

Simple, Reliable, Robust, Base or Portable Dual-Band Antenna

Why make it more complicated or expensive than it has to be? - de NO1PC

I've probably spent more than enough time trying to 'qualify' a variety of what I consider no better than 'experimental' antennas for VHF and UHF – be it a stick of copper pipe or a hunk of unknown twin-lead – and several EZ-NEC modeling reports that show how poorly these constructs handle RF (there are no such models that show how 'well' these things work.)

It's about time for me to offer an unquestionable, undeniably simple and reasonably economical solution that actually performs, properly and as advertised, as a known/proven antenna construct. – the ground-plane.

Short Answer

A simple base-mount kit and either of two proven dual-band mobile antennas is one of THE most reliable ways to get a legit dual-band antenna with adequate gain.

Ingredients

- Tram 1465 or 1470 base kit (\$25)
- **VHF-only:** Tram BR-150 (\$40, may be less) or Workman V324 (\$18)
- **Dual-band:** Tram 1180 dual-band (\$25) The Larsen NMO-2/70 or Workman UV325 are also a well-known, proven, reliable options.
- **UHF-only:** most any base+center-loaded 5dB UHF mobile antenna

The Larsen NMO-2/70 (original in this genre), Tram and Workman are the *ONLY* dual-band antennas that have reasonable matches for both 144-148 and 440-450 – most cover only small segments of 2m or 440.



Implementation

- Determine band(s) of interest
- Acquire product
- Assemble, mount and cable up (suggest RG-213 or RG-214, 9913 and LMR can introduce corrosion noise due to dissimilar metal braid-foil interface.)