

Ham in a Can

by Gary M5YRG

With our current ongoing situation ... This gives me and possibly yourself a lot of time to think things up ????? Well this is one of these moments / ideas

Noticing that Jo (M0JOZ) had a growing ex drinking can collection amassing in the kitchen.

I wondered what else could be done with a old can apart from storing things in it ?

Listening to recent talks on various repeater nets re antenna setups, lack of space & only a hand held to use.

My imagination kicked in.....At this point I really should have stopped etc.....hi :)

I decided to remake a idea from the 11 Meter days (yes CB radio) e.g. a mag mount on a biscuit tin, and make a mount for a mobile antenna that could be used indoors or out temporary or otherwise, *but the focus is on the mount not the antenna being used.*

So gathering a few other odds & ends:- specifically in this case a Chassis mount SO-239 & BNC-F sockets, approx 0.5 meter of coax and 4 x 1 meter wires used for the ground plane (strictly speaking a minimum of a 1/4 wave for 2mtr i.e. 48cm could be used), And finally some Glass beads found in Garden centre to add a little weight to the base. See picture below.



After marking and drilling out holes for the connectors and the ground plane wires, I fitted the connectors to the coax through the can making a couple loops with the coax to form a crude choke... See next picture.



After that it was just a case of connecting the ground wires, in my case (just because I have some) I used pop rivets. Screws & nuts etc could also be used or even plug & socket setup eg Banana connectors for the ground plane wires.



Finale test. Picture below shows quick test setup of mobile antenna in loft I managed to access GB3RE via UV-5R Baofeng which would normally not be possible with its own stock antenna. - showing that the mobile mount & antenna are offering some gain to the rig.



I hope this article will give you some ideas & inspiration to help you construct your own antenna mounts...

Thank you for making it to the end of this page.... hi :)

73 de Gary M5YRG

