Apr 69
- Voltage-probe antenna
W1DTY p. 20, Oct 70

high-frequency antennas

- All band antenna portable (HN)
W2INS p. 68, Jun 70
- All-band phased-vertical
WA7GXO p. 32, May 72
- Antenna, 3.5 MHz, for a small lot
W6AGX p. 28, May 73
- Antenna potpourri
W3FQJ p. 54, May 72
- Antenna systems for 80 and 40 meters
K6KA p. 55, Feb 70
- Army loop antenna — revisited
W3FQJ p. 59, Sep 71
Added notes p. 64, Jan 72
- Beam antenna, improved triangular shaped
W6DL p. 20, May 70
- Beam for ten meters, economical
W1FPF p. 54, Mar 70
- Beverage antenna
W3FQJ p. 67, Dec 71
- Big beam for 10 meters
VE1TG p. 32, Mar 68
- Bobtail curtain array, forty-meter
VE1TG p. 58, Jul 69
- Coaxial dipole, multiband (HN)
W4BDK p. 71, May 73
- Compact antennas for 20 meters
W4ROS p. 38, May 71

Converted-vee, 80 and 40 meter W6JKR	p. 18, Dec 69	Mobile antenna, helically wound ZE6JP	p. 40, Dec 72
Cubical quad antenna design parameters K6OPZ	p. 55, Aug 70	Mono-loop antenna (HN) W8BW	p. 70, Sep 69
Cubical-quad antennas, mechanical design of VE3II	p. 44, Oct 74	Multiband dipoles for portable use W6SAI	p. 12, May 70
Cubical-quad antennas, unusual W1DTY	p. 6, May 70	Phased array, electrically-controlled W5TRS	p. 52, May 75
Cubical quad, three-band W1HXU	p. 22, Jul 75	Phased vertical array, four-element W8HXR	p. 24, May 75
Curtain antenna (HN) W4ATE	p. 66, May 72	Quad antenna, multiband DJ4VM	p. 41, Aug 69
Dipole, all-band tuned ZS6BT	p. 22, Oct 72	Receiving antennas K6ZGQ	p. 56, May 70
Dipole antennas on non-harmonic frequencies (HN) W2CTK	p. 72, Mar 69	Satellite antenna, simple (HN) WA6PXY	p. 59, Feb 75
Dipole beam W3FQJ	p. 56, Jun 74	Shunt-feed systems for grounded vertical radiators, how to design W4OQ	p. 34, May 75
Dipole pairs, low SWR W6FPO	p. 42, Oct 72	Simple antennas for 40 and 80 W5RUB	p. 16, Dec 72
Dipole sloping inverted-vee W6NIF	p. 48, Feb 69	Simple 1-, 2- and 3-band antennas W9EGQ	p. 54, Jul 68
Double bi-square array W6FFF	p. 32, May 71	Sloping dipoles W5RUB	p. 19, Dec 72
Dual-band antennas, compact W6SAI	p. 18, Mar 70	Performance (letter) Small-loop antennas W4YOT	p. 76, May 73
DX antenna, single-element W6FHM	p. 52, Dec 72	Stub bandswitched antennas W2Eey	p. 36, May 72
Performance (letter) Folded mini-monopole antenna W6SAI	p. 65, Oct 73	Suitcase antenna, high-frequency VK5BI	p. 50, Jul 69
Four-band wire antenna W3FQJ	p. 32, May 68	Tailoring your antenna, how to KH6HDM	p. 61, May 73
Ground-plane, multiband (HN) JA1QIY	p. 53, Aug 75	Three-band ground plane W6HPH	p. 34, May 73
Groundplane, three-band LA1EI	p. 62, May 71	Triangle antennas W3FQJ	p. 32, Oct 68
Correction Footnote (letter)	p. 6, May 72 p. 91, Dec 72 p. 65, Oct 72	Triangle antennas W6KIW	p. 56, Aug 71
High-frequency amateur antennas W2WLR	p. 28, Apr 69	Triangle antennas (letter) K4ZZV	p. 58, May 72 p. 72, Nov 71
High-frequency diversity antennas W2WLR	p. 28, Oct 69	Triangle beams W3FQJ	p. 70, Dec 71
Horizontal antennas, optimum height for W7LR	p. 40, Jun 74	Unidirectional antenna for the low-frequency bands GW3NJY	p. 61, Jan 70
Horizontal antennas, vertical radiation patterns WA9RQY	p. 58, May 74	Vertical antenna radiation patterns W7LR	p. 50, Apr 74
Inverted-vee antenna (letter) WB6AQF	p. 66, May 71	Vertical antenna, low-band W4IYB	p. 70, Jul 72
Inverted-vee antenna, modified W2KTW	p. 40, Oct 71	Vertical antenna, three-band W9BQE	p. 44, May 74
Large vertical, 160 and 80 meters W7IV	p. 8, May 75	Vertical antennas, improving performance of K6FD	p. 54, Dec 74
Log-periodic antenna, 14, 21 and 28 MHz W4AEO	p. 18, Aug 73	Vertical antennas, performance characteristics W7LR	p. 34, Mar 74
Log-periodic antennas, 7-MHz W4AEO	p. 16, May 73	Vertical beam antenna, 80 meter VE1TG	p. 26, May 70
Log-periodic antennas, feed system for W4AEO	p. 30, Oct 74	Vertical dipole, gamma-loop-fed W6SAI	p. 19, May 72
Log-periodic antennas, graphical design method for W4AEO	p. 14, May 75	Vertical for 80 meters, top-loaded W2MB	p. 20, Sep 71
Log-periodic antennas, vertical monopole, 3.5 and 7.0 MHz W4AEO	p. 44, Sep 73	Vertical radiators W4OQ	p. 16, Apr 73
Log-periodic beams, improved (letter) W4AEO	p. 74, May 75	Vertical, top-loaded 80 meter VE1TG	p. 48, Jun 69
Log-periodic beam, 15 and 20 meters W4AEO	p. 6, May 74	Vertical-tower antenna system W4OQ	p. 56, May 73
Log-periodic feeds (letter) W4AEO	p. 66, May 74	Whips and loops as apartment antennas W2Eey	p. 80, Mar 68
Log-periodic, three-band W4AEO	p. 28, Sep 72	Windom antenna, four-band W4VUO	p. 62, Jan 74 p. 74, Sep 74
Long-wire multiband antenna W3FQJ	p. 28, Nov 69	Correction (letter) Zepp antenna, extended W6QVI	p. 48, Dec 73
Loop receiving antenna W2IMB	p. 66, May 75	160-meter loop, receiving K6HTM	p. 46, May 74
Correction Low-mounted antennas W3FQJ	p. 58, Dec 75 p. 66, May 73	160 meters with 40-meter vertical W2IMB	p. 34, Oct 72

vhf antennas

- Antennas for satellite communications, simple
K4GSX p. 24, May 74
- Circularly-polarized ground-plane antenna for satellite communications
K4GSX p. 28, Dec 74
- Collinear antenna for two meters, nine-element
W6RJO p. 12, May 72
- Collinear antenna (letter)
W6SAI p. 70, Oct 71
- Collinear array for two meters, 4-element
WB6KGF p. 6, May 71
- Collinear antenna, four element 440-MHz
WA6HTP p. 38, May 73
- Collinear, six meter
K4ERO p. 59, Nov 69
- Cornet reflector antenna, 432 MHz
WA2FSQ p. 24, Nov 71
- Cubical quad, economy six-meter
W6DOR p. 50, Apr 69
- Ground plane, 2-meter, 0.7 wavelength
W3WZA p. 40, Mar 69
- Ground plane, portable vhf (HN)
K9DHD p. 71, May 73
- J-pole antenna for 6-meters
K4SDY p. 48, Aug 68
- Log-periodic, yagi beam
K6RIL, W6SAI p. 8, Jul 69
Correction p. 68, Feb 70
- Microwave antenna, Low-cost
K6HIJ p. 52, Nov 69
- Mobile antenna, magnet-mount
W1HCI p. 54, Sep 75
- Mobile antenna, six-meter (HN)
W4PSJ p. 77, Oct 70
- Moonbounce antenna, practical 144-MHz
K6HCP p. 52, May 70
- Parabolic reflector antennas
VK3ATN p. 12, May 74
- Parabolic reflector element spacing
WA9HUV p. 28, May 75
- Parabolic reflector gain
W2TQK p. 50, Jul 75
- Parabolic reflectors, finding the focal length (HN)
WA4WDL p. 57, Mar 74
- Parabolic reflector, 16-foot homebrew
WB6IOM p. 8, Aug 69
- Quad-yagi arrays, 432- and 1296-MHz
W3AED p. 20, May 73
Short circuit p. 58, Dec 73
- Simple antennas, 144-MHz
WA3NFW p. 30, May 73
- Switch, antenna for 2 meters, solid-state
K2ZSQ p. 48, May 69
- Two-meter antenna, simple (HN)
W6BLZ p. 78, Aug 68
- Two-meter fm antenna (HN)
WB6KYE p. 64, May 71
- Two-meter mobile antennas
W6BLZ p. 76, May 68
- Vertical antennas, truth about $\frac{1}{2}$ -wavelength
K0DOK p. 48, May 74
Added note (letter) p. 54, Jan 75
- Vhf antenna switching without relays (HN)
K2ZSQ p. 76, Sep 68
- Whip, 5/8-wave, 144 MHz (HN)
VE3DDD p. 70, Apr 73
- Yagi, 1296-MHz
W2CQH p. 24, May 72
- 10-GHz dielectric antenna (HN)
WA4WDL p. 80, May 75
- 144-MHz vertical, $\frac{1}{2}$ -wavelength
K6KLO p. 40, Jul 74
- 144-MHz antenna, $\frac{1}{2}$ -wavelength built from CB mobile whip (HN)
WB4WSU p. 67, Jun 74
- 432-MHz OSCAR antenna (HN)
W1JAA p. 58, Jul 75
- 1296-MHz Yagi array
W3AED p. 40, May 75

matching and tuning

- Antenna coupler for three-band beams
ZS6BT p. 42, May 72
- Antenna coupler, six-meter
K1RAK p. 44, Jul 71
- Antenna impedance transformer for receivers (HN)
W6NIF p. 70, Jan 70
- Antenna matcher, one-man
W4SD p. 24, Jun 71
- Antenna tuner adjustment (HN)
WA4MTH p. 53, Dec 75
- Antenna tuner, automatic
WA0AQC p. 36, Nov 72
- Antenna tuner, medium-power toroidal
WB2ZSH p. 58, Jan 74
- Antenna tuner for optimum power transfer
W2WLR p. 28, May 70
- Antenna tuners
W3FQJ p. 58, Dec 72
- Antenna tuning units
W3FQJ p. 58, Jan 73
- Balun, adjustable for yagi antennas
W6SAI p. 14, May 71
- Balun, Simplified (HN)
WA0KKC p. 73, Oct 69
- Baluns, wideband bridge
W6SAI, WA6BAN p. 28, Dec 68
- Broadband Antenna Baluns
W6SAI p. 6, Jun 68
- Couplers, random-length antenna
W2EEY p. 32, Jan 70
- Gamma-match capacitor, remotely controlled
K2BT p. 74, May 75
- Gamma-matching networks, how to design
W7ITB p. 46, May 73
- Impedance bridge, low-cost RX
W8YFB p. 6, May 73
- Impedance-matching baluns, open-wire
W6MUR p. 46, Nov 73
- Impedance-matching systems, designing
W7CSD p. 58, Jul 73
- Loads, affect of mismatched transmitter
W5JJ p. 60, Sep 69
- Matching, antenna, two-band with stubs
W6MUR p. 18, Oct 73
- Matching system, two-capacitor
W6MUR p. 58, Sep 73
- Measuring complex impedance with swr bridge
WB4KSS p. 46, May 75
- Mobile transmitter, loading
W4YB p. 46, May 72
- Noise bridge, antenna
WB2EGZ p. 18, Dec 70
- Noise bridge, antenna (HN)
K8EEG p. 71, May 74
- Noise bridge for impedance measurements
YA1GJM p. 62, Jan 73
Added notes p. 66, May 74; p. 60, Mar 75
- Phase meter, rf
VE2AYU, Korth p. 28, Apr 73
- Quadrifilar toroid (HN)
W9LL p. 52, Dec 75
- Stub-switched, stub-matched antennas
W2EEY p. 34, Jan 69
- Swr alarm circuits
W2EEY p. 73, Apr 70
- Swr bridge
WB2ZSH p. 55, Oct 71
- Swr bridge and power meter, integrated
W6DOB p. 40, May 70
- Swr bridge readings (HN)
W6FPO p. 63, Aug 73
- Swr meter
W6VSV p. 6, Oct 70
- Transmatch, five-to-one
W7IV p. 54, May 74
- Transmission lines, grid dipping (HN)
W2QLU p. 72, Feb 71
- Transmission lines, uhf
WA2VTR p. 36, May 71

towers and rotators

Antenna and rotator preventive maintenance
WA1ABP p. 66, Jan 69

Antenna mast, build your own tilt-over
W6KRT p. 42, Feb 70
Correction p. 76, Sep 70

Az-el antenna mount for satellite communications
W2LX p. 34, Mar 75

Cornell-Dubilier rotators (HN)
K6KA p. 82, May 75

Keeping your beam, tips for
W6BLZ p. 50, Aug 68

Pipe antenna masts, design data for
W3MR p. 52, Sep 74
Added design notes (letter) p. 75, May 75

Rotator, AR-22, fixing a sticky
WA1ABP p. 34, Jun 71

Rotator, T-45, Improvement (HN)
WAØVAM p. 64, Sep 71

Stress analysis of antenna systems
W2FZJ p. 23, Oct 71

Telescoping tv masts (HN)
WAØKKC p. 57, Feb 73

Tiltover tower base, low-cost
WA1ABP p. 86, Apr 68

Tilt-over tower uses extension ladder
W5TRS p. 71, May 75

Tower, homemade tilt-over
WA3EWH p. 28, May 71

Tower, wind-protected crank-up (HN)
p. 74, Oct 69

Wind loading on towers and antenna structures, how to calculate
K4KJ p. 16, Aug 74
Added note p. 56, Jul 75

transmission lines

Coax cable dehumidifier
K4RJ p. 26, Sep 73

Coax connectors, repairing broken (HN)
WØHKF p. 66, Jun 70

Coaxial cable, checking (letter)
W2OLU p. 68, May 71

Coaxial cable connectors (HN)
WA1ABP p. 71, Mar 69

Coaxial-cable fittings, type-F
K2MDO p. 44, May 71

Coaxial cable supports (HN)
W2GA p. 56, Jun 68

Coaxial cable, what you know about
W9ISB p. 30, Sep 68

Coaxial feedthrough panel (HN)
W3URE p. 70, Apr 69

Coaxial-line loss, measuring with reflectometer
W2VCI p. 50, May 72

Coax, Low-cost (HN)
K6BIJ p. 74, Oct 69

Coaxial transmission lines, underground
WØFCH p. 38, May 70

Impedance transformer, non-synchronous (HN)
W5TRS p. 66, Sep 75

Open-wire feedthrough insulator (HN)
W4RNL p. 79, May 75

Single feedline for multiple antennas
K2ISP p. 58, May 71

Solenoid rotary switches
W2EYY p. 36, Apr 68

Tuner, receiver (HN)
WA7KRE p. 72, Mar 69

Tuner, wall-to-wall antenna (HN)
W2OUX p. 56, Dec 70

Uhf microstrip swr bridge
W4GGC p. 22, Dec 72

Audio agc principles and practice
WA5SNZ p. 28, Jun 71

Audio amplifier and squelch circuit
W6AJF p. 36, Aug 68

Audio CW filter
W7DI p. 54, Nov 71

Audio filter, tunable, for weak-signal communications
K6HCP p. 28, Nov 75

Audio filters, aligning (HN)
W4ATE p. 72, Aug 72

Audio filters, inexpensive
W8YFB p. 24, Aug 72

Audio filter mod (HN)
K6HILL p. 60, Jan 72

Audio module, a complete
K4DHC p. 18, Jun 73

Audio-oscillator module, Cordover
WB2GGY p. 44, Mar 71
Correction p. 80, Dec 71

Audio transducer (HN)
WA10PN p. 59, Jul 75

Binaural CW reception, synthesizer for
W6NRW p. 46, Nov 75

Compressor, dual channel
W2EYY p. 40, Jul 68

Distortion and splatter
K5LLI p. 44, Dec 70

Filter for CW, tunable audio
WA1JSM p. 34, Aug 70

Filter-frequency translator for cw reception, integrated audio
W2EYY p. 24, Jun 70

Filter, lowpass audio, simple
OD5CG p. 54, Jan 74

Filter, simple audio
W4NVK p. 44, Oct 70

Filter, tunable peak-notch audio
W2EYY p. 22, Mar 70

Filter, variable bandpass audio
W3AEX p. 36, Apr 70

Hang agc circuit for ssb and CW
W1ERJ p. 50, Sep 72

Headphone cords (HN)
W2OLU p. 62, Nov 75

Headphones, lightweight
K6KA p. 34, Sep 68

Impedance match, microphone (HN)
W5JJ p. 67, Sep 73

Intercom, simple (HN)
W4AYV p. 66, Jul 72

Microphone preamplifier with agc
Bryant p. 28, Nov 71

Microphone, using Shure 401A with the Drake TR-4 (HN)
G3XOM p. 68, Sep 73

Microphones, muting (HN)
W6IL p. 63, Nov 75

Notch filter, tunable RC
WA5SNZ p. 16, Sep 75

Oscillator, audio, IC
W6GXN p. 50, Feb 73

Oscillator-monitor, solid-state audio
WA1JSM p. 48, Sep 70

Phone patch
W8GRG p. 20, Jul 71

Pre-emphasis for ssb transmitters
OH2CD p. 38, Feb 72

Rf clipper for the Collins S-line
K6JYO p. 18, Aug 71

Rf speech processor, ssb
W2MB p. 18, Sep 73

Speaker-driver module, IC
WA2GCF p. 24, Sep 72

Speech amplifiers, curing distortion
Allen p. 42, Aug 70

Speech clipper, IC
K6HTM p. 18, Feb 73
Added notes (letter) p. 64, Oct 73

Speech clippers, rf
 G6XN p. 26, Nov; p. 12, Dec 72
 Added notes p. 58, Aug 73; p. 72, Sep 74

Speech clipping in single-sideband equipment
 K1YZW p. 22, Feb 71

Speech clipping (letter)
 W3EJD p. 72, Jul 72

Speech processing
 W1DTY p. 60, Jun 68

Speech processing, principles of
 ZL1BN p. 28, Feb 75
 Added notes p. 75, May 75; p. 64, Nov 75

Speech processor for ssb, simple
 K6PHT p. 22, Apr 70

Speech processor, IC
 VK9GN p. 31, Dec 71

Speech processor, logarithmic
 WA3FIY p. 38, Jan 70

Squelch, audio-actuated
 K4MOG p. 52, Apr 72

Tape head cleaners (letter)
 K4MSG p. 62, May 72

Tape head cleaning (letter)
 Buchanan p. 67, Oct 72

Comdel speech processor, increasing the versatility of (HN)
 W6SAI p. 67, Mar 71

Cornell-Dubilier rotators (HN)
 K6KA p. 82, May 75

Drake R-4 receiver frequency synthesizer for
 W6NBI p. 6, Aug 72
 Modification (letter) p. 74, Sep 74

Drake R-4C, electronic bandpass tuning in
 Horner p. 58, Oct 73

Drake TR-4, using the Shure 401A microphone with (HN)
 G3XOM p. 68, Sep 73

Drake W-4 directional wattmeter
 W1DTY p. 86, Mar 68

Elmac chirp and drift (HN)
 W5OZF p. 68, Jun 70

EX crystal and oscillator
 WB2EGZ p. 60, Apr 68

Galaxy feedback (HN)
 WA5TFK p. 71, Jan 70

Hallicrafters HT-37, increased sideband suppression
 W3CM p. 48, Nov 69

Hammarlund HQ215, adding 160-meter coverage
 W2GHK p. 32, Jan 72

Heath CA1, ten-minute timer from (HN)
 K8HZ p. 74, Jul 68

Heath HG-10B vfo, independent keying of (HN)
 K4BRR p. 67, Sep 70

Heath HM-2102 wattmeter, better balancing (HN)
 VE6RF p. 56, Jan 75

Heath HM-2102 wattmeter mods (letter)
 K3VNR p. 64, Sep 75

Heath HO-10 as RTTY monitor scope (HN)
 K9HVW p. 70, Sep 74

Heath HW-7 mods, keying and receiver blanking (HN)
 WA5KPG p. 60, Dec 74

Heath HW-12 on MARS (HN)
 K8AUH p. 63, Sep 71

Heath HW-16 keying (HN)
 W7DI p. 57, Dec 73

Heath HW16, vfo operations for
 WB6MZN p. 54, Mar 73
 Short circuit p. 58, Dec 73

Heath HW-17A, perking up (HN)
 p. 70, Aug 70

Heath HW-17 modifications (HN)
 WA5PWX p. 66, Mar 71

Heath HW-100, HW-101, grid-current monitor for
 K4MFR p. 46, Feb 73

Heath HW-100 incremental tuning (HN)
 K1GUU p. 67, Jun 69

Heath HW-100, the new
 W1NLB p. 64, Sep 68

Heath HW-100 tuning knob, loose (HN)
 VE3EPY p. 68, Jun 71

Heath HW-101, using with a separate receiver (HN)
 WA1MKP p. 63, Oct 73

Heath HW-202, adding private-line
 WABAWJ p. 53, Jun 74

Heath IM-11 vtvm, convert to IC voltmeter
 K6VCI p. 42, Dec 74

Heath SB-100, using an outboard receiver with (HN)
 K4GMR p. 68, Feb 70

Heath SB102 modifications (HN)
 W2CNQ p. 58, Jun 75

Heath SB-102, rf speech processor for
 W6IVI p. 38, Jun 75

Heath SB-200 amplifier, modifying for the 8873 zero-bias triode
 W6UOV p. 32, Jan 71

Heath SB-200 amplifier, six-meter conversion
 K1RAK p. 38, Nov 71

commercial equipment

Alliance rotator improvement (HN)
 K6JVE p. 68, May 72

Alliance T-45 rotator Improvement (HN)
 WAØVAM p. 64, Sep 71

CDR AR-22 rotator, fixing a sticky
 WA1ABP p. 34, Jun 71

Clegg 27B, S-meter for (HN)
 WA2YUD p. 61, Nov 74

Collins receivers, 300-Hz crystal filter for
 W1DTY p. 58, Sep 75

Collins S-line power supply mod (HN)
 W6IL p. 61, Jul 74

Collins S-line, reducing warm-up drift
 W6VFR p. 46, Jun 75

Collins S-line, rf clipper for
 K6JYO p. 18, Aug 71
 Correction p. 80, Dec 71

Collins S-line spinner knob (HN)
 W6VFR p. 69, Apr 72

Collins S-line transceiver mod (HN)
 W6VFR p. 71, Nov 72

Collins 32S-3 audio (HN)
 K6KA p. 64, Oct 71

Collins 32S-1 CW modification (HN)
 W1DTY p. 82, Dec 69
 Correction p. 76, Sep 70

Collins 51J PTO restoration
 W6SAI p. 36, Dec 69

Collins 70K-2 PTO, correcting mechanical backlash (HN)
 K9WEH p. 58, Feb 75

Collins 75A4 avc mod (letter)
 W9KNI p. 63, Sep 75

Collins 75A4 hints (HN)
 W6VFR p. 68, Apr 72

Collins 75A4, increased selectivity for (HN)
 W1DTY p. 62, Nov 75

Collins 75A-4 modifications (HN)
 W4SD p. 67, Jan 71

Collins 75A4 PTO, making it perform like new
 W3AFM p. 24, Dec 74

Collins 75A-4 receiver, improving overload response in
 W6ZO p. 42, Apr 70
 Short circuit p. 76, Sep 70

Collins 75S frequency synthesizer
 W6NBI p. 8, Dec 75

Collins R390A, improving the product detector
 W7DI p. 12, Jul 74

Collins R390A modifications
 WA2SUT p. 58, Nov 75

Heath SB-300, RTTY with
W2ARZ p. 76, Jul 68

Heath SB-303, 10-MHz coverage for (HN)
W1JE p. 61, Feb 74

Heath SB-400 and SB-401, improving alc
response in (HN)
WA9FDQ p. 71, Jan 70

Heath SB-610 as RTTY monitor scope (HN)
K9HVV p. 70, Sep 74

Heath SB-650 using with other receivers
K2BYM p. 40, Jun 73

Heath SB receivers, RTTY reception with (HN)
K9HVV p. 64, Oct 71

Heath SB-series crystal control and
narrow shift RTTY with (HN)
WA4VYL p. 54, Jun 73

Heath ten-minute timer
K6KA p. 75, Dec 71

Heathkit Sixer, spot switch (HN)
WA6FNR p. 84, Dec 69

Heathkit, noise limiter for (HN)
W7CKH p. 67, Mar 71

Heathkit HW202, fm channel scanner for
W7BZ p. 41, Feb 75

James Research oscillator/monitor
W1DTY p. 91, Mar 68

James Research permaflex key
W1DTY p. 73, Dec 68

Kenwood TS-520 CW filter modification (HN)
W7ZZ p. 21, Nov 75

Knight-kit inverter/charger review
W1DTY p. 64, Apr 69

Knight-kit two-meter transceiver
W1DTY p. 62, Jun 70

Mini-mitter II
W6SLQ p. 72, Dec 71

Motorola channel elements
WB4NEX p. 32, Dec 72

Motorola Dispatcher, converting to
12 volts
WB6HXU p. 26, Jul 72

Short circuit
p. 64, Mar 74

Motorola fm receiver mods (HN)
VE4RE p. 60, Aug 71

Motorola P-33 series, improving
WB2AEB p. 34, Feb 71

Motorola receivers, op-amp relay for
W6GDO p. 16, Jul 73

Motorola voice commander, improving
WØDKU p. 70, Oct 70

Motrac Receivers (letter)
K5ZBA p. 69, Jul 71

Quement circular slide rule
W2DXH p. 62, Apr 68

Regency HR-2, narrowbanding
WA8TMP p. 44, Dec 73

Regency HR-212, channel scanner for
WAØSJK p. 28, Mar 75

SBE linear impfier tips (HN)
WA6DCW p. 71, Mar 69

SB301/401, Improved sidetone operation
W1WLZ p. 73, Oct 69

Signal One review
W1NLB p. 56, May 69

Spurious causes (HN)
K6KA p. 66, Jan 74

Standard 826M, more power from (HN)
WB6KVF p. 68, Apr 75

Swan television interference: an
effective remedy
W2OUX p. 46, Apr 71

Swan 120, converting to two meters
K6RIL p. 8, May 68

Swan 350 CW monitor (HN)
K1KXA p. 63, Jun 72

Correction (letter)
p. 77, May 73

Swan 350, receiver incremental tuning (HN)
K1KXA p. 64, Jul 71

Swan 350 and 400, RTTY operation (HN)
WB2MIC p. 67, Aug 69

Swan 250, update your (HN)
K8ZHZ p. 84, Dec 69

Telefax transceiver conversion
KØQMR p. 16, Apr 74

Ten-Tec Argonaut, accessory package for
W7BBX p. 26, Apr 74

Ten-Tec RX10 communicators receiver
W1NLB p. 63, Jun 71

T150A frequency stability (HN)
WB2MCP p. 70, Apr 69

Yaesu sideband switching (HN)
W2MUU p. 56, Dec 73

Yaesu spurious signals (HN)
K6KA p. 69, Dec 71

Units affected (letter)
p. 67, Oct 73

Yaesu FT101 clarifier (letter)
K1NUN p. 55, Nov 75

construction techniques

AC line cords (letter)
W6EG p. 80, Dec 71

A dab of paint, a drop of wax (HN)
VE3BUE p. 78, Aug 68

Aluminum's new face
W4BRS p. 60, May 68

Aluminum tubing, clamping (HN)
WA9HUV p. 78, May 75

Antenna insulators, homemade (HN)
W7ZC p. 70, May 73

APC trimmer, adding shaft to (HN)
W1ETT p. 68, Jul 69

Blower-to-chassis adapter (HN)
K6JYO p. 73, Feb 71

BNC connectors, mounting (HN)
W9KXJ p. 70, Jan 70

Capacitors, oil-filled (HN)
W2OLU p. 66, Dec 72

Center insulator, dipole
WA1ABP p. 69, May 69

Circuit boards with terminal inserts (HN)
W3KBM p. 61, Nov 75

Coaxial cable connectors (HN)
WA1ABP p. 71, Mar 69

Coax connectors, repairing broken (HN)
WØHKF p. 66, Jun 70

Coax relay coils, another use (HN)
KØVQY p. 72, Aug 69

Cold galvanizing compound (HN)
W5UNF p. 70, Sep 72

Color coding parts (HN)
WA7BPO p. 58, Feb 72

Component marking (HN)
W1JE p. 66, Nov 71

Deburring holes (HN)
W2DXH p. 75, Jul 68

Drill guide (HN)
W5BVF p. 68, Oct 71

Drilling aluminum (HN)
W6IL p. 67, Sep 75

Enclosures, homebrew custom
W4YUU p. 50, Jul 74

Exploding diodes (HN)
VE3FEZ p. 57, Dec 73

Ferrite beads
W5JJ p. 48, Oct 70

Files, cleaning (HN)
Walton p. 66, Jun 74

Ferrite beads, how to use
K1ORV p. 34, Mar 73

Filter chokes, unmarked
WØKMF p. 60, Nov 68

Grommet shock mount (HN)
VE3BUE p. 77, Oct 68

Grounding (HN)
W9KXJ p. 67, Jun 69

Heat sinks, homemade (HN)
WAØWOZ p. 69, Sep 70

Homebrew art
WØPEM p. 56, Jun 69

Hot etching (HN) K8EKG	p. 66, Jan 73
Hot wire stripper (HN) W8DWT	p. 67, Nov 71
IC lead former (HN) W5ICV	p. 67, Jan 74
Inductance, toroidal coil (HN) W3WLX	p. 26, Sep 75
Industrial cartridge fuses, using (HN) VE3BUE	p. 76, Sep 68
Magnetic fields and the 7360 (HN) W7DI	p. 66, Sep 73
Metric conversions for screw and wire sizes W1DTY	p. 67, Sep 75
Miniature sockets (HN) Lawyer	p. 84, Dec 69
Minibox, cutting down to size (HN) W2OUX	p. 57, Mar 74
Mobile installation, putting together WØFCH	p. 36, Aug 69
Mobile mount bracket (HN) W4NJF	p. 70, Feb 70
Modular converter, 144-MHz W6UOV	p. 64, Oct 70
Neutralizing tip (HN) ZE6JP	p. 69, Dec 72
Noisy fans (HN) W8IUF	p. 70, Nov 72
Correction (letter) Nuovistor heat sinks (HN) WAØKKC	p. 67, Oct 73 p. 57, Dec 73
Parasitic suppressor (HN) WA9JMY	p. 80, Apr 70
Printed-circuit boards, cleaning (HN) W5BVF	p. 66, Mar 71
Printed-circuit boards, how to make K4EEU	p. 58, Apr 73
Printed-circuit boards, low-cost W6CMQ	p. 44, Aug 71
Printed-circuit boards, low-cost W8YFB	p. 16, Jan 75
Printed-circuit boards, practical photofabrication of Hutchinson	p. 6, Sep 71
Printed-circuit labels (HN) WA4WDK	p. 76, Oct 70
Printed-circuit standards (HN) W6JVE	p. 58, Apr 74
Printed-circuit tool (HN) W2GZ	p. 74, May 73
Printed circuits without printing W4ZG	p. 62, Nov 70
Professional look, for that VE3GFN	p. 74, Mar 68
Punching aluminum panels (HN) W7DIM	p. 57, Jun 68
Rack and panel construction W7OE	p. 48, Jun 68
Rack construction, a new approach K1EUJ	p. 36, Mar 70
Rectifier terminal strip (HN) W5PKK	p. 80, Apr 70
Restoring panel lettering (HN) W8CL	p. 69, Jan 73
Screwdriver, adjustment (HN) WAØKGS	p. 66, Jan 71
Silver plating for the amateur W4KAE	p. 62, Dec 68
Small parts tray (HN) W2GA	p. 58, Jun 68
Solder dispenser, simple (HN) W2KID	p. 76, Sep 68
Soldering aluminum (HN) ZE6JP	p. 67, May 72
Soldering fluxes (HN) K3HNP	p. 57, Jun 68
Soldering tip (HN) Lawyer	p. 68, Feb 70
Thumbwheel switch modification (HN) VE3DGX	p. 56, Mar 74

Tilt your rig (HN) WA4NED	p. 58, Jun 68
Toroids, plug-in (HN) K8EEG	p. 60, Jan 72
Transformers, repairing W6NIF	p. 66, Mar 69
Trimmers (HN) W5LHG	p. 76, Nov 69
Uhf coax connectors (HN) WØLCP	p. 70, Sep 72
Uhf hardware (HN) W6CMQ	p. 76, Oct 70
Underwriter's knot (HN) W1DTY	p. 69, May 69
Vectorbord tool (HN) W1KWJ	p. 70, Apr 72
Volume controls, noisy, temporary fix (HN) W9JUV	p. 62, Aug 74
Watercooling the 2C39 K6MYC	p. 30, Jun 69
Wiring and grounding W1E2T	p. 44, Jun 69
Workbench, electronic W1E2T	p. 50, Oct 70

features and fiction

Alarm, burglar-proof (HN) Eisenbrandt	p. 56, Dec 75
Binding 1970 issues of ham radio (HN) W1DHZ	p. 72, Feb 71
Brass pounding on wheels K6QD	p. 58, Mar 75
<i>Dynistor</i> , the W6GXN	p. 49, Apr 68
Catalina wireless, 1902 W6BLZ	p. 32, Apr 70
Early wireless stations W6BLZ	p. 64, Oct 68
Electronic bugging K2ZSQ	p. 70, Jan 68
Fire protection in the ham shack Darr	p. 54, Jan 71
First wireless in Alaska W6BLZ	p. 48, Apr 73
Ham Radio sweepstakes winners, 1972 W1NLB	p. 58, Jul 72
Ham Radio sweepstakes winners, 1973 W1NLB	p. 68, Jul 73
Ham Radio sweepstakes winners, 1975 W1NLB	p. 54, Jul 75
How to be DX W4NXD	p. 58, Aug 68
Nostalgia with a vengeance W6HDM	p. 28, Apr 72
QSL return, statistics on WB6IUH	p. 50, Dec 68
Photographic illustrations WA4GNW	p. 72, Dec 69
Reminiscences of old-time radio K4NW	p. 40, Apr 71
<i>Secret society</i> , the W4NXD	p. 82, May 68
Use your old magazines Foster	p. 52, Jan 70
What is it? WA1ABP	p. 84, May 68
Wireless Point Loma W6BLZ	p. 54, Apr 69

fm and repeaters

Amateur vhf fm operation W6AYZ	p. 36, Jun 68
Antenna and control-link calculations for repeater licensing W7PUG	p. 58, Nov 73
Short circuit W6AYZ	p. 59, Dec 73
Antennas, simple, for two-meter fm WA3NFW	p. 30, May 73

Antenna, two-meter fm (HN) WB6KYE	p. 64, May 71	I-f system, multimode WA2IKL	p. 39, Sep 71
Antenna, $\frac{5}{8}$ -wavelength, two-meter K6KLO	p. 40, Jul 74	Indicator, sensitive rf WB9DNI	p. 38, Apr 73
Antenna, $\frac{5}{8}$ wavelength two-meter, build from CB mobile whips (HN) WB4WSU	p. 67, Jun 74	Interface problems, fm equipment (HN) W9DPY	p. 58, Jun 75
Audio-amplifier and squelch unit W6AJF	p. 36, Aug 68	Interference, scanning receiver (HN) K2YAH	p. 70, Sep 72
Automatically controlled access to open repeaters W8GRG	p. 22, Mar 74	Logic oscillator for multi-channel crystal control W1SNN	p. 46, Jun 73
Autopatch system for vhf fm repeaters W8GRG	p. 32, Jul 74	Mobile antenna, magnet-mount W1HCI	p. 54, Sep 75
Base station, two-meter fm W9JTQ	p. 22, Aug 73	Mobile operation with the Touch-Tone pad WØLPQ	p. 58, Aug 72
Carrier-operated relay KØPHF, WAØUZO	p. 58, Nov 72	Correction Modification (letter)	p. 90, Dec 72 p. 72, Apr 73
Carrier-operated relay and call monitor VE4RE	p. 22, Jun 71	Modulation standards for vhf fm W6TEE	p. 16, Jun 70
Cavity filter, 144-MHz W1SNN	p. 22, Dec 73	Monitor receivers, two-meter fm WB5EMI	p. 34, Apr 74
Channel scanner W2FPP	p. 29, Aug 71	Motorola channel elements WB4NEX	p. 32, Dec 72
Channels, three from two (HN) VE7ABK	p. 68, Jun 71	Motorola fm receiver mods (HN) VE4RE	p. 60, Aug 71
Charger, fet-controlled for nicad batteries WAØJYK	p. 46, Aug 75	Motorola P-33 series, improving the WB2AEB	p. 34, Feb 71
Collinear antenna for two meters, nine- element W6RJO	p. 12, May 72	Motorola voice commander, improving WØDKU	p. 70, Oct 70
Collinear array for two meters, 4-element WB6KGF	p. 6, May 71	Motrac Receivers (letter) K5ZBA	p. 69, Jul 71
Continuous tuning for fm converters (HN) W1DHZ	p. 54, Dec 70	Narrow-band fm system, using ICs in W6AJF	p. 30, Oct 68
Control head, customizing VE7ABK	p. 28, Apr 71	Phase-locked loop, tunable, 28 and 50 MHz W1KNI	p. 40, Jan 73
Deviation measurement (letter) K5ZBA	p. 68, May 71	Phase modulation principles and techniques VE2BEN	p. 28, Jul 75
Deviation measurements W3FQJ	p. 52, Feb 72	Correction Power amplifier, rf 220-MHz fm K7JUE	p. 59, Dec 75 p. 6, Sep 73
Deviation meter (HN) VE7ABK	p. 58, Dec 70	Power amplifier, rf, 144 MHz Hatchett	p. 6, Dec 73
Digital touch-tone encoder for vhf fm W7FBB	p. 28, Apr 75	Power amplifier, rf, 144-MHz fm W4CGC	p. 6, Apr 73
Discriminator, quartz crystal WAØJYK	p. 67, Oct 75	Power amplifier, two-meter fm, 10-watt W1DTY	p. 67, Jan 74
Distortion in fm systems W5JJ	p. 26, Aug 60	Power supply, regulated ac for mobile fm equipment WABTMP	p. 28, Jun 73
Encoder, combined digital and burst K8AUH	p. 48, Aug 69	Preamplifier, two-meter WA2GCF	p. 25, Mar 72
Filter, 455-kHz for fm WAØJYK	p. 22, Mar 72	Preamplifier, two meter W8BBB	p. 36, Jun 74
Fm demodulator, TTL W3FQJ	p. 66, Nov 72	Private-line, adding to Heath HW-202 WABAWJ	p. 53, Jun 74
Fm receiver frequency control (letter) W3AFN	p. 65, Apr 71	Push-to-talk for Styleline telephones W1DRP	p. 18, Dec 71
Fm techniques and practices for vhf amateurs W6SAI	p. 8, Sep 69	Receiver alignment techniques, vhf fm K4IPV	p. 14, Aug 75
Short circuit p. 79, Jun 70		Receiver for six and two meters, multichannel fm W1SNN	p. 54, Feb 74
Fm transmitter, solid-state two-meter W6AJF	p. 14, Jul 71	Receiver for two meter, fm W9SEK	p. 22, Sep 70
Fm transmitter, Sonobaby, 2 meter WAØUZO	p. 8, Oct 71	Short circuit p. 72, Apr 71	
Short Circuit Crystal deck for Sonobaby	p. 96, Dec 71 p. 26, Oct 72	Receiver isolation, fm repeater (HN) W1DTY	p. 54, Dec 70
Frequency meter, two-meter fm W4JAZ	p. 40, Jan 71	Receiver, modular fm communications K8AUH	p. 32, Jun 69
Short circuit p. 72, Apr 71		Correction p. 71, Jan 70	
Frequency synthesizer, inexpensive all-channel, for two-meter fm WØOA	p. 50, Aug 73	Receiver, modular, for two-meter fm WA2GBF	p. 42, Feb 72
Correction (letter) p. 65, Jun 74		Added notes p. 73, Jul 72	
Frequency-synthesizer, one-crystal for two-meter fm WØMV	p. 30, Sep 73	Receiver performance, comparison of VE7ABK	p. 68, Aug 72
Frequency synthesizer, for two-meter fm WB4FPK	p. 34, Jul 73	Receiver, tunable vhf fm K8AUH	p. 34, Nov 71
Identifier, programmable repeater W6AYZ	p. 18, Apr 69	Receiver, vhf fm WA2GCF	p. 6, Nov 72
Short circuit p. 76, Jul 69		Receiver, vhf fm WA2GCF	p. 8, Nov 75

Receiver, vhf fm (letter) K8IHQ	p. 76, May 73
Relay, operational-amplifier, for Motorola receivers W6GDO	p. 16, Jul 73
Repeater control with simple timers W2FPP	p. 46, Sep 72
Correction	p. 91, Dec 72
Repeater decoder, multi-function WA6TBC	p. 24, Jan 73
Repeater installation W2FPP	p. 24, Jun 73
Repeater problems VE7ABK	p. 38, Mar 71
Repeater, receiving system degradation K5ZBA	p. 36, May 69
Repeater transmitter, improving W6GDO	p. 24, Oct 69
Repeaters, single-frequency fm W2FPP	p. 40, Nov 73
Reset timer, automatic W5ZHV	p. 54, Oct 74
Satellite receivers for repeaters WA4YAK	p. 64, Oct 75
Scanner, vhf receiver K2LZG	p. 22, Feb 73
Scanning receiver, improved for vhf fm WA2GCF	p. 26, Nov 74
Scanning receiver modifications, vhf fm WA5WOU	p. 60, Feb 74
Scanning receivers for two-meter fm K4IPV	p. 28, Aug 74
Sequential encoder, mobile fm W3JJU	p. 34, Sep 71
Sequential switching for Touch-Tone repeater control W8GRG	p. 22, Jun 71
Single-frequency conversion, vhf/uhf W3FQJ	p. 62, Apr 75
S-meter for Clegg 27B (HN) WA2YUD	p. 61, Nov 74
Squelch-audio amplifier for fm receivers WB4WSU	p. 68, Sep 74
Squelch circuits for transistor radios WB4WSU	p. 36, Dec 75
Telephone controller, automatic for your repeater KØPHF, WAØUZO	p. 44, Nov 74
Test set for Motorola radios KØBKD	p. 12, Nov 73
Short circuit Added note (letter)	p. 58, Dec 73 p. 64, Jun 74
Timer, simple (HN) W3CIX	p. 58, Mar 73
Tone-burst generator (HN) K4COF	p. 58, Mar 73
Tone-burst keyer for fm repeaters W8GRG	p. 36, Jan 72
Tone encoder and secondary frequency oscillator (HN) K8AUH	p. 66, Jun 69
Tone encoder, universal for vhf fm W6FUB	p. 17, Jul 75
Correction	p. 58, Dec 75
Touch-tone circuit, mobile K7QWR	p. 50, Mar 73
Touch-tone decoder, multi-function KØPHF, WAØUZO	p. 14, Oct 73
Touch-tone decoder, three-digit W6AYZ	p. 37, Dec 74
Circuit board for	p. 62, Sep 75
Touch-tone, hand-held K7YAM	p. 44, Sep 75
Touch-tone handset, converting slim-line K2YAH	p. 23, Jun 75
Transceiver for two-meter fm, compact W6AOI	p. 36, Jan 74
Transmitter for two meters, phase-modulated W6AJF	p. 18, Feb 70

Transmitter, two-meter fm W9SEK	p. 6, Apr 72
Tunable receiver modification for vhf fm WB6VKY	p. 40, Oct 74
Vertical antennas, truth about $\frac{5}{8}$ -wavelength KØDOK	p. 48, May 74
Added note (letter)	p. 54, Jan 75
Weather monitor receiver, retune to two-meter fm (HN) W3WTO	p. 56, Jan 75
Whip, 5/8-wave, 144 MHz (HN) WE3DDD	p. 70, Apr 73
220 MHz frequency synthesizer W6GXN	p. 8, Dec 74
450-MHz preamplifier and converter WA2GCF	p. 40, Jul 75

integrated circuits

Amateur uses of the MC1530 IC W2EEY	p. 42, May 68
Amplifiers, broadband IC W6GXN	p. 36, Jun 73
Applications, potpourri of IC W1DTY, Thorpe	p. 8, May 69
Balanced modulator, an integrated-circuit K7QWR	p. 6, Sep 70
Cmos logic circuits W3FQJ	p. 50, Jun 75
Counter gating sources K6KA	p. 48, Nov 70
Counter reset generator (HN) W3KBM	p. 68, Jan 73
C ₃ L logic circuit W1DTY	p. 4, Mar 75
Digital counters (letter) W1GGN	p. 76, May 73
Digital ICs, part I W3FQJ	p. 41, Mar 72
Digital ICs, part II W3FQJ	p. 58, Apr 72
Correction	p. 66, Nov 72
Digital mixers WB8IFM	p. 42, Dec 73
Digital multivibrators W3FQJ	p. 42, Jun 72
Digital oscillators and dividers W3FQJ	p. 62, Aug 72
Digital readout station accessory, part I K6KA	p. 6, Feb 72
Digital station accessory, part II K6KA	p. 50, Mar 72
Digital station accessory, part III K6KA	p. 36, Apr 72
Electronic counter dials, 4C K6KA	p. 44, Sep 70
Electronic keyer, cosmos IC WB2DFA	p. 6, Jun 74
Short circuit	p. 62, Dec 74
Emitter-coupled logic W3FQJ	p. 62, Sep 72
Flip-flops W3FQJ	p. 60, Jul 72
Flop-flip, using (HN) W3KBM	p. 60, Feb 72
Function generator, IC W1DTY	p. 40, Aug 71
Function generator, IC K4DHC	p. 22, Jun 74
IC power (HN) W3KBM	p. 68, Apr 72
IC-regulated power supply for ICs W6GXN	p. 28, Mar 68
Integrated circuits, part I W3FQJ	p. 40, Jun 71
Integrated circuits, part II W3FQJ	p. 58, Jul 71
Integrated circuits, part III W3FQJ	p. 50, Aug 71

Transmitter switching, solid-state W2EY	p. 44, Jun 68	Counter readouts, switching (HN) K6KA	p. 66, Jun 71
Typewriter-type electronic keys, further automation for W6PRO	p. 26, Mar 70	Counter reset generator (HN) W3KBM	p. 68, Jan 73
Vox and mux systems for sss Belt	p. 24, Oct 68	Counters: a solution to the readout problem WAZGOZ	p. 66, Jan 70
Vox, IC W2EY	p. 50, Mar 69	CRT intensifier for RTTY K4VFA	p. 18, Jul 71
Vox keying (HN) VE7IG	p. 83, Dec 69	Crystal checker W6GXN	p. 46, Feb 72
Vox, versatile W9KIT	p. 50, Jul 71	Crystal test oscillator and signal generator K4EEU	p. 46, Mar 73
Short circuit	p. 96, Dec 71	Crystal-controlled frequency markers (HN) WA4WDK	p. 64, Sep 71
measurements and test equipment		Cubical quad measurements W4YM	p. 42, Jan 69
Ac current monitor (letter) WB5MAP	p. 61, Mar 75	Curve master, the K8ERV	p. 40, Mar 68
Ac power-line monitor W2OLU	p. 46, Aug 71	Decade standards, economical (HN) W4ATE	p. 66, Jun 71
AFSK generator, crystal-controlled K7BVT	p. 13, Jul 72	Digital counters (letter) W1GGN	p. 76, May 73
AFSK generator, phase-locked loop K7ZOF	p. 27, Mar 73	Digital readout station accessory, part I K6KA	p. 6, Feb 72
Amateur frequency measurements K6KA	p. 53, Oct 68	Digital station accessory, part II K6KA	p. 50, Mar 72
A-m modulation monitor, vhf (HN) K7UNL	p. 67, Jul 71	Digital station accessory, part III K6KA	p. 36, Apr 72
Antenna gain, measuring K6JYO	p. 26, Jul 69	Dipper without plug-in coils W6BLZ	p. 64, May 68
Antenna matcher W4SD	p. 24, Jun 71	Dummy load and rf wattmeter, low-power W2OLU	p. 56, Apr 70
Antenna and transmission line measurement techniques W4OQ	p. 36, May 74	Dummy load low-power vhf WB9DNI	p. 40, Sep 73
Beta master, the K8ERV	p. 18, Aug 68	Dummy loads, experimental W8YFB	p. 36, Sep 68
Bridge for antenna measurements, simple W2CTK	p. 34, Sep 70	Dynamic transistor tester (HN) VE7ABK	p. 65, Oct 71
Bridge, noise, for impedance measurements YA1GJM	p. 62, Jan 73	Electrolytic capacitors, measurement of (HN) W2NA	p. 70, Feb 71
Added notes p. 66, May 74; p. 60, Mar 75		Fm deviation measurement (letter) K5ZBA	p. 68, May 71
Bridge, rf noise WB2EGZ	p. 18, Dec 70	Fm deviation measurements W3FQJ	p. 52, Feb 72
Calibrators and counters K6KA	p. 41, Nov 68	Fm frequency meter, two-meter W4JAZ	p. 40, Jan 71
Calibrator, plug-in IC K6KA	p. 22, Mar 69	Short circuit	p. 72, Apr 71
Capacitance meter, digital K4DHC	p. 20, Feb 74	Frequencies, counted (HN) K6KA	p. 62, Aug 74
Capacitance meter, direct-reading ZL2AUE	p. 46, Apr 70	Frequency calibrator, general coverage W5UQS	p. 28, Dec 71
Capacitance meter, direct-reading W6MUR	p. 48, Aug 72	Frequency calibrator, how to design W3AEX	p. 54, Jul 71
Short circuit	p. 64, Mar 74	Frequency measurement of received signals W4AAD	p. 38, Oct 73
Capacitance meter, direct-reading W4SSNZ	p. 32, Apr 75	Frequency meter, crystal controlled (HN) W5JSN	p. 71, Sep 69
Added note	p. 31, Oct 75	Frequency scaler, divide-by-ten K4EEU	p. 26, Aug 70
Capacitance meter, direct reading, for electrolytics W9DJZ	p. 14, Oct 71	Short circuit	p. 72, Apr 71
Coaxial cable, checking (letter) W2OLU	p. 68, May 71	Frequency scaler, divide-by-ten W6PBC	p. 41, Sep 72
Coaxial-line loss, measuring with a reflectometer W2VCI	p. 50, May 72	Correction	p. 90, Dec 72
Converter, mosfet, for receiver instrumentation WA9ZMT	p. 62, Jan 71	Added comments (letter)	p. 64, Nov 73
Counter, compact frequency K4EEU	p. 16, Jul 70	Pre-scaler, improvements for W6PBC	p. 30, Oct 73
Short circuit	p. 72, Dec 70	Frequency scaler, uhf (11C90) WB9KEY	p. 50, Dec 75
Counter, digital frequency K4EEU	p. 8, Dec 68	Frequency scaler, 500-MHz W6URH	p. 32, Jun 75
Counter gating sources K6KA	p. 48, Nov 70	Frequency scalars, 1200-MHz WB9KEY	p. 38, Feb 75
		Frequency-shift meter, RTTY VK3ZNV	p. 33, Jun 70
		Frequency standard (HN) WA7JIK	p. 69, Sep 72
		Frequency standard, universal K4EEU	p. 40, Feb 74
		Short circuit	p. 72, May 74

Frequency synthesizer, high-frequency K2BLA	p. 16, Oct 72	Oscilloscope, putting it to work Allen	p. 64, Sep 69
Function generator, IC W1DTY	p. 40, Aug 71	Oscilloscope, troubleshooting amateur gear with Allen	p. 52, Aug 69
Function generator, IC K4DHC	p. 22, Jun 74	Oscilloscope voltage calibrator W6PBC	p. 54, Aug 72
Gdo, new use for K2ZSQ	p. 48, Dec 68	Panoramic reception, simple W2EET	p. 14, Oct 68
Grid current measurement in grounded-grid amplifiers W6SAI	p. 64, Aug 68	Peak envelope power, how to measure W5JJ	p. 32, Nov 74
Grid-dip oscillator, solid-state conversion of W6AJZ	p. 20, Jun 70	Phase meter, rf VE2AYU, Korth	p. 28, Apr 73
Harmonic generator (HN) W5GDQ	p. 76, Oct 70	Power meter, rf K8EEG	p. 26, Oct 73
I-f alignment generator 455-kHz WA5SNZ	p. 50, Feb 74	Precision capacitor W4BRS	p. 61, Mar 68
I-f sweep generator K4DHC	p. 10, Sep 73	Pre-scaler, vhf (HN) W6MGI	p. 57, Feb 73
Impedance bridge (HN) W6KZK	p. 67, Feb 70	Probe, sensitive rf (HN) W5JJ	p. 61, Dec 74
Impedance bridge, low-cost RX W8YFB	p. 6, May 73	Receiver alignment Allen	p. 64, Jun 68
Impedance bridge, simple WA9QJP	p. 40, Apr 68	Reflectometers K1YZW	p. 65, Dec 69
Impedance, measuring with swr bridge WB4KSS	p. 46, May 75	Regenerative detectors and a wideband amplifier W8YFB	p. 61, Mar 70
Impulse generator, pulse-snap diode Siegal, Turner	p. 29, Oct 72	Repairs, thinking your way through Allen	p. 58, Feb 71
Instrumentation and the ham VE3GFN	p. 28, Jul 68	Resistance standard, simple (HN) W2OLU	p. 65, Mar 71
Intermodulation-distortion measurements on ssb transmitters W6VFR	p. 34, Sep 74	Resistor decades, versatile W4ATE	p. 66, Jul 71
Line-voltage monitor (HN) WA8VFK	p. 66, Jan 74	Rf current probe (HN) W6HPH	p. 76, Oct 68
Current monitor mod (letter) Logic monitor (HN) WA5SAF	p. 61, Mar 75	Rf detector, sensitive WB9DNI	p. 38, Apr 73
Correction Logic test probe VE6RF	p. 70, Apr 72	Rf generator clip W1DTY	p. 58, Mar 68
p. 91, Dec 72		Rf power meter, low-level W5WGF	p. 58, Oct 72
Logic test probe (HN) Rossman	p. 53, Dec 73	Rf signal generator, solid-state VE5FP	p. 42, Jul 70
p. 56, Feb 73		RTTY monitor scope, solid-state WB2MPZ	p. 33, Oct 71
Short circuit Makeshift test equipment (HN) W7FS	p. 58, Dec 73	RTTY signal generator W72TC	p. 23, Mar 71
p. 77, Sep 68		Short circuit RTTY test generator (HN) W3EAG	p. 96, Dec 71
Meter interface, high-impedance Laughlin	p. 20, Jan 74	RTTY test generator (HN) W3EAG	p. 67, Jan 73
Meters, testing unknown (HN) W1ONC	p. 66, Jan 71	RX impedance bridge W2CTK	p. 59, Mar 73
Milliammeters, how to use W4PSJ	p. 48, Sep 75	RX impedance bridge, low-cost W8YFB	p. 34, Sep 70
Mini-spotter frequency checker W7OE	p. 48, May 68	Safer suicide cord (HN) K6JYO	p. 6, May 73
Monitoroscope, miniature WA3FIY	p. 48, May 68	Sampling network, rf — the milli-tap W6QJW	p. 64, Mar 71
Monitoroscope, RTTY W3CIX	p. 34, Mar 69	Signal generator, tone modulated for two and six meters WA8OIK	p. 34, Jan 73
Multi-box (HN) W3KBM	p. 68, Jul 69	Signal generator, wide range W6GXN	p. 54, Nov 69
Multitester (HN) W1DTY	p. 63, May 71	Signal injection in ham receivers Allen	p. 18, Dec 73
Noise bridge, antenna (HN) K8EEG	p. 71, May 74	Signal tracing in ham receivers Allen	p. 72, May 68
Noise-figure measurements for vhf WB6NMT	p. 36, Jun 72	Slow-scan tv test generator K4EEU	p. 52, Apr 68
Noise figure, vhf, estimating WA9HUV	p. 42, Jun 75	S-meter readings (HN) W1DTY	p. 6, Jul 73
Noise generator, 1296-MHz W3BSV	p. 46, Aug 73	Spectrum analyzer, four channel W9IA	p. 56, Jun 68
Noise generators, using (HN) K2ZSQ	p. 79, Aug 68	Spectrum analyzers, understanding WA5SNZ	p. 6, Oct 72
Oscillator, audio W6GXN	p. 50, Feb 73	Ssb, signals, monitoring W6VFR	p. 50, Jun 74
Oscillator, frequency measuring W6IEL	p. 16, Apr 72	Sweep generator, how to use Allen	p. 35, Mar 72
Added notes Oscillator, two-tone, for ssb testing W6GXN	p. 90, Dec 72		p. 60, Apr 70
p. 11, Apr 72			
Oscilloscope calibrator (HN) K4EEU	p. 69, Jul 69		

Sweep response curves for low-frequency i-f's		
Allen	p. 56, Mar 71	Amateur anemometer
Switch-off flasher (HN)		W6GXN
Thomas	p. 64, Jul 71	Short circuit
Swr bridge		Antenna masts, design for pipe
WB2ZSH	p. 55, Oct 71	W3MR
Swr bridge and power meter, integrated		Added design notes (letter)
W6DOB	p. 40, May 70	Antennas and capture area
Swr bridge (HN)		K6MIO
WA5TFK	p. 66, May 72	Bandpass filter design
Swr bridge readings (HN)		K4KJ
W6FPO	p. 63, Aug 73	Bandpass filters for 50 and 144 MHz, etched
Swr meter		W5KHT
W6VSV	p. 6, Oct 70	Bandpass filters, single-pole
Swr meters, direct reading and expanded scale		W6HPH
WA4WDK	p. 28, May 72	Basic electronic units
Correction	p. 90, Dec 72	W2DXH
Time-domain reflectometry, experimenter's approach to		Batteries, selecting for portable equipment
WAØPIA	p. 22, May 71	WBØAIK
Transconductance tester for fets		Broadband amplifier, wide-range
W6NBI	p. 44, Sep 71	W6GXN
Transformer shorts		Bypassing, rf, at uhf
W6BLZ	p. 36, Jul 68	WB6BHI
Transistor and diode tester		Capacitors, oil-filled (HN)
ZL2AMJ	p. 65, Nov 70	W2OLU
Transistor curve tracer		Clock, 24-hour digital
WA9LCX	p. 52, Jul 73	K4ALS
Short circuit	p. 63, Apr 74	Short circuit
Transistor tester		Coil-winding data, vhf and uhf
WA6NIL	p. 48, Jul 68	K3SVC
Transistor tester for leakage and gain		Communications receivers, designing for strong-signal performance
W4BRS	p. 68, May 68	Moore
Transmitter tuning unit for the blind		Computer-aided circuit analysis
W9NTP	p. 60, Jun 71	K1ORV
Trapezoidal monitor scope		Converting vacuum tube equipment to solid-state
VE3CUS	p. 22, Dec 69	W2EEY
Troubleshooting around fets		Converting wavelength to inches (HN)
Allen	p. 42, Oct 68	WA6SXC
Troubleshooting by resistance measurement		Current flow?, which way does
Allen	p. 62, Nov 68	W2DXH
Troubleshooting transistor ham gear		Digital mixer, introduction
Allen	p. 64, Jul 68	WB8IFM
Uhf tuner tester for tv sets (HN)		Digital readout system, simplified
Schuler	p. 73, Sep 69	W6OIS
Vacuum tubes, testing high-power (HN)		Double-balanced mixers
W2OLU	p. 64, Mar 72	W1DTY
Vhf pre-scaler, improvements for		Double-balanced modulator, broadband
W6PBC	p. 30, Oct 73	WA6NCT
Voltmeter, improved transistor, part I		Earth currents (HN)
Maddever	p. 74, Apr 68	W7OUI
Voltmeter, transistor, part II		Effective radiated power (HN)
Maddever	p. 60, Jul 68	VE7CB
Vom/vtvm, added uses for (HN)		Ferrite beads
W7DI	p. 67, Jan 73	W5JJ
Vtvm modification		Ferrite beads, how to use
W6HPH	p. 51, Feb 69	K1ORV
Vtvm, convert to an IC voltmeter		Fet biasing
K6VCI	p. 42, Dec 74	W3FQJ
Wavemeter, indicating		Filter preamplifiers for 50 and 144 MHz, etched
W6NIF	p. 26, Dec 70	W5KHT
Short circuit	p. 72, Apr 71	Filters, active for direct-conversion receivers
Weak-signal source, stable, variable-output		W7ZOI
K6JYO	p. 36, Sep 71	Fire extinguishers (letter)
Weak-signal source, 144 and 432 MHz		W5PGG
K6JC	p. 58, Mar 70	Fire protection
Weak-signal source, 432 and 1296 MHz		Darr
K6RIL	p. 20, Sep 68	Fire protection (letter)
WWV receiver, simple regenerative		K7QCM
WA5SNZ	p. 42, Apr 73	Fm techniques
WWV-WVH, amateur applications for		W6SAI
W3FQJ	p. 53, Jan 72	Short circuit
Zener tester, low-voltage (HN)		Freon danger (letter)
K3DPJ	p. 72, Nov 69	WA5RTB
		Frequency multipliers
		W6GXN
		Frequency multipliers, transistor
		W6AJF
		Frequency synchronization for scatter-mode propagation
		K2OVS

miscellaneous technical

Alarm, wet basement (HN)	
W2EMF	p. 68, Apr 72

Frequency synthesis			
W5SSKM	p. 42,	Dec 69	
Frequency synthesizer, high-frequency			
K2BLA	p. 16,	Oct 72	
Gamma-matching networks, how to design			
W7ITB	p. 46,	May 73	
Glass semiconductors			
W1EZT	p. 54,	Jul 69	
Graphical network solutions			
W1NCK, W2CTK	p. 26,	Dec 69	
Gridded tubes, vhf-uhf effects			
W6UOV	p. 8,	Jan 69	
Grounding and wiring			
W1EZT	p. 44,	Jun 69	
Ground plow			
W1EZT	p. 64,	May 70	
Harmonic output, how to predict			
Utne	p. 34,	Nov 74	
Heatsink problems, how to solve			
W4SSNZ	p. 46,	Jan 74	
Hybrids and couplers, hf			
W2CTK	p. 57,	Jul 70	
Short circuit	p. 72,	Dec 70	
Impedance-matching systems, designing			
W7CSD	p. 58,	Jul 73	
Inductors, how to use ferrite and powdered-iron for			
W6GXN	p. 15,	Apr 71	
Correction	p. 63,	May 72	
Infrared communications (letter)			
K2OAW	p. 65,	Jan 72	
Injection lasers (letter)			
Mims	p. 64,	Apr 71	
Injection lasers, high power			
Mims	p. 28,	Sep 71	
Integrated circuits, part I			
W3FQJ	p. 40,	Jun 71	
Integrated circuits, part II			
W3FQJ	p. 58,	Jul 71	
Integrated circuits, part III			
W3FQJ	p. 50,	Aug 71	
Interference, hi-fi (HN)			
K6KA	p. 63,	Mar 75	
Interference, rf			
W1DTY	p. 12,	Dec 70	
Interference, rf (letter)			
G3LLL	p. 65,	Nov 75	
Interference, rf			
W3NFW	p. 30,	Mar 73	
Interference, rf, its cause and cure			
G3LLL	p. 26,	Jun 75	
Intermittent voice operation of power tubes			
W6SAI	p. 24,	Jan 71	
Isotropic source and practical antennas			
K6FD	p. 32,	May 70	
Laser communications			
W4KAE	p. 28,	Nov 70	
LED experiments			
W4KAE	p. 6,	Jun 70	
Lighthouse tubes for uhf			
W6UOV	p. 27,	Jun 69	
Local-oscillator waveform effects on spurious mixer responses			
Robinson, Smith	p. 44,	Jun 74	
Lowpass filters for solid-state linear amplifiers			
W4JYK	p. 38,	Mar 74	
Short circuit	p. 62,	Dec 74	
L-networks, how to design			
W7LR	p. 26,	Feb 74	
Short circuit	p. 62,	Dec 74	
Lunar-path nomograph			
W6NCT	p. 28,	Oct 70	
Marine installations, amateur, on small boats			
W3MR	p. 44,	Aug 74	
Microprocessors, introduction to			
WB4HYJ, Rony, Titus	p. 32,	Dec 75	
Microwaves, getting started in			
Roubal	p. 53,	Jun 72	
Microwaves, Introduction			
W1CBB	p. 20,	Jan 72	
Mini-mobile			
K9UQN	p. 58,	Aug 71	
Mismatched transmitter loads, affect of			
W5JJ	p. 60,	Sep 69	
Mnemonics			
W6NIF	p. 69,	Dec 69	
More electronic units			
W1EZT	p. 56,	Nov 68	
Multi-function integrated circuits			
W3FQJ	p. 46,	Oct 72	
Networks, transmitter matching			
W6FFC	p. 6,	Jan 73	
Neutralizing small-signal amplifiers			
WA4WDK	p. 40,	Sep 70	
Noise figure, meaning of			
K6MIO	p. 26,	Mar 69	
Operational amplifiers			
WB2EGZ	p. 6,	Nov 69	
Phase detector, harmonic			
W5TRS	p. 40,	Aug 74	
Phase-locked loops, IC			
W3FQJ	p. 54,	Sep 71	
Phase-locked loops, IC, experiments with			
W3FQJ	p. 58,	Oct 71	
Phase-shift networks, design criteria for			
G3NRW	p. 34,	Jun 70	
Pi and pi-L networks			
W6SAI	p. 36,	Nov 68	
Pi network design			
W6FFC	p. 6,	Sep 72	
Pi network inductors (letter)			
W7IV	p. 78,	Dec 72	
Pi networks, series-tuned			
W2EGH	p. 42,	Oct 71	
Power amplifiers, high-efficiency rf			
WB8LQK	p. 8,	Oct 74	
Power dividers and hybrids			
W1DAX	p. 30,	Aug 72	
Power supplies, survey of solid-state			
W6GXN	p. 25,	Feb 70	
Power, voltage and impedance nomograph			
W2TQK	p. 32,	Apr 71	
Printed-circuit boards, photofabrication of			
Hutchinson	p. 6,	Sep 71	
Programmable calculator simplifies antenna design (HN)			
W3DVO	p. 70,	May 74	
Programmable calculators, using			
W3DVO	p. 40,	Mar 75	
Proportional temperature control for crystal ovens			
VE5FP	p. 44,	Jan 70	
Pulse-duration modulation			
W3FQJ	p. 65,	Nov 72	
Q factor, understanding			
W5JJ	p. 16,	Dec 74	
QRP operation			
W7OE	p. 36,	Dec 68	
Radiation hazard, rf			
W1DTY	p. 4,	Sep 75	
Correction	p. 59,	Dec 75	
Radio communications links			
W1EZT	p. 44,	Oct 69	
Radio observatory, vhf			
Ham	p. 44,	Jul 74	
Radio-frequency interference			
W3NFW	p. 30,	Mar 73	
Radiotelegraph translator and transcriber			
W7CUU, K7KFA	p. 8,	Nov 71	
Eliminating the matrix			
KH6AP	p. 60,	May 72	
Ramp generators			
W6GXN	p. 56,	Dec 68	
Rating tubes for linear amplifier service			
W6UOV, W6SAI	p. 50,	Mar 71	
Reactance problems, nomograph for			
W6NIF	p. 51,	Sep 70	
Resistor performance at high frequencies			
K1ORV	p. 36,	Oct 71	
Resistors, frequency sensitive (HN)			
W8YFB	p. 54,	Dec 70	

Resistors, frequency sensitive (letter)
 W5UHV p. 68, Jul 71
 RF amplifier, wideband
 WB4KSS p. 58, Apr 75
 Rf power-detecting devices
 K6JYO p. 28, Jun 70
 Rf power transistors, how to use
 WA7KRE p. 8, Jan 70
 Safety in the ham shack
 Darr, James p. 44, Mar 69
 Satellite communications, first step to
 K1MTA p. 52, Nov 72
 Added notes (letter) p. 73, Apr 73
 Satellite signal polarization
 KH6IJ p. 6, Dec 72
 Signal detection and communication
 in the presence of white noise
 WB6IOM p. 16, Feb 69
 Silver/silicone grease (HN)
 W6DDB p. 63, May 71
 Single-tuned interstage networks,
 designing
 K6ZGQ p. 59, Oct 68
 Smith chart, how to use
 W1DTY p. 16, Nov 70
 Correction p. 76, Dec 71
 Solar activity, aspects of
 K3CHP p. 21, Jun 68
 Solar energy
 W3FQJ p. 54, Jul 74
 Speech clippers, rf, performance of
 G6XN p. 26, Nov 72
 Square roots, finding (HN)
 K9DHD p. 67, Sep 73
 Increased accuracy (letter) p. 55, Mar 74
 Standing-wave ratios, importance of
 W2HB p. 26, Jul 73
 Correction (letter) p. 67, May 74
 Stress analysis of antenna systems
 W2FZJ p. 23, Oct 71
 Tetrodes, external-anode
 W6SAI p. 23, Jun 69
 Thermoelectric power supplies
 K1AJE p. 48, Sep 68
 Thermometer, electronic
 VK3ZNV p. 30, Apr 70
 Three-phase motors (HN)
 W6HPH p. 79, Aug 68
 Thyristors, introduction to
 WA7KRE p. 54, Oct 70
 Toroidal coil inductance (HN)
 W3WLX p. 26, Sep 75
 Toroids, calculating inductance of
 WB9FHC p. 50, Feb 72
 Toroids, plug-in (HN)
 K8EEG p. 60, Jan 72
 Transistor amplifiers, tabulated
 characteristics of
 W5JJ p. 30, Mar 71
 Trig functions on a pocket calculator (HN)
 W9ZTK p. 60, Nov 75
 Tuning, Current-controlled
 K2ZSQ p. 38, Jan 69
 TV sweep tubes in linear service,
 full-blast operation of
 W6SAI, W6OUV p. 9, Apr 68
 Vacuum-tube amplifiers, tabulated
 characteristics of
 W5JJ p. 30, Mar 71
 Warning lights, increasing reliability of
 W3NK p. 40, Feb 70
 Wind direction indicator, digital
 W6GXN p. 14, Sep 68
 Wind loading on towers and antenna
 structures, how to calculate
 K4KJ p. 16, Aug 74
 Added note p. 56, Jul 75
 Y parameters, using in rf amplifier design
 WAØTCU p. 46, Jul 72

operating

Beam antenna headings
 W6FFC p. 64, Apr 71
 Code practice stations (letter)
 WB4LXJ p. 75, Dec 72
 Code practice — the rf way
 WA4NED p. 65, Aug 68
 Code practice (HN)
 W2OUX p. 74, May 73
 Computers and ham radio
 W5TOM p. 60, Mar 69
 CW monitor
 W2EEO p. 46, Aug 69
 CW monitor and code-practice oscillator
 K6RIL p. 46, Apr 68
 CW monitor, simple
 WA9OHR p. 65, Jan 71
 CW transceiver operation with
 transmit-receive offset
 W1DAX p. 56, Sep 70
 DXCC check list, simple
 W2CNQ p. 55, Jun 73
 Fluorescent light, portable (HN)
 K8BYO p. 62, Oct 73
 Great-circle charts (HN)
 K6KA p. 62, Oct 73
 How to be DX
 W4NXD p. 58, Aug 68
 Identification timer (HN)
 K9UQN p. 60, Nov 74
 Magazines, use your old
 Foster p. 52, Jan 70
 Morse code, speed standards for
 VE2ZK p. 68, Apr 73
 Added note (letter) p. 68, Jan 74
 Protective material, plastic (HN)
 W6BKK p. 58, Dec 70
 QSL return, statistics on
 WB6IUH p. 60, Dec 68
 Replays, instant (HN)
 W6DNS p. 67, Feb 70
 Sideband location (HN)
 K6KA p. 62, Aug 73
 Spurious signals (HN)
 K6KA p. 61, Nov 74
 Tuning with ssb gear
 WØKD p. 40, Oct 70
 Zulu time (HN)
 K6KA p. 58, Mar 73

oscillators

AFSK oscillator, solid-state
 WA4FGY p. 28, Oct 68
 Audio oscillator, NE566 IC
 W1EZZ p. 36, Jan 75
 Blocking oscillators
 W6GXN p. 45, Apr 69
 Clock oscillator, TTL (HN)
 W9ZTK p. 56, Dec 73
 Crystal oscillator, frequency adjustment of
 W9ZTK p. 42, Aug 72
 Crystal oscillator, high stability
 W6TNS p. 36, Oct 74
 Crystal oscillator, miniature
 W6DOR p. 68, Dec 68
 Crystal oscillators
 W6GXN p. 33, Jul 69
 Crystal oscillators, stable
 DJ2LR p. 34, Jun 75
 Correction p. 67, Sep 75
 Crystal switching (HN)
 K6LZM p. 70, Mar 69
 Crystal test oscillator and signal
 generator
 K4EEU p. 46, Mar 73
 Crystals, overtone (HN)
 G8ABR p. 72, Aug 72

Hex inverter vxo circuit W2LTJ	p. 50, Apr 75	Batteries, selecting for portable equipment WAØAIK	p. 40, Aug 73
Local oscillator, phase locked VE5FP	p. 6, Mar 71	Battery drain, auxiliary, guard for (HN) W1DTY	p. 74, Oct 74
Monitoring oscillator W2JIO	p. 36, Dec 72	Battery power W3FQJ	p. 56, Aug 74
Multiple band master-frequency oscillator K6SDX	p. 50, Nov 75	Charger, fet-controlled, for nicad batteries WAØJYK	p. 46, Aug 75
Multivibrator, crystal-controlled WN2MQY	p. 65, Jul 71	Current limiting (HN) WØLPQ	p. 70, Dec 72
Oscillator, audio, IC W6GXN	p. 50, Feb 73	Current limiting (letter) K5MKO	p. 66, Oct 73
Oscillator, electronic keyer WA6JNJ	p. 44, Jun 70	Dc-dc converter, low-power W5MLY	p. 54, Mar 75
Oscillator, Franklin (HN) W5JJ	p. 61, Jan 72	Diodes for power supplies, choosing W6BLZ	p. 38, Jul 68
Oscillator, frequency measuring W6IEL	p. 16, Apr 72	Diode surge protection (HN) WA7LUJ	p. 65, Mar 72
Added notes W6IEL	p. 90, Dec 72	Added note WA7LUJ	p. 77, Aug 72
Oscillator, gated (HN) WB9KEY	p. 59, Jul 75	Dual-voltage power supply (HN) W1OOP	p. 71, Apr 69
Oscillator-monitor, audio WA1JSM	p. 48, Sep 70	Short circuit W1OOP	p. 80, Aug 69
Oscillator, phase-locked VE5FP	p. 6, Mar 71	Dual-voltage power supply (HN) W5JJ	p. 68, Nov 71
Oscillator, two-tone, for ssb testing W6GXN	p. 11, Apr 72	Filament transformers, miniature Bailey	p. 66, Sep 74
Oscillators (HN) W1DTY	p. 68, Nov 69	High-power trouble shooting Allen	p. 52, Aug 68
Oscillators, cure for cranky (HN) W8YFB	p. 55, Dec 70	IC power (HN) W3KBM	p. 68, Apr 72
Oscillators, repairing Allen	p. 69, Mar 70	IC regulated power supply W2FBW	p. 50, Nov 70
Oscillators, resistance-capacitance W6GXN	p. 18, Jul 72	IC regulated power supply W9SEK	p. 51, Dec 70
Oscillators, ssb Belt	p. 26, Jun 68	IC regulated power supply for ICs W6GXN	p. 28, Mar 68
Overtone oscillator (HN) W5UQS	p. 77, Oct 68	Short circuit W6GXN	p. 80, May 68
Quadrature-phased local oscillator K6ZX	(letter) p. 62, Sep 75	Klystrons, reflex power for (HN) W6BPK	p. 71, Jul 73
Quartz crystals (letter) WB2EGZ	p. 74, Dec 72	Line transient protection (HN) W1DTY	p. 75, Jul 68
TTL crystal oscillators (HN) WØJVA	p. 60, Aug 75	Line-voltage monitor (HN) WABVFK	p. 66, Jan 74
Vco, crystal-controlled WB6IOM	p. 58, Oct 69	Current monitor mod (letter) WABVFK	p. 61, Mar 75
Vfo buffer amplifier (HN) W3QBO	p. 66, Jul 71	Load protection, scr (HN) W5OZF	p. 62, Oct 72
Vfo, digital readout WB8IFM	p. 14, Jan 73	Low-value voltage source (HN) WASEKA	p. 66, Nov 71
Vfo for solid-state transmitters W3QBO	p. 36, Aug 70	Low-voltage supply with short-circuit Protection WB2EGZ	p. 22, Apr 68
Vfo, high stability W8YFB	p. 14, Mar 69	Low-voltage supply (HN) WB2EGZ	p. 57, Jun 68
Vfo, high-stability, vhf ØH2CD	p. 27, Jan 72	Meter safety (HN) W6VFR	p. 68, Jul 72
Vfo, multiband fet K8EEG	p. 39, Jul 72	Mobile power supplies, troubleshooting Allen	p. 56, Jun 70
Vfo, stable K4BGF	p. 8, Dec 71	Mobile power supply (HN) WN8DJV	p. 79, Apr 70
Vfo, stable transistor W1DTY	p. 14, Jun 68	Mobile supply, low-cost (HN) W4GEG	p. 69, Jul 70
Short circuit W1DTY	p. 34, Aug 68	Motorola Dispatcher, converting to 12 volts WB6HXU	p. 26, Jul 72
Vfo transistors (HN) W1OOP	p. 74, Nov 69	Operational power supply WA2IKL	p. 8, Apr 70
Vxo design, practical K6BIJ	p. 22, Aug 70	Pilot-lamp life (HN) W2OLU	p. 71, Jul 73
455-kHz bfo, transistorized W6BLZ, K5GXR	p. 12, Jul 68	Polarity inverter, medium current Laughlin	p. 26, Nov 73

power supplies

Ac current monitor (letter) WB5MAP	p. 61, Mar 75	Power supply, improved (HN) W4ATE	p. 72, Feb 72
Ac power supply, regulated, for mobile fm equipment WA8TMP	p. 28, Jun 73	Power supply, precision W7SK	p. 26, Jul 71
Arc suppression networks (HN) WASEKA	p. 70, Jul 73	Power supply protection for your solid-state circuits W5JJ	p. 36, Jan 70

Precision voltage supply for phase-locked terminal unit (HN)	
WA6TLA	p. 60, Jul 74
Protection for solid-state power supplies (HN)	
W3NK	p. 66, Sep 70
Rectifier, half-wave, improved	
Bailey	p. 34, Oct 73
Regulated solid-state high-voltage power supply	
W6GXN	p. 40, Jan 75
Short circuit	p. 69, Apr 75
Regulated 5-volt supply (HN)	
W6UNF	p. 67, Jan 73
SCR-regulated power supplies	
W4GOC	p. 52, Jul 70
Solar energy	
W3FQJ	p. 54, Jul 74
Solar power	
W3FQJ	p. 52, Nov 74
Step-start circuit, high-voltage (HN)	
W6VFR	p. 64, Sep 71
Storage-battery QRP power	
W3FQJ	p. 64, Oct 74
Survey of solid-state power supplies	
W6GXN	p. 25, Feb 70
Short circuit	p. 76, Sep 70
Thermoelectric power supplies	
K1AJE	p. 48, Sep 68
Transformers, high-voltage, repairing	
W6NIF	p. 66 Mar 69
Transformer shorts	
W6BLZ	p. 36, Jul 68
Transformers, miniature (HN)	
W4ATE	p. 67, Jul 72
Transients, reducing	
W5JJ	p. 50, Jan 73
Vibrator replacement, solid-state (HN)	
K8RAY	p. 70, Aug 72
Voltage regulators, IC	
W7FLC	p. 22, Oct 70
Voltage regulator ICs, adjustable	
WB9KEY	p. 36, Aug 75
Voltage-regulator ICs, three-terminal	
WB5EMI	p. 26, Dec 73
Added note (letter)	p. 73, Sep 74
Wind generators	
W3FQJ	p. 50, Jan 75
Zener diodes (HN)	
K3DPJ	p. 79, Aug 68

propagation

Artificial radio aurora, scattering characteristics of	
WB6KAP	p. 18, Nov 74
Echoes, long delay	
WB6KAP	p. 61, May 69
Ionospheric E-layer	
WB6KAP	p. 58, Aug 69
Ionospheric science, short history of	
WB6KAP	p. 58, Jun 69
Long-distance high frequency communications	
WB6KAP	p. 80, Jul 68
Maximum usable frequency, predicting	
WB6KAP	p. 70, Sep 68
Quiet sun, the	
WB6KAP	p. 76, Dec 68
Scatter-mode propagation, frequency synchronization for	
K2OVS	p. 26, Sep 71
Solar cycle 20, vhf'er's view of	
WA5YX	p. 46, Dec 74
Sunspot numbers	
WB6KAP	p. 63, Jul 69
Sunspot numbers, smoothed	
WB6KAP	p. 72, Nov 68
Sunspots and solar activity	
WB6KAP	p. 60, Jan 69
Tropospheric-duct vhf communications	
WB6KAP	p. 68, Oct 69

6-meter sporadic-E openings, predicting	
WA9RAQ	p. 38, Oct 72
Added note (letter)	p. 69, Jan 74

receivers and converters

general

Antenna impedance transformer for receivers (HN)	
W6NIF	p. 70, Jan 70
Antenna tuner, miniature receiver (HN)	
WA7KRE	p. 72, Mar 69
Anti-QRM methods	
W3FQJ	p. 50, May 71
Attenuation pads, receiving (letter)	
K2HNQ	p. 69, Jan 74
Audio agc amplifier	
WA5SNZ	p. 32, Dec 73
Audio agc principles and practice	
WA5SNZ	p. 28, Jun 71
Audio amplifier and squelch circuit	
W6AJF	p. 36, Aug 68
Audio filter for CW, tunable	
WA1JSM	p. 34, Aug 70
Audio filter-frequency translator for CW reception	
W2EEY	p. 24, Jun 70
Audio filter mod (HN)	
K6HIU	p. 60, Jan 72
Audio filter, simple	
W4NVK	p. 44, Oct 70
Audio filters, CW (letter)	
6Y5SR	p. 56, Jun 75
Audio-filters, inexpensive	
W8YFB	p. 24, Aug 72
Audio filter, tunable peak-notch	
W2EEY	p. 22, Mar 70
Audio filter, variable bandpass	
W3AEX	p. 36, Apr 70
Audio module, complete	
K4DHC	p. 18, Jun 73
Batteries, how to select for portable equipment	
WA0AIK	p. 40, Aug 73
Bfo multiplexer for a multimode detector	
WA3YGJ	p. 52, Oct 75
Calibrator crystals (HN)	
K6KA	p. 66, Nov 71
Calibrator, plug-in frequency	
K6KA	p. 22, Mar 69
Calibrator, simple frequency-divider using mos ICs	
W6GXN	p. 30, Aug 69
Communications receivers, design ideas for	
Moore	p. 12, Jun 74
Communications receivers, designing for strong-signal performance	
Moore	p. 6, Feb 73
Converting a vacuum-tube receiver to solid-state	
W1OOP	p. 26, Feb 69
Counter dials, electronic	
K6KA	p. 44, Sep 70
CW filter, adding (HN)	
W2OUX	p. 66, Sep 73
CW monitor, simple	
WA9OHR	p. 65, Jan 71
CW processor for communications receivers	
W6NRW	p. 17, Oct 71
CW reception, enhancing through a simulated-stereo technique	
WA1MKP	p. 61, Oct 74
CW reception, noise reduction for	
W2ELV	p. 52, Sep 73
CW regenerator for interference-free communications	
Leward, Libenschek	p. 54, Apr 74

CW selectivity with crystal bandpassing		Radiotelegraph translator and transcriber	
W2EY	p. 52, Jun 69	W7CUU, K7KFA	p. 8, Nov 71
CW transceiver operation with transmit-receive offset		Eliminating the matrix	
W1DAX	p. 56, Sep 70	KH6AP	p. 60, May 72
Detector, reciprocating		Receiver impedance matching (HN)	
W1SNN	p. 32, Mar 72	WØZFN	p. 79, Aug 68
Added notes	p. 54, Mar 74; p. 76, May 75	Receiving RTTY, automatic frequency control for	
Detector, superregenerative, optimizing		W5NPO	p. 50, Sep 71
Ring	p. 32, Jul 72	Reciprocating detector as fm discriminator	
Detectors, ssb		W1SNN	p. 18, Mar 73
Belt	p. 22, Nov 68	Reciprocating-detector converter	
Diversity receiving system		W1SNN	p. 58, Sep 74
W2EY	p. 12, Dec 71	Rf amplifiers for communications receivers	
Filter alignment		Moore	p. 42, Sep 74
W7UC	p. 61, Aug 75	Rf amplifier, wideband	
Filter, vari-Q		WB4KSS	p. 58, Apr 75
W1SNN	p. 62, Sep 73	S-meter readings (HN)	
Frequency calibrator, how to design		W1DTY	p. 56, Jun 68
W3AEX	p. 54, Jul 71	Selectivity, receiver (letter)	
Frequency calibrator, receiver		K4ZZV	p. 68, Jan 74
W5UQS	p. 28, Dec 71	Sensitivity, noise figure and dynamic range	
Frequency measurement of received signals		W1DTY	p. 8, Oct 75
W4AAD	p. 38, Oct 73	S-meters, solid-state	
Frequency spotter, general coverage		K6SDX	p. 20, Mar 75
W5JJ	p. 36, Nov 70	Spectrum analyzer, four channel	
Frequency standard (HN)		W9IA	p. 6, Oct 72
WA7JIK	p. 69, Sep 72	Squelch, audio-actuated	
Frequency standard, universal		K4MOG	p. 52, Apr 72
K4EEU	p. 40, Feb 74	Ssb signals, monitoring	
Short circuit	p. 72, May 74	W6VFR	p. 36, Mar 72
Hang agc circuit for ssb and CW		Superregenerative detector, optimizing	
W1ERJ	p. 50, Sep 72	Ring	p. 32, Jul 72
Headphone cords (HN)		Superregenerative receiver, improved	
W2OLU	p. 62, Nov 75	JA1BHG	p. 48, Dec 70
I-f cathode jack		Threshold-gate/limiter for CW reception	
W6HPH	p. 28, Sep 68	W2ELV	p. 46, Jan 72
I-f system, multimode		Added notes (letter)	
WA2IKL	p. 39, Sep 71	W2ELV	p. 59, May 72
Image suppression (HN)		Weak signal reception in CW receivers	
W6NIF	p. 68, Dec 72	ZS6BT	p. 44, Nov 71
Intelligibility of communications receivers, improving			
WA5RAQ	p. 53, Aug 70		
Interference, electric fence			
K6KA	p. 68, Jul 72		
Interference, hi-fi (HN)			
K6KA	p. 63, Mar 75		
Interference, rf			
W1DTY	p. 12, Dec 70		
Interference, rf			
WA3NFW	p. 30, Mar 73		
Interference, rf, its cause and cure			
G3LLL	p. 26, Jun 75		
Local oscillator, phase-locked			
VE5FP	p. 6, Mar 71		
Local-oscillator waveform effects on spurious mixer responses			
Robinson, Smith	p. 44, Jun 74		
Mixer, crystal			
W2LTJ	p. 38, Nov 75		
Noise blanker			
K4DHC	p. 38, Feb 73		
Noise blanker, hot-carrier diode			
W4KAE	p. 16, Oct 69		
Short circuit	p. 76, Sep 70		
Noise blanker, IC			
W2EY	p. 52, May 69		
Short circuit	p. 79, Jun 70		
Noise figure, the real meaning of			
K6MIO	p. 26, Mar 69		
Panoramic reception, simple			
W2EY	p. 14, Oct 68		
Phase-shift networks, design criteria			
G3NRW	p. 34, Jun 70		
Product detector, hot-carrier diode			
VE3GFN	p. 12, Oct 69		
Radio-direction finder			
W6JTT	p. 38, Mar 70		
Radio-frequency interference			
WA3NFW	p. 30, Mar 73		

high-frequency receivers

Bandpass filters for receiver preselectors	
W7ZOI	p. 18, Feb 75
Bandpass tuning, electronic, in the	Drake R-4C
Horner	p. 58, Oct 73
BC-603 tank receiver, updating the	
WA6IAK	p. 52, May 68
BC-1206 for 7 MHz, converted	
W4FIN	p. 30, Oct 70
Short circuit	p. 72, Apr 71
Collins 75A4 hints (HN)	
W6VFR	p. 68, Apr 72
Collins 75A-4 modifications (HN)	
W4SD	p. 67, Jan 71
Communications receiver, five band	
K6SDX	p. 6, Jun 72
Communications receiver for 80 meters, IC	
VE3ELP	p. 6, Jul 71
Communications receiver, micropower	
WB9FHC	p. 30, Jun 73
Short circuit	p. 58, Dec 73
Communications receiver, miniaturized	
K4DHC	p. 24, Sep 74
Communications receiver, solid-state	
I5TDJ	p. 32, Oct 75
Correction	p. 59, Dec 75
Companion receiver, all-mode	
W1SNN	p. 18, Mar 73
Converter, hf, solid-state	
VE3GFN	p. 32, Feb 72
Converter, tuned very low-frequency	
ØH2KT	p. 49, Nov 74
Direct-conversion receivers	
W3FQJ	p. 59, Nov 71
Direct-conversion receivers, improved selectivity	
K6BIJ	p. 32, Apr 72

Direct-conversion receivers, simple active filters for W7ZOI	p. 12, Apr 74	Weather receiver, low-frequency W6GXN	p. 36, Oct 68
ESSA weather receiver W6GXN	p. 36, May 68	WWV receiver, fixed-tuned W6GXN	p. 24, Nov 69
Fet converter, bandswitching, for 40, 20, 15 and 10 (VE3GFN) postscript	p. 6, Jul 68 p. 68, May 69	WWV receiver, regenerative WA5SNZ	p. 42, Apr 73
Fet converter for 10 to 40 meters, second-generation VE3GFN	p. 28, Jan 70	WWV receiver, simple (HN) WA3JBN	p. 68, Jul 70 p. 72, Dec 70
Short circuit	p. 79, Jun 70	WWV receiver, simple (HN) WA3JBN	p. 55, Dec 70
Frequency synthesizer for the Drake R-4 W6NBI	p. 6, Aug 72	WWV-WVVH, amateur applications for W3FQJ	p. 53, Jan 72
Modification (letter)	p. 74, Sep 74	455-kHz bfo, transistorized W6BLZ, K5GXR	p. 12, Jul 68
Gonset converter, solid-state modification of Schuler	p. 58, Sep 69	160-meter receiver, simple W6FPO	p. 44, Nov 70
Hammarlund HQ215, adding 160-meter coverage W2GHK	p. 32, Jan 72	1.9 MHz receiver W3TNO	p. 6, Dec 69
Heath SB-650 frequency display, using with other receivers K2BYM	p. 40, Jun 73	7-MHz ssb receiver and transmitter, simple VE3GSD	p. 6, Mar 74 p. 62, Dec 74
High dynamic range receiver input stages DJ2LR	p. 26, Oct 75	Short circuit	
Incremental tuning to your transceiver, adding VE3GFN	p. 66, Feb 71	28-MHz superregen receiver K2ZSQ	p. 70, Nov 68
Monitoring oscillator W2JIO	p. 36, Dec 72		
Outboard receiver with a transceiver W1DTY	p. 12, Sep 68		
Outboard receiver with the SB-100, using an (HN) K4GMR	p. 68, Feb 70		
Overload response in the Collins 75A-4 receiver, improving W6ZO	p. 42, Apr 70 p. 76, Sep 70		
Short circuit			
Phasing-type ssb receiver WA0JYK	p. 6, Aug 73		
Short circuit	p. 58, Dec 73		
Added note (letter)	p. 63, Jun 74		
Preamplifier, emitter-tuned, 21 MHz WA5SNZ	p. 20, Apr 72		
Preamplifier, low-noise high-gain transistor W2EEY	p. 66, Feb 69		
Preselector, general-coverage (HN) W5OZF	p. 75, Oct 70		
Q5er, solid-state W5TKP	p. 20, Aug 69		
Receiver incremental tuning for the Swan 350 (HN) K1KXA	p. 64, Jul 71		
Receiver, reciprocating detector W1SNN	p. 44, Nov 72 p. 77, Dec 72		
Correction (letter)			
Receiver, versatile solid-state W1PLJ	p. 10, Jul 70		
Receiving RTTY with Heath SB receivers (HN) K9HVV	p. 64, Oct 71		
Rf amplifiers, selective K6BIJ	p. 58, Feb 72		
Regenerative detectors and a wideband amplifier for experimenters W8YFB	p. 61, Mar 70		
RTTY monitor receiver K4EEU	p. 27, Dec 72		
RTTY receiver-demodulator for net operation VE7BRK	p. 42, Feb 73		
RTTY with SB-300 W2ARZ	p. 76, Jul 68		
Swan 350 CW monitor (HN) K1KXA	p. 63, Jun 72		
Transceiver selectivity improved (HN) VE3BWD	p. 74, Oct 70		
Tuner overload, eliminating (HN) VE3GFN	p. 66, Jan 73		
Attenuators for (letter)	p. 69, Jan 74		
Two-band novice superhet Thorpe	p. 66, Aug 68		

vhf receivers and converters

Converters for six and two meters, mosfet WB2EGZ	p. 41, Feb 71
Short circuit	p. 96, Dec 71
Cooled preamplifier for vhf-uhf WA0RDX	p. 36, Jul 72
Fet converters for 50, 144, 220 and 432 MHz W6AJF	p. 20, Mar 68
Filter-preamplifiers for 50 and 144 MHz etched W5KNT	p. 6, Feb 71
Fm channel scanner W2FPP	p. 29, Aug 71
Fm communications receiver, modular K8AUH	p. 32, Jun 69 p. 71, Jan 70
Correction	
Fm receiver frequency control (letter) W3AFN	p. 65, Apr 71
Fm receiver performance, comparison of VE7ABK	p. 68, Aug 72
Fm receiver, multichannel for six and two W1SNN	p. 54, Feb 74
Fm receiver, tunable vhf K8AUH	p. 34, Nov 71
Fm receiver, uhf WA2GCF	p. 6, Nov 72
Fm repeaters, receiving system degradation in K5ZBA	p. 36, May 69
HW-17A, perking up (HN) WBEGZ	p. 70, Aug 70
Interdigital preamplifier and comb-line bandpass filter for vhf and uhf W5KHT	p. 6, Aug 70
Interference, scanning receiver (HN) K2YAH	p. 70, Sep 72
Monitor receivers, two-meter fm WB5EMI	p. 34, Apr 74
Overload problems with vhf converters, solving W1OOP	p. 53, Jan 73
Receiver alignment techniques, vhf fm K4IPV	p. 14, Aug 75
Receiver, modular two-meter fm WA2GFB	p. 42, Feb 72
Receiver, vhf fm WA2GCF	p. 8, Nov 75
Scanning receiver for vhf fm, improved WA2GCF	p. 26, Nov 74
Scanning receiver modifications, vhf fm (HN) WA5WOU	p. 60, Feb 74

Scanning receivers for two-meter fm	
K4IPV	p. 28, Aug 74
Six-meter converter, improved	
K1BQT	p. 50, Aug 70
Six-meter mosfet converter	
WB2EGZ	p. 22, Jun 68
Short circuit	p. 34, Aug 68
Squelch-audio amplifier for fm receivers	
WB4WSU	p. 68, Sep 74
Ssb mini-tuner	
K1BQT	p. 16, Oct 70
Two-meter converter, 1.5 dB NF	
WA6SXC	p. 14, Jul 68
Two-meter mosfet converter	
WB2EGZ	p. 22, Aug 68
Neutralizing	p. 77, Oct 68
Two-meter preamp, MM5000	
W4KAE	p. 49, Oct 68
Vhf converter performance, optimizing (HN)	
K2FSQ	p. 18, Jul 68
Vhf fm receiver (letter)	
K8IHQ	p. 76, May 73
Vhf receiver scanner	
K2LZG	p. 22, Feb 73
Vhf superregenerative receiver, low-voltage	
WA5SNZ	p. 22, Jul 73
Short circuit	p. 64, Mar 74
28-30 MHz preamplifier for satellite reception	
W1JAA	p. 48, Oct 75
50-MHz preamplifier, improved	
WA2GCF	p. 46, Jan 73
144-MHz converter (HN)	
K2VQY	p. 71, Aug 70
144-MHz converter (letter)	
W0LER	p. 71, Oct 71
144 MHz converter, hot-carrier diode	
K8CJU	p. 6, Oct 69
144-MHz converter, modular	
W6UOV	p. 64, Oct 70
144 MHz converters, choosing fets for (HN)	
K6JYO	p. 70, Aug 69
144-MHz preamp, super (HN)	
K6HCP	p. 72, Oct 69
144-MHz preamplifier, Improved	
WA2GCF	p. 25, Mar 72
Added notes	p. 73, Jul 72
220-MHz mosfet converter	
WB2EGZ	p. 28, Jan 69
Short circuit	p. 76, Jul 69
432-MHz converter, low-noise	
K6JC	p. 34, Oct 70
432-MHz fet converter, low noise	
WA6SXC	p. 18, May 68
432 MHz preamp (HN)	
W1DTY	p. 66, Aug 69
432 MHz preamplifier and converter	
WA2GCF	p. 40, Jul 75
1296-MHz converter, solid-state	
VK4ZT	p. 6, Nov 70
1296 MHz, double-balanced mixers for	
WAGUAM	p. 8, Jul 75
1296-MHz preamplifier	
WAGUAM	p. 42, Oct 75
1296-MHz preamplifier, low-noise	
WA2VTR	p. 50, Jun 71
Added note (letter)	p. 65, Jan 72
2340-MHz converter, solid-state	
K2JNG, WA2LTM, WA2VTR	p. 16, Mar 72
2304-MHz preamplifier, solid-state	
WA2VTR	p. 20, Aug 72

receivers and converters, test and troubleshooting

Receiver alignment	
Allen	p. 64, Jun 68
Rf and i-f amplifiers, troubleshooting	
Allen	p. 60, Sep 70

Signal injection in ham receivers	
Allen	p. 72, May 68
Signal tracing in ham receivers	
Allen	p. 52, Apr 68
Weak-signal source, variable-output	
K6JYO	p. 36, Sep 71
Weak-signal source, 144 and 432 MHz	
K6JC	p. 58, Mar 70
Weak-signal source, 432 and 1296 MHz	
K6RIL	p. 20, Sep 68

RTTY

AFSK generator, crystal-controlled	
K7BVT	p. 13, Jul 72
AFSK generator, crystal-controlled	
W6LLO	p. 14, Dec 73
Sluggish oscillator (letter)	p. 59, Dec 74
AFSK oscillators, solid-state	
WA4FGY	p. 28, Oct 68
Audio-frequency keyer, simple	
W2LTJ	p. 56, Aug 75
Auto-shift keyer, continuous-phase	
VE3CTP	p. 10, Oct 73
Short circuit	p. 64, Mar 74
Automatic frequency control for receiving RTTY	
W5NPO	p. 50, Sep 71
Added note (letter)	p. 66, Jan 72
Autostart, digital RTTY	
K4EEU	p. 6, Jun 73
Autostart monitor receiver	
K4EED	p. 37, Dec 72
CRT intensifier for RTTY	
K4VFA	p. 18, Jul 71
Carriage return, adding to the automatic line-feed generator (HN)	
K4EEU	p. 71, Sep 74
Coherent frequency-shift keying, need for	
K3WJQ	p. 30, Jun 74
Added notes (letter)	p. 58, Nov 74
Crystal test oscillator and signal generator	
K4EEU	p. 46, Mar 73
CW memory for RTTY identification	
W6LLO	p. 6, Jan 74
Electronic speed conversion for RTTY teleprinters	
WA6JYJ	p. 36, Dec 71
Printed circuit for	p. 54, Oct 72
Frequency-shift meter, RTTY	
VK3ZNV	p. 53, Jun 70
Line-end indicator, IC	
W2OKO	p. 22, Nov 75
Line feed, automatic for RTTY	
K4EEU	p. 20, Jan 73
Mainline ST-5 autostart and antispace	
K2YAH	p. 46, Dec 72
Mainline ST-5 RTTY demodulator	
W6FFC	p. 14, Sep 70
Short circuit	p. 72, Dec 70
Mainline ST-6 RTTY demodulator	
W6FFC	p. 6, Jan 71
Short circuit	p. 72, Apr 71
Mainline ST-6 RTTY demodulator, more uses for (letter)	
W6FFC	p. 69, Jul 71
Mainline ST-6 RTTY demodulator, troubleshooting	
W6FFC	p. 50, Feb 71
Message generator, random access memory RTTY	
K4EEU	p. 8, Jan 75
Message generator, RTTY	
W6OXP, W8KCQ	p. 30, Feb 74
Monitor scope, phase-shift	
W3CIX	p. 36, Aug 72
Monitor scope, RTTY, Heath HO-10 and SB-610 as (HN)	
K9HVV	p. 70, Sep 74

Monitor scope, RTTY, solid-state	
WB2MPZ	p. 33, Oct 71
Phase-locked loop AFSK generator	
K7ZOF	p. 27, Mar 73
Phase-locked loop RTTY terminal unit	
W4FQM	p. 8, Jan 72
Correction	p. 60, May 72
Power supply for	p. 60, Jul 74
Optimization of the phase-locked terminal unit	p. 22, Sep 75
Precise tuning with ssb gear	
WØKD	p. 40, Oct 70
Printed circuit for RTTY speed converter	
W7POG	p. 54, Oct 72
Receiver-demodulator for RTTY net operation	
VE7BRK	p. 42, Feb 73
Ribbon re-inkers	
W6FFC	p. 30, Jun 72
RTTY converter, miniature IC	
K9MRL	p. 40, May 69
Short circuit	p. 80, Aug 69
RTTY distortion: causes and cures	
WB6IMP	p. 36, Sep 72
RTTY for the blind (letter)	
VE7BRK	p. 76, Aug 72
RTTY, introduction to	
K6JFP	p. 38, Jun 69
RTTY line-length indicator (HN)	
W2UVF	p. 62, Nov 73
RTTY reception with Heath SB receivers (HN)	
K9HVV	p. 64, Oct 71
RTTY with the SB-300	
W2ARZ	p. 76, Jul 68
Signal Generator, RTTY	
W7ZTC	p. 23, Mar 71
Short circuit	p. 96, Dec 71
Speed control, electronic, for RTTY	
W3VF	p. 50, Aug 74
ST-5 keys polar relay (HN)	
WØLPD	p. 72, May 74
Swan 350 and 400 equipment on RTTY (HN)	
WB2MIC	p. 67, Aug 69
Synchrophase afsk oscillator	
W6FOO	p. 30, Dec 70
Synchrophase RTTY reception	
W6FOO	p. 38, Nov 70
Teleprinters, new look in	
W6JTT	p. 38, Jul 70
Terminal unit, phase-locked loop	
W4FQM	p. 8, Jan 72
Correction	p. 60, May 72
Terminal unit, phase-locked loop	
W4AYV	p. 36, Feb 75
Terminal unit, variable-shift RTTY	
W3VF	p. 16, Nov 73
Test generator, RTTY (HN)	
W3EAG	p. 67, Jan 73
Test generator, RTTY (HN)	
W3EAG	p. 59, Mar 73
Voltage supply, precision for phase-locked terminal unit (HN)	
WA6TLA	p. 60, Jul 74

satellites

Amateur radio in space, bibliography	
W6OLO	p. 60, Aug 68
Addenda	p. 77, Oct 68
Antenna control, automatic azimuth/elevation for satellite communications	
WA3HLT	p. 26, Jan 75
Correction	p. 58, Dec 75
Antenna, simple satellite (HN)	
WA6PXY	p. 59, Feb 75
Antennas, simple, for satellite communications	
K4GSX	p. 24, May 74
Az-el antenna mount for satellite communications	
W2LX	p. 34, Mar 75

Circularly-polarized ground-plane antenna for satellite communications	
K4GSX	p. 28, Dec 74
Communications, first step to satellite	
K1MTA	p. 52, Nov 72
Added notes (letter)	p. 73, Apr 73
Oscar 7, communications techniques for	
G3ZCZ	p. 6, Apr 74
Picture transmission, recording satellite	
W6CCN	p. 6, Nov 68
Signal polarization, satellite	
KH6IJ	p. 6, Dec 72
28-30 MHz preamplifier for satellite reception	
W1JAA	p. 48, Oct 75
432-MHz OSCAR antenna (HN)	
W1JAA	p. 58, Jul 75

semiconductors

Antenna switch for meters, solid-state	
K2ZSQ	p. 48, May 69
Avalanche transistor circuits	
W4NVK	p. 22, Dec 70
Beta master, the	
K8ERV	p. 18, Aug 68
Charge flow in semiconductors	
WB6BIH	p. 50, Apr 71
Converting a vacuum-tube receiver to solid-state	
W1OOP	p. 26, Feb 69
Short circuit	p. 76, Jul 69
Converting vacuum tube equipment to solid-state	
W2EEY	p. 30, Aug 68
Curve master, the	
K8ERV	p. 40, Mar 68
Diodes, evaluating	
W5JJ	p. 52, Dec 71
Dynamic transistor tester (HN)	
VE7ABK	p. 65, Oct 71
Fet bias problems simplified	
WA5SNZ	p. 50, Mar 74
Fet biasing	
W3FQJ	p. 61, Nov 72
Fetrons, solid-state replacements for tubes	
W1DTY	p. 4, Aug 72
Added notes	p. 66, Oct 73; p. 62, Jun 74
Frequency multipliers	
W6GXN	p. 6, Aug 71
Frequency multipliers, transistor	
W6AJF	p. 49, Jun 70
Glass semiconductors	
W1EZT	p. 54, Jul 69
Grid-dip oscillator, solid-state conversion of	
W6AJZ	p. 20, Jun 70
Heatsink problems, how to solve transistor	
WA5SNZ	p. 46, Jan 74
Impulse generator, snap diode	
Siegal, Turner	p. 29, Oct 72
Injection lasers, high power	
Mims	p. 28, Sep 71
Injection lasers (letter)	
Mims	p. 64, Apr 71
Linear power amplifier, high power solid-state	
Chambers	p. 6, Aug 74
Linear transistor amplifier	
W3FQJ	p. 59, Sep 71
Long-tail transistor biasing	
W2DXH	p. 64, Apr 68
Mobile converter, solid-state modification of	
Schuler	p. 58, Sep 69
Mosfet circuits	
W3FQJ	p. 50, Feb 75
Mosfet transistors (HN)	
WB2EGZ	p. 72, Aug 69
Motorola fets (letter)	
W1CER	p. 64, Apr 71
Motorola MPS transistors (HN)	
W2DXH	p. 42, Apr 68

Neutralizing small-signal amplifiers WA4WDK	p. 40, Sep 70
Noise, zener-diode (HN) VE7ABK	p. 59, Jun 75
Parasitic oscillations in high-power transistor rf amplifiers WØKGI	p. 54, Sep 70
Pentode replacement (HN) W1D7Y	p. 70, Feb 70
Power dissipation ratings of transistors WN9CGW	p. 56, Jun 71
Power fets W3FQJ	p. 34, Apr 71
Power transistors, parallelling (HN) WA5EKA	p. 62, Jan 72
Relay, transistor replaces (HN) W3NK	p. 72, Jan 70
Replace the unijunction transistor K9VXL	p. 58, Apr 68
Rf power detecting devices K6JYO	p. 28, Jun 70
Rf power transistors, how to use WA7KRE	p. 8, Jan 70
Snap diode impulse generator Siegal, Turner	p. 29, Oct 72
Surplus transistors, identifying W2FPP	p. 38, Dec 70
Thyristors, introduction to WA7KRE	p. 54, Oct 70
Transconductance tester for field-effect transistors W6NBI	p. 44, Sep 71
Transistor amplifiers, tabulated characteristics of W5JJ	p. 30, Mar 71
Transistor and diode tester ZL2AMJ	p. 65, Nov 70
Transistor breakdown voltages WA5EKA	p. 44, Feb 75
Transistors for vhf transmitters (HN) W1OOP	p. 74, Sep 69
Transistor storage (HN) K8ERV	p. 58, Jun 68
Transistor tester WA6NIL	p. 48, Jul 68
Transistor tester for leakage and gain W4BRS	p. 68, May 68
Transistor testing Allen	p. 62, Jul 70
Transistor-tube talk (HN) WA4NED	p. 25, Jun 68
Trapatt diodes (letter) WA7NLA	p. 72, Apr 72
Troubleshooting around fets Allen	p. 42, Oct 68
Troubleshooting transistor ham gear Allen	p. 64, Jul 68
Vfo transistors (HN) W1OOP	p. 74, Nov 69
Y parameters in rf design, using WAØTCU	p. 46, Jul 72
Zener diodes (HN) K3DPJ	p. 79, Aug 68
Zener tester, Low voltage (HN) K3DPJ	p. 72, Nov 69

single sideband

Balanced modulator, integrated-circuit K7QWR	p. 6, Sep 70
Balanced modulators, dual fet W3FQJ	p. 63, Oct 71
Communications receiver, phasing-type WAØJYK	p. 6, Aug 73
Converting a-m power amplifiers to ssb service WA4GNW	p. 55, Sep 68
Converting the Swan 120 to two meters K6RIL	p. 8, May 68
Detectors, ssb Belt	p. 22, Nov 68

Detector, ssb, IC (HN) K4ODS	p. 67, Dec 72
Correction	p. 72, Apr 73
Double-balanced mixers W1D7Y	p. 48, Mar 68
Double-balanced modulator, broadband WA6NCT	p. 8, Mar 70
Electronic bias switching for linear amplifiers W6VFR	p. 50, Mar 75
Filters, single-sideband Belt	p. 40, Aug 68
Filters, ssb (HN) K6KA	p. 63, Nov 73
Frequency dividers for ssb W7BZ	p. 24, Dec 71
Frequency translation in ssb transmitters Belt	p. 22, Sep 68
Generating ssb signals with suppressed carriers Belt	p. 24, May 68
Guide to single sideband, a beginner's Belt	p. 66, Mar 68
Hang agg circuit for ssb and CW W1ERJ	p. 50, Sep 72
Intermittent voice operation of power tubes W6SAI	p. 24, Jan 71
Intermodulation-distortion measurements on ssb transmitters W6VFR	p. 34, Sep 74
Linear amplifier, five-band conduction- cooled W9KIT	p. 6, Jul 72
Linear amplifier, five-band kilowatt W4OQ	p. 14, Jan 74
Improved operation (letter)	p. 59, Dec 74
Linear amplifier, homebrew five-band W7IV	p. 30, Mar 70
Linear amplifier performance, improving W4PSJ	p. 68, Oct 71
Linear amplifier, 100-watt W6WR	p. 28, Dec 75
Linear, five-band hf W7DI	p. 6, Mar 72
Linear for 80-10 meters, high-power W6HHN	p. 56, Apr 71
Short circuit	p. 96, Dec 71
Linear power amplifiers Belt	p. 16, Apr 68
Lines, three bands with two (HN) W4NJF	p. 70, Nov 69
Minituner, ssb K1BQT	p. 16, Oct 70
Modifying the Heath SB-200 amplifier for the new 8873 zero-bias triode W6UOV	p. 32, Jan 71
Oscillators, ssb Belt	p. 26, Jun 68
Peak envelope power, how to measure W5JJ	p. 32, Nov 74
Phase-shift networks, design criteria for G3NRW	p. 34, Jun 70
Phase-shift ssb generators Belt	p. 20, Jul 68
Power supplies for ssb Belt	p. 38, Feb 69
Precise tuning with ssb gear WØKD	p. 40, Oct 70
Pre-emphasis for ssb transmitters OH2CD	p. 38, Feb 72
Rating tubes for linear amplifier service W6UOV, W6SAI	p. 50, Mar 71
Rf clipper for the Collins S-line K6JYO	p. 18, Aug 71
Letter	p. 68, Dec 71
Rf speech processor, ssb W2MB	p. 18, Sep 73
Sideband location (HN) K6KA	p. 62, Aug 73

Solid-state circuits for ssb	
Belt	p. 18, Jan 69
Solid-state transmitting converter for	
144-MHz ssb	
W6NBI	p. 6, Feb 74
Short circuit	p. 62, Dec 74
Speech clipper, IC	
K6HTM	p. 18, Feb 73
Added notes (letter)	p. 64, Oct 73
Speech clipper, rf, construction	
G6XN	p. 12, Dec 72
Speech clippers, rf, performance of	
G6XN	p. 26, Nov 72
Added notes	p. 58, Aug 73; p. 72, Sep 74
Speech clipping	
K6KA	p. 24, Apr 69
Speech clipping in single-sideband equipment	
K1YZW	p. 22, Feb 71
Speech processing	
W1DTY	p. 60, Jun 68
Speech processing, principles of	
ZL1BN	p. 28, Feb 75
Added notes	p. 75, May 75; p. 64, Nov 75
Speech processor for ssb	
K6PHT	p. 22, Apr 70
Speech process, logarithmic	
WA3FIY	p. 38, Jan 70
Speech processor, ssb	
VK9GN	p. 31, Dec 71
Speech splatter on single sideband	
W4MB	p. 28, Sep 75
Ssb exciter, 5-band	
K1UKX	p. 10, Mar 68
Ssb generator, phasing-type	
W7CMJ	p. 22, Apr 73
Added comments (letter)	p. 65, Nov 73
Ssb generator, 9-MHz	
W9KIT	p. 6, Dec 70
Switching and linear amplification	
W3FQJ	p. 61, Oct 71
Transceiver, miniature 7-MHz	
W7BBX	p. 16, Jul 74
Transceiver, single-band ssb	
W1DTY	p. 8, Jun 69
Transceiver, ssb, IC	
G3ZVC	p. 34, Aug 74
Circuit change (letter)	p. 62, Sep 75
Transceiver, ssb, using LM373 IC	
W5BAA	p. 32, Nov 73
Transceiver, 3.5-MHz ssb	
VE6ABX	p. 6, Mar 73
Transmitter alignment	
Allen	p. 62, Oct 69
Transmitter and receiver for 40 meters, ssb	
VE3GSD	p. 6, Mar 74
Short circuit	p. 62, Dec 74
Transmitter, phasing-type ssb	
WAØJYK	p. 8, Jun 75
Transmitting mixers, 6 and 2 meters	
K2ISP	p. 8, Apr 69
Transverter, 6-meter	
K8DOC, K8TVP	p. 44, Dec 68
Trapezoidal monitor scope	
VE3CUS	p. 22, Dec 69
TTL ICs, using in ssb equipment	
G4ADJ	p. 18, Nov 75
Tuning up ssb transmitters	
Allen	p. 62, Nov 69
TV sweep tubes in linear service, full-blast operation of	
W6SAI, W6UOV	p. 9, Apr 68
Two-tone oscillator for ssb testing	
W6GXN	p. 11, Apr 72
Vacuum tubes, using odd-ball types in linear amplifier service	
W5JJ	p. 58, Sep 72
Vhf, uhf transverter, input source for (HN)	
F8MK	p. 69, Sep 70
Vox and mox systems for ssb	
Belt	p. 24, Oct 68

Vox, versatile	
W9KIT	p. 50, Jul 71
Short circuit	p. 96, Dec 71
3-500Z in amateur service, the	
W6SAI	p. 56, Mar 68
144-MHz linear, 2kW	
W6UOV, W6ZO, K6DC	p. 26, Apr 70
144-MHz low-drive kilowatt linear	
W6HHN	p. 26, Jul 70
144-MHz transverter, the TR-144	
K1RAK	p. 24, Feb 72
432 MHz rf power amplifier	
K6JC	p. 40, Apr 70
432-MHz ssb converter	
K6JC	p. 48, Jan 70
Short circuit	p. 79, Jun 70
432-MHz ssb, practical approach to	
WA2FSQ	p. 6, Jun 71
1296-MHz ssb transceiver	
WA6UAM	p. 8, Sep 74

television

Camera and monitor, sstv	
VE3EGO, Watson	p. 38, Apr 69
Color tv, slow-scan	
W4UMF, WB8DQT	p. 59, Dec 69
Computer, processing, sstv pictures	
W4UMF	p. 30, Jul 70
Fast-scan camera converter for sstv	
WA9UHV	p. 22, Jul 74
Fast-to slow-scan conversion, tv	
W3EFG, W3YZC	p. 32, Jul 71
Frequency-selective and sensitivity-controlled sstv preamp	
DK1BF	p. 36, Nov 75
Slow-scan television	
WA2EMC	p. 52, Dec 69
Sync generator, IC, for ATV	
WØKGI	p. 34, Jul 75
Sync generator, sstv (letter)	
W1IA	p. 73, Apr 73
Television DX	
WA9RAQ	p. 30, Aug 73
Test generator, sstv	
K4EEU	p. 6, Jul 73

transmitters and power amplifiers

general

Amplitude modulation, a different approach	
WA5SNZ	p. 50, Feb 70
Batteries, how to select for portable equipment	
WAØAIK	p. 40, Aug 73
Blower maintenance (HN)	
W6NIF	p. 71, Feb 71
Blower-to-chassis adapter (HN)	
K6JYO	p. 73, Feb 71
Converting a-m power amplifiers to ssb service	
WA4GNW	p. 55, Sep 68
Efficiency of linear power amplifiers, how to compare	
W5JJ	p. 64, Jul 73
Electronic bias switching for linear amplifiers	
W6VFR	p. 50, Mar 75
Fail-safe timer, transmitter (HN)	
K9HVW	p. 72, Oct 74
Filters, ssb (HN)	
K6KA	p. 63, Nov 73
Frequency multipliers	
W6GXN	p. 6, Aug 71

Frequency translation in ssb Transmitters	
Belt	p. 22, Sep 68
Grid-current measurement in grounded-grid amplifiers	
W6SAI	p. 64, Aug 68
Intermittent voice operation of power tubes	
W6SAI	p. 24, Jan 71
Key and vox clicks (HN)	
K6KA	p. 74, Aug 72
Linear power amplifiers	
Belt	p. 16, Apr 68
Lowpass filters for solid-state linear amplifiers	
WAØJYK	p. 38, Mar 74
Short circuit	p. 62, Dec 74
Multiple tubes in parallel grounding	
W7CSD	p. 60, Aug 71
Networks, transmitter matching	
W6FFC	p. 6, Jan 73
Neutralizing tip (HN)	
ZE6JP	p. 69, Dec 72
Parasitic oscillations in high-power transistor rf amplifiers	
WØKGI	p. 54, Sep 70
Parasitic suppressor (HN)	
WA9JMY	p. 80, Apr 70
Pi and Pi-L networks	
W6SAI	p. 36, Nov 68
Pi network design aid	
W6NIF	p. 62, May 74
Correction (letter)	p. 58, Dec 74
Pi-network design, high-frequency power amplifier	
W6FFC	p. 6, Sep 72
Pi-network inductors (letter)	
W7IV	p. 78, Dec 72
Pi networks, series tuned	
W2EGH	p. 42, Oct 71
Power attenuator, all-band 10-dB	
K1CCL	p. 68, Apr 70
Power fets	
W3FQJ	p. 34, Apr 71
Power tube open filament pins (HN)	
W9KNI	p. 69, Apr 75
Pre-emphasis for ssb transmitters	
OH2CD	p. 38, Feb 72
Relay activator (HN)	
K6KA	p. 62, Sep 71
Rf power amplifiers, high-efficiency	
WB8LQK	p. 8, Oct 74
Rf power transistors, how to use	
WA7KRE	p. 8, Jan 70
Screen clamp, solid-state	
WØLRW	p. 44, Sep 68
Step-start circuit, high-voltage (HN)	
W6VFR	p. 64, Sep 71
Swr alarm circuits	
W2EY	p. 73, Apr 70
Temperature alarms for high-power amplifiers	
W2EY	p. 48, Jul 70
Transmitter power levels, some observations regarding	
WA5SNZ	p. 62, Apr 71
Transmitter, remote keying (HN)	
WA3HDU	p. 74, Oct 69
Transmitter switching, solid-state	
W2EY	p. 44, Jun 68
Transmitter-tuning unit for the blind	
W9NTP	p. 60, Jun 71
TV sweep tubes in linear service, full-blast operation of	
W6SAI, W6UOV	p. 9, Apr 68
Vacuum tubes, using odd-ball types in linear amplifiers	
W5JJ	p. 58, Sep 72
Vfo, digital readout	
WB8IFM	p. 14, Jan 73

high-frequency transmitters

ART-13, Modifying for noiseless CW (HN)	
K5GKN	p. 68, Aug 69
CW transceiver for 40 and 80 meters	
W3NNL, K3OIO	p. 14, Jul 69
CW transceiver, low-power 20-meter	
W7ZOI	p. 8, Nov 74
CW transmitter, half-watt	
KØVQY	p. 69, Nov 69
Driver and final for 40 and 80 meters, solid-state	
W3QBO	p. 20, Feb 72
Field-effect transistor transmitters	
K2BLA	p. 30, Feb 71
Filters, low-pass for 10 and 15 meters	
W2EY	p. 42, Jan 72
Frequency synthesizer, high frequency	
K2BLA	p. 16, Oct 72
Grounded-grid 2 kW PEP amplifier, high frequency	
W6SAI	p. 6, Feb 69
Heath HW-101 transceiver, using with a separate receiver (HN)	
WA1MKP	p. 63, Oct 73
Linear amplifier, five-band	
W7IV	p. 30, Mar 70
Linear amplifier, five-band conduction-cooled	
W9KIT	p. 6, Jul 72
Linear amplifier performance, improving	
W4PSJ	p. 68, Oct 71
Linear amplifier, 100-watt	
W6WR	p. 28, Dec 75
Linear, five-band hf	
W7DI	p. 6, Mar 72
Linear, five-band kilowatt	
W4OQ	p. 14, Jan 74
Improved operation (letter)	p. 59, Dec 74
Linear for 80-10 meters, high-power	
W6HHN	p. 56, Apr 71
Short circuit	p. 96, Dec 71
Linear power amplifier, high-power solid-state	
Chambers	p. 6, Aug 74
Linears, three bands with two (HN)	
W4NJF	p. 70, Nov 69
Low-frequency transmitter, solid-state	
W4KAE	p. 16, Nov 68
Lowpass filter, high-frequency	
W2OLU	p. 24, Mar 75
Short circuit	p. 59, Jun 75
Modifying the Heath SB-200 amplifier for the new 8873 zero-bias triode	
W6UOV	p. 32, Jan 71
Phase-locked loop, 28 MHz	
W1KNI	p. 40, Jan 73
QRP fet transmitter, 80-meter	
W3FQJ	p. 50, Aug 75
Ssb exciter, 5-band	
K1UKX	p. 10, Mar 68
Ssb transceiver, miniature 7-MHz	
W7BBX	p. 16, Jul 74
Ssb transceiver using LM373 IC	
W5BAA	p. 32, Nov 73
Ssb transceiver, 9-MHz, IC	
G3ZVC	p. 34, Aug 74
Circuit change (letter)	p. 62, Sep 75
Ssb transmitter and receiver, 40 meters	
VE3GSD	p. 6, Mar 74
Short circuit	p. 62, Dec 74
Ssb transmitter, phasing type	
WAØJYK	p. 8, Jun 75
Tank circuit, inductively-tuned high-frequency	
W6SAI	p. 6, Jul 70
Transceiver, single-band ssb	
W1DITY	p. 8, Jun 69
Transceiver, 3.5-MHz ssb	
VE6ABX	p. 6, Mar 73

Transmitter, low-power W6NIF	p. 26, Dec 70	144-MHz transceiver, a-m K1AOB	p. 55, Dec 71
Transmitters, QRP W7OE	p. 36, Dec 68	144-MHz two-kilowatt linear W6UOV, W6ZO, K6DC	p. 26, Apr 70
Transmitter, universal flea-power K2ZSQ	p. 58, Apr 69	144- and 432- stripline amplifier/tripler K2RIW	p. 6, Feb 70
Transverter, high-level hf K4ERO	p. 68, Jul 68	220-MHz exciter WB6DJV	p. 50, Nov 71
3-500Z in amateur service, the W6SAI	p. 56, Mar 68	220-MHz power amplifier W6UOV	p. 44, Dec 71
14-MHz vfo transmitter, solid-state W3QBO	p. 6, Nov 73	220-MHz, rf power amplifier for WB6DJV	p. 44, Jan 71
28-MHz transmitter, solid-state K2ZSQ	p. 10, Jul 68	220-MHz rf power amplifier, vhf fm K7JUE	p. 6, Sep 73
40-meters, transistor rig for W6BLZ, K5GXR	p. 44, Jul 68	432-MHz amplifier, 2-kW W6DAI, W6NLZ	p. 6, Sep 68
160-meters, 500-watt power amplifier W2BP	p. 8, Aug 75	432-MHz exciter, solid-state W1OOP	p. 38, Oct 69

vhf and uhf transmitters

Converting the Swan 120 to two meters K6RIL	p. 8, May 68	432-MHz rf power amplifier K6JC	p. 40, Apr 70
Fm repeater transmitter, improving W6GDO	p. 24, Oct 69	432-MHz solid-state linear amplifier WB6QXF	p. 30, Aug 75
Linear for 2 meters W4KAE	p. 47, Jan 69	432-MHz ssb converter K6JC	p. 48, Jan 70
Linear for 1296 MHz, high-power WB6IOM	p. 8, Aug 68	Short circuit W7CNP	p. 79, Jun 70
Phase-locked loop, 50 MHz W1KNI	p. 40, Jan 73	432-MHz 100-watt solid-state power amplifier W47CNP	p. 36, Sep 75
Transistors for vhf transmitters (HN) W1OOP	p. 74, Sep 69	1296-MHz frequency tripler K4SUM, W4API	p. 40, Sep 69
Transmitter, flea power K2ZSQ	p. 80, Dec 68	1296-MHz power amplifier W2COH, W2CCY, W2OJ, W1MU	p. 43, Mar 70
Transmitting mixers for 6 and 2 meters K2ISP	p. 8, Apr 69	2304-MHz power amplifier WA9HUV	p. 8, Feb 75
Transverter for 6 meters WA9IGU	p. 44, Jul 69		
Tunnel diode phone rig, 6-meter (HN) K2ZSQ	p. 74, Jul 68		
Vhf linear, 2kW, design data for W6UOV	p. 6, Mar 69		
50-MHz kilowatt, inductively tuned K1DPP	p. 8, Sep 75		
50-MHz linear amplifier K1RAK	p. 38, Nov 71		
50-MHz linear amplifier, 2-kW W6UOV	p. 16, Feb 71		
50-MHz linear, inductively tuned W6SAI	p. 6, Jul 70		
50-MHz transmitter, solid-state WB2EGZ	p. 6, Oct 68		
50-MHz transverter K1RAK	p. 12, Mar 71		
50/144-MHz multimode transmitter K2ISP	p. 28, Sep 70		
144-MHz fm transmitter W9SEK	p. 6, Apr 72		
144-MHz fm transmitter, solid-state W6AJF	p. 14, Jul 71		
144-MHz fm transmitter, Sonobaby WAØUZO	p. 8, Oct 71		
Short circuit	p. 96, Dec 71		
Crystal deck for	p. 26, Oct 72		
144-MHz low-drive kilowatt linear W6HHN	p. 26, Jul 70		
144-MHz low-power solid-state transmitter KØVQY	p. 52, Mar 70		
144-MHz phase-modulated transmitter W6AJF	p. 18, Feb 70		
144-MHz power amplifier, high performance W6UOV	p. 22, Aug 71		
144-MHz power amplifier, 10-watt solid-state W1DTY	p. 67, Jan 74		
144-MHz rf power amplifiers, solid state W4CGC	p. 6, Apr 73		
144-MHz transmitting converter, solid-state ssb W6NBI	p. 6, Feb 74		
Short circuit	p. 62, Dec 74		

transmitters and power amplifiers, test and troubleshooting

Aligning vhf transmitters Allen	p. 58, Sep 68
Ssb transmitter alignment Allen	p. 62, Oct 69
Transverter, 6-meter K8DOC, K8TVP	p. 44, Dec 68
Tuning up ssb transmitters Allen	p. 62, Nov 69

troubleshooting

Analyzing wrong dc voltages Allen	p. 54, Feb 69
Audio distortion, curing in speech amplifiers Allen	p. 42, Aug 70
Dc-dc converters, curing trouble in Allen	p. 56, Jun 70
Fets, troubleshooting around Allen	p. 42, Oct 68
High-voltage troubleshooting Allen	p. 52, Aug 68
Mobile power supplies, troubleshooting Allen	p. 56, Jun 70
Ohmmeter troubleshooting Allen	p. 52, Jan 69
Oscillators, repairing Allen	p. 69, Mar 70
Oscilloscope, putting to work Allen	p. 64, Sep 69
Oscilloscope, troubleshooting amateur gear with Allen	p. 52, Aug 69
Receiver alignment Allen	p. 64, Jun 68
Receiver alignment techniques, vhf fm K4IPV	p. 14, Aug 75
Resistance measurement, troubleshooting by Allen	p. 62, Nov 68

Rf and i-f amplifiers, troubleshooting	
Allen	p. 60, Sep 70
Signal injection testing in receivers	
Allen	p. 72, May 68
Signal tracing in amateur receivers	
Allen	p. 52, Apr 68
Speech amplifiers, curing distortion	
Allen	p. 42, Aug 70
Ssb transmitter alignment	
Allen	p. 62, Oct 69
Sweep generator, how to use	
Allen	p. 60, Apr 70
Transistor amateur gear, troubleshooting	
Allen	p. 64, Jul 68
Transistor testing	
Allen	p. 62, Jul 70
Tuning up ssb transmitters	
Allen	p. 62, Nov 69
Vhf transmitters, aligning	
Allen	p. 58, Sep 68

vhf and microwave

general

Amateur vhf fm operation	
W6AYZ	p. 36, Jun 68
Artificial radio aurora, vhf scattering characteristics	
WB6KAP	p. 18, Nov 74
A-m modulation monitor (HN)	
K7UNL	p. 67, Jul 71
APX-6 transponder, notes on	
W6OSA	p. 32, Apr 68
Band change from six to two meters, quick	
KØYQY	p. 64, Feb 70
Bandpass filters, single-pole	
W6HPH	p. 51, Sep 69
Bandpass filters, 25 to 2500 MHz	
K6RIL	p. 46, Sep 69
Bypassing, rf, at vhf	
WB6BHI	p. 50, Jan 72
Cavity filter, 144-MHz	
W1SNN	p. 22, Dec 73
Short circuit	p. 64, Mar 74
Coaxial filter, vhf	
W6SAI	p. 36, Aug 71
Coaxial-line resonators (HN)	
W4TKRE	p. 82, Apr 70
Coil-winding data, practical vhf and uhf	
K3SVC	p. 6, Apr 71
Crystal mount, untuned	
W1DTY	p. 68, Jun 68
Effective radiated power (HN)	
VE7CB	p. 72, May 73
Frequency multipliers	
W6GXN	p. 6, Aug 71
Frequency multipliers, transistor	
W6AJF	p. 49, Jun 70
Frequency scaler, 500-MHz	
W6URH	p. 32, Jun 75
Frequency scalars, 1200-MHz	
WB9KEY	p. 38, Feb 75
Frequency synchronization for scatter-mode propagation	
K2OVS	p. 26, Sep 71
Frequency synthesizer, 220 MHz	
W6GXN	p. 8, Dec 74
Gridded tubes, vhf/uhf effects in	
W6UOV	p. 8, Jan 69
Harmonic generator (HN)	
W5GDQ	p. 76, Oct 70
Impedance bridge (HN)	
W6KZK	p. 67, Feb 70
Indicator, sensitive rf	
WB9DNI	p. 38, Apr 73
Klystron cooler, waveguide (HN)	
WA4WDL	p. 74, Oct 74
Lunar-path nomograph	
WA6NCT	p. 28, Oct 70

Microwave communications, amateur standards for	
K6HIJ	p. 54, Sep 69
Microwave hybrids and couplers for amateur use	
W2CTK	p. 57, Jul 70
Short circuit	p. 72, Dec 70
Microwaves, getting started in	
Roubal	p. 53, Jun 72
Microwaves, introduction to	
W1CBY	p. 20, Jan 72
Moonbounce to Australia	
W1DTY	p. 85, Apr 68
Noise figure, meaning of	
K6MIO	p. 26, Mar 69
Noise figure measurements, vhf	
WB6NMT	p. 36, Jun 72
Noise generators, using (HN)	
K2ZSQ	p. 79, Aug 68
Phase-locked loop, tunable 50 MHz	
W1KNI	p. 40, Jan 73
Power dividers and hybrids	
W1DAX	p. 30, Aug 72
Proportional temperature control for crystal ovens	
VE5FP	p. 44, Jan 70
Radio observatory, vhf	
Ham	p. 44, Jul 74
Reflex klystrons, pogo stick for (HN)	
W6BPK	p. 71, Jul 73
Rf power-detecting devices	
K6JYO	p. 28, Jun 70
Satellite communications	
K1TMA	p. 52, Nov 72
Added notes (letter)	p. 73, Apr 73
Satellite signal polarization	
KH6JJ	p. 6, Dec 72
Solar cycle 20, vhf'er's view of	
WA5IYX	p. 46, Dec 74
Tank circuits, design of vhf	
K7UNL	p. 56, Nov 70
Uhf hardware (HN)	
W6CMQ	p. 76, Oct 70
Vfo, high-stability vhf	
OH2CD	p. 27, Jan 72
Vhf beacons	
K6EDX	p. 52, Oct 69
Vhf beacons	
W3FQJ	p. 66, Dec 71
50-MHz frequency synthesizer	
W1KNI	p. 26, Mar 74
144-MHz fm frequency meter	
W4JAZ	p. 40, Jan 71
Short circuit	p. 72, Apr 71
144-MHz frequency synthesizer	
WB4FPK	p. 34, Jul 73
144-MHz frequency-synthesizer, one-crystal	
WØKMV	p. 30, Sep 73
220-MHz frequency synthesizer	
W6GXN	p. 8, Dec 74
432-MHz ssb, practical approach to	
WA2FSQ	p. 6, Jun 71
1296-MHz microstripline bandpass filters	
WA6UAM	p. 46, Dec 75
40-GHz record	
K7PMY	p. 70, Dec 68

vhf and microwave antennas

Circularly-polarized ground-plane antenna for satellite communications	
K4GSX	p. 28, Dec 74
Ground plane, portable vhf (HN)	
K9DHD	p. 71, May 73
Log-periodic yagi beam antenna	
K6RIL, W6SAI	p. 8, Jul 69
Correction	p. 68, Feb 70
Microstrip swr bridge, vhf and uhf	
W4CGC	p. 22, Dec 72

Microwave antenna, low-cost K6HIJ	p. 52, Nov 69	Fet converters for 50, 144, 220 and 432 MHz W6AJF	p. 20, Mar 68
Parabolic reflector antennas VK3ATN	p. 12, May 74	Interdigital preamplifier and comb-line bandpass filter for vhf and uhf W6KHT	p. 6, Aug 70
Parabolic reflector element spacing WA9HUV	p. 28, May 75	Noise figure, sensitivity and dynamic range W1DTY	p. 8, Oct 75
Parabolic reflector gain W2TQK	p. 50, Jul 75	Noise figure, vhf, estimating WA9HUV	p. 42, Jun 75
Parabolic reflector, 16-foot homebrew WB6IOM	p. 8, Aug 69	Overload problems with vhf converters, solving W10OP	p. 53, Jan 73
Parabolic reflectors, finding focal length of (HN) WA4WDL	p. 57, Mar 74	Receiver scanner, vhf K2LZG	p. 22, Feb 73
Swr meter W6VSV	p. 6, Oct 70	Receiver, superregenerative, for vhf WA5SNZ	p. 22, Jul 73
Transmission lines, uhf WA2VTR	p. 36, May 71	Signal detection and communication in the presence of white noise WB6IOM	p. 16, Feb 69
Two-meter antenna, simple (HN) W6BLZ	p. 78, Aug 68	Signal generator for two and six meters WA8OIK	p. 54, Nov 69
Two-meter mobile antennas W6BLZ	p. 76, May 68	Single-frequency conversion, vhf/uhf W3FQJ	p. 62, Apr 75
Vhf antenna switching without relays (HN) K2ZSQ	p. 77, Sep 68	Vhf converter performance, optimizing (HN) K2ZSQ	p. 18, Jul 68
10 GHz dielectric antenna (HN) WA4WDL	p. 80, May 75	Weak-signal source, stable, variable output K6JYO	p. 36, Sep 71
50-MHz antenna coupler K1RAK	p. 44, Jul 71	Weak-signal source, 144 and 432 MHz K6JC	p. 58, Mar 70
50-MHz collinear beam K4ERO	p. 59, Nov 69	Weak-signal source, 432 and 1296 MHz K6RIL	p. 20, Sep 68
50-MHz cubical quad, economy W6DOR	p. 50, Apr 69	28-30 MHz low-noise preamp W1JAA	p. 48, Oct 75
50-MHz J-pole antenna K4SDY	p. 48, Aug 68	50-MHz deluxe mosfet converter WB2EGZ	p. 41, Feb 71
50-MHz mobile antenna (HN) W4PSJ	p. 77, Oct 70	50-MHz etched-inductance bandpass filters and filter-preamplifiers W5KHT	p. 6, Feb 71
144-MHz antenna, $\frac{1}{2}$ wave vertical K6KLO	p. 40, Jul 74	50-MHz mosfet converter WB2EGZ	p. 22, Jun 68
144-MHz antenna, $\frac{1}{2}$ -wave vertical, build from CB mobile whips WB4WSU	p. 67, Jun 74	Short circuit p. 34, Aug 68	
144-MHz antennas, simple WA3NFW	p. 30, May 73	50-MHz preamplifier, improved WA2GCF	p. 46, Jan 73
144-MHz antenna switch, solid-state K2ZSQ	p. 48, May 69	144-MHz converter (HN) KØVQY	p. 71, Aug 70
144-MHz collinear antenna W6RJO	p. 12, May 72	144-MHz converter, 1.5 dB noise figure WA6SXC	p. 14, Jul 68
144-MHz four-element collinear array WB6KGF	p. 6, May 71	144-MHz converters, choosing fets (HN) K6JYO	p. 70, Aug 69
144-MHz ground plane antenna, 0.7 wavelength W3WZA	p. 40, Mar 69	144-MHz deluxe mosfet converter WB2EGZ	p. 41, Feb 71
144-MHz moonbounce antenna K6HCP	p. 52, May 70	Short circuit p. 96, Dec 71	
144-MHz whip, 5/8-wave (HN) VE3DDD	p. 70, Apr 73	Letter, WØLER p. 71, Oct 71	
432-MHz corner reflector antenna WA2FSQ	p. 24, Nov 71	144-MHz etched-inductance bandpass filters and filter-preamplifiers W5KHT	p. 6, Feb 71
432-MHz OSCAR antenna (HN) W1JAA	p. 58, Jul 75	144-MHz fm receiver W9SEK	p. 22, Sep 70
432- and 1296-MHz quad-yagi arrays W3AED	p. 20, May 73	144-MHz fm receiver WA2GBF	p. 42, Feb 72
Short circuit p. 58, Dec 73		Added notes p. 73, Jul 72	
440-MHz collinear antenna, four-element WA6HTP	p. 38, May 73	144-MHz fm receiver WA2GCF	p. 6, Nov 72
1296-MHz Yagi W2CQH	p. 24, May 72	144-MHz preamplifier, improved WA2GCF	p. 25, Mar 72
1296-MHz Yagi array W3AED	p. 40, May 75	144-MHz preamplifier, low noise W8BBB	p. 36, Jun 74
		144-MHz preamp, super (HN) K6HCP	p. 72, Oct 69
		144-MHz preamp, MM5000 W4KAE	p. 49, Oct 68
		220-MHz mosfet converter WB2EGZ	p. 28, Jan 69
		Short circuit p. 76, Jul 69	
		432-MHz converter, low-noise K6JC	p. 34, Oct 70
		432-MHz fet converter, low-noise WA6SXC	p. 18, May 68
		432-MHz fet preamp (HN) W1DTY	p. 66, Aug 69

vhf and microwave receivers and converters

Audio filter, tunable, for weak-signal communications K6HCP	p. 28, Nov 75
Cooled preamplifier for vhf-uhf reception WAØRDX	p. 36, Jul 72

432 MHz preamplifier and converter WA2GCF	p. 40, Jul 75
432-MHz preamplifier, ultra low-noise W1JAA	p. 8, Mar 75
1296-MHz converter, solid state VK4ZT	p. 6, Nov 70
1296 MHz, double-balanced mixers for WA6UAM	p. 8, Jul 75
1296-MHz noise generator W3BSV	p. 46, Aug 73
1296-MHz preamplifier WA6UAM	p. 42, Oct 75
1296-MHz preamplifier, low-noise transistor WA2VTR	p. 50, Jun 71
Added note (letter)	p. 65, Jan 72
1296-MHz preamplifiers, microstripline WA6UAM	p. 12, Apr 75
1296-MHz ssb transceiver WA6UAM	p. 8, Sep 74
2304-MHz balanced mixer WA2ZZF	p. 58, Oct 75
2304-MHz converter, solid-state K2JNG, WA2LTM, WA2VTR	p. 16, Mar 72
2304-MHz preamplifier, solid-state WA2VTR	p. 20, Aug 72
2304-MHz preamplifiers, narrow-band solid-state WA9HUV	p. 6, Jul 74

vhf and microwave transmitters

Aligning vhf transmitters Allen	p. 58, Sep 68
Converting the Swan 120 to two meters K6RIL	p. 8, May 68
External anode tetrodes W6SAI	p. 23, Jun 69
Inductively-tuned tank circuit W6SAI	p. 6, Jul 70
Lighthouse tubes for uhf W6UOV	p. 27, Jun 69
Pi networks, series-tuned W2EGH	p. 42, Oct 71
Ssb input source for vhf, uhf transverters (HN) F8MK	p. 69, Sep 70
Transistors for vhf transmitters (HN) W1OOP	p. 74, Sep 69
Vhf linear, 2 kW, design data for W6UOV	p. 7, Mar 69
2C39, water cooling K6MYC	p. 30, Jun 69
50-MHz customized transverter K1RAK	p. 12, Mar 71
50-MHz heterodyne transmitting mixer K2ISP	p. 8, Apr 69
Correction	p. 76, Sep 70
50-MHz kilowatt, inductively-tuned K1DPP	p. 8, Sep 75
50-MHz 2 kW linear amplifier W6UOV	p. 16, Feb 71
50-MHz linear amplifier K1RAK	p. 38, Nov 71
50-MHz multimode transmitter K2ISP	p. 28, Sep 70
50-MHz transmitter, solid-state WB2EGZ	p. 6, Oct 68
50-MHz transverter K8DOC, K8TVP	p. 44, Dec 68
50-MHz transverter WA9IGU	p. 44, Jul 69
50-MHz tunnel-diode phone rig K2ZSQ	p. 74, Jul 68
144-MHz fm transceiver, compact W6AOI	p. 36, Jan 74
144-MHz fm transmitter W6AJF	p. 14, Jul 71

144-MHz fm transmitter W9SEK	p. 6, Apr 72
144-MHz fm transmitter, Sonobaby WAØUZO	p. 8, Oct 72
Crystal deck for Sonobaby	p. 26, Oct 72
144-MHz heterodyne transmitting mixers K2ISP	p. 8, Apr 69
Correction	p. 76, Sep 70
144-MHz linear W4KAE	p. 47, Jan 69
144-MHz linear, 2kW, design data for W6UOV	p. 7, Mar 69
144-MHz low-drive kilowatt linear W6HHN	p. 26, Jul 70
144-MHz multimode transmitter K2ISP	p. 28, Sep 70
144-MHz phase-modulated transmitter W6AJF	p. 18, Feb 70
144-MHz power amplifier, high performance W6UOV	p. 22, Aug 71
144-MHz power amplifiers, fm W4CGC	p. 6, Apr 73
144-MHz power amplifier, 10-watt solid-state (HN) W1DTY	p. 67, Jan 74
144-MHz power amplifier, 80-watt, Hatchett	p. 6, Dec 73
144-MHz transceiver, a-m K1AOB	p. 55, Dec 71
144-MHz transmitting converter, solid-state ssb W6NBI	p. 6, Feb 74
Short circuit	p. 62, Dec 74
144-MHz transverter K1RAK	p. 24, Feb 72
144-MHz two-kilowatt linear W6UOV, W6ZO, K6DC	p. 26, Apr 70
144- and 432-MHz stripline amplifier/tripler K2RIW	p. 6, Feb 70
220-MHz exciter WB6DJV	p. 50, Nov 71
220-MHz power amplifier W6UOV	p. 44, Dec 71
220-MHz rf power amplifier WB6DJV	p. 44, Jan 71
220-MHz rf power amplifier, fm K7JUE	p. 6, Sep 73
432-MHz amplifier, 2-kW W6SAI, W6NLZ	p. 6, Sep 68
432-MHz exciter, solid-state W1OOP	p. 38, Oct 69
432-MHz rf power amplifier K6JC	p. 40, Apr 70
432-MHz solid-state linear amplifier WB6QXF	p. 30, Aug 75
432-MHz ssb converter K6JC	p. 48, Jan 70
Short circuit	p. 79, Jun 70
432-MHz ssb, practical approach WA2FSQ	p. 6, Jun 71
432-MHz stripline tripler K2RIW	p. 6, Feb 70
432-MHz 100-watt solid-state power amplifier WA7CNP	p. 36, Sep 75
1152- to 2304-MHz power doubler WA9HUV	p. 40, Dec 75
1296-MHz frequency tripler K4SUM, W4API	p. 40, Sep 69
1296-MHz linear, high-power WB6IOM	p. 6, Aug 68
Short circuit	p. 54, Nov 68
1296-MHz power amplifier W2COH, W2CCY, W2OJ, W1IMU	p. 43, Mar 70
1296-MHz ssb transceiver WA6UAM	p. 8, Sep 74
2304-MHz power amplifier WA9HUV	p. 8, Feb 75

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INDEX

Adva	265	Kensco	394
Aldelco	347	Kenwood	341
Amtroncraft	381	Kolar	334
Apron	380	Levy	291
Atlas	198	Lyle Giant	011
Atronic	382	Lyle	373
Barber	383	MFJ	082
Barry *		Matric	084
Bauman	017	Maynard	363
Budwig	233	M-Tech	357
Bullet	328	National Semi.	323
Buyers & Sellers	329	N. E. Digital	336
CFP	022	Northshore RF	296
Cal-Com	282	PRA	316
Communications		Page	092
Specialists	330	Palomar	093
Communication		Poly Paks	096
Specialties	369	Porta-Pak	274
Corbin	349	RCA	312
Crystal Products	370	R Comm	305
Curtis	034	RMS	239
Cush Craft	035	RP	092
D-D Ent.	269	Radiation Devices	099
D & N	384	Callbook	100
Dames	324	Regency	102
Data Signal	270	SI-Tel	375
Dentron	259	Sagal	376
Drake	039	SAROC	146
Dycomm	040	Savoy	105
Eimac	043	Signal	
Electra Co.	385	Management	391
Electrografix	386	Slep	232
Electronic Devices	387	Southwest Tech.	262
Electronic Dist.	044	Space	107
Elect. Equip. Bank	288	Specialty Comm.	
ELPROCON	301	Systems	318
Electrospace	388	Spectronics	191
Erickson	047	Spectrum Int.	108
Genave	168	Swan	111
J. J. Glass	389	Systems Research	392
HR Report	150	TMAC	245
Hal	057	Ten-Tec *	
Hal-Tronix	254	Tescom	393
Ham Radio	150	Topeka FM	115
Hamtronics	246	Towtec	320
Henry	062	Tri-Ex	116
Hildreth	283	Triad-Ultrad	345
Hosfelt	390	Tristao Tower, Div. of	
Howard		Palmer	118
Micro Systems	361	Tropical	
Hy-Gain	064	Hamboree	185
Icom	065	Tuffs	321
International		VHF Engineering	121
Crystal	066	Valu-Pak	284
James	333	Vanguard	346
Jan	067	Webster	255
Janel	068	Weinschenker	122
Jensen	293	Weirnu	379
K-Enterprises	071	Werlatone	367
K. E.	072	Whitehouse	378
KLM	073	Wilson	123

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NAME.....
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Advertisers iNDEX

Adva Electronics	101
Aldelco	108
Amtroncraft Kits, Inc.	75
Apron Laboratories	113
Atlas Radio Co.	39
Atronic	108
Barber Corporation	94
Barry	144
Bauman	111
Budwig Mfg. Co.	108
Bullet	81, 91
Buyers & Sellers	107
CFP Communications	106
Cal-Com Systems, Inc.	112
Communications Specialists	2
Communication Specialties, Inc.	112
D. R. Corbin Mfg. Co.	110
Crystal Products Co.	113
Curtis Electro Devices	110
Cush Craft	Cover II
D-D Enterprises	70, 103
D & N Gifts	107
Dames, Ted	111
Data Signal, Inc.	72, 74, 85
Dentron Radio Co.	72, 73, 104
Drake Co., R. L.	1
Dycomm	68
Eimac, Div. of Varian Assoc.	Cover IV
Electrografix, Inc.	100
Electronic Distributors	103
Electronic Equipment Bank, Inc.	74
ELPROCON	104
Electrospace Systems, Inc.	112
Erickson Communications	95
General Aviation	92, 93
J. J. Glass Co.	65
HR Report	62
Hal Communications Corp.	57, 94
Hal-Tronix	106
Ham Radio	64, 66, 96, 97
Hamtronics, Inc.	102
Henry Radio Stores	Cover III
Hildreth Engineering	108
Hosfelt Electronics	112
Howard Micro Systems, Inc.	111
Hy-Gain Electronics Corp.	143
Icom	5
International Crystal Mfg. Co., Inc.	7
James Electronics	88, 89, 103
Janel Crystals	76
Janel Labs	112
K-Enterprises	76
K. E. Electronics	112
KLM Electronics	77
Kensco Communications, Inc.	94
Tri-Kenwood Communications, Inc.	31
Kolar, Inc.	113
Levy Associates	90
Little Giant Antenna Labs	106
Lyle Products	110
MFJ Enterprises	49
Matric	90
Maynard Electronics	59
M-Tech	108, 109
New England Digital Electronics	104
Northshore RF Technology	110
PRA Industries	113
Page	103
Palomar Engineers	82, 111
Poly Paks	98
Porta-Pak	110
R F Communications	86
RMS Corporation	90
RP Electronics	68
Radio Amateur Callbook	69, 82
Regency Electronics, Inc.	83
SST Electronics	110
Sagal Electronics	106
SAROC	105
Savoy	82
Signal Management Sciences	112
SI-Tel Electronics Co.	100
Southwest Technical Products	61
Space Electronics Corp.	108
Specialty Communications Systems	108
Spectronics, FM	87, 112
Spectrum International	55
Swan Electronics	86
Systems Research, Inc.	70
Ten-Tec	107
Topeka FM Communications	106
Towtec Corp.	107
Tri-Ex Tower Corp.	35
Tristao Tower, Div. of Palmer	83
Tropical Hamboree	71
Tufts Radio Electronics	74
VHF Engineering, Div. of Brownian	45
Valu-Pak	104
Vanguard Labs	86
Webster Radio	106
Weinschenker	103
Weirnu	102
Werlatone, Inc.	67
Whitehouse	108
Wilson Electronics	78, 79, 80

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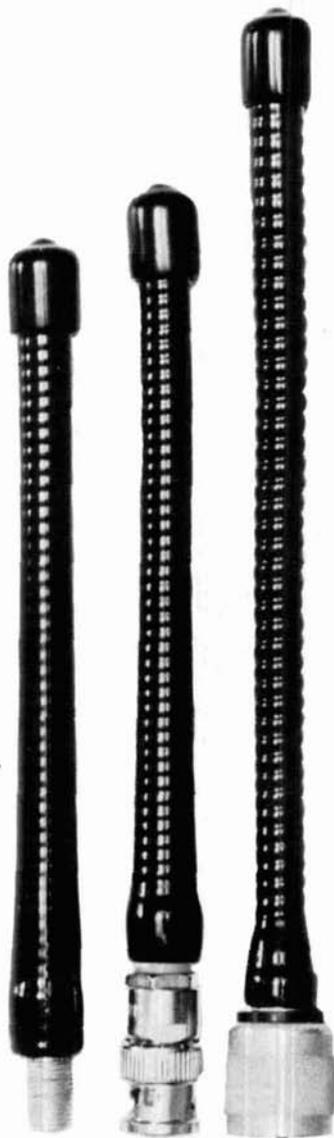
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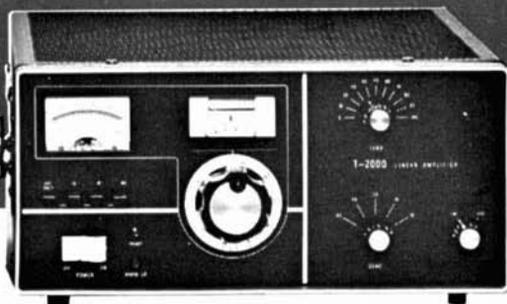


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