

HF Dummy Load

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I ran across some 2.4 kilohm 2 watt resistors cheap in a local store, so I ended up building a dummy load using 48 of them in parallel. The construction is a bit different from others I have seen. The resistors are soldered, in 4 rows of 12, between a piece of heavy copper wire (connected to the SO-239 socket pin) and a bent strip of galvanized steel (bolted to the flange of the SO-239). This assembly is surrounded by a cylinder made from galvanized steel mesh ("hardware cloth") that keeps fingers away from RF and heat, minimizes radiation and still allows air flow. The SWR is pretty good up to 30 MHz, but not great on 6 m. This will depend somewhat on the specific resistors used.



