

I originally built this 5/8 Antenna from a circuit that appeared in 73 Magazines several years ago. As you can see it is a tuned circuit which works well without the necessity for radials. The method of construction is new, however. I used an old collapsible whip from the defunct RJ27 Walkie Talkie which happened to be the right length. The size of wire is not critical. The PL259 is used so as to enable the antenna to be coupled direct to a SWR bridge for tuning. If you possess and Antenna noise bridge so much the better. If you dont have access to a lathe, a suitable sized piece of plastic rod ground down at one end and drilled will suffice. To adjust extend the whip to correct length and while holding vertically (preferably out in the open) key the H/T. Adjust for lowest SWR by tuning the trimmer capacitor and/or opening or closing the coil slightly. If you have to shorten the whip to lower the SWR this is proof that you have too much inductance and the coil should be opened slightly and vice versa. The tapping point may have to be moved as well, but this is unlikely. I used as PL259 to BNC CONNECTOR FOR FITTING to my IC.2E H/T. A straight series-fed version (also 4 turns) and without a capacitor was made as well. This works just as well but it is very sensitive to hand effects, etc. As the antenna is not used on a permanent basis this should not be a problem.

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