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QST Issue: May 1966

Title: Heath HW-32 Alignment

Author: Conrad E. Bluhm, K3SWW/KG6

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Hints and Kinks

For the Experimenters



QSL CARD MOUNTS

MANY of us pin or tape our QSL cards to a wall, but it leaves the surface in an unsightly condition if the cards are ever removed. By using gummed reinforcements, string and a couple of tacks you only need to make two small holes in the wall for every row of QSL cards. Take some gummed reinforcements and fold them in half with the sticky side up. Glue one to each of the top corners on the back side of your QSL cards as shown in Fig. 1. Thread a length of string through the mounted reinforcements and fasten the string to the wall with two tacks.

— Steve Day, WN3EQY

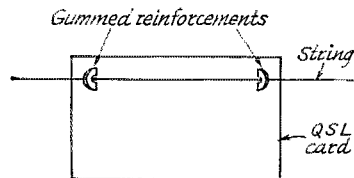


Fig. 1—WN3EQY's gummed reinforcement mounts for QSL cards.

HEATH HW-32 ALIGNMENT

THE instruction book for the HW-32 Heathkit states that a v.t.v.m. r.f. probe and dummy load are needed for aligning the transmitter r.f. amplifier. However, if you have an s.w.r. bridge (such as the Heath HM-11), an r.f. probe is not needed. Just insert the s.w.r. bridge between the HW-32 and the dummy load. The s.w.r. bridge makes a sensitive indicator in its forward position. — Conrad E. Bluhm, K3SWW/KG6

TOOTHPASTE-TUBE CAP INSULATORS

TOOTHPASTE-tube caps are an excellent source of material for constructing feedthrough and standoff insulators as illustrated in Fig. 2. The feedthrough in example A is made by mounting a toothpaste cap on each side of a metal plate and passing a threaded rod through both caps. A spacer of insulating material is mounted at the center of the rod to prevent accidental contact between the rod and the metal plate. The nylon wheel of a curtain runner is ideal for this purpose. In example B, the necessary hardware is bolted to the cap and the cap in turn glued to the plate.

A non-insulated standoff is constructed by directly bolting the toothpaste cap to the plate as illustrated in example C. An insulated version is made by cementing a machine screw to the concave recess in the top of the cap and gluing

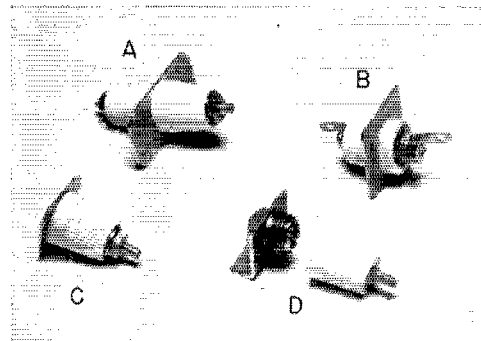


Fig. 2—Toothpaste cap feedthroughs and standoffs.

the cap to the plate. The cap can also be bolted to the plate as shown in example D.

Fig. 3 shows yet another method of constructing a feedthrough insulator. A small insulated washer, placed at the center of the assembly, prevents a short circuit between the rod and metal plate. — D. P. Taylor, ex-G8OD

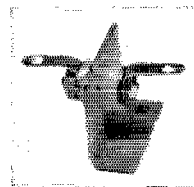


Fig. 3—Feedthrough insulator made from the nylon wheels of a curtain runner.

HOMEBREW KEYS WEIGHT

AFTER losing the weight from my semi-automatic key, I found that a large ceramic standoff insulator made a suitable substitute. The new weight is fastened to the arm of the key with a large washer and an appropriate machine screw. A metal "wing", soldered to the screw head, makes for ease in repositioning the weight. — Jim Brenner, W16NEV

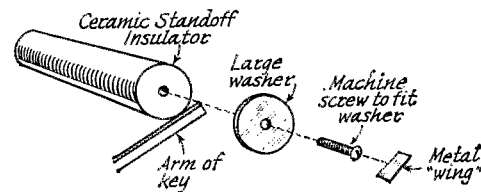


Fig. 4—Ceramic standoff key weight.