

CCrane Recommendations for antennas

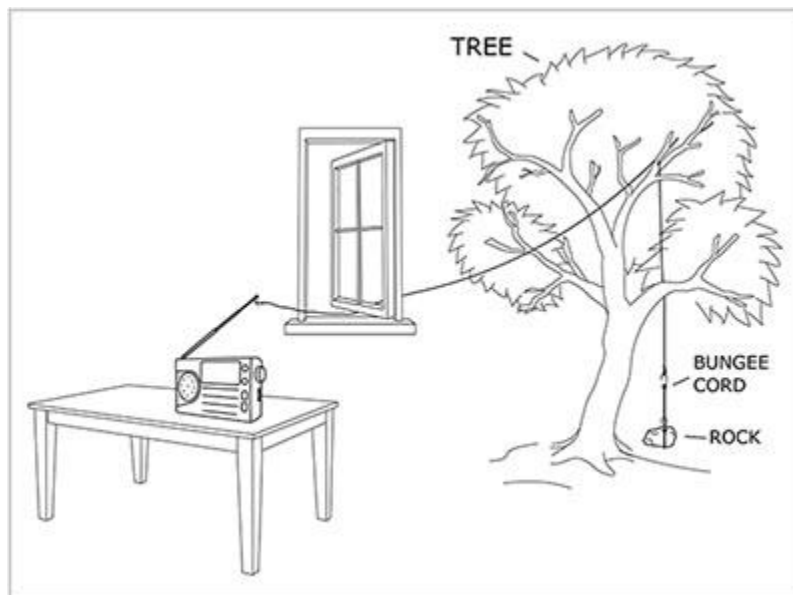
Q: When using the 2-wire adapter and wire attached, why am I not noticing any improvement on shortwave?

A: To see any difference using the 2-wire adapter you will need to have a wire that is more than 30 feet long (we recommend 60-100') with a good ground wire. Insulated wire will last longer and should be stranded so it is more flexible. If you do not have a good ground, you are actually inputting noise. If you look at the 2-wire adapter (included) you will see an antenna icon and a ground (G) marking. You need to connect them properly when using an external antenna. When a plug is inserted into the antenna jack of the radio the internal rod antenna is disconnected. (See page 30 of the Instruction manual.)

How to make a Shortwave Antenna

My favorite SW antenna wire is "[100 feet of 20 gauge stranded black hook up wire](#)". It's small enough to go through a window and close it. Always test your antenna before you take the time to make it look nice and neat.

The wire should be a minimum of 65 feet long because it works well but the full 100 feet is better. Try to send it up to a tree branch as high as possible in a North-East / South-West direction, which is favorable for reception. Safely throwing a rock over the branch or casting a fish line can work. **Stay well away from power lines** which can be dangerous and add electrical noise. There is no need for a dangerous ladder.



When done, just bare the wire, screw it on to an [alligator clip](#) and attach it to the telescopic antenna.

If you don't have a tree let's try creativity:

1. Run the wire out a the window and clip it to the end of a metal downspout which is hopefully well attached to a gutter
2. If you have an attic run the wire in a corner and drill a tiny hole, safely run it horizontally in the attic on the rafters if possible.
3. The last resort is run it around the baseboard behind furniture. This method is likely to pick up more electrical noise

More antennas can be found by searching on Google for "[shortwave antenna diy](#)"

Outdoor Installation Precautions

Lightning poses a serious hazard to you and your radio equipment. Your antenna is a conductor. If it is struck by lightning (or touched by a live power line), it will conduct this electricity into your home.

Safety precautions require that you equip your antenna with lightning protection equipment. The equipment needed and installation methods can vary from area to area.

WE RECOMMEND THAT YOU HIRE A LICENSED, BONDED, AND EXPERIENCED PROFESSIONAL TO HELP WITH OUTSIDE INSTALLATIONS. An injury, of any kind, is simply not worth it. Please be careful!