

Assembly Instructions: UHF Television Antenna Kit

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Introduction

The MTM Scientific, Inc. UHF Television Antenna Kit is designed to improve reception of broadcast television stations. The antenna is built for high gain on a single UHF channel of interest, ranging from 14 to 70. The antenna is primarily intended for temporary indoor use, although an outdoor version can be built.

Assembly Steps

Step 1: Select the specific UHF channel you wish to receive. (Anywhere in the range of 14 to 70.)

Step 2: Refer to the Appendix and find the row entry for your selected channel. Hint: Use a highlighter to mark the row for easy reference during assembly.

Step 3: Drill the wooden mast beam per the dimensions given in the "position" columns of the Appendix. Note that at the loop position two holes are drilled $\frac{1}{2}$ " apart, refer to the diagram.

Step 4: Cut the antenna elements to length. Strong wire cutters or a vise and hacksaw will work well. You may need to de-burr the ends after cutting. Note that the loop is formed separately, as described in the next steps.

Step 5: Carefully form the loop. The loop should have a separation of $\frac{1}{2}$ ", and a length as given in the Appendix. Refer to the drawing. Note that the loop should be formed by first inserting the rod through a hole in the wooden mast and then starting to make the bends! It is easiest to make the final loop ends longer initially, and then cut them to fit for Step 6.

Step 6: Insert the short plastic piece in the wooden mast. Cut the ends of the loop to length such that they mate flush with the ends of the plastic piece. Slip the brass tubes (soldered to the coaxial cable) onto the loop ends. Telescope the tubes over the plastic piece to hold them in place. Refer to the drawing and photos. Solder may be added to the connection between the tubes and rods if you want a more permanent connection.

Step 7: Use the nylon cable ties to attach the coaxial cable to the wooden mast beam.

Step 8: Insert the remaining brass antenna elements. Each element should be centered in the wooden mast beam. If desired, a small amount of adhesive may be used to secure the antenna elements in place.

Directions for using the Antenna

The antenna is designed to receive the channel you have built it for. The coaxial cable attached to the antenna is a low loss type. The antenna should be connected directly to the television set for best performance.

A small portable television is ideal for prospecting reception, because you can easily change location for the best signal.

In use the antenna should be pointed towards the direction of the television station. A clear view of the horizon towards the station is ideal, for example from the balcony of a 2nd story apartment. You will find keeping the antenna elements horizontal produces the best reception of television stations.

Ideas, Things to Try

An outdoor version of the antenna can also be built by substituting a piece of 3/4 " PVC water pipe for the mast. It is still a good idea to drill the wooden mast first, and then simply transfer the holes to the PVC pipe. For an outdoor version, the antenna elements should be secured in place using silicone sealant. Also dab some sealant on the open end of the PVC cable to prevent moisture absorption.

An outdoor version of the antenna introduces hazards associated with lightning. Consequently the antenna should be grounded identically to any standard television antenna installation. Radio Shack sells the parts for doing the installation correctly.

The antenna can also be used with a radio or scanner. In that case you should build the antenna for the frequency of interest by referring again to the information in Appendix A. The output impedance of the antenna is 75 ohms, which will provide an adequate match for most receivers. It will be necessary to buy an RF adapter connector from Radio Shack to make the hook-up to your receiver with the F Connector Male fitting on the coaxial cable.

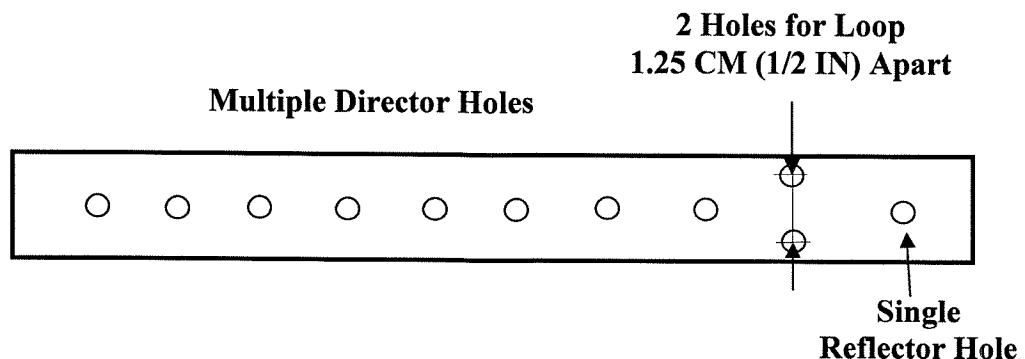
It is also possible to design and build your own custom YAGI antenna using the kit materials. One excellent program for designing your own antenna is "Quick Yagi" by Chuck Smith (WA7RAI). The software is available for free download on the internet.

This antenna kit can be used to make an antenna suitable for doing amateur radio astronomy. UHF Channel 37 is reserved for this very purpose (608-614 MHz). Refer to the MTM website if you are interested in pursuing this project, as they also offer a TV Tuner and additional information.

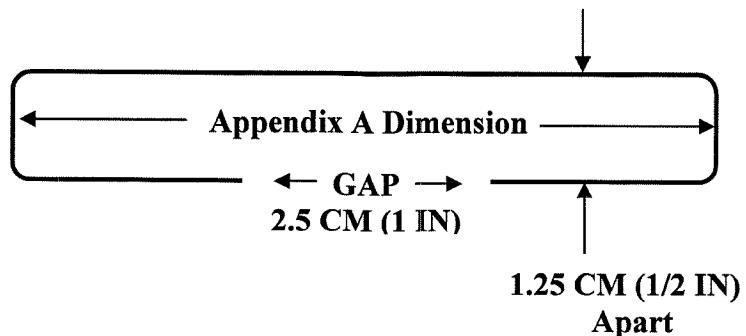
Specifications

Antenna Type: YAGI Beam
Impedance: 75 ohms
Gain: 11 Db+
Cable: RG-6
Connector: F Type Male
Rated Use: Indoor / Receive Only

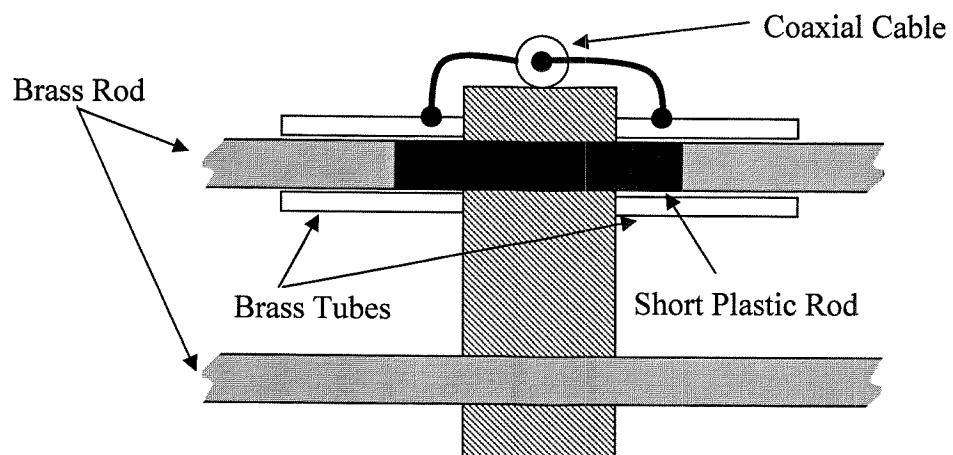
Wooden Beam Layout

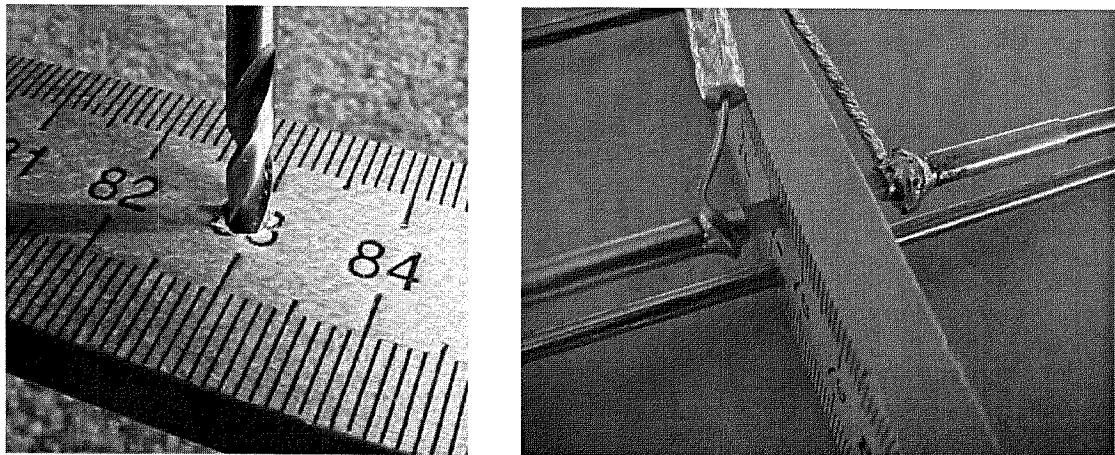


Loop Detail

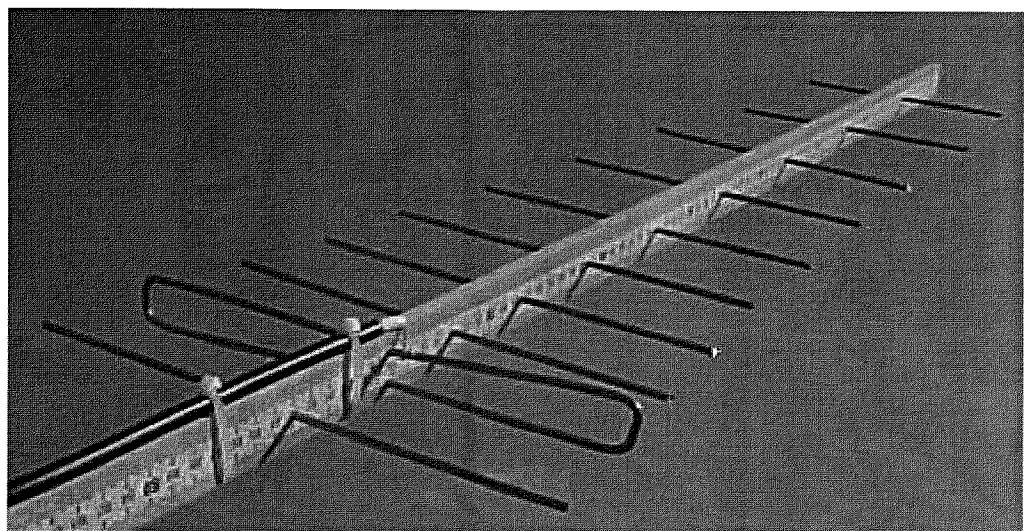


Loop Attachment





Assembly details for the Loop Antenna Kit



The Loop Antenna Kit fully assembled.

MTM Inc.		Reflector	Loop	Director 1	Director 2	Director 3	Director 4	Director 5	Director 6	Director 7	Director 8	Director 9
CH 14	Position	93.8	85.8	79.5	72	63.3	53	40.9	26.7	10		
473 MHz	Length	31.8	30.1	29.1	27.2	26.3	26	23.8	23.7	21.7		
CH 15	Position	92.7	84.9	78.6	71.3	62.6	52.5	40.5	26.5	10		
479 MHz	Length	31.4	29.8	28.7	26.8	25.9	25.7	23.5	23.4	21.4		
CH 16	Position	91.7	83.9	77.7	70.5	61.9	51.9	40.1	26.3	10		
486 MHz	Length	31	29.4	28.3	26.5	25.6	25.3	23.2	23.1	21.2		
CH 17	Position	90.7	83	76.9	69.8	61.3	51.4	39.8	26.1	10		
491 MHz	Length	30.6	29	28	26.2	25.3	25	22.9	22.8	20.9		
CH 18	Position	89.7	82.2	76.1	69	60.7	50.9	39.4	25.9	10		
497 MHz	Length	30.2	28.7	27.6	25.9	24.9	24.8	22.8	22.6	20.6		
CH 19	Position	88.8	81.3	75.3	68.3	60.1	50.4	39.1	25.7	10		
503 MHz	Length	29.9	28.3	27.3	25.6	24.6	24.5	22.4	22.3	20.4		
CH 20	Position	87.8	80.5	74.6	67.6	59.5	49.9	38.7	25.5	10		
509 MHz	Length	29.5	28	27	25.3	24.3	24.2	22.1	22	20.2		
CH 21	Position	86.9	79.6	73.8	67	58.9	49.5	38.4	25.3	10		
515 MHz	Length	29.2	27.6	26.6	25	24.1	23.9	21.8	21.8	19.9		
CH 22	Position	86	78.8	73.1	66.3	58.4	49	38	25.2	10		
521 MHz	Length	28.8	27.3	26.3	24.7	23.8	23.6	21.6	21.5	19.7		
CH 23	Position	85.2	78.1	72.4	65.7	57.8	48.6	37.7	25	10		
527 MHz	Length	28.5	27	26	24.4	23.6	23.4	21.3	21.3	19.5		
CH 24	Position	84.3	77.3	71.7	65.1	57.3	48.2	37.4	24.8	10		
533 MHz	Length	28.2	26.7	25.7	24.1	23.3	23.1	21.1	21	19.3		
CH 25	Position	83.5	76.5	71	64.4	56.8	47.7	37.1	24.7	10		
539 MHz	Length	27.9	26.4	25.5	23.9	23.1	22.8	20.9	20.8	19		

		Reflector	Loop	Director 1	Director 2	Director 3	Director 4	Director 5	Director 6	Director 7	Director 8	Director 9
CH 26	Position	82.7	75.8	70.3	63.8	56.2	47.3	36.8	24.5	10		
545 MHz	Length	27.6	26.1	25.2	23.6	22.9	22.6	20.6	20.6		18.8	
CH 27	Position	72	65.2	59.7	53.3	45.8	37	26.6	14.4	10		
551 MHz	Length	27.3	25.8	24.9	23.3	22.6	22.4	20.4	20.3		18.6	
CH 28	Position	81.1	74.4	69	62.7	55.2	46.5	36.2	24.2	10		
557 MHz	Length	27	25.5	24.7	23.1	22.5	22.1	20.2	20.1		18.4	
CH 29	Position	80.4	73.7	68.4	62.1	54.8	46.1	36	24	10		
563 MHz	Length	26.7	25.3	24.4	22.8	22.3	21.9	20	19.9		18.2	
CH 30	Position	95.9	89.3	84.1	77.9	70.6	62	52	40.2	26.3	10	
569 MHz	Length	26.5	25	24.4	22.7	22.2	21.4	20.1	19.5	18.7	18	
CH 31	Position	95	88.5	83.3	77.2	69.9	61.5	51.5	39.9	26.1	10	
575 MHz	Length	26.3	24.7	24.1	22.5	22	21.2	19.9	19.3	18.5	17.8	
CH 32	Position	94.1	87.7	82.5	76.5	69.3	61	51.1	39.6	26	10	
581 MHz	Length	26	24.5	23.8	22.2	21.8	21	19.7	19.1	18.4	17.6	
CH 33	Position	93.3	86.9	81.8	75.8	68.7	60.4	50.7	39.3	25.8	10	
587 MHz	Length	25.7	24.2	23.6	22	21.5	20.7	19.5	18.9	18.2	17.4	
CH 34	Position	92.4	86.1	81.1	75.1	68.1	59.9	50.3	38.9	25.6	10	
593 MHz	Length	25.5	24	23.3	21.8	21.3	20.5	19.3	18.7	18	17.3	
CH 35	Position	91.6	85.4	80.4	74.5	67.6	59.4	49.9	38.7	25.5	10	
599 MHz	Length	25.3	23.7	23.1	21.6	21.1	20.3	19.1	18.6	17.8	17.1	
CH 36	Position	90.8	84.6	79.7	73.8	67	58.9	49.5	38.4	25.3	10	
605 MHz	Length	25	23.5	22.9	21.4	20.9	20.1	18.9	18.3	17.6	16.9	
CH 37	Position	90	83.9	78.9	73.2	66.4	58.5	49.1	38.1	25.2	10	
611 MHz	Length	24.8	23.3	22.6	21.1	20.7	19.9	18.7	18.1	17.5	16.8	

		Reflector	Loop	Director 1	Director 2	Director 3	Director 4	Director 5	Director 6	Director 7	Director 8	Director 9
CH 38	Position	89.2	83.1	78.3	72.6	65.9	58	48.7	37.8	25	10	
617 MHz	Length	24.5	23	22.4	20.9	20.5	19.7	18.5	18	17.2	16.6	
CH 39	Position	88.5	82.5	77.6	72	65.3	57.5	48.3	37.6	24.9	10	
623 MHz	Length	24.3	22.8	22.2	20.7	20.3	19.5	18.3	17.8	17.1	16.4	
CH 40	Position	87.7	81.8	77	71.4	64.8	57.1	48	37.3	27.7	10	
629 MHz	Length	24.1	22.6	22	20.5	20.1	19.4	18.2	17.7	17	16.3	
CH 41	Position	87	81.1	76.4	70.8	64.3	56.6	47.6	37	24.6	10	
635 MHz	Length	23.8	22.4	21.8	20.3	20	19.1	18	17.5	16.8	16.1	
CH 42	Position	86.3	80.4	75.7	70.2	63.8	56.2	47.3	36.8	24.5	10	
641 MHz	Length	23.6	22.2	21.6	20.2	19.8	19	17.9	17.3	16.6	16	
CH 43	Position	85.6	79.8	75.1	69.7	63.3	55.8	46.9	36.5	24.3	10	
647 MHz	Length	23.4	21.9	21.4	20	19.6	18.8	17.7	17.2	16.5	15.8	
CH 44	Position	84.9	79.1	74.5	69.1	62.8	55.3	46.6	36.3	24.2	10	
653 MHz	Length	23.2	21.7	21.1	19.8	19.4	18.6	17.5	17	16.3	15.7	
CH 45	Position	84.2	78.5	73.9	68.6	62.3	54.9	46.3	36.1	24.1	10	
659 MHz	Length	23	21.5	20.9	19.6	19.2	18.5	17.4	16.9	16.2	15.5	
CH 46	Position	83.5	77.9	73.4	68.1	61.8	54.5	45.9	35.8	23.9	10	
665 MHz	Length	22.8	21.3	20.7	19.4	19	18.3	17.2	16.7	16	15.4	
CH 47	Position	82.9	77.3	72.8	67.6	61.4	54.1	45.6	35.6	23.8	10	
671 MHz	Length	22.6	21.1	20.5	19.3	18.8	18.1	17.1	16.6	15.9	15.3	
CH 48	Position	82.2	76.7	72.2	67	60.9	63.7	45.3	35.4	23.7	10	
677 MHz	Length	22.4	20.9	20.4	19.1	18.7	18	16.9	16.4	15.8	15.1	
CH 49	Position	81.6	76.1	71.7	66.5	60.5	53.4	45	35.1	23.6	10	
683 MHz	Length	22.2	20.7	20.2	18.9	18.5	17.8	16.7	16.3	15.6	15	

		Reflector	Loop	Director 1	Director 2	Director 3	Director 4	Director 5	Director 6	Director 7	Director 8	Director 9
CH 50	Position	81	75.5	71.2	66	60	53	44.7	34.9	23.5	10	
689 MHz	Length	22	20.6	20	18.7	18.3	17.7	16.6	16.1	15.5	14.9	
CH 51	Position	80.3	74.9	70.6	65.6	59.6	52.6	44.4	34.7	23.3	10	
695 MHz	Length	21.8	20.4	19.8	18.6	18.2	17.5	16.5	16	15.3	14.7	
CH 52	Position	79.7	74.4	70.1	65.1	59.2	52.2	44.1	34.5	23.2	10	
701 MHz	Length	21.6	20.2	19.7	18.4	18.1	17.4	16.3	15.8	15.2	14.6	
CH 53	Position	79.2	73.8	69.6	64.6	58.8	51.9	43.8	34.3	23.1	10	
707 MHz	Length	21.4	20	19.5	18.3	17.9	17.2	16.2	15.7	15.1	14.5	
CH 54	Position	78.6	73.3	69.1	64.2	58.4	51.5	43.5	34.1	23	10	
713 MHz	Length	21.2	19.9	19.3	18.1	17.7	17.1	16.1	15.6	15	14.4	
CH 55	Position	78	72.8	68.6	63.7	57.9	51.2	43.2	33.9	22.9	10	
719 MHz	Length	21	19.7	19.1	18	17.6	16.9	15.9	15.4	14.8	14.2	
CH 56	Position	81.7	76.5	72.4	67.7	62.3	56.2	49.2	41.2	32.2	21.8	10
725 MHz	Length	20.8	19.6	18.9	18.1	17.8	17.7	17.2	17.7	16.6	16.4	15.8
CH 57	Position	81.1	76	71.9	67.2	61.9	55.8	48.9	41	32	21.7	10
731 MHz	Length	20.7	19.4	18.8	18	17.7	17.6	17	17.6	16.5	16.3	15.7
CH 58	Position	80.6	75.5	71.4	66.8	61.5	55.4	48.6	40.7	31.8	21.6	10
737 MHz	Length	20.5	19.2	18.6	17.9	17.5	17.5	16.9	17.4	16.4	16.2	15.6
CH 59	Position	80	75	70.9	66.3	61.1	55.1	48.3	40.5	31.6	21.5	10
743 MHz	Length	20.4	19.1	18.4	17.7	17.4	17.3	16.7	17.3	16.2	16.2	15.4
CH 60	Position	79.4	74.4	70.4	65.9	60.6	54.7	47.9	40.2	31.4	21.4	10
749 MHz	Length	20.3	18.9	18.3	17.6	17.4	17.2	16.6	17.1	16.1	16	15.3
CH 61	Position	78.9	73.9	69.9	65.4	60.2	54.4	47.7	40	31.3	21.3	10
755 MHz	Length	20.1	18.8	18.2	17.5	17.3	17	16.5	17	15.9	15.9	15.2

		Reflector	Loop	Director 1	Director 2	Director 3	Director 4	Director 5	Director 6	Director 7	Director 8	Director 9
CH 62	Position	78.3	73.4	69.5	65	59.9	54	47.4	39.8	31.1	21.3	10
761 MHz	Length	20	18.6	18	17.3	17	16.9	16.4	16.9	15.7	15.8	15.1
CH 63	Position	77.8	72.9	69	64.5	59.5	53.7	47.1	39.5	30.9	21.2	10
767 MHz	Length	19.8	18.5	17.9	17.2	16.9	16.7	16.2	16.8	15.7	15.7	15
CH 64	Position	77.3	72.4	68.5	64.1	59.1	53.3	46.8	39.3	30.8	21.1	10
773 MHz	Length	19.7	18.3	17.8	17.1	16.7	16.6	16.1	16.6	15.6	15.6	14.9
CH 65	Position	76.8	71.9	68.1	63.7	58.7	53	46.5	39.1	30.6	21	10
779 MHz	Length	19.6	18.2	17.6	16.9	16.6	16.5	16	16.5	15.5	15.5	14.7
CH 66	Position	76.2	71.5	67.6	63.3	58.3	52.7	46.2	38.9	30.5	20.9	10
785 MHz	Length	19.4	18	17.5	16.8	16.5	16.4	15.9	16.4	15.4	15.4	14.6
CH 67	Position	75.7	71	67.2	62.9	58	52.3	45.9	38.6	30.3	20.8	10
791 MHz	Length	19.3	17.9	17.4	16.7	16.3	16.2	15.7	16.2	15.3	15.3	14.5
CH 68	Position	75.3	70.5	66.8	62.5	57.6	52	45.7	38.4	30.2	20.7	10
797 MHz	Length	19.1	17.8	17.3	16.5	16.3	16.1	15.6	16.1	15.1	15.2	14.4
CH 69	Position	74.8	70.1	66.4	62.1	57.2	51.7	45.4	38.2	30	20.7	10
803 MHz	Length	19	17.7	17.1	16.4	16.1	15.9	15.5	16	15.1	15.1	14.2
CH 70	Position	74.3	69.6	65.9	61.7	56.9	51.4	45.1	38	29.9	20.6	10
809 MHz	Length	18.8	17.5	17	16.2	16	15.8	15.4	15.9	14.9	15	14.2