

# ACTIVE HF ANTENNA

## An Active HF Receiving Antenna

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I wanted a simple HF receiving antenna for use away from the shack, an alternative to the usual roll of wire and an ATU. An active antenna proved to be one answer. The circuit shown was put together and first tried using only (0.75m) of wire as the element. With the wire hung out of the upstairs shack window, results exceeded all expectations. Little difference in performance was noted when switching between the active antenna and an 85' W3EDP. For anyone unable to put up an outdoor receiving antenna or, like me, enjoys operating the receiver away from the shack and when mobile, this antenna is well worth trying. Like any antenna it will work better out in the open than inside buildings, move it between horizontal and vertical to find the best position. A gain control is provided and this should be set below the level at which the shortcomings of your receiver front-end become evident. You may try increasing the length of the antenna wire, but again, don't overload your receiver. The antenna element is connected directly to the input of the amplifier and not via coax cable. A 6' length of coax connects the active antenna to the receiver with the dc supply run via a length of wire taped to the coax and fed from the receiver batteries. The gain pot is carbon not wirewound.

