

**ASSEMBLY AND INSTALLATION  
INSTRUCTIONS**



# MA5V

**Five-Band High-Performance  
Mini-Vertical Antenna**



951495 (8/01)  
**TA5FA**

## MA5V

### WARNING

THIS ANTENNA IS AN ELECTRICAL CONDUCTOR. CONTACT WITH POWER LINES CAN RESULT IN DEATH, OR SERIOUS INJURY. DO NOT INSTALL THIS ANTENNA WHERE THERE IS ANY POSSIBILITY OF CONTACT WITH OR HIGH VOLTAGE ARC-OVER FROM POWER CABLES OR SERVICE DROPS TO BUILDINGS. THE ANTENNA, SUPPORTING MAST AND/OR TOWER MUST NOT BE CLOSE TO ANY POWER LINES DURING INSTALLATION, REMOVAL OR IN THE EVENT PART OF THE SYSTEM SHOULD ACCIDENTALLY FALL. FOLLOW THE GUIDELINES FOR ANTENNA INSTALLATIONS RECOMMENDED BY THE U.S. CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION AND LISTED IN THE ENCLOSED PAMPHLET.

Your Cushcraft antenna is designed and manufactured to give top performance and trouble free service. The antenna will perform as specified if the instructions and suggestions are followed and care is used in assembly and installation. When checking the components received in your antenna package, use the parts lists in each section. It is easiest to identify the various dimensions of tubing by separating them into groups of the same diameter and length. If you are unable to locate any tube or component, check the inside of all tubing. **IMPORTANT: save the weight label from the outside of the carton. Each antenna is weighed at the factory to verify the parts count. If you claim a missing part, you will be asked for the weight verification label.** There is a master parts list on page 3.

### LOCATION

To prevent detuning, install the MA5V in an open area clear of metal buildings, guy wires, towers, and dipole feedlines. **Important Warning: Never mount your antenna where humans and pets may contact it accidentally.** Protruding elements and hardware can cause injury, and contact with energized conductors may inflict severe RF burns. Also, transmitting antennas may expose humans to intense RF fields. The medical effects of RF exposure are unknown, but may be harmful. U.S. amateurs are required to comply with FCC exposure-safety guidelines (for more information, see the FCC web site at [www.fcc.gov/oet/rfsafety](http://www.fcc.gov/oet/rfsafety) and ARRL web site at [www.arrl.org/news/safety](http://www.arrl.org/news/safety)). Amateurs in other countries may also be subject to governmental standards (check publications for your region). Never install antennas without assistance. Plan work carefully and use only qualified persons to monitor or assist. If in doubt about safety, obtain the services of a professional installer.

### MOUNTING

The MA5V accepts mast diameters to 2.0" OD (5.1 cm). To prevent injury and minimize ground losses, always mount at least 10-12 feet above the surface. For best DX performance, mount high and in-the-clear. Because of its light weight, the MA5V may be roof-mounted with conventional TV hardware. However, avoid installing near conductive guy wires—these may couple to the lower element and detune the antenna. Also, do not mount next to parallel vertical conductors such as dipole feedline drops, other masts, metal chimneys, and utility poles.

### SYSTEM GROUNDING

To ensure lightning-strike protection, *always disconnect the feedline from its building-entrance when the antenna is not in use.* For backup protection from unexpected nearby strikes, install a quality lightning arrester such as the Cushcraft LAC4.

### ASSEMBLY

Assemble carefully, following all directions, photos, and illustrations. Before mounting, verify each part was installed correctly and check all hardware for tightness.

### FEEDLINE SELECTION

Feedline losses are inevitable, and a small amount is even beneficial because it enhances the antenna's bandwidth without noticeably degrading performance. However, to ensure best results, avoid long runs of lossy cable or short runs of low-loss cable. We recommend the following:

1. RG-58 for runs up to 75'.
2. RG-8X (Mini-8) for 50-150 foot runs.
3. RG-8 or RG-213 for longer runs.

### TUNING PROCEDURE

As needed, fine-tune resonator stubs to compensate for varied mounting locations or to provide best SWR in a favorite band segment. When adjusting, use the same feedline you plan to install permanently. MA5V resonators are labeled by band. *Lengthen* to lower frequency and *shorten* to raise frequency (interaction between resonators is minimal). A handheld SWR analyzer speeds fine-tuning.

### PRECIPITATION

A buildup of precipitation will lower resonant frequency (a condition common to most antennas). If SWR exceeds 2:1 due to precipitation loading, you may use an antenna tuner (ATU) to temporarily correct the problem. Alternatively, if you live in a wet region, consider tuning resonators slightly high to provide built-in compensation for when it rains or snows.

### RF POWER RATING

The MA5V will safely handle up to 250 Watts pep on SSB, but power should not exceed 100 Watts for high duty-cycle modes such as AM, FM, RTTY, and PSK.

**Important Warning: Never use a high-power linear amplifier with this antenna. Permanent damage to the sealed resonator coils may result.**

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**MASTER PARTS LIST**

<b>KEY</b>	<b>PART #</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>QUANTITY</b>
01	125401	Coaxial balun form	1
02	035402	3/16" Nylon cable clamp	2
07	030407	7/32" - 5/8" worm clamp	5
11	010011	#8-32 Nut	18
12	XHR12	12" Long X-hat rod	2
20	010120	8-32 x 2" RH slotted machine screw	6
26	290326	Danger label	5
29	010229	#8-32 x 1" SS RH machine screw	2
31	010231	#8-32 x 1-3/4" RH machine screw	2
32	902832	49" SS whip & tip assembly	4
40	010040	#8-32 x 1-1/4" Screw	2
41	011941	#8 SS split lock washer	8
44	014544	#8 SS flat washer	12
45	321045	Aluminum spacer	2
68	053368	.156ID x 1/4" long black vinyl cap	4
77	050077	3/8" x 7/8" black plastic cap	5
93	195393	Radial rod clamp	8
411	030411	9/16"-1-1/4" worm clamp	2
BA	MA5VBA	MA5V base tube	1
BB	MA5VBB	MA5V insulated base section	1
BC	MA5VBC	MA5V tube BC	1
BD	MA5VBD	MA5V tube BD	1
EA	MA5VEA	MA5V element #A	1
EB	MA5VEB	MA5V element #B	1
EC	MA5VEC	MA5V element #C	1
ED	MA5VED	MA5V element #D	1
EE	MA5VEE	MA5V element #E	1
RA	MA5VRA	MA5V 10M/12M resonator assembly	1
RB	MA5VRB	MA5V 15M/17M resonator assembly	1
RC	MA5VRC	MA5V 20M resonator assembly	1
RS	MA5VRS	MA5V radial sleeve	1
FL	MA5VFL	MA5V feed-line	1
HK	GOMNIHK	Omni mounting kit	1

**Important Note:** Unless otherwise noted, all hardware used in assembly will be #8-32 Stainless Steel.

**Step #1 Wind and Mount Coaxial Choke:**

Find the 54" fiberglass insulated tube (MA5BB). Also, find two 2" screws (20) and two nuts (11). Locate choke mounting holes 9-1/2" apart on base end (Photo-1). Install a 2" screw in each hole and secure with a nut as shown.

Find the 1-1/8" x 12" aluminum base tube (MA5BA). Also, find one 1-1/4" screw (40) and one nut (11). Slide the slotted end of the aluminum base tube over the fiberglass tube and align mounting holes. Install a screw and nut at the top mounting hole and tighten so the slotted tube compresses onto the insulated mast (Photo-2). The second mounting screw will be installed later.

Find two 1/2" OD x 5/16" aluminum spacers (45). Install one over each mounting screw so it clears the nut (Photo-3).

Find the 2-3/8" OD x 10-1/4" PVC balun form (01). Slide form over the end of the mast and seat into position so it rests on the spacers (Photo-4).

Find the 34' roll of RG-58AU coaxial cable (MA5VFL). Also, find two 3/16" nylon cable clamps (02), two flat washers (44), and two nuts (11). Locate the pig-tail end of the coax cable and measure 38" down from the end. Install a nylon cable clamp at this location. Install the cable and its clamp as shown in Photo-5, securing in place with a flat washer and a nut.

Uncoil and lay out the opposite end of the feedline, removing any bends or loops that could interfere with winding the balun. To wind, rotate the coil form and mast with one hand, while guiding turns into place with the other (Photo-6).

Wind until the last turn falls 1/2" from the opposite mounting stud. Turns should be tight with no open areas between windings. Install the remaining cable clamp and secure in place with a flat washer and nut (Photo-7).

**Step #2 Install Mounting Hardware:**

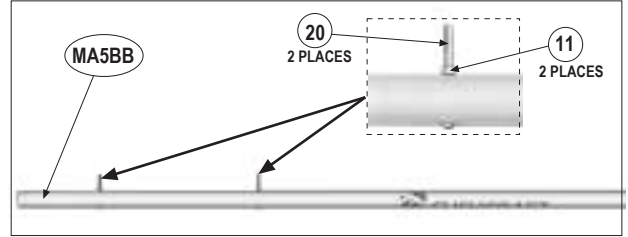
Find two extruded aluminum "V" blocks and the mast-mount hardware kit (GOMNIHK). Open the plastic bag and separate the smaller 1/4" hardware from the larger 5/16" hardware.

Using 1/2" hardware, install the mast-mount blocks approximately 10" apart on the support tube, as shown in Photo-8. Align the lower block with the upper block by sighting down between the narrow splits in the mounting rings while tightening hardware.

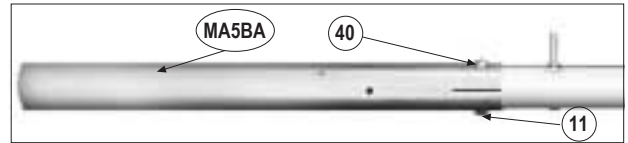
You may install the 5/16" U-bolt hardware temporarily at this time, or set it aside until the antenna is ready to mount on a support.

Find a 1-1/4" screw (40) and nut (11). Install in the base tube's remaining mounting hole and tighten securely (Photo-9).

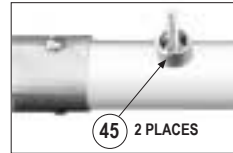
**Photo-1**



**Photo-2**



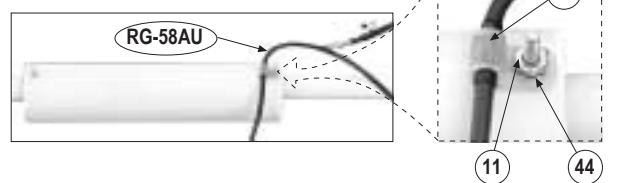
**Photo-3**



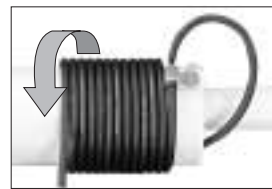
**Photo-4**



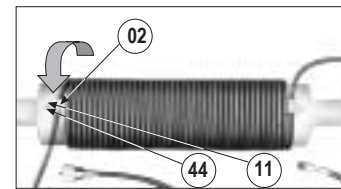
**Photo-5**



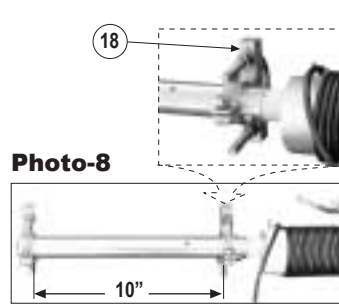
**Photo-6**



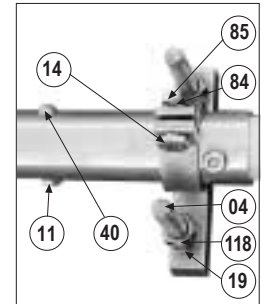
**Photo-7**



**Photo-8**



**Photo-9**



KEY	P/N	DISPLAY	DESC	SIZE	QTY
BB	MA5VBB		Insulated Base	1" x 54"	1
20	010120		RH Machine screw	8-32 x 2"	2
11	010011		Hex nut	#8-32	18
BA	MA5VBA		Base tube	1-1/8" x 12"	1
40	010040		RH Machine screw	#8-32 x 1-1/4"	2
45	321045		Aluminium spacer	1/2" OD x 5/16"	2
01	125401		Balun form	-----	1
FL	MA5VFL		Feedline cable	34'	1
02	035402		Nylon cable clamp	3/16"	2
44	014544		Flat washer	1/4"	2

**GOMNIHK KIT**  
(Omni mounting kit)

KEY	P/N	DISPLAY	DESC	SIZE	QTY
14	010214		Hex screw	1/4"	2
84	010084		Lock washer	1/4"	2
85	010085		Nut	1/4"	2
18	323718		Aluminium V-block		2
04	010404		U-bolt	5/16"	2
118	010118		Nut	5/16"	2
19	010119		Lock washer	5/16"	2

### Step #3 Install Lower-Element Mounting Hardware:

Find the 1-1/8" OD x 3" radial sleeve (MA5VRS). With the mounting holes closest to the top (Photo-10), slip over the mast and align with the 4 pair of mounting holes, as shown.

Find eight X-pattern radial clamps (93). Also, find four 2" screws (20), four lockwashers (41), nine flat washers (44), and five nuts (11).

Lay two radial clamps face-to-face to form a round mounting channel for the radial rods. Install two mounting screws and place a flat washer over each (Photo-11). Insert the screws through the radial sleeve and mast. Place a flat washer over each screw where it protrudes through the mast.

Lay two more radial clamps face-to-face and install over the mounting screws. Install a lock-washer on each and secure in place *finger-tight* with nuts (Photo-12).

Repeat the above procedure, installing the remaining four radial clamps *finger-tight*. Temporarily secure the shield of the coax to one of the upper mounting screws using the left-over flat washer and nut (Photo-13).

The four 49" whips making up the lower element will be installed last, when other work on the main element is complete.

### Step #4 Install Upper Element:

Find the 1-1/8" x 48" element tube (MA5VBC). Also find two 1-3/4" screws (31), two lockwashers (41), one flat washer (44), and three nuts (11).

Slide the drilled and slotted end of the element over the mast and align the mounting holes. (Photo-14). Install the 1-3/4" screw in the upper mounting hole. Secure in place with a lockwasher and nut (this screw is longer than necessary because it also supports the optional 6-Meter add-on kit when purchased and installed).

Install the remaining 1-3/4" screw in the lower mounting hole and secure in place with a lockwasher and nut, compressing the slotted tube against the insulated mast.

Temporarily install the coax center-conductor on the lower mounting screw using the remaining flat washer and nut .

Find the 1" x 48" aluminum tube (MA5VBD) and one large worm clamp (411). Slip the clamp onto the slotted end of the lower tube. Install the upper tube for an extended length of 40" and tighten (Photo-15).

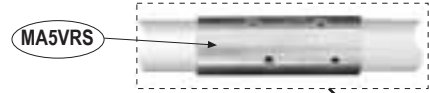


Photo-10

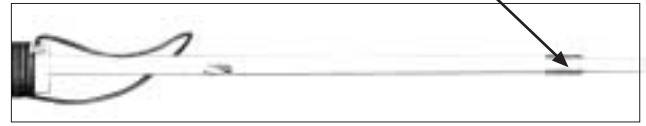


Photo-11

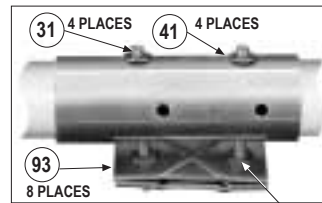


Photo-12

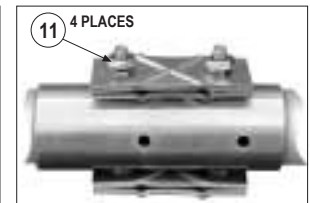


Photo-13

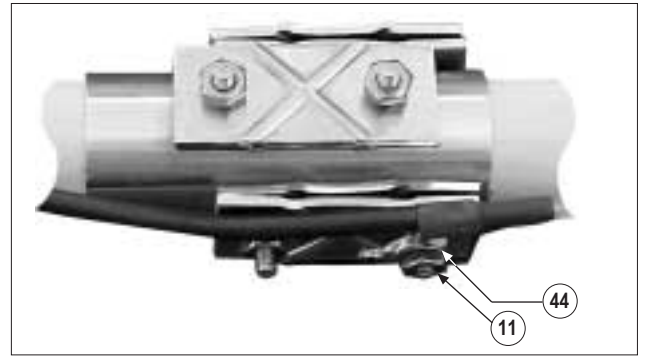


Photo-14

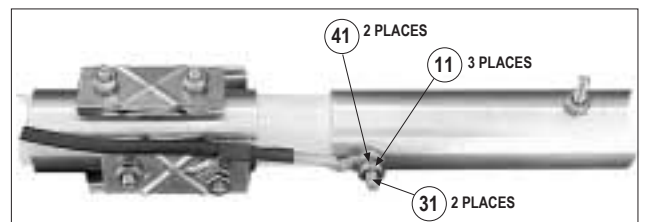
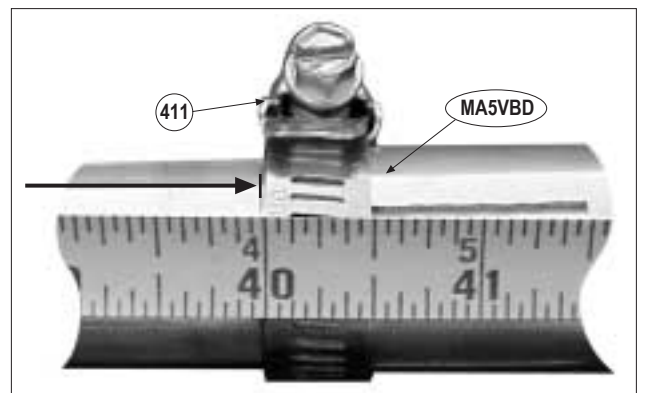


Photo-15



KEY	P/N	DISPLAY	DESC	SIZE	QTY
RS	MA5VRS		Radial Sleeve	_____	1
93	195393		Radial rod clamp	_____	8
31	010231		RH machine screw	#8-32 x 1-3/4"	2
20	010120		RH machine screw	#8-32 x 2"	4
41	011941		Lock washer	#8	6
44	014544		Flat washer	#8	10
11	010011		Hex nut	#8-32	8
BC	MA5VBC		Aluminium tube	1-1/8" x 48"	1
BD	MA5VBD		Aluminium tube	1" x 48"	1
411	020411		Large worm clamp		1



### Step #5 Assemble and Install 20-Meter Resonator Coil and X-Hat:

Find the 20-Meter resonator assembly (MA5VRC ) and two 3/16" OD x 12" center-drilled X-hat rods (XHR12). Also, find two 1" screws (29), two lockwashers (41) and two nuts (11).

Install X-Hat rods as shown in *Photo-16*. Note that each pair of mounting holes are "step drilled" (one hole is larger than the other). Place the hat rod over the larger hole to lock it into position and secure in place with a screw, lockwasher, and nut.

Find four flexible vinyl caps (68) and a small worm clamp (07). Install a cap on the tip of each X-Hat rod. Also, install the small worm clamp on the top section of the resonator (*Photo-17*).

Find a large worm clamp (411). Slide clamp on the slotted end of the 1" element tube and install coil assembly for an extension length of 2-1/2" (*Photo-18*).

Photo-18



### Step #6 Install 10/12-Meter and 15/17-Meter Resonator Assemblies:

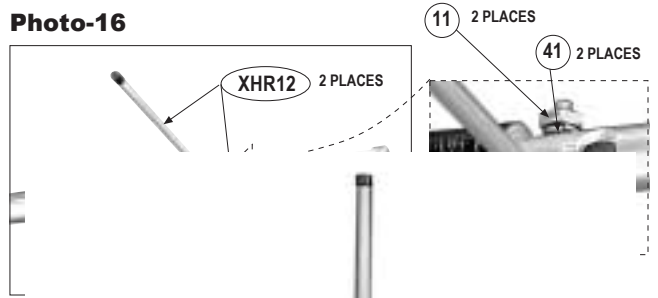
Find the 10/12-Meter resonator assembly (MA5VRA) and the 15/17-Meter resonator assembly (MA5VRB). Also find four small worm clamps (07) and two nuts (11).

Locate the lower of the two resonator-mounting holes on upper element tube MA5VBD (21-1/2" below top lip of tube). Mount the 10/12-Meter coil assembly — as shown in *Photo -19* — using a nut (resonators are labeled by band). Install a worm clamp loosely on each end.

In similar fashion, locate the higher of the two resonator-mounting holes (6-1/2" below top lip of tube), and mount the 15/17-Meter resonator coil assembly. Install worm clamps.

KEY	P/N	DISPLAY	DESC	SIZE	QTY
RC	MA5VRC		Resonator assembly	20 Meter	1
12	HXR12		X-hat rod	12"	2
29	010229		RH machine screw	#8-32 x 1"	2
41	011941		Split lock washer	#8-32	6
11	010011		Hex nut	#8-32	4
68	053368		Vinyl caps	.156" ID x 1/4"	4
07	030407		Small worm clamp	-----	5
411	030411		Large worm clamp	-----	1
RA	MA5VRA		Resonator assembly	10/12 meter	1
RB	MA5VRB		Resonator assembly	15/17 meter	1

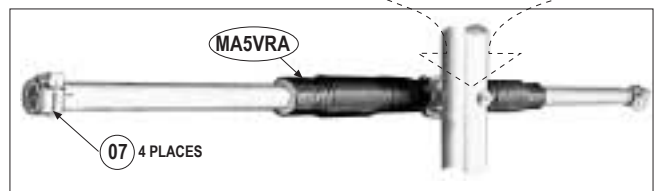
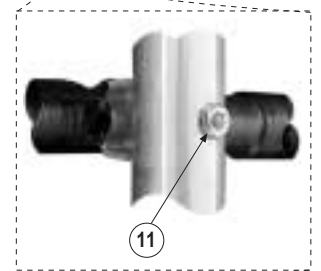
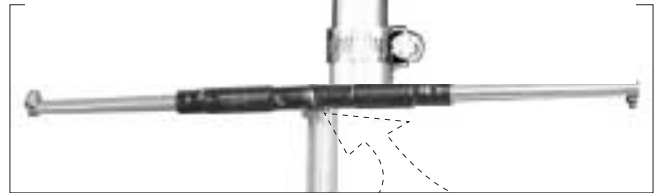
Photo-16



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# MA5V

## Step #7 Install and Pre-set Resonator Element Tubes:

Find the five 3/8" OD resonator tubes: 21" (MA5VEE), 18" (MA5VED), 14" (MA5VEC), 12" (MA5VEB), and 6" (MA5VEA). Also, find five 3/8" ID black-plastic end caps (77).

Install a 21" tube in the 20-Meter resonator, adjust for 18-1/4" extension, and tighten. (Photo-20)

Locate the 10-Meter resonator (marked) and install the 6" resonator tube for 3-3/8" extension (Photo-21). Tighten worm clamp.

Install a 12" tube in the 12-Meter resonator, adjust for 9-1/4" extension, and tighten.

Install a 14" tube in the 15-Meter resonator, adjust for 10-1/4" extension, and tighten.

Install a 18" tube in the 17-Meter resonator, adjust for 14" extension, and tighten.

Install a black-plastic end cap on the end of each tube.

Photo-20

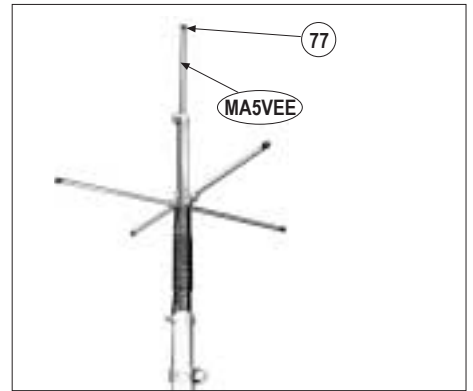
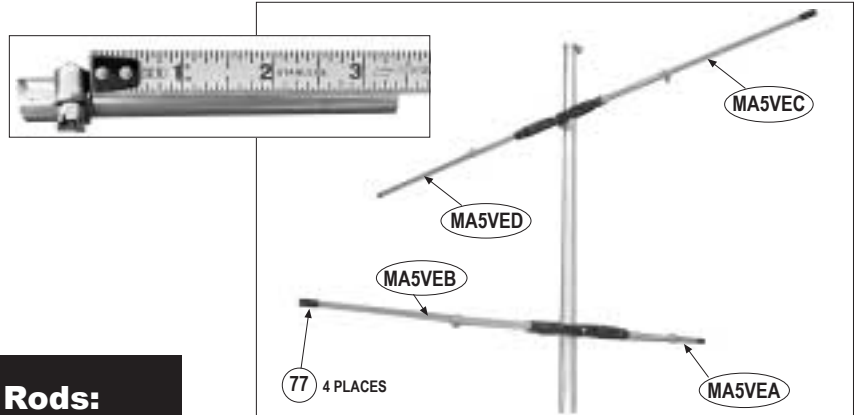


Photo-21



## Step-8, Install Lower-Element Rods:

Find four 49" stainless whip-and-tip rods (32). Note that whips should be mounted so they extend outward from the mast in a pinwheel pattern (Photo 22).

Insert two whips in upper opposing clip-pairs—as shown in Photo-20. Loosen hardware and remove coax pigtail for easier installation. Once inserted, tighten hardware securely and re-install coax pigtail.

Insert two whips in the lower set of clips and secure.

Attach all safety warning labels included with your antenna.

This completes assembly of the MA5V 5-band vertical antenna.

**Handling Note:** For convenient handling during installation, you may slide all four whip ends into the feedline choke coil form and use this as a temporary retainer (do not store in this manner for extended periods). Always confirm each whip returns to its original 45-degree angle when released.

Photo-22



Photo-22 Top View

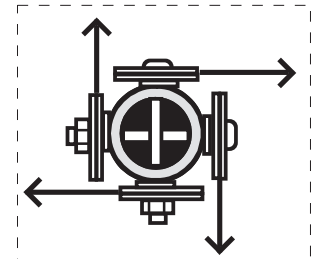
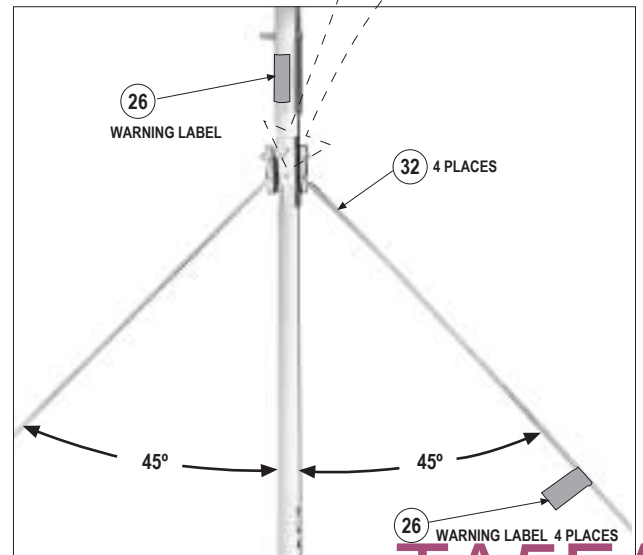


Photo-22



TA5FA

KEY	P/N	DISPLAY	DESC	SIZE	QTY
EE	MA5VEE		Element tube	3/8"OD x 21"	1
ED	MA5VED		Element tube	3/8"OD x 18"	1
EC	MA5VEC		Element tube	3/8"OD x 14"	1
EB	MA5VEB		Element tube	3/8"OD x 12"	1
EA	MA5VEA		Element tube	3/8"OD x 6"	1
77	050077		Black end cap	.156" ID x 1/4"	5
32	902832		Whip and tip	-----	4
26	290326		Danger label	-----	5

## SPECIFICATIONS

<b>MODEL</b>	<b>MA5V</b>
<b>Frequency Meters:</b>	<b>20,17,15,12,10,6*</b>
<b>Gain:</b>	<b>1-2 dBi</b>
<b>SWR Minimum:</b>	<b>&lt;1.2:1 All Bands</b>
<b>Power Rating, Watts PEP:</b>	<b>250 SSB</b>
<b>Dimensions:</b>	<b>14.7' (4.48m) High</b>
<b>Mast Size:</b>	<b>1.25 - 2.0" (3.18 - 5.1 cm)</b>
<b>Wind Survival, mph:</b>	<b>&gt;80</b>
<b>Weight lb. (kg):</b>	<b>6.5 (2.95)</b>
<b>Hardware:</b>	<b>Stainless Steel</b>
<b>* Optional 6 meter add on kit available</b>	

### LIMITED WARRANTY

Cushcraft Corporation, 48 Perimeter Road, Manchester, New Hampshire 03103, warrants to the original consumer purchaser for one year from date of purchase that each Cushcraft antenna is free of defects in material or workmanship. If, in the judgement of Cushcraft, any such antenna is defective, then Cushcraft Corporation will, at its option, repair or replace the antenna at its expense within thirty days of the date the antenna is returned (at purchasers expense) to Cushcraft or one of its authorized representatives. This warranty is in lieu of all other expressed warranties, any implied warranty is limited in duration to one year. Cushcraft Corporation shall not be liable for any incidental or consequential damages which may result from a defect. Some states do not allow limitations on how long an implied warranty lasts or exclusions or limitations of incidental or consequential damages, so the above limitation and exclusion may not apply to you. This warranty gives you specific legal rights, and you may also have other rights which vary from state to state. This warranty does not extend to any products which have been subject to misuse, neglect, accident or improper installation. Any repairs or alterations outside of the Cushcraft factory will nullify this warranty.



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SPECIFICATIONS SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE

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