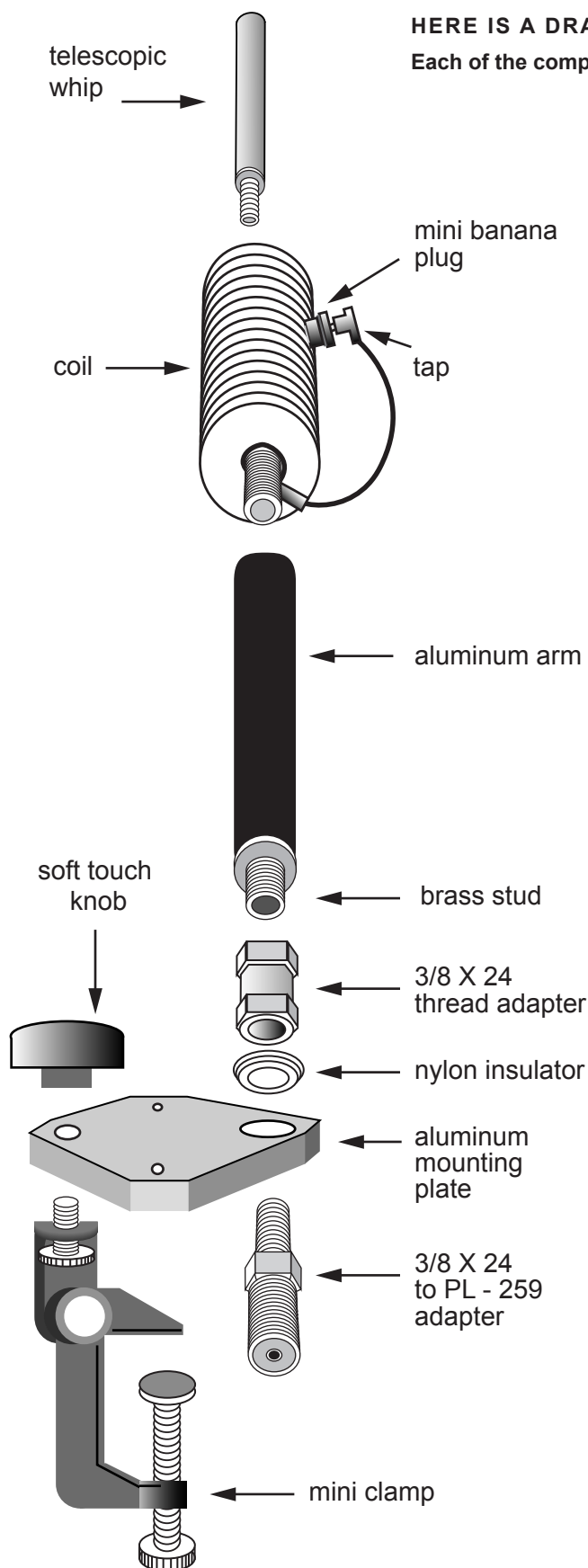


# W3FF

## ANTENNAS

HERE IS A DRAWING OF THE BUDDISTICK.  
Each of the components is marked for ease of assembly.



This antenna came about as a part of the **modular Buddi-pole system**. One of the dipole arms was designed to be mounted vertically, so that if one wanted to change from a horizontal to a vertical without purchasing a second antenna, this would be a solution.

You will need a way to mount the Buddistick. It comes with a 3/8 by 24 threaded stud on the bottom of the vertical arm. We offer several choices to make the conversion, or you can provide your own mounting method. **Our mini-tripod and mounting kit is one option.** It is a high-quality tripod, meant to support the Buddstick on a picnic table or similar location. The mounting kit consists of an aluminum plate, a 3/8 by 24 to PL-259 adapter and a soft-touch knob. **Other choices** include using a **clamp** that allows one to grab onto that same picnic table or onto a railing for use in a condo, for example. **A third choice** would be for clamping onto a bike frame or a lawn chair. This clamp has a rounded edge to it, and it makes a very strong and efficient method of clamping the mounting plate to tubular-type frames.

**The Buddistick needs a counterpoise.** I suggest a single radial. You may want to use more radials, or you might wish to match the antenna to the frame of a bicycle, for example, and there are so many variations of mounting possibilities, it will take some experimenting to get the setup that is efficient for you.

**Our Recommendation:**

- Take a 5' piece of wire. Put a 1/4" ring connector on one end, and a 3/8" ring connector on the other end.
- Attach the smaller connector to ground at the Mounting plate, under the soft-touch knob. Attach the other side to an extra telescopic whip antenna. Use a nut to secure that connection.
- Use the whip as a "tunable counterpoise." Let it lie on the operating table, at least two feet off the ground.
- Alternately use the vertical whip and the horizontal whip on the table, to affect a good match.

**Tuning this vertical is easy if you use an adjustable counterpoise.** But to get the most out of your rig, **we strongly suggest**, especially for the initial tuneup, **that you use an antenna analyzer** to get you in the ballpark for resonance.

On Forty Meters, no tap is needed or used with the Buddistick. Simply put the antenna together, as shown in the drawing. Let the coil tap wire hang to the side of the antenna. Pull all of the whip sections out of the whip, except the last one. This will give you some room to adjust for specific frequencies when you are resonant in the band. The counterpoise we suggest is one wire about 20' long, preferably elevated from the ground. Attach this radial wire to the aluminum plate, using the stud which comes out of the clamp or tripod. Secure it with the soft-touch knob.

At the other end of the radial, you can wrap the wire on your hand to electrically shorten it. By doing this, you effectively "tune" the radial, by making it longer or shorter at that frequency.

Check your analyzer to see where you are on the spectrum. If you are too low in frequency, the antenna is simply too long. Shorten the whip or the radial or both, until you accomplish a match. It just takes some diligence to get that sweet spot where the antenna starts resonating. Sometimes you can throw a wire out away from you, and then shorten it by winding or folding it in your hand until you get a match.

If you wish, you can use an antenna tuner to get the SWR down to the place where your transceiver will like it. If you get under 2 to 1 SWR, the chances are pretty good that your rig will put out all the power you need to make contacts.

On the other bands, the higher bands, you will need to tap the coil with the coil clip provided with the antenna. The closer the clip to the whip, the higher the frequency you will resonate on. Make a note of which turn from the aluminum cap you are set on, so you can return to that position on the coil for your favorite bands.

A ballpark for 20 Meters is to be on or about turn # 15 in from the whip side of the coil.

Your clip will be closer to the whip on higher bands (17, 15, 12).

On 10 Meters and 6 Meters, just take the coil out of the circuit (remove it, as the antenna is designed to do this) and adjust the whip for resonance.

**Remember, the final tuning on this vertical antenna is a function of the antenna itself and of your surroundings and the grounding system you deploy. All of these factors play a part in matching the antenna.**

E-mail me if you have any questions  
about tuning the Buddistick:  
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