
Subject: Shortwave and AM Antenna Questions

Posted by [Robert McClure](#) on Mon, 04 Dec 2006 23:03:51 GMT

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Hello,

I have begun to read about and to try to learn which particular shortwave antenna configuration might be best suited for my particular shortwave/AM reception application.

What I have is an old Radio Shack (DX-390) AM/FM/MW-Shortwave receiver. A small AM loop antenna (about 6" dia.) has zero effect on AM reception. I have reversed the connections to the plug (changed the ground) and this does not help. I still get zero AM reception. Yet a small AM/FM radio in the kitchen can receive a number of stations, especially when I move the simple 12" line antenna around a bit.

My shortwave antenna question is this: how can I start getting some reception on shortwave? I get only a very little bit of reception with the built-in telescoping antenna. I have read about a "Multiband Longwire" shortwave antenna (144'/118'6"/91'9"/79'3") and a more complicated "Center Fed Multiband (Fan) Dipole" (which halves the above lengths on each side of the center pole).

I like the second because I understand it is less directional than the first tends to be, assuming this is true.

Or could I get away with just attaching a long wire in my attic?

I don't yet know what frequencies I would want to listen to more or less regularly. But at first I'd like to be able to just sample what is out there (1711 thru 29,999).

Any help, including recommendations on basic books for beginners like myself, would be very much appreciated.

Many Thanks,
Robert McClure
Atlanta

Subject: Re: Shortwave and AM Antenna Questions

Posted by [celes_maxtrac](#) on Wed, 07 Mar 2007 03:16:24 GMT

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