WORLD'S BEST 75¢ GROUND PLANE ANTENNA

For less than four bits you can become the owner of a real, honest-to-goodness, shiny, brand new, everlasting, everlovin', all metal, sturdy, reliable, cheap, beautiful, too good to be true, rootin'-tootin' 11 meter ground plane antenna.

This little gem is as easy to construct as five solder connections and stringing a few wires. As a matter of fact, that's all it takes to build it. The secret?

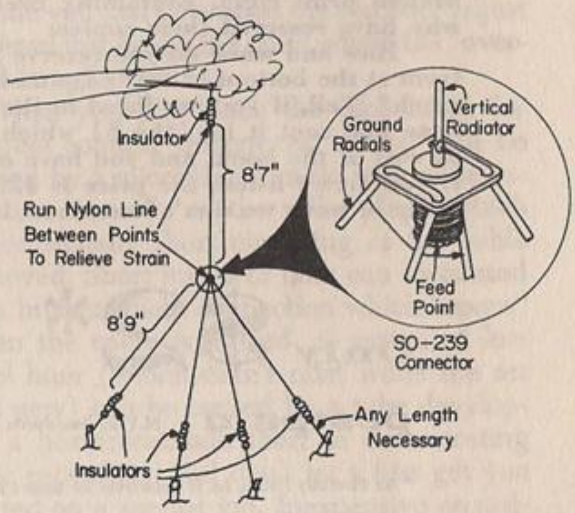
The whole design is centered around an Amphenol SO-239 female chassis mounted RF socket. If you don't have one kicking around the shack and you can't scrounge one, they cost only 75¢ each new. Wire used is #10 solid copper.

A wire 9 feet long is soldered to the center connection of the SO-239. This forms the vertical radiator—the top 5 inches of which should be tightly attached to a glass insulator for hanging purposes.

Two lengths of 18'5" wire comprise the radials, which should be run through the SO-239 as shown in the diagram, making each of the 4 radials 9'2" with the extra inch lost on the connector. Solder the radials at each of the four SO-239 holes which they pass through.

The 5 inches at the end of each of the radials is used for connecting a glass insulator to each, making the effective radial length 8'9".

Now, with the vertical radiator's insulator secured to a tree limb or other outdoor support, you can locate the four radial insulators. The radials should droop at about 45 degree angle. The insulators should then be attached to the nearest fixed points to each.



The coaxial feedline to your transceiver should be attached to the ground plane with a PL-259 male coax connector. You will probably find that the added weight of the coax on the antenna weakens the connection of the center radial so you should use some strong nylon or fiberglass fishing cable strung between the SO-239 and the insulator atop the vertical radiator to relieve the strain.