



ELECRAFT® K3S

HIGH-PERFORMANCE

160 – 6 METER TRANSCEIVER

KRX3A

HIGH-PERFORMANCE SUB RECEIVER

INSTALLATION AND OPERATION

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E740126A

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 Elecraft manuals with color images may be downloaded from www.elecraft.com.

Introduction

⚠ If your KRX3A is already installed in your K3S or K3, turn to *Using the Sub Receiver* on page 50 for operating instructions.

The KRX3A sub receiver features specifications identical to the main K3S or K3 receiver including up to five roofing filters and an independent, dedicated DSP system. The sub receiver can tune the same range of frequencies as the main receiver, including frequencies outside of the Amateur bands when it is equipped with the optional KBPF3 general coverage filter board.

⚠ The KRX3A comes with a KSYN3A auxiliary synthesizer. Your K3 must be equipped with a KSYN3A main synthesizer. All K3S transceivers are equipped with the newer KSYN3A synthesizer, but some older K3 transceivers may not be. You can tell by comparing the KSYN3A supplied with your KRX3A kit with the main synthesizer in your K3. They should look the same. The older synthesizer does not have the small connector at the top and has a large toroid in the center of the board. If you have the older synthesizer, do not continue until you replace it with a KSYN3A. You cannot operate the K3 unless both synthesizers are the newer type.

The KRX3A has three major components as shown installed in a K3 in Figure 1. The shielded enclosure contains the main KRX3A board, mixer and noise blanker pony boards, optional KBPF3A general coverage filter board and roofing filters that you will assemble and mount in the enclosure.

Only a few basic tools are required to assemble and install the components (see page 8).

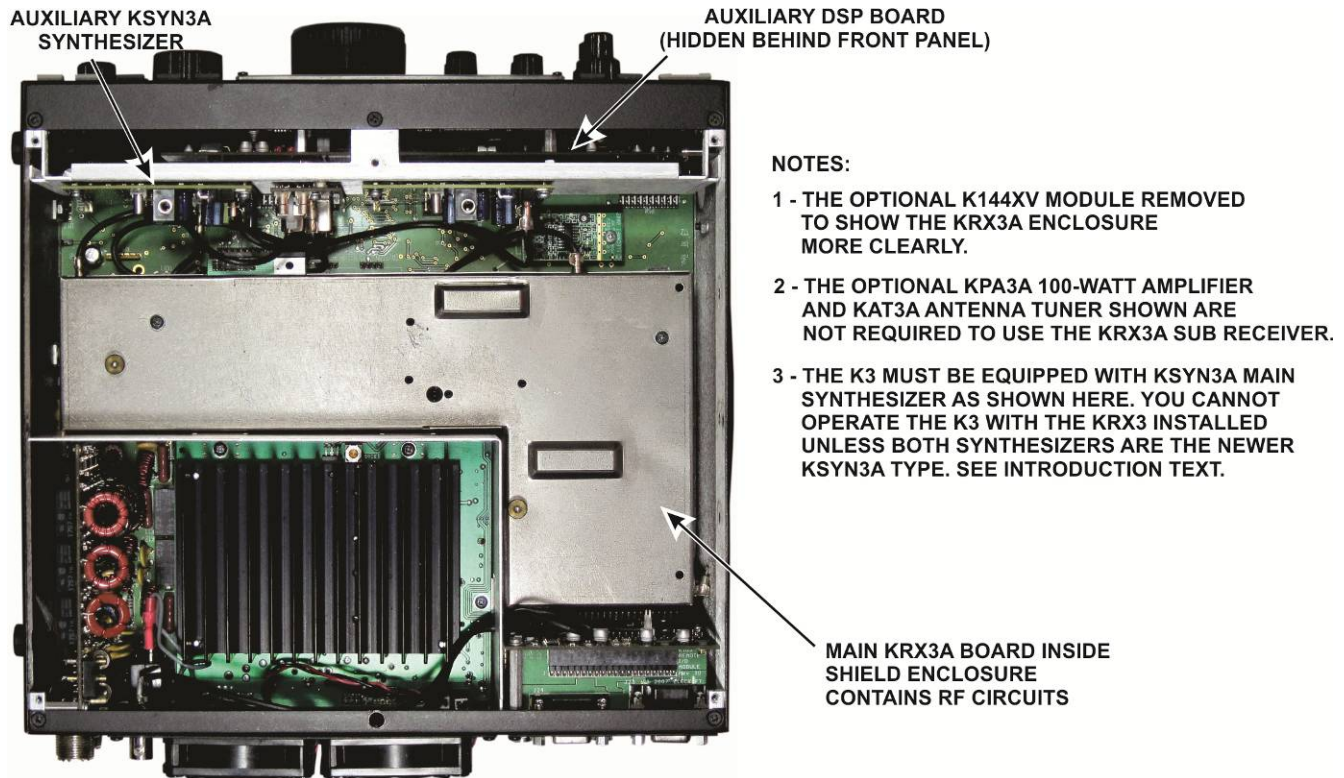


Figure 1. KRX3A Sub Receiver Installed in a K3S or K3.

Customer Service and Support

Technical Assistance

You can send e-mail to k3support@elecraft.com and we will respond quickly - typically the same day Monday through Friday. Telephone assistance is available from 9 A.M. to 5 P.M. Pacific time (weekdays only) at 831-763-4211. Please use e-mail rather than calling when possible since this gives us a written record of the details of your problem and allows us to handle a larger number of requests each day.

Repair / Alignment Service (*We want to make sure everyone succeeds!*)

If necessary, you may return your Elecraft product to us for repair or alignment. (Note: We offer unlimited email and phone support to get your kit running, so please try that route first as we can usually help you find the problem quickly.)

IMPORTANT: You must contact Elecraft before mailing your product to obtain authorization for the return, what address to ship it to and current information on repair fees and turn-around times. (Frequently we can determine the cause of your problem and save you the trouble of shipping it back to us.) Our repair location is different from our factory location in Aptos. We will give you the address to ship your kit to at the time of repair authorization. *Packages shipped to Aptos without authorization will incur an additional shipping charge for reshipment from Aptos to our repair depot.*

Elecraft's 1-Year Limited Warranty

This warranty is effective as of the date of first consumer purchase (or if shipped from factory, date product is shipped to customer). It covers both our kits and fully assembled products. For kits, before requesting warranty service, you should fully complete the assembly, carefully following all instructions in the manual.

Who is covered: This warranty covers the original owner of the Elecraft product as disclosed to Elecraft at the time of order. Elecraft products transferred by the purchaser to a third party, either by sale, gift or other method, who is not disclosed to Elecraft at the time of original order, are not covered by this warranty. If the Elecraft product is being bought indirectly for a third party, the third party's name and address must be provided to Elecraft at time of order to insure warranty coverage.

What is covered: During the first year after date of purchase, Elecraft will replace defective or missing parts free of charge (post-paid). We will also correct any malfunction to kits or assembled units caused by defective parts and materials. Purchaser pays inbound shipping to Elecraft for warranty repair, Elecraft will pay shipping to return the repaired equipment to you by UPS ground service or equivalent to the continental USA and Canada. Alaska, Hawaii and outside U.S. and Canada actual return shipping cost paid by owner.

What is not covered: This warranty does not cover correction of kit assembly errors. It also does not cover misalignment; repair of damage caused by misuse, negligence, or builder modifications; or any performance malfunctions involving non-Elecraft accessory equipment. The use of acid-core solder, water-soluble flux solder, or any corrosive or conductive flux or solvent will void this warranty in its entirety. Also not covered is reimbursement for loss of use, inconvenience, customer assembly or alignment time, or cost of unauthorized service.

Limitation of incidental or consequential damages: This warranty does not extend to non-Elecraft equipment or components used in conjunction with our products. Any such repair or replacement is the responsibility of the customer. Elecraft will not be liable for any special, indirect, incidental or consequential damages, including but not limited to any loss of business or profits.

Preventing Electrostatic Discharge Damage

Sensitive components may be damaged by Electrostatic Discharge (ESD) simply by touching them or a circuit board containing them unless you take specific steps to prevent such damage. Damage may occur with static discharges far too little for you to notice.

A damaged component may not fail completely at first. Instead, the damage may result in below-normal performance for an extended period of time before you experience a total failure.

Parts which are especially ESD-sensitive are identified in the parts list and in the assembly procedures.

We strongly recommend you take the following anti-static precautions (listed in order of importance) to ensure there is no voltage difference between the components and any object that touches them:

- Leave ESD-sensitive parts in their anti-static packaging until you install them. The packaging may be a special plastic bag that allow static charges to flow harmlessly over their surface, or a component's leads may be inserted in conductive foam that keep them at the same potential.
- Wear a conductive wrist strap with a series 1-megohm resistor that will constantly drain off any static charge that accumulates on your body. If you do not have a wrist strap, touch a ground briefly before touching any sensitive parts to discharge your body. Do this frequently while you are working. You can collect a destructive static charge on your body just sitting at the work bench.

WARNING

DO NOT attach a ground directly to yourself without a current-limiting resistor as this poses a serious shock hazard. A wrist strap must include a 1-megohm resistor to limit the current flow. If you choose to touch an unpainted, metal ground to discharge yourself, do it only when you are not touching live circuits with any part of your body.

- Use a grounded anti-static mat on your work bench (see below).
- If you pick up a pc board that was not placed on an anti-static mat or in an anti-static package, touch first a ground plane connection on the board such as a connector shell or mounting point.
- If you use a soldering iron to work on a circuit board, be sure your iron has an ESD-safe grounded tip tied to the same common ground used by your mat and wrist strap.

Choosing an Anti-Static Mat

An anti-static mat must bleed off any charge that comes in contact with it at a rate slow enough to avoid a shock or short circuit hazard but fast enough to ensure dangerous charges cannot accumulate. Typically, a mat will have a resistance of up to 1 Gigaohm (10^9 ohms). Testing a mat requires specialized equipment, so we recommend that you choose an anti-static mat that comes with published resistance specifications and clean it as recommended by the manufacturer. Testing has shown that many inexpensive mats that do not specify their resistance have resistance values much too high to provide adequate protection, even after they were cleaned and treated with special anti-static mat solutions.

Suitable anti-static table mats are available from many sources including:

- U-line (Model 12743 specified at 10^7 ohms)
- Desco (Model 66164, specified at 10^6 to 10^8 ohms)
- 3M™ Portable Service Kit (Model 8505 or 8507, specified at 10^6 to 10^9 ohms)

Preparing for Installation

Tools and Supplies Required


1. #0 and #1 size Phillips screwdrivers. To avoid damaging screws and nuts, a power screwdriver is *not* recommended. Use the screwdriver that best fits the screw in each step.
2. Small pliers or a 1/4" nut driver.
3. Side (diagonal) cutters.
4. Long nose pliers.
5. Soft cloth or clean, soft static dissipating pad to lay cabinet panels on to avoid scratching.
6. Approximately 2.5" (6.4 cm) of transparent tape such as Scotch® Magic™ mending tape (will be used as shown in Figure 43 on page 40).

The following tools are strongly recommended:

1. ESD wrist strap.
2. Static dissipating work pad.

If you are installing the KRX3A sub receiver in an older K3, you may need the following in order to install a single resistor on the main RF board. This is not required when installing the sub receiver in a K3S. See *Checking and Modifying Resistor R91 and DAC Input Circuits* on page 24 to determine if you will need to install this part.

1. Digital multimeter capable of measuring in resistance values.
2. Fine-tip temperature-controlled ESD-safe soldering station with 700 to 800°F tip (370-430°C). Recommend a spade tip approx. 0.05" (1.3 mm) wide. Do not use a high-wattage iron or soldering gun since this can damage pads, traces, or the parts themselves.
3. IC-grade, small-diameter (.031") solder (Kester #44 or equivalent).

 DO NOT use acid-core solder, water-soluble flux solder, additional flux or solvents of any kind. Use of any of these will void your warranty.

Parts Included

The following parts should be included in your kit. Check to ensure you have them all. If any parts are damaged or missing, contact Elecraft for replacements (see page 6).

Circuit Boards and Enclosure

Note: Some pins on the male connectors may have been removed and some holes in the female connectors may have been plugged. This is intentional to help you align the connectors properly during assembly.

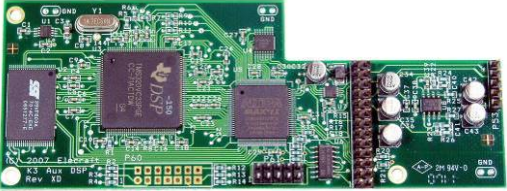

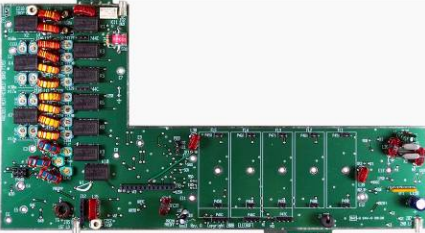







ILLUSTRATION	DESCRIPTION	QTY.	ELECRAFT PART NO.
	<p>Auxiliary DSP Printed Circuit Board Assembly</p> <p>⚠ ESD Sensitive. Follow ESD safe handling procedures. Keep in ESD-safe bag until installed.</p>	1	E850234
	<p>KSYN3A Synthesizer Printed Circuit Board Assembly</p> <p>⚠ ESD Sensitive. Follow ESD safe handling procedures. Keep in ESD-safe bag until installed.</p> <p>One pin on the multi-pin connector has been removed intentionally.</p>	1	E850638
	<p>KRX3A Main Printed Circuit Board Assembly</p> <p>⚠ ESD Sensitive. Follow ESD safe handling procedures. Keep in ESD-safe bag until installed.</p>	1	E850288
	<p>K3 Mixer Board</p> <p>⚠ ESD Sensitive.</p>	1	E850257
	<p>KNB3 Noise Blanker Board</p> <p>⚠ ESD Sensitive.</p>	1	E850280

ILLUSTRATION	DESCRIPTION	QTY.	ELECRAFT PART NO.
	KNB3 SUBIN Board  <i>ESD Sensitive.</i>	1	E850331
	KNB3 SUBOUT Board	1	E850332
	KRX3A Enclosure, Top (with tall standoffs)	1	E100334
	KRX3A Enclosure, Bottom (with short standoffs)	1	E100334

KRX3A Hardware Bag E850681



















ILLUSTRATION	DESCRIPTION	QTY.	ELECRAFT PART NO.
	TMP Cable 5" (13 cm)	2	E100282
	TMP Cable 10" (25 cm)	2	E850338
	TMP Cable 12" (30 cm)	1	E850339
	Circular Foam Pad (Self-Adhesive: Do not remove protective backing until instructed to do so)	1	E700053
	Battery Cover (in envelope marked E850343)	1	E100336
	Resistor, 27 ohm (red-violet-black) 1/8 watt	1	E500336
<p>Typical Standoffs (May be round or hexagonal)</p> 	Standoff, Metal, 4-40 7/8" (22 mm)	2	E700156
	Standoff, Metal, 4-40, 1/2" (13 mm)	2	E700061
	Standoff, Metal, 4-40, 3/8" (9.5 mm)	2	E700153
	Standoff, Metal, 4-40, 1/4" (6.4 mm)	4	E700152
	Standoff, Nylon, 5/8" (15.9 mm)	1	E700163


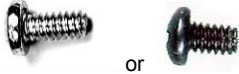

ILLUSTRATION	DESCRIPTION	QTY.	ELECRAFT PART NO.
	Standoff, Hex Male/Female, 7/16" (11mm)	3	E700017
	Unthreaded Sleeve Spacer, 7/8" (22 mm)	2	E700161
   	Screw, Zinc, Pan Head 4-40 1/4" (6.8mm)	8	E700005
	Screw, Black, Pan Head, 4-40, 1/2" (13 mm)	2	E700030
	Screw, Black, Pan Head, 4-40, 3/16" (4.8 mm)	4	E700015
	Screw, Zinc, Pan Head, 4-40, 1-1/2" (38 mm)	4	E700157
	Screw, Nylon, Pan Head 4-40, 1/4" (6.8 mm) Note: 1/2" (13mm) long screws (E700022) may be supplied instead.	3	E700166
	Lock Washer, 4-40, Split	33	E700004
	Lock Washer, #4, Interior Tooth	4	E700010
	Knurled Nut, 4-40	2	E700158

E850344 TMP-BNC Cable Bag

ILLUSTRATION	DESCRIPTION	QTY	ELECRAFT PART NO.
	TMP Cable 14" (36 cm) with BNC Connector with nut and lock washer	1	E850342
	Screw, Black, Pan head 4-40, 3/8" (9.5 mm)	1	E700008
	Lock Washer, #4, Internal Tooth	1	E700010
	Nut, 4-40	1	E700011




E850249 I.F. Crystal Filter Bag (or Box)

NOTE: If the optional 8-pole 2.8K filter is purchased instead (see next item) this filter is not supplied.

ILLUSTRATION	DESCRIPTION	QTY	ELECRAFT PART NO.
	KFL3A-2.7K Filter Note: This filter is not supplied if you purchased the optional 8-pole 2.8 kHz filter with your K3 kit.	1	E850249
	Screw, 4-40, either 1/4" (6.4 mm) Zinc, Pan Head or 3/16" (4.8 mm) Black Pan Head screw.	1	E700005 or E700015
	Lock Washer, #4, Interior Tooth or Split Ring	1	E700010 or E700004

E850249 I.F. Crystal Filter Bag (or Box)

OPTION: Not supplied unless ordered. Otherwise the standard 5-pole filter (above) is supplied.

ILLUSTRATION	DESCRIPTION	QTY	ELECRAFT PART NO.
	KFL3A-2.8K Filter (optional, see above)	1	E850249
	Screw, 4-40, either 1/4" (6.4 mm) Zinc, Pan Head or 3/16" (4.8 mm), Black Pan Head screw.	1	E700005 or E700015
	Lock Washer, #4, Interior Tooth or Split Ring	1	E700010 or E700004

Installation Procedure

⚠ K3S or K3 KIT BUILDERS: If you were directed here to install the KRX3A Sub receiver as part of the initial kit assembly, remove the top cover as shown below, and then go directly to *Checking and Modifying Resistor R91* on page 24 if you are installing the KRX3A in a K3 or go directly to *Installing the KRX3A Module Supports* on page 25 if you are installing the sub receiver in a K3S.

- Disconnect power and all cables from your K3S or K3.
- Remove the nine screws to free the top cover as shown in Figure 2. After the cover is open, lift it gently to reach the speaker wire connector. Unplug the speaker then set the top cover aside in a safe place. If you have the K144XV 2-meter option installed, slip the speaker wire under the chassis stiffener bar that runs across the top of the K3S or K3 along the depression in the top of the K144XV module.

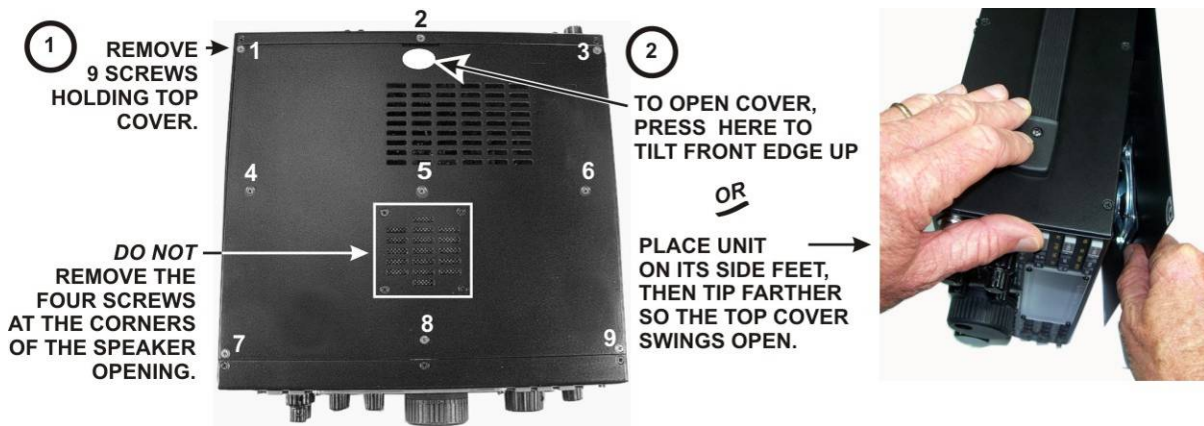


Figure 2. Removing K3S or K3 Top Cover.

⚠ CAUTION

Touch an unpainted metal ground or wear a grounded wrist strap before touching components or circuit boards. See *Preventing Electrostatic Discharge Damage* on page 7 for more information.

- Remove the chassis stiffener bar that runs across the top of the chassis (see Figure 3).

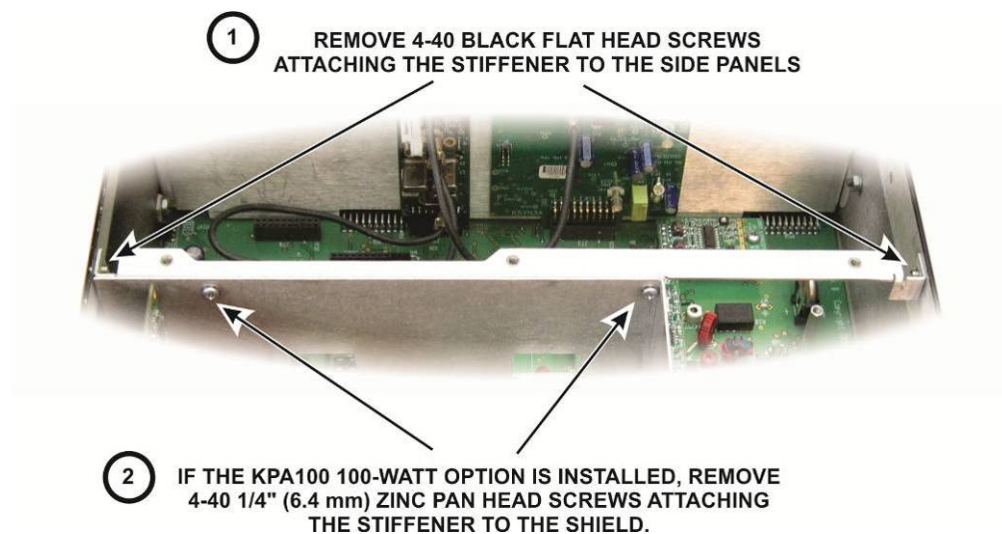


Figure 3. Removing the Chassis Stiffener Bar.

If your K3S or K3 has the K144XV 2-meter option installed, remove the three 6-32 black flat head screws holding it to the left side panel (see Figure 4). Unplug the cables going to the K144XV module. The red power wire plugs into a connector on the main RF board. Unplug it and set it aside with the module.

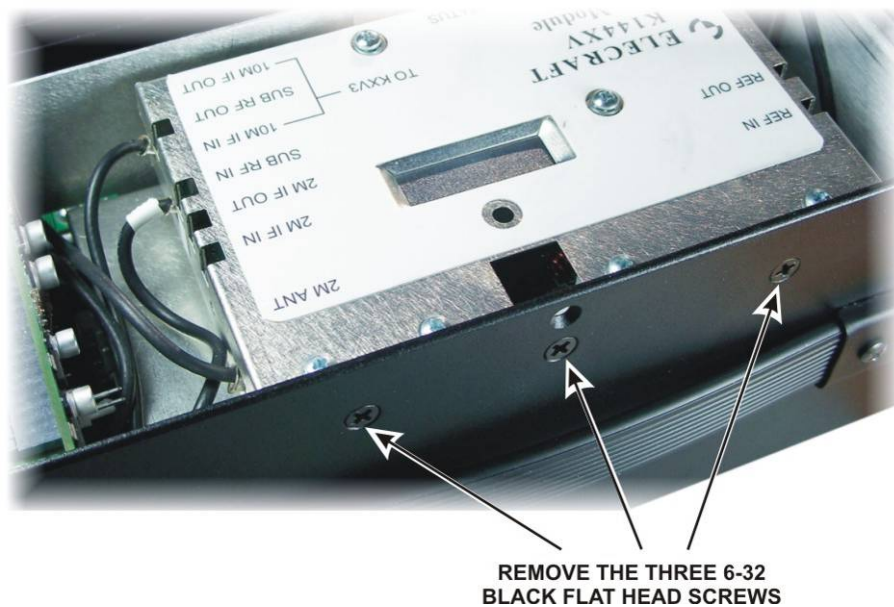


Figure 4. Removing the K144XV Module.

Installing the Auxiliary DSP Board

If the auxiliary DSP board is already installed, skip the following steps and go directly to *Checking and Modifying Resistor R91 and DAC Input Circuits* on page 23 if you are installing the KRX3A in a K3, or go directly to *Installing the KRX3A Module Supports* on page 25 if you are installing the KRX3A in a K3S.

Stand the K3S or K3 on its side feet, remove the six screws shown in Figure 5 and lift the left side panel off. Set the side panel aside in a safe place to avoid scratches.

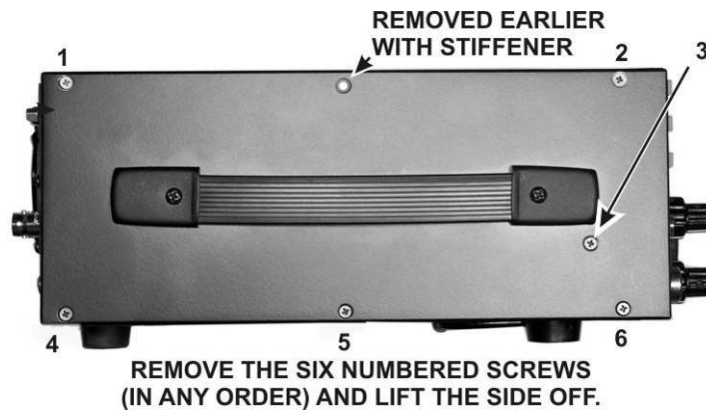


Figure 5. Removing the Left Side Panel.

If you have a K3S, skip this step. If you have an older K3, remove the screw shown in Figure 6. It is located directly behind the front panel microphone connector. There may be a lock washer under the screw. If so, save it with the screw. Removing the screw ensures the pc boards on the front panel assembly will have adequate clearance when the front panel assembly is removed in a later step. Remove only the screw shown. Leave the other screw in place as shown in the figure.

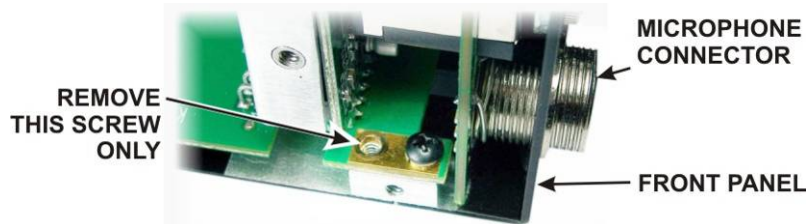


Figure 6. Removing the 2D Screw.

Remove the three screws securing the top of the front panel assembly as shown in Figure 7.

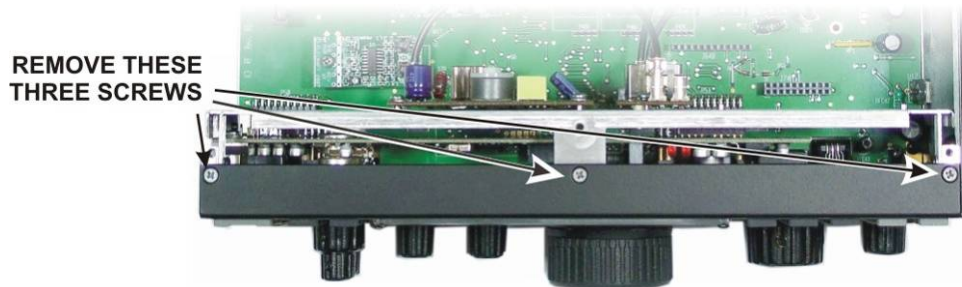


Figure 7. Removing Front Panel Mounting Screws.

Turn the K3 upside down. Place it on a clean, soft surface to avoid scratching the top of the front or rear panels.

Refer to Figure 8 and remove screws 1 through 7, then lift the forward section of the bottom cover off. Put it in a safe place to avoid scratches.

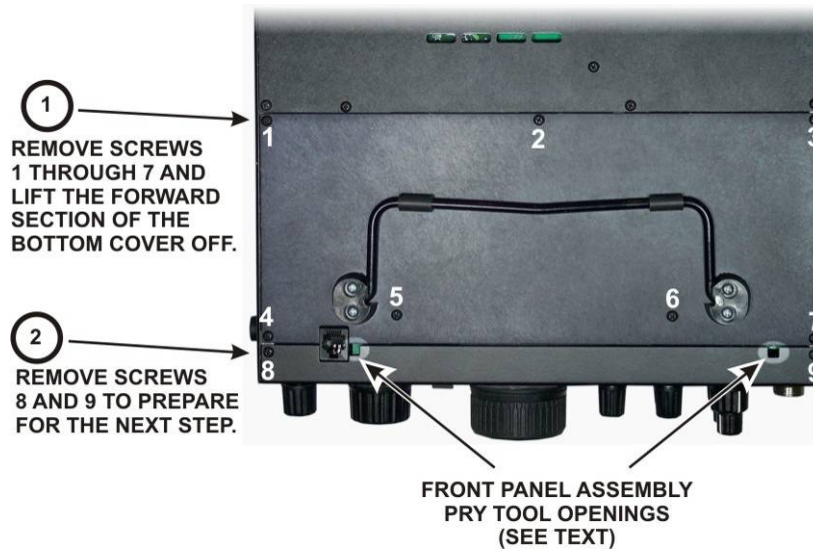


Figure 8. Removing Bottom Cover and Front Panel Screws.

- Refer to Figure 8 and remove screws 8 and 9.

⚠ CAUTION

Before continuing on with the next step, be sure you have removed the three top Front Panel Assembly screws shown in Figure 7. You may bend and damage the front panel or shield assemblies if the screws are not removed!

- Use a screwdriver in the pry tool openings to press back against the circuit board while pushing the lip on the front panel assembly toward the front as shown in Figure 9. **Do not insert the screwdriver any farther than necessary to avoid damaging components!** When you have the front panel assembly free, set the main chassis aside in a safe place.

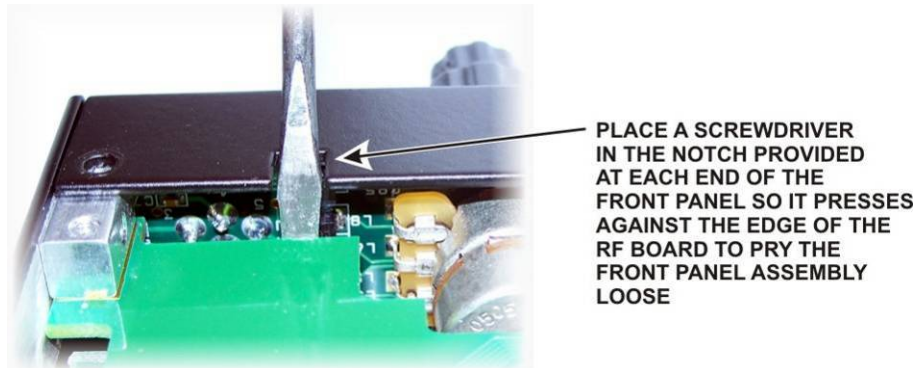


Figure 9. Separating the Front Panel Assembly from the Chassis.

- On the front panel, remove the knurled nut from the PHONES jack directly above the MIC connector. Be very careful not to scratch the paint on the front panel.
- Place the front panel assembly face down on a smooth, clean soft surface to avoid scratches to the LCD cover or front panel paint



Figure 10. Phones Jack Knurled Nut.

- ☐ Remove the three screws and split lock washers shown in Figure 11.

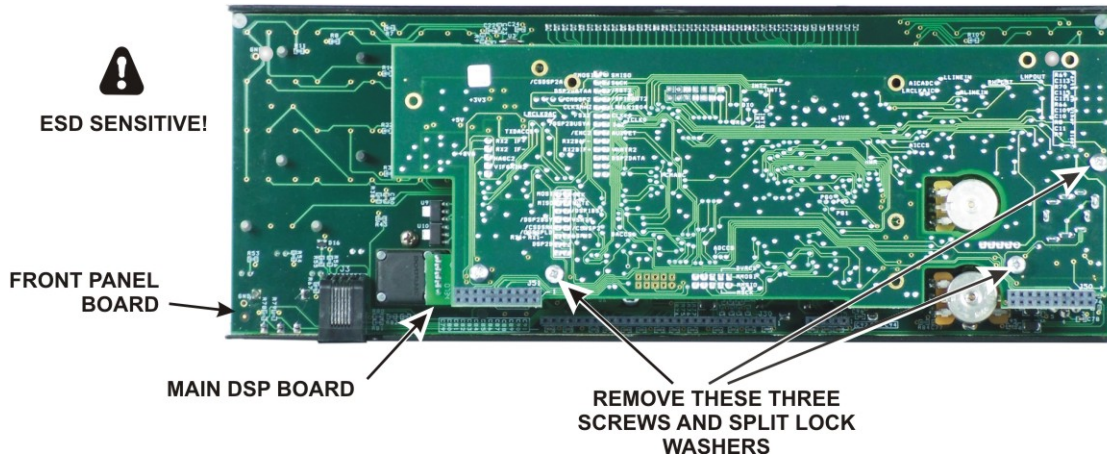


Figure 11. Removing Main DSP Board.

- ☐ With the three screws removed, the main DSP board is held on to the front panel board by two multi-pin connectors. Slip your finger tips between the boards and pull the main DSP board away from the front panel board to unplug it.

- ☐ A large, thick spacer washer should be lying on the front panel near the hole for the phones jack (see Figure 12). This spacer fits between the phones jack and the back of the front panel board to provide a solid mechanical ground connection when the boards are in place. Remove the washer and set it aside. If it is lying on the inside of the front panel you can tip the panel so it will slide out at the end.

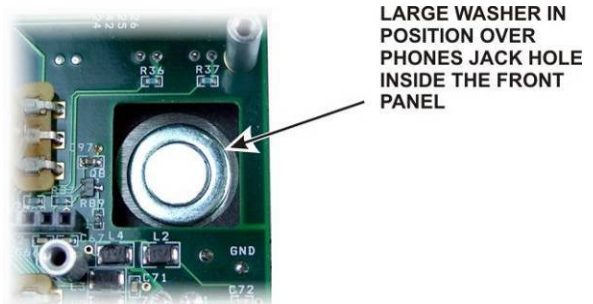


Figure 12. Phones Jack Washer.

- ☐ If your kit was supplied with 1/4" (6.4mm) long nylon screws, skip this step. If you have 1/2" (13mm) nylon screws, cut all three of them to length as follows:

- Screw three 4-40 nuts onto the 1/2" (13 mm) 4-40 nylon screw as shown in Figure 13.
- Cut off the nylon screw flush with the last nut. Sharp diagonal cutters or a knife will cut the nylon.
- After cutting, remove all three nuts. (The nuts establish the correct length for the screw and "clean up" the thread where you cut the screw.)

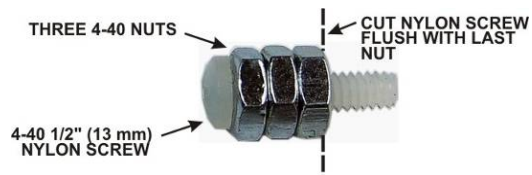


Figure 13. Cutting 1/2" (13mm) Nylon Screws.

⚠ CAUTION

The boards are especially vulnerable to ESD damage when unplugged. Wear a wrist strap or touch an unpainted metal ground frequently when handling the boards to avoid ESD damage. See *Preventing Electrostatic Discharge Damage* on page 7 for more information.

Mount the three standoffs on the component side of the main DSP board as shown in Figure 14. Be sure that:

- The standoffs are on the component side of the board as shown.
- No lock washer is used between the standoff and the board.
- One lock washer is used between the nut and the board.

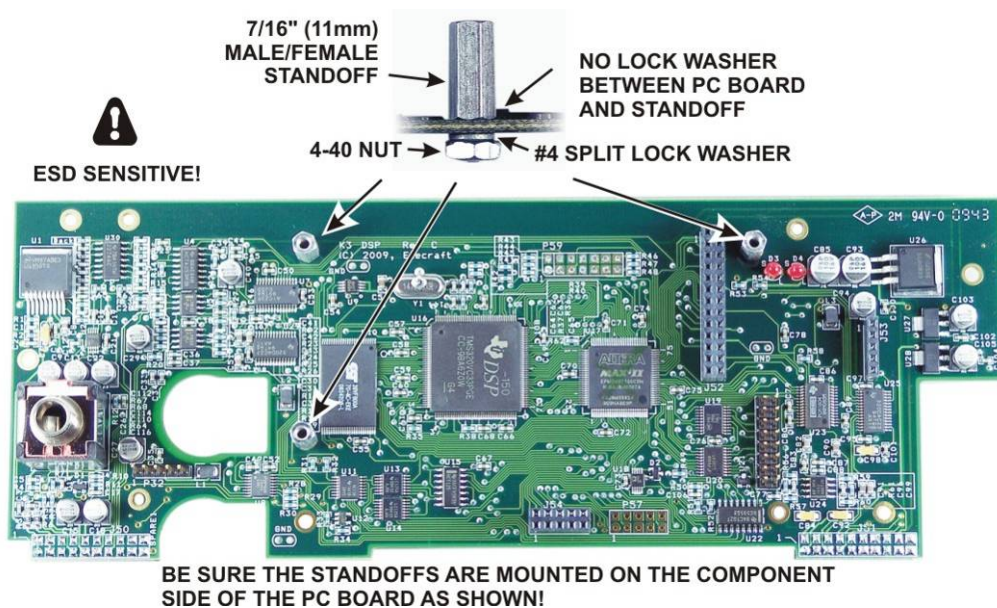


Figure 14. Installing Standoffs on the main DSP Board.

Check to see if the nylon standoff shown below near J51 is mounted on the main DSP board. If not, install the nylon standoff supplied with your KRX3A parts as shown below. Be sure you place it in the correct hole near the corner of the board.

⚠ CAUTION

To avoid damaging a circuit trace very close to the metal ring around the screw hole, position the lock washer under the screw so the split faces away from the trace. Tighten the hardware by turning the standoff while holding the screw and lock washer stationary. *Do not over-tighten the screw. It is easy to strip the threads in the nylon standoff.*

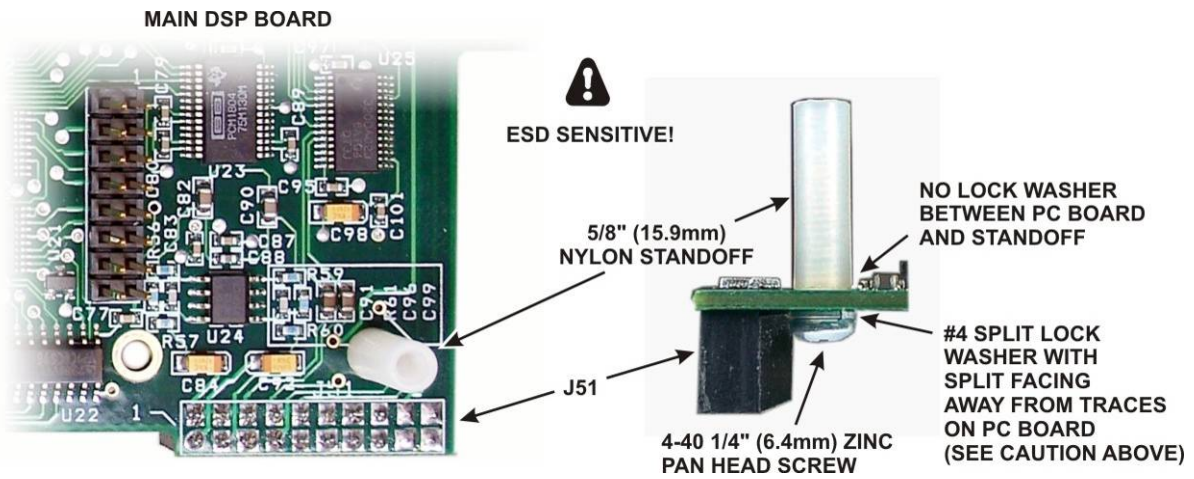


Figure 15. Installing Nylon Standoff on Main DSP Board.

Locate resistor R3 on the front panel board (the board still mounted on the front panel assembly). If R3 is positioned above the board on its leads as shown in Figure 16, push it over to one side of the outline as shown. Be sure you don't push it so far its leads might touch the solder pads for other components on the board.

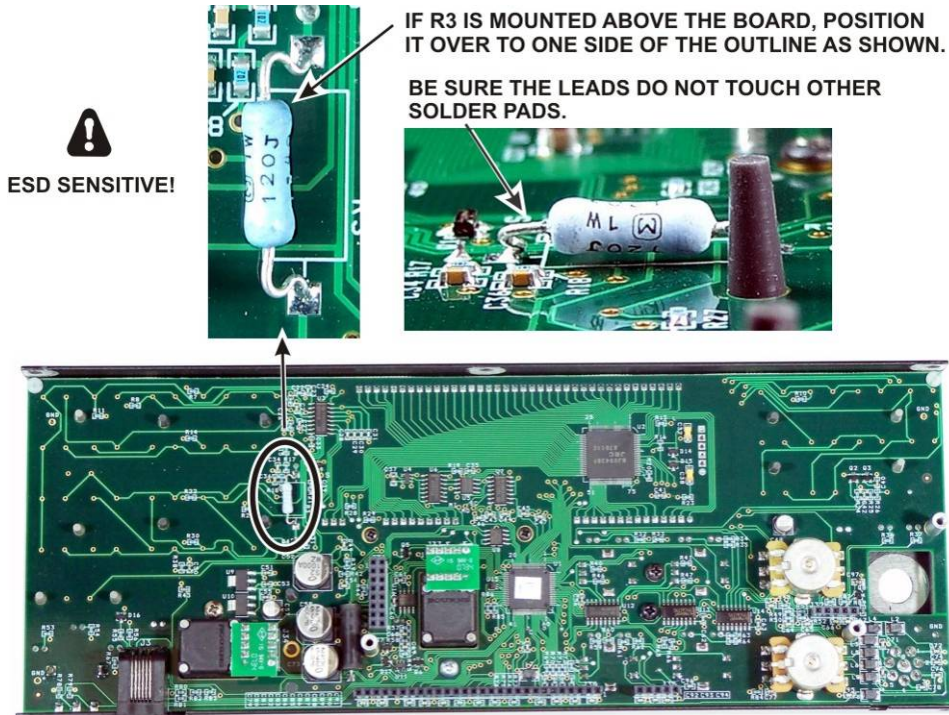


Figure 16. Positioning R3 on the Front Panel Board.

☐ Check the VFO B encoder and trim the pins as shown below if they haven't been trimmed already to ensure they cannot short against the main DSP board. If trimming is needed, remove the encoder to ensure clipped ends don't get lost in the front panel assembly. To remove the encoder, loosen the set screws and remove the knob, then remove the felt washer and nut and lift the encoder out. You need trim only the five pins shown close to the back of the pc board. Replace the encoder by reversing the process. Be sure the spacer nut on the inside is tight against the shoulder of the ferrule.



Figure 17. Checking and Trimming the VFO B Encoder Pins.

☐ Plug the aux DSP board into the main DSP board by mating P52 and P53 on the aux DSP board (at the narrow end) with J52 and J53 on the main DSP board. When seated, the connectors should be fully engaged with the aux DSP board resting against the standoffs with the holes in the board aligned for the screws (see Figure 18). Note that a two-row 10-pin connector at the top of the aux DSP board does not mate with anything on the main DSP board. That is normal. Attach the boards with three 4-40 1/4" (6.4 mm) **nylon** screws or the nylon screws you trimmed to length earlier (see Figure 13). Place a split lock washer under each screw head. Do not place washers between the standoff and the pc board. **Be careful tightening the nylon screws. Their threads strip easily.**

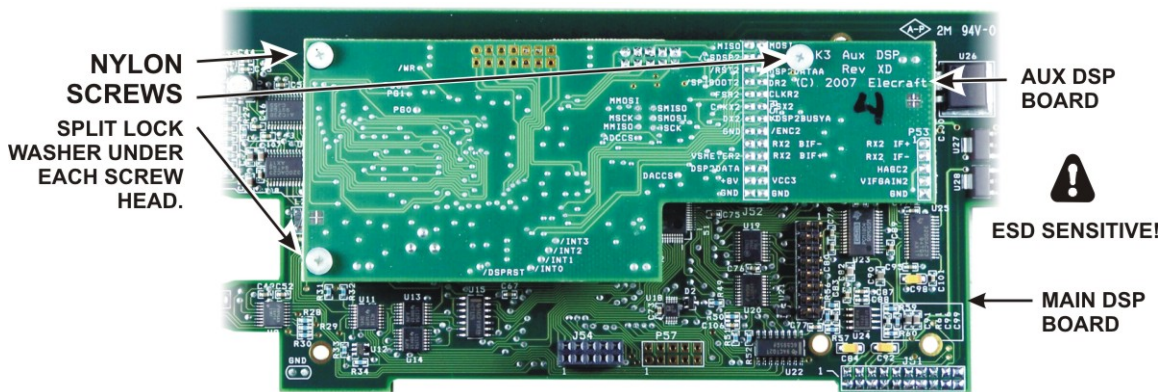


Figure 18. Mating the Main and Auxiliary DSP Boards.

☐ Mount the DSP board assembly on the front panel board as follows.

⚠ ESD SENSITIVE: Wear a grounded wrist strap or touch an unpainted metal ground before touching the DSP or front panel boards.

- Place the front panel assembly face down on a soft, clean surface to protect the finish. The back side of the front panel board should be facing upward.
- Position the large flat washer on the inside of the front panel over the PHONES jack hole (see Figure 10 on page 16). This is easily done by sliding the washer into place from the end of the front panel.
- Gently position the DSP board assembly on the front panel board so that the large jack fits through the cutout in the front panel board with the threaded section passing through the large flat washer and the circular opening in the front panel. Adjust the position of the board as

needed so you can see the standoffs on the front panel board lined up with the screw holes in the main DSP board. The nylon standoff next to J51 rests against the front panel board, but is not attached to it.

- Pick up the assembly while holding the DSP assembly board in place and inspect the position of the two male plugs on the DSP board. They should mate with J31 and J32 on the front panel board. J31 is near the encoder for VFO A and J32 is between the two dual potentiometers. Adjust the position of the DSP board as needed so the pins enter the corresponding holes in the sockets on the front panel board.
- Squeeze the boards together while ensuring the pins are mating with the connectors until the DSP board is resting against the three standoffs on the back of the front panel board that you installed earlier. The two connectors will not mate completely. About 1/4" (6.4mm) of the pins may be visible when the DSP board is positioned against the standoffs.
- If R3 was positioned above the board on its leads, look between the DSP boards and the front panel board to verify that the leads are not touching any terminals on either the aux DSP or front panel boards (see Figure 19). If necessary, unplug the DSP board assembly and adjust the position of R3 to ensure the leads are clear of other solder pads before proceeding.

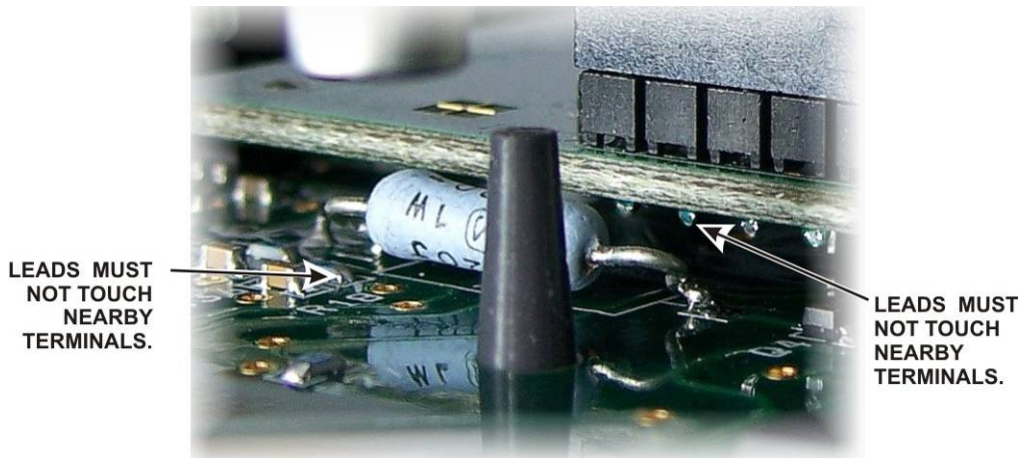


Figure 19. Checking Position of R3.

- Replace the three 4-40 1/4" (6.4 mm) zinc pan head screws you removed earlier with a split lock washer under each screw head (see Figure 11 on page 17).
- Replace the knurled nut on the PHONES jack (see Figure 10 on page 16).

Turn the chassis upside down and position the front panel so the pins of P30 and P35 on the bottom of the RF board just begin to engage the connectors on the lower edge of the front panel assembly as shown in Figure 20). Do not fully mate them yet.

⚠ Figure 20 shows a K3S. P35 on K3 transceivers have only 5 pins, all of which mate with the corresponding connector on the front panel.

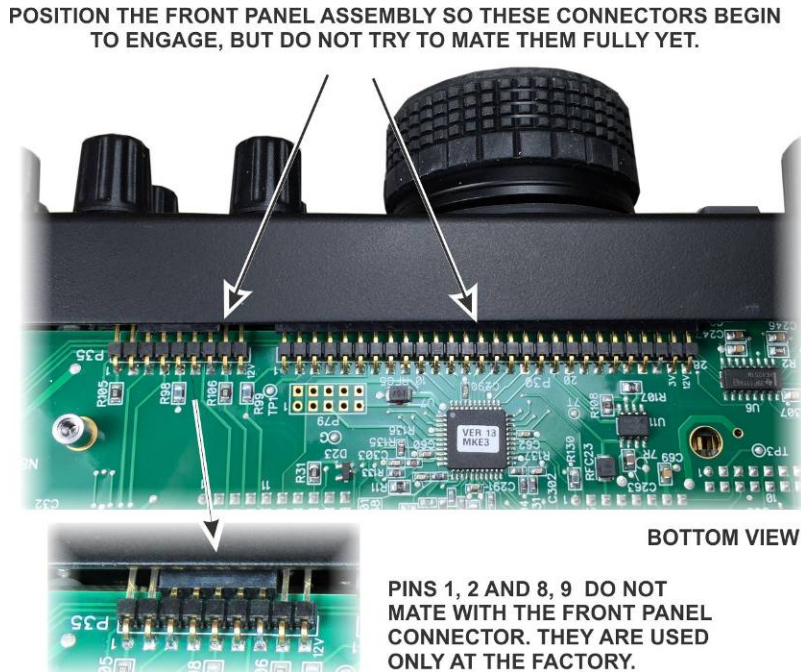


Figure 20. Mounting Front Panel Assembly - Mating P30 and P35.

Hold the front panel in place against the chassis assembly and turn the unit over to look at the two multi-pin connectors on the top of the RF board. See if they are engaging the corresponding connectors on the front panel assembly (see Figure 21). Adjust the position of the RF board or the front panel assembly to ensure they are mating properly.

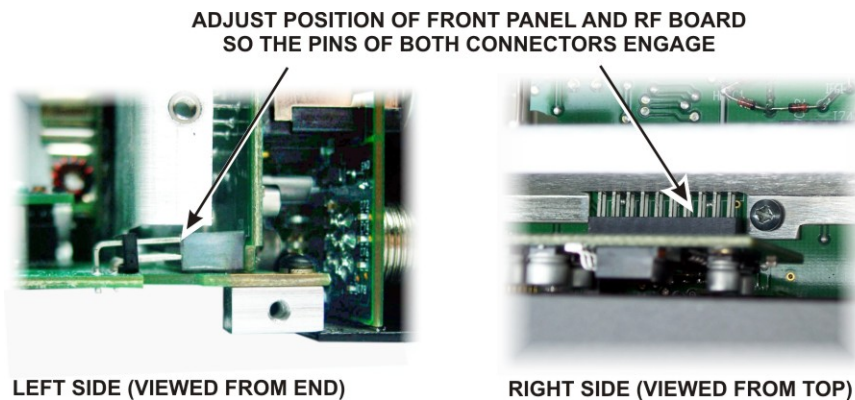


Figure 21. Mounting Front Panel Assembly - Mating P50 and P51.

- With the pins of all four connectors started, press the front panel onto the RF board connectors. Press only from the bottom of the front panel to avoid flexing the RF board. You can use your fingers to press on the back side of each multi-pin connector on the top of the RF board while holding the front panel to engage them. There may be small areas of pins showing even after they are mated. You will know they are properly mated when the screw holes on the bottom lip of the front panel assembly line up with the screw holes in the 2D fasteners on the bottom of the RF board.
- Secure the front panel assembly at the bottom lip to the 2D fasteners at the forward edge of the RF board with the two 4-40 3/16" (4.8 mm) black pan head screws you removed earlier. No lock washers are used on the external case screws.
- Fasten the top of the front panel assembly with three 4-40 3/16" (4.8 mm) black flat head screws (see Figure 7 on page 15).
- If you have a K3S, skip this step. Replace the 3/16" (4.8 mm) black pan head screw you removed earlier and, if used, lock washer in the 2D fastener (see Figure 6 on page 15).
- Replace the left side panel (with the handle) as follows:
 - Start the six 4-40 3/16" (4.8 mm) black flat head screws through the panel: three along the bottom, one at the top rear, one at the top front, and one just below the front end of the handle. There will be one empty screw hole for the attachment to the chassis stiffener. That will be replaced later. It is normal to adjust the position of the panels slightly when assembling so the screw holes line up. The cabinet will become structurally sound and rigid when all the panels, including the top and bottom covers, are mounted.
 - Tighten all six screws. ***Be sure all the screws are tight, including the screw near the forward end of the handle that threads into the front panel shield.***
- Leave the bottom cover off for now. You will need access to that area of the RF board later.

Checking and Modifying Resistor R91 and DAC Input Circuits (K3 Only)

⚠ Skip this procedure if you are installing the KRX3A in a K3S. Go directly to *Installing the KRX3A Module Supports* on page 25.

The value of resistor R91 must be 22 ohms. Perform the following procedure to check the value of the resistor and, if needed, reduce its value by adding a 27 ohm resistor in parallel with it. Two traces must be cut to ensure the Digital to Analog Converters (DACs) receive the proper signal levels.

- Turn the K3 upside down. Place it on a clean, soft surface to avoid scratching the case.
- If the forward section of the bottom cover is not already off, remove it as shown in Figure 8 on page 16.
- Locate R91. It is a small surface-mount resistor near the front center of the RF board (see Figure 22).
- Use your DMM to measure the resistance across R91 in the circuit. If the resistance is about 22 ohms, you do not need to add the leaded resistor. Go directly to the next step below. If the resistance is near 100 ohms, install the 27 ohm (red-violet-black) 1/8-watt resistor as shown in Figure 22. The pads shown were chosen to make installation easier than trying to solder directly to both ends of R91. Take care not to use more heat or solder than necessary to avoid damaging the board or forming solder bridges across R91 or to other pads.

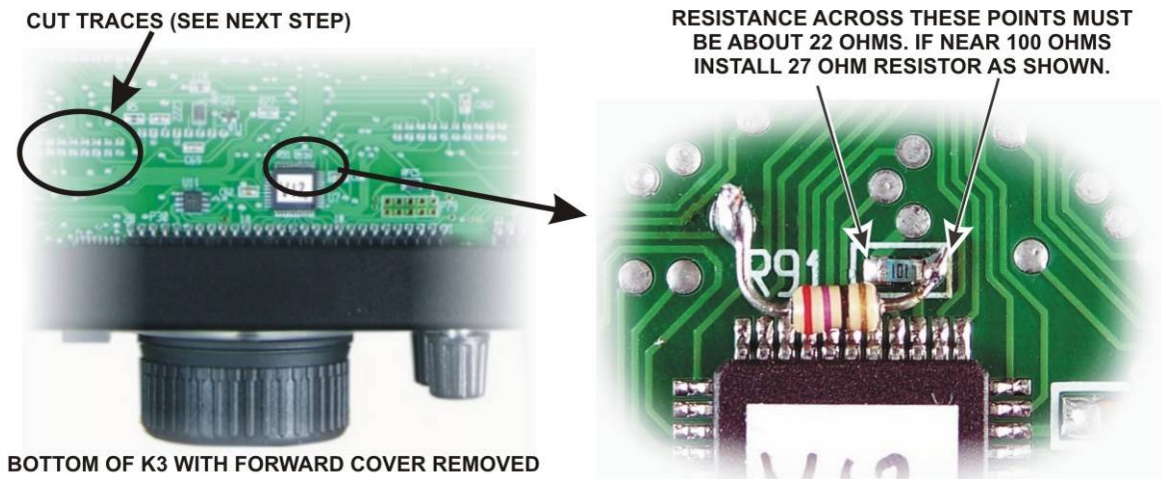


Figure 22. R91 Modification.

Check to see if the traces shown below have been cut. They are on the bottom of the RF board in the area to the left of R91 with the front panel facing toward you (see Figure 22). If not, cut them as shown. This modification ensures the digital-to-analog converters (DACs) always receive the proper signal levels. It has been incorporated into all later K3s. Confirm the traces are cut using your DMM. It should indicate an open circuit, just as if your meter leads were not connected to anything.

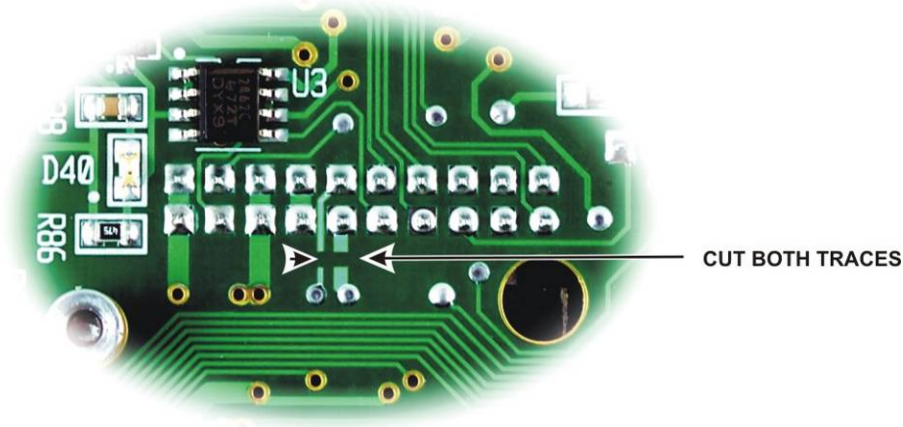


Figure 23. Cut Traces.

Installing the KRX3A Module Supports

Install two standoffs on the RF board (the large board filling the bottom of the K3S or K3) as shown in Figure 24. One standoff is mounted next to battery BT1 and the other is mounted next to FL1. Be sure to use two lock washers between the standoffs and the board as shown. They are required to obtain the proper height.

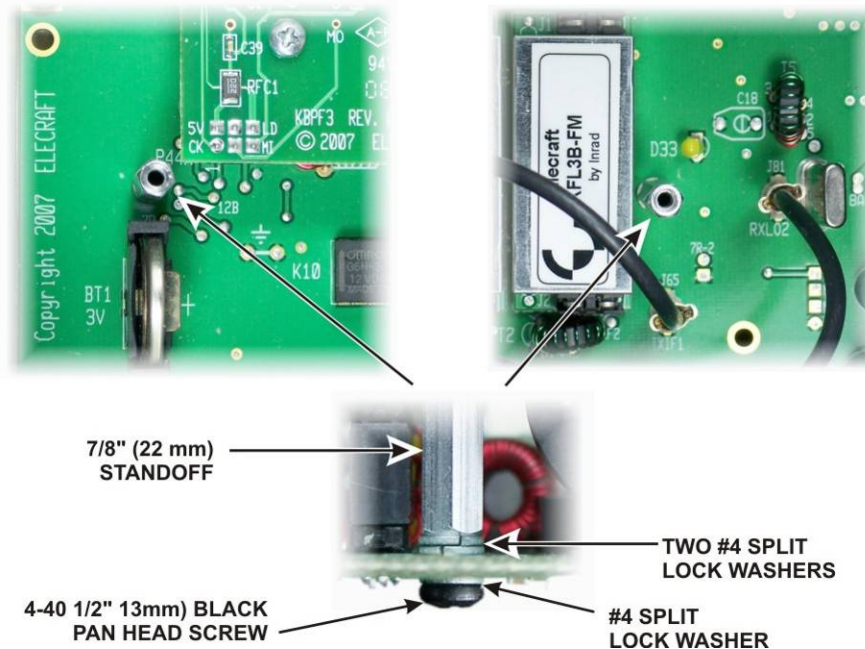


Figure 24. Mounting Standoffs on the RF Board.

Replace the forward bottom cover using seven 3/16" (4.8 mm) black pan head screws (see Figure 8 on page 16).

Installing the Auxiliary KSYN3A Synthesizer

□ Remove the KSYN3A board from its ESD protective packaging. Inspect the back of the board for long leads, especially those associated with the mini-connector and U8 near the top of the board. Carefully trim these leads flush with the board as shown in Figure 25.

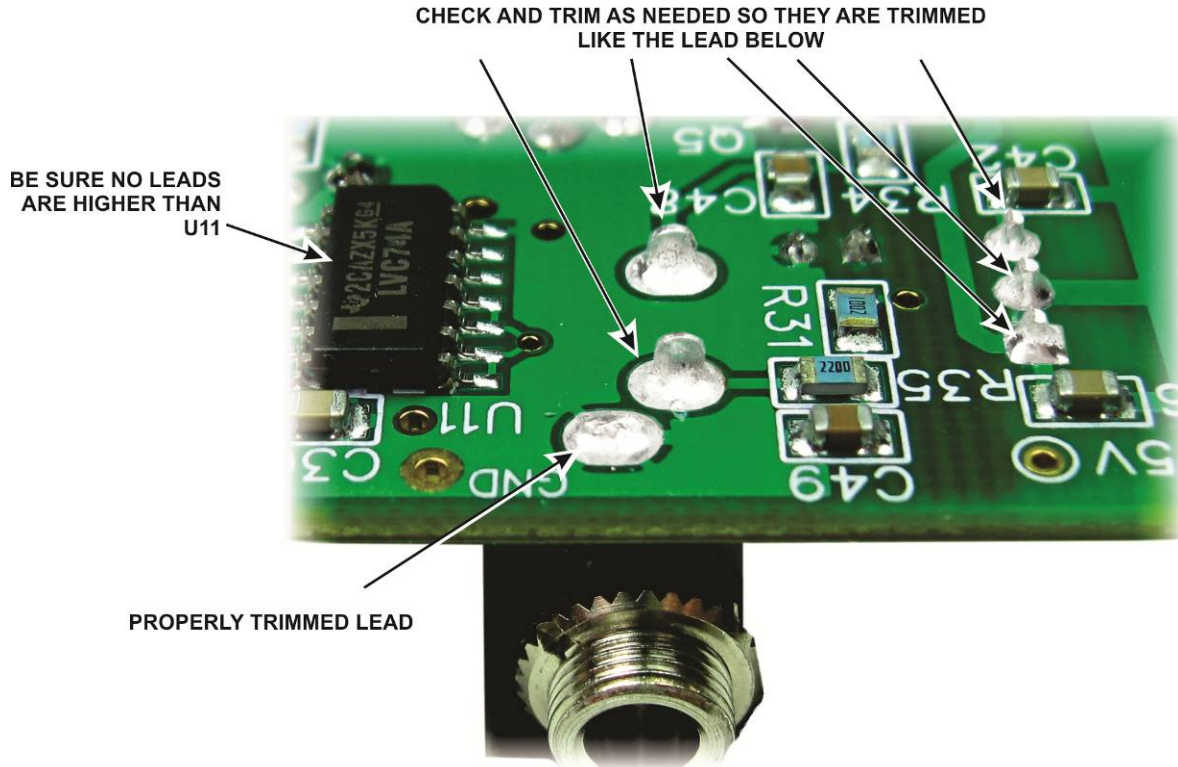


Figure 25. Checking and Trimming the Synthesizer Leads

⚠ CAUTION

The objective of trimming any long leads is to be certain no bare leads touch the front panel shield when the board is installed in the next step. Do not add spacers or insulating material between the board and the front panel shield. It is important for proper shielding of the circuits that the board sits very close to the front panel shield.

☐ Locate the four coaxial TMP cables supplied and sort them by length. There are two 5” (13 cm), two 10” (25 cm) and one 12” (30 cm) cables. These are approximate measurements measured from the tip of one connector to the other. Check the cables as shown in Figure 26 to ensure there are no excess strands of the center conductor extending beyond the tip of the connector. .

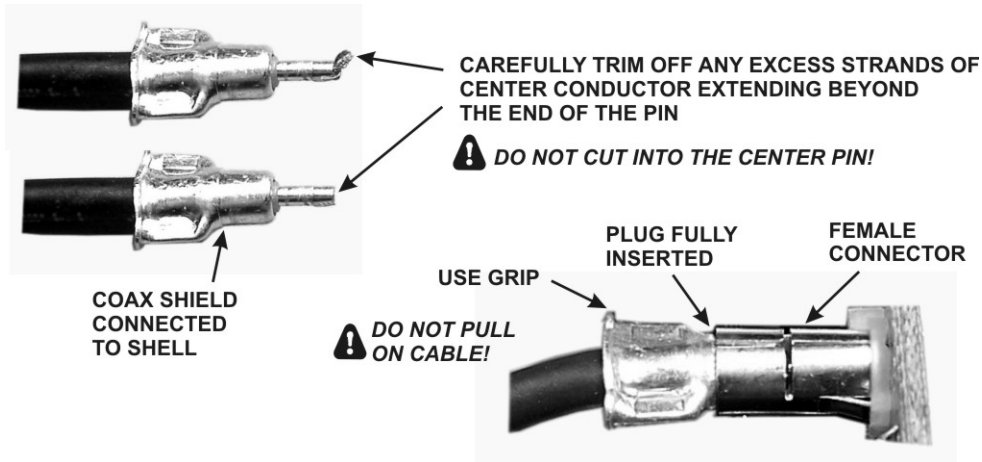


Figure 26. TMP Cable Connectors.

⚠ CAUTION

When inserting or removing the TMP connectors, always use the grip as shown in Figure 26. Pulling on the black cable may rip it out of the connector.

☐ Plug one end of a 10” (25 cm) cable into J84 and one end of a second 10” (25 cm) cable into J4 near the bottom of the auxiliary KSYN3A synthesizer board. The other ends of the cables will be connected later. Installing them now is much easier than after the KSYN3A board is mounted in the K3.

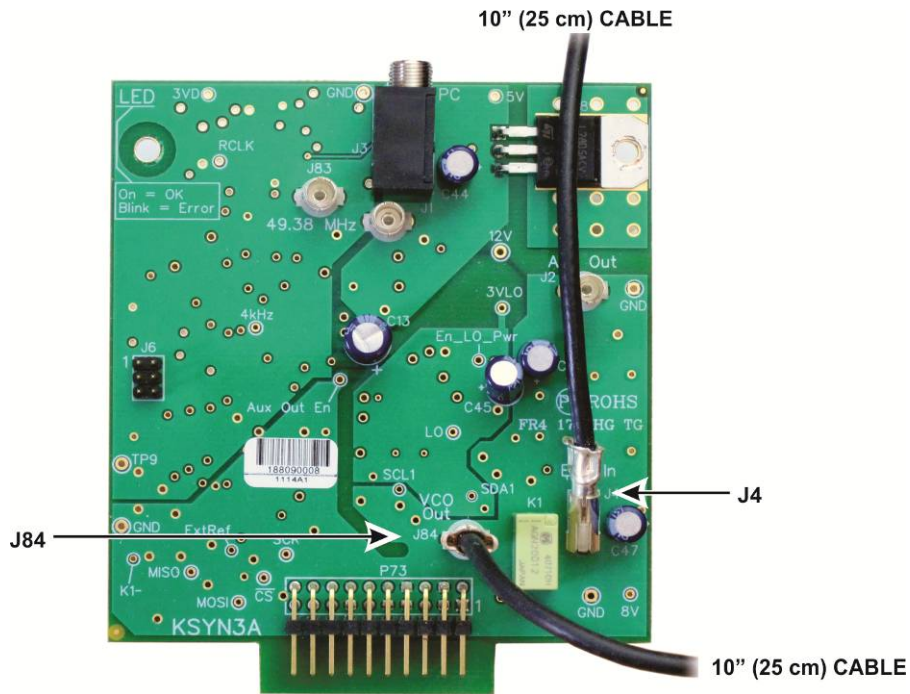


Figure 27. Connecting TMP Cables to the KSYN3A Synthesizer.

□ Install the Auxiliary KSYN3A board on the back of the front panel shield between the KREF3 board and the side panel as shown in Figure 28. The two cables attached to the KSYN3A board will be attached later.

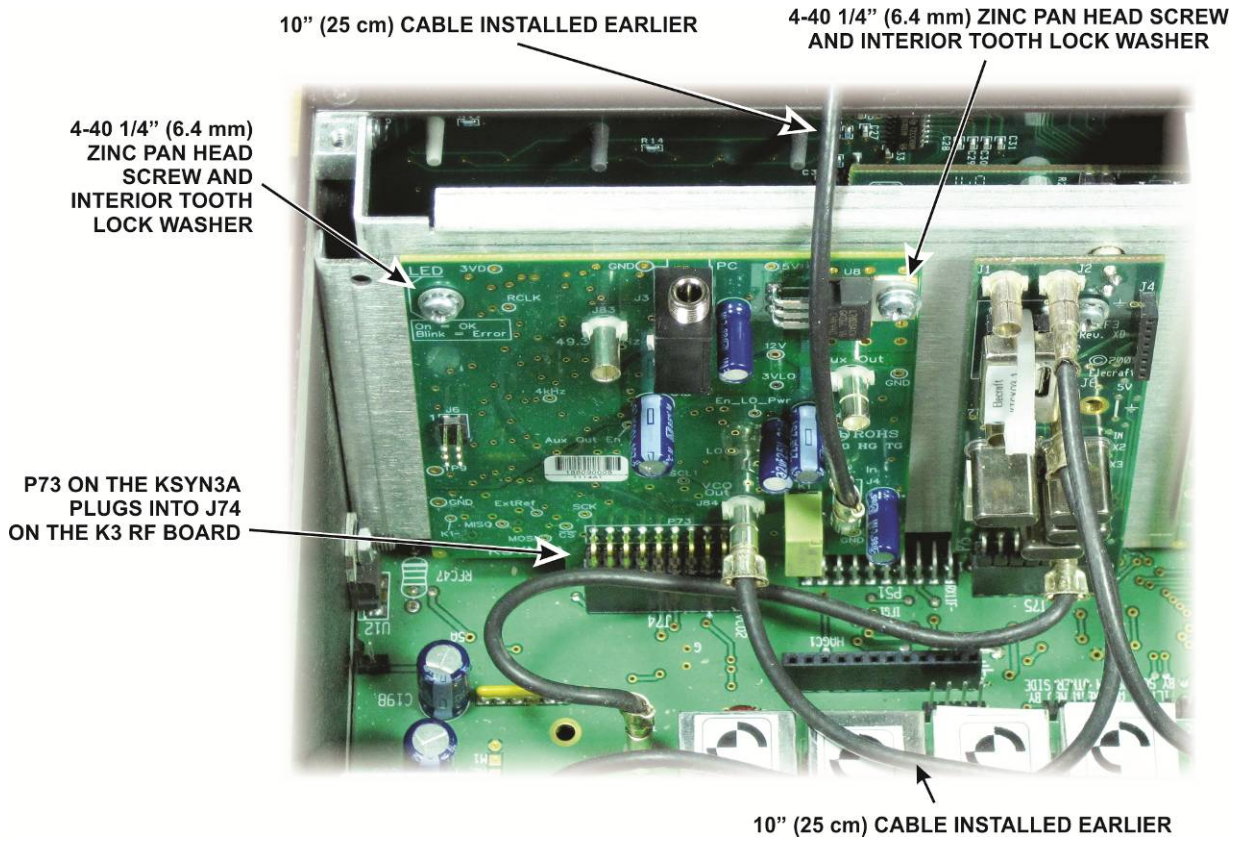


Figure 28. Installing the Auxiliary KSYN3A Board.

Auxiliary KRX3A Antenna Input (Optional)

Normally, the KRX3A sub receiver will share whatever antenna is in use by the main receiver.

If you plan to use the KRX3A sub receiver to listen on one band while the main receiver is on another band sharing the same antenna, there are limitations on the combinations of bands you can choose because of the effect of the bandpass filters used by the main K3 receiver. See *Sub Receiver Antenna Selection* on page 50 for details.

The KRX3A has an Auxiliary Antenna input that you can use to have a separate antenna input to the KRX3A rather than share the common main receiver antenna. There are two ways to route a separate antenna input to the KRX3A.

1. You may bring out the KRX3A Auxiliary Antenna input to a BNC connector on the rear panel directly below the ANT2 connector. This is the preferred way to connect an isolated receive-only antenna to the sub receiver.
2. If you have the optional KAT3A installed, you may have the KRX3A sub receiver use the antenna connected to ANT1 or ANT2 that is *not* being used by the transmitter and main receiver. A relay in the KAT3A switches the antenna. For example, if ANT1 is selected for the transmitter and main receiver, the KRX3A Auxiliary Antenna input will be connected to ANT2. **This arrangement requires well isolated antennas on all bands**, otherwise the carrier-operated relay may switch during keying on some bands. This will compromise QSK operation and may inject noise into your transmitted signal. See *Sub Receiver Antenna Selection* on page 50 for more information.

Only one of these options can be installed at a time. You can use the front panel menu controls to select either the antenna shared with the main receiver or the optional antenna input you have installed.

If you do not want to install an optional auxiliary antenna input, go directly to *Assembling the KRX3A Sub receiver Module* on page 34 to continue with installing your KRX3A.

Installing the Auxiliary KRX3A Antenna Input via the KAT3A

 **This option requires that you have a KAT3A Automatic Antenna Tuner installed.**

With this option, the antenna connected to ANT1 or ANT2 that is not being used by the K3 transmitter and receiver is connected to the KRX3A auxiliary antenna input. If you switch between ANT1 and ANT2 at the front panel, the input not used by the transmitter and main receiver is automatically switched to the KRX3A auxiliary antenna input.

- Locate the 12" (30 cm) TMP cable.
- Connect one end of the TMP cable to J43 on the KAT3A board (see Figure 29). J43 is next to the mounting screw for the standoff in the corner of the board.

Route the cable across the back of the K3S or K3. When the KRX3A module is installed, it will connect to the KRX3A at a point directly in front of the KIO3B board in the left rear side of the K3S or K3. If you have the KPA3A 100 watt option installed, route the cable between the fans and heat shield and out through the hole in the KPA3A shield as shown in Figure 29. The loose end will be connected later.

WHEN A KPA3A IS INSTALLED, ROUTE CABLE THROUGH OPENING IN SHIELD AS SHOWN



Figure 29. Optional KRX3A Antenna TMP Cable to KAT3A.

Go directly to *Assembling the KRX3A Sub receiver Module* on page 34 to continue with the installation.

Installing the Auxiliary KRX3A Antenna Input Via the Rear Panel BNC Connector

With this option the KRX3A Auxiliary Antenna input is routed to a BNC connector on the rear panel.

Remove the hardware securing the heat sinks of U13 and U12 to the right side panel (see Figure 30). Be careful not to lose the lock washers inside the K3S or K3.

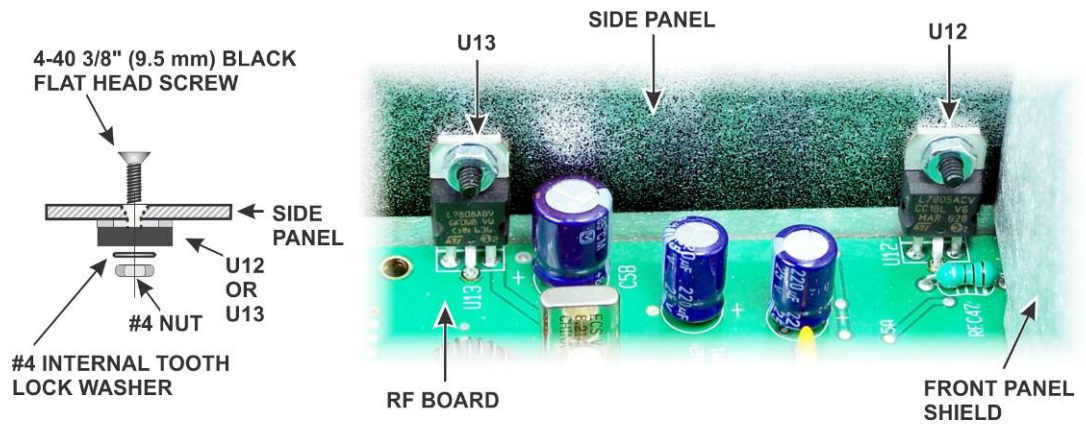


Figure 30. U12 and U13 Hardware.

☐ Remove the screw holding the KANT3A (or, if installed, the optional KAT3A) board to the standoff and the screw holding the 2D fastener to the rear panel near the SO239 antenna connector shown in Figure 31. Do not lose the lock washer inside the K3S or K3. It is easier to keep the hardware from falling inside if you set the K3S or K3 on its side feet and remove the screw and lock washer holding the KANT3A or KAT3A board first, then set it on its bottom feet and remove the flat head screw from the 2D fastener.

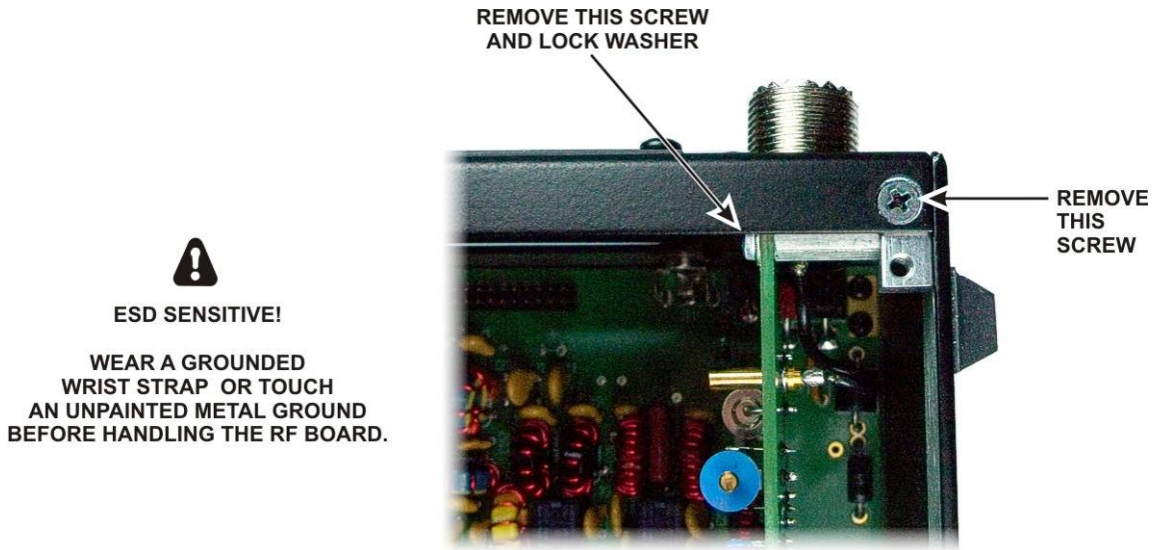


Figure 31. Removing Side Panel Hardware, Part 1.

☐ Remove the five screws shown in Figure 32 from the right side panel to release it. Screw 5, which holds the end of the stiffener bar, already will be out if you're performing the initial installation of the KRX3A. The side panel will lift off with the 2D fastener and standoff shown in Figure 31 attached.

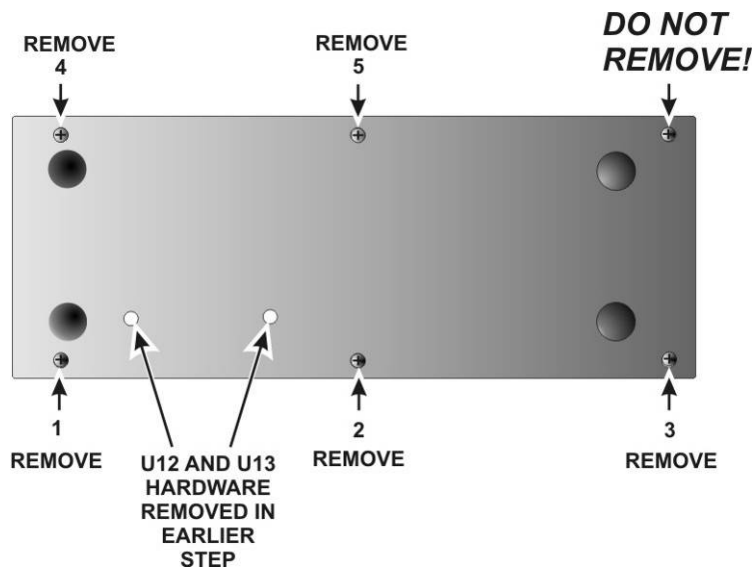


Figure 32. Removing Side Panel Hardware, Part 2.

☐ Remove the dummy plug from the AUX RF connector hole in the back panel directly below the SO-239 ANT2 connector. The plug is released by squeezing two tabs on opposite sides.

- Check the BNC-TMP cable assembly to see if the nut and lock washer are already threaded onto the BNC connector. If so, remove them completely, working carefully to slide them over the ground braid and lug. (Lay the lug attached to the ground braid along the cable to slide the parts over it.)
- The dense, highly scratch-resistant powder coating on the rear panel may interfere with the fit of the BNC connector through the hole. Remove the coating around the inside edge of hole using a hobby knife or other sharp tool (see Figure 33).

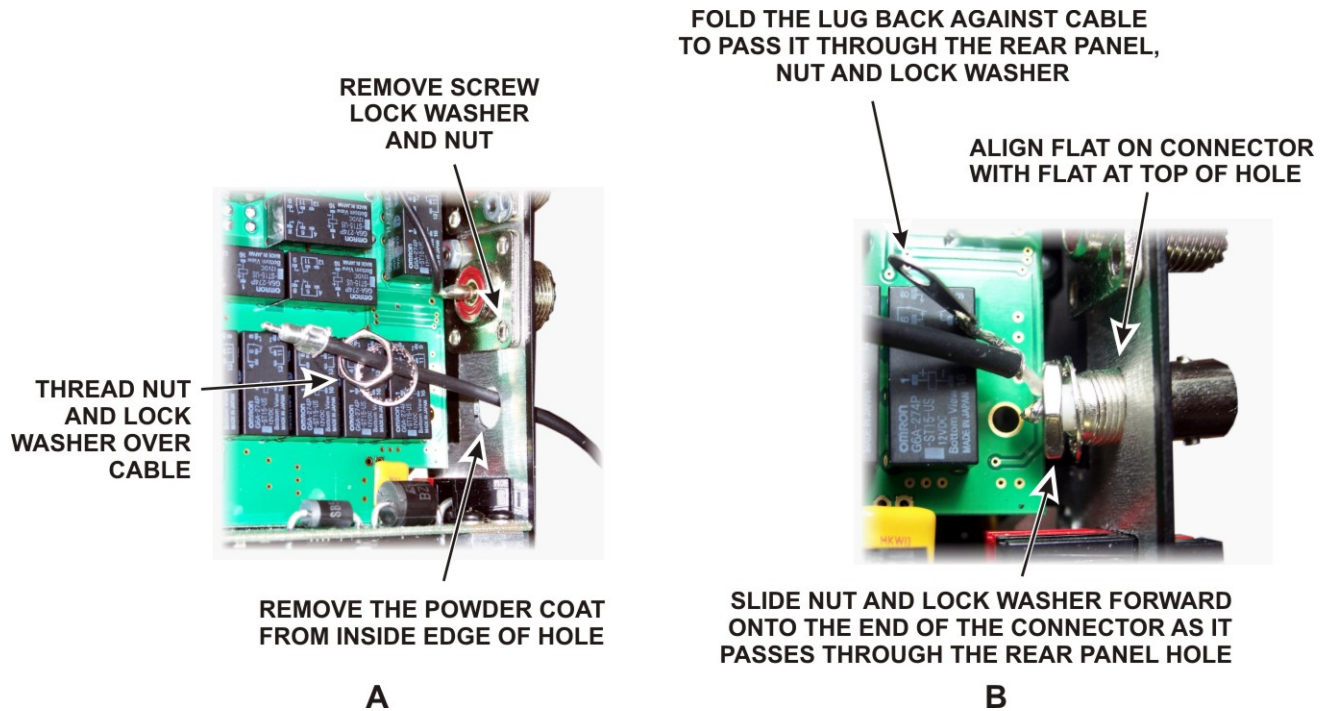


Figure 33. Installing AUX RF Connector, Part 1.

- If you have the KAT3A option installed, there will be an SO-239 connector in the ANT2 location. If so, remove the lower screw, lock washer and nut as shown in Figure 33A.
- Thread the BNC/TMP cable through the AUX RF connector hole in the back panel as shown in Figure 33A. Place the nut and lock washer over the cable as shown.
- Slide the lock washer and thread the nut onto the BNC as it comes through the rear panel hole as shown in Figure 33B. There is not enough clearance next to the circuit board to install them after pushing the connector all the way through the hole. Align the flat on the side of the BNC connector with the flat on the top of the hole.

Mount the solder lug attached to the braid as shown in Figure 34, using a 4-40 3/8" (9.5 mm) black pan head screw, #4 internal tooth lock washer and 4-40 nut. If you do not have a KAT3 installed, there will be no connector in the ANT2 hole. In that case, the solder lug is directly against the unpainted inside surface of the rear panel.

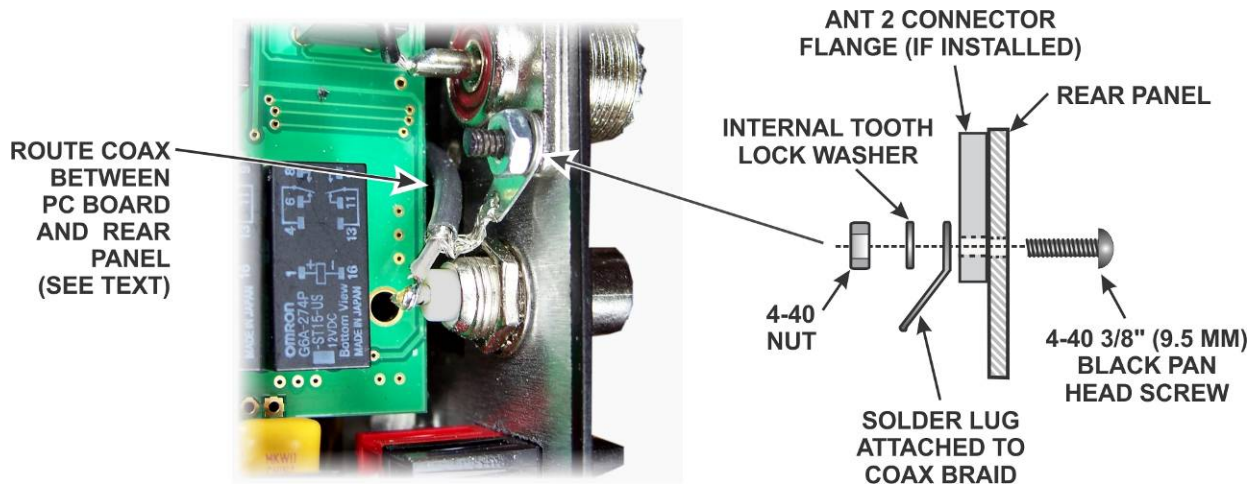


Figure 34. Installing AUX RF Connector, Part 2

Thread the coaxial cable between the edge of the KANT3A or KAT3A board and the rear panel as shown. If you have the KPA3A option installed, push the cable under the circuit breaker on the fan panel at an upward angle so it crosses the fans above the mplifier module circuit board and out through the hole in the KPA3A shield as shown in Figure 35.

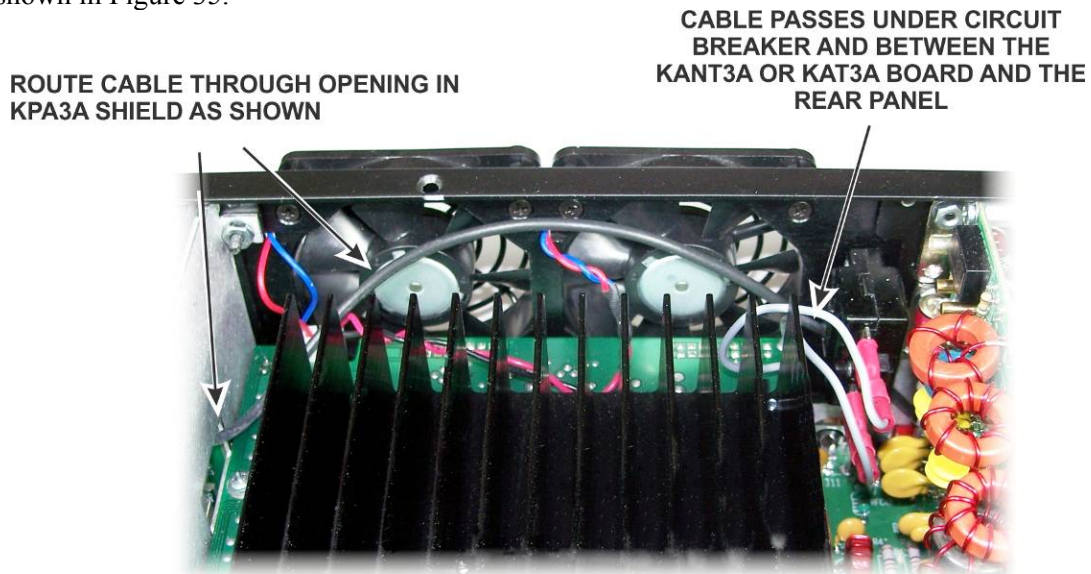


Figure 35. Routing TMP Cable to Rear Panel AUX RF Connector with KPA3A Installed.

Replace the right side panel on the K3, installing the 4-40 3/16" flat head screws shown in Figure 32 except for screw number 5. It will be replaced later with the stiffener bar.

Replace the 4-40 1/4" (6.4 mm) zinc pan head screw and washer that holds the KAT3A board to the standoff as shown in Figure 31.

- Replace the 4-40, 3/16" (4.8 mm) black flat head screw that secures the back panel to the 2D fastener as shown in Figure 31.
- Replace the two 4-40 3/8" (9.6 mm) black flat head screws, lock washers and nuts to secure the heat sinks of U13 and U12 to the side panel as shown in Figure 30.

Assembling the KRX3A Sub receiver Module

- Install four standoffs on the bottom half of the KRX3A shield assembly as shown in Figure 36. The bottom of the shield has the shorter permanently mounted standoffs. The standoffs you install go on the same side of the shield as the permanent standoffs. There are extra holes in the shield. Be sure you put the standoffs in the correct locations and that the standoffs with the long screws are in the positions shown.

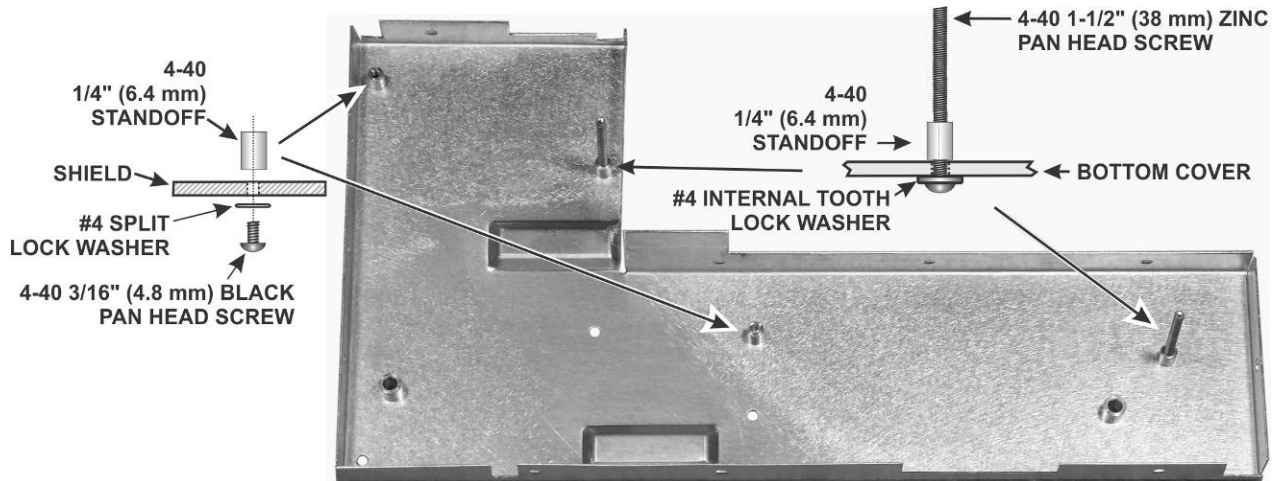


Figure 36. Mounting Standoffs on Shield Bottom.

Install four standoffs on the KRX3A main circuit board as shown in Figure 37. Be careful to use the correct length standoff and the exact combination of washers shown in each location, and carefully follow the instructions for installing the standoff at E5 to avoid damaging the board.

CAUTION!

To avoid damaging the circuit traces between C209, C19 and the metal ring around hole E5 on the bottom of the board, position the lock washer so the split faces away from the circuit traces. Tighten the hardware by turning the standoff while holding the screw and lock washer stationary.

POSITION LOCK WASHER SPLIT IN THIS DIRECTION



BOTTOM OF BOARD

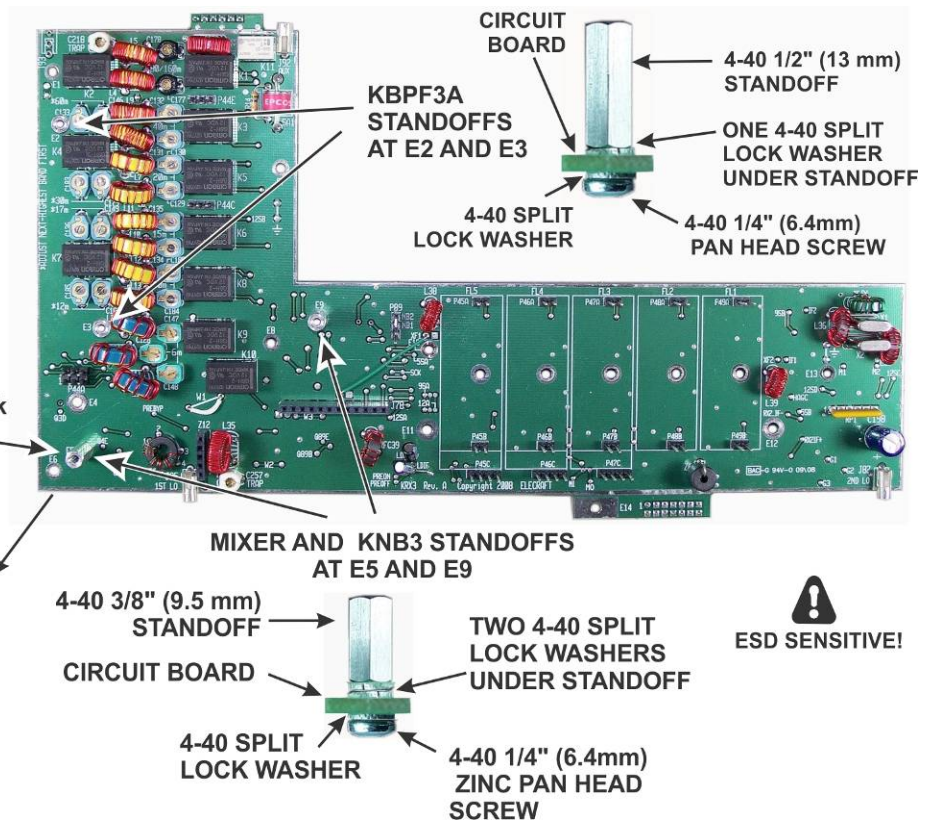


Figure 37. Installing Standoffs on the KRX3A Main PC Board.

Check to ensure that you installed all four standoffs exactly as shown in Figure 37 above.

Locate the crystal I.F. filters. Two types of filters are available: standard 5-pole filters and optional 8-pole filters (see Figure 38). One standard 5-pole 2.7 kHz filter is supplied. If you have elected to equip your K3S or K3 with the optional 8-pole 2.8 kHz filter, it has been supplied instead of the 2.7 kHz filter. If you have purchased additional filters, they may be installed now as well. If you plan to add filters later, spaces may be left for them. For example, if you plan to add the FM or a 6 kHz AM filter later, you can leave spaces FL1 and FL2 open for them and install the 2.8 kHz filter in position FL3. The filters are not hard to move about later, so if you aren't sure, install the widest at FL1, the next widest at FL2 and so on.

! You can add or change filters at any time. A complete, detailed procedure for doing so after you assemble your K3 is included in Appendix A of this manual.

Enter the following data on Table 1. You will need this information to set up your filters after assembling your K3. Be sure you're following the rule described in the step above about the proper order for the filters. Note that Table 1 is set up with FL1 to the right and FL5 to the left, just as they must be installed on the RF board.

- Enter the bandwidth of each filter in the row below the filter position in which it will be installed.

(Continued on next page.)

- Enter the FREQ OFFSET shown on each filter. The optional 8-pole filters have no offset marked on them. Enter a zero in the FREQ OFFSET column for those filters. **On the 5-pole filters the frequency offset may be *negative*, indicated by a minus sign (single dash) ahead of the number.**

Table 1. Installing Crystal Filters.

⚠ FL1 is to the right and FL5 is to the left. In the next step you will install the filters right-to-left on the KRX3A RF board as well.

POSITION	FL5	FL4	FL3	FL2	FL1 ¹
BANDWIDTH ²					
FREQ OFFSET ³					

1. If you're installing the K-FL3B FM filter, place it in FL1 position since it is the widest bandwidth filter available.
2. The bandwidth is shown in the label attached to the filters except the K-FL3B FM filter. Record a bandwidth of 13 kHz for the K-FL3B FM filter.
3. All of the optional 8-pole filters have an offset of zero. Note that the 5-pole filters may have a negative offset, indicated by a minus sign ahead of the number.

Install the filters on the KRX3A board as shown in Figure 38. Use the screw and lock washer supplied with each filter. Refer to the list of filters you created in Table 1 to ensure each filter is installed in the proper position. Four of a possible five filters are shown installed on the KRX3A board in Figure 39.

⚠ CAUTION

- 1) Do not use screws longer than 1/4" (6.4 mm) to mount the filters. Use your rule to measure the screws before installing them. Longer screws may extend into the optional 8-pole filter and destroy it. We strongly recommend you use a screw no longer than 1/4" (6.4mm) even when installing the 5-pole filters to reduce the possibility of damaging an 8-pole filter should you change them later.
- 2) Do not over-tighten the screws. Too much torque may pull the threaded bushing out of the bottom of the filter module.

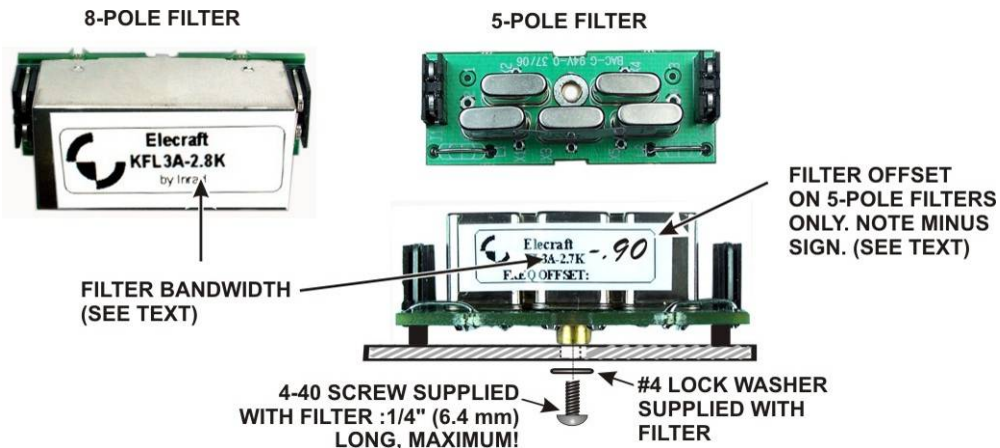


Figure 38. Installing Crystal I.F. Filters.

□ Mount the Mixer and KNB3 boards on the main KRX3A board as shown in Figure 39. Be certain the connector on each board is properly aligned and mated with the connector on the main KRX3A board. The boards should be parallel to the KRX3A board. If they are tilted, check to ensure the correct number of washers were installed under the standoffs and that you used the correct standoffs as shown in Figure 37.

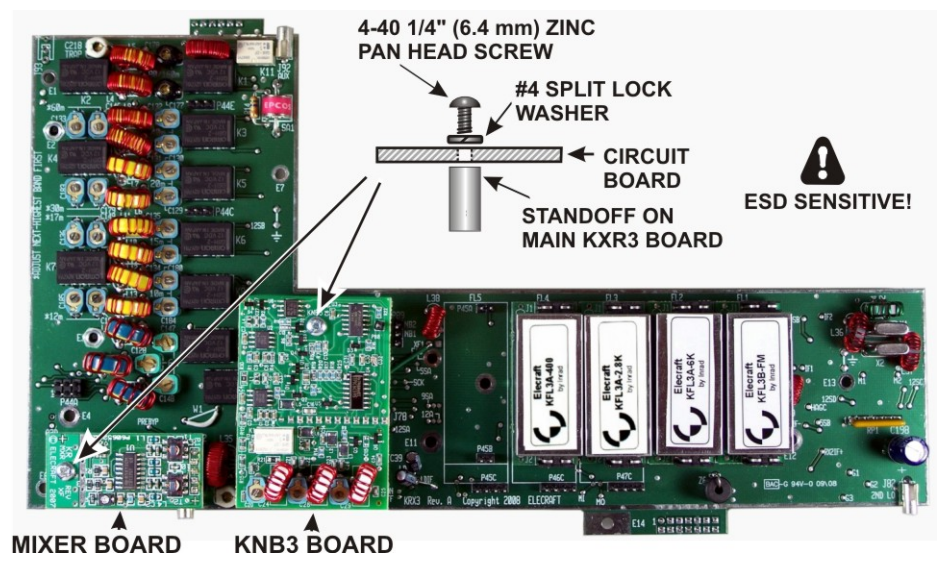


Figure 39, Main KRX3A Board Ready for Installation.

□ Place the KRX3A main circuit board in the bottom shield so that the 1-1/2" screws extend through holes E7 and E13 on the KRX3A board. The two standoffs you mounted earlier should line up with holes E1 and E10 in the board. Press the KRX3A main circuit board down against the standoffs. The board will “snap” into position as the small bumps along the edges of the board slip into the holes in the sides of the shield. If some of the nubs do not align with the holes in the shield, carefully file them flush with the board so they don’t push the sides of the shield out of alignment. When properly positioned, the board will be against the standoffs in the shield.

□ Secure the KRX3A main circuit board to the standoffs at E1 and E10 with 4-40 3/16" (4.8 mm) black pan head screws and #4 split lock washers as shown in Figure 40.

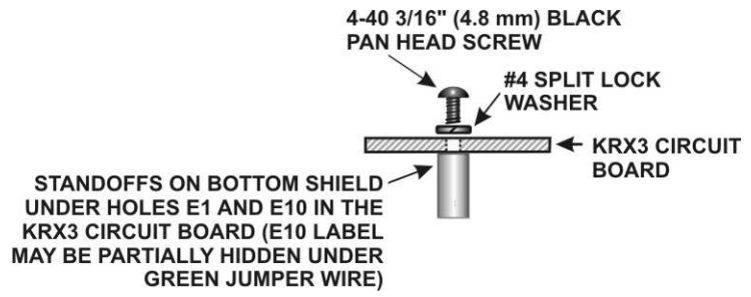


Figure 40. Mounting KRX3A Main PC Board on Bottom Shield.

If you have the KPBF3 option, install the board now with 4-40 1/4" (6.4 mm) pan head screws and #4 split lock washers as shown in Figure 41. These screws and washers are supplied with your KPBF3 option. Be sure all three connectors on the KPBF3 are properly mated with their counterparts on the KRX3A board.

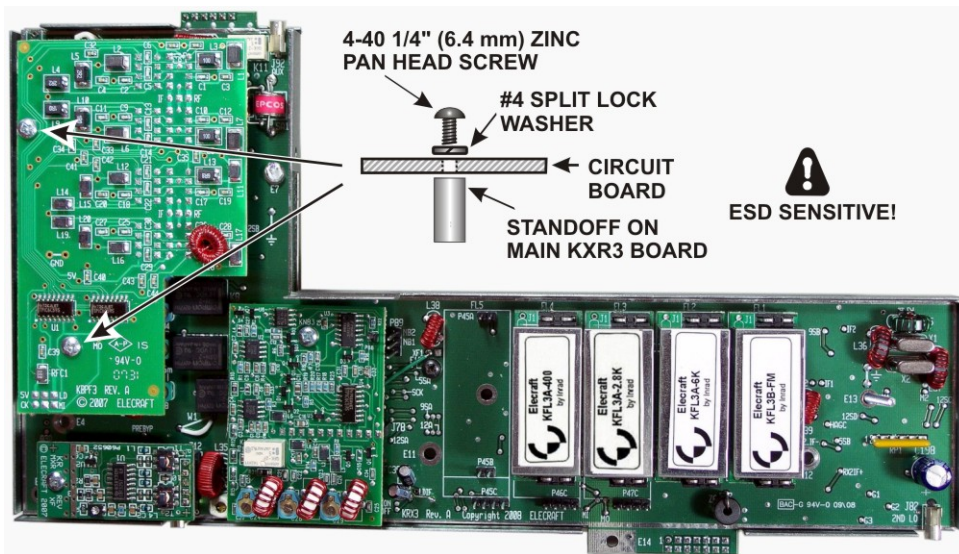


Figure 41. Mounting the KPBF3 Board.

Locate the sub receiver RF module top cover. It has a label with places to record the bandwidth (BW), and frequency offset (FRQ) of each filter. Copy the information from Table 1. Note that the filters read right to left on the label, just as they were installed on the pc board. Place a check mark by Sub (for sub receiver) on the label. Use pencil in case you change your filters later. The label also has a row for Gain. This is a value you can determine after your installation is finished to adjust the overall gain for each roofing filter so the audio remains constant when switching from one filter to another. Making this adjustment is described under *Filter Loss Compensation* in your K3 Owner's manual.

□ Place a 7/8" (22 mm) unthreaded sleeve over each of the long screws so they rest against the top of the circuit board (see Figure 42), then place the top cover over the assembly and adjust its position so the edge of the top fits inside the bottom and rests against the KRX3A main board on all sides. The long screws will pass through holes in the top cover. Secure the top with knurled nuts tightened only enough to hold the cover in place so it isn't loose.

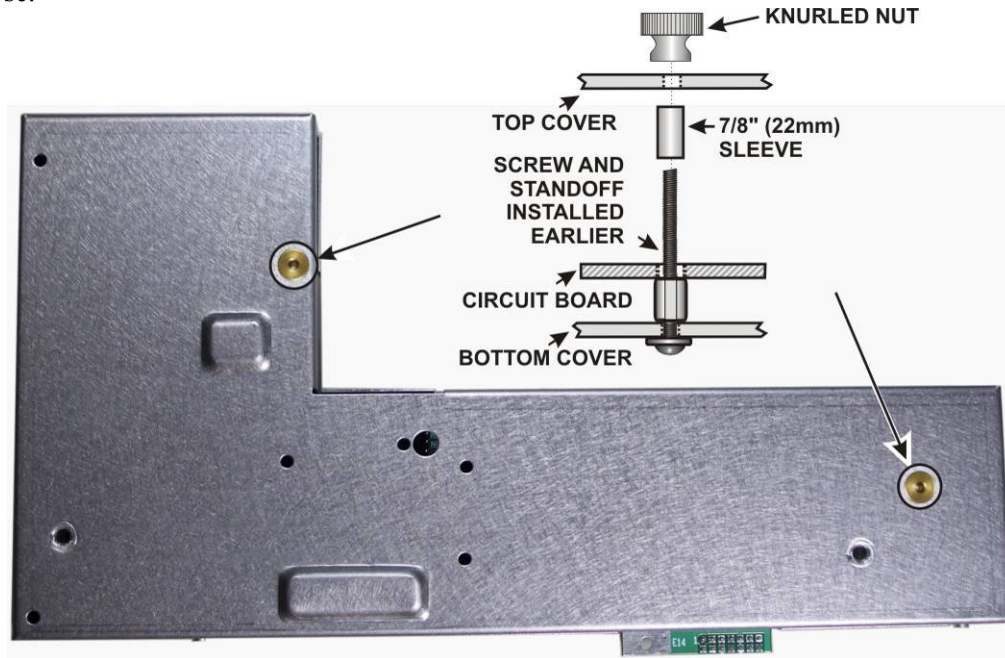


Figure 42. Installing the Shield Top.

Installing the KRX3A Sub Receiver Module

- If you haven't removed it already, remove the chassis stiffener bar. The stiffener is shown in Figure 7.
- Skip this step if you have a K3S (not K3) transceiver. The K3S uses a different type of battery holder that lies flat on the pc board and does not use an insulating cover. Place the battery cover on BT1 on the K3 RF board as shown in Figure 43. The cover is important to ensure the positive edge of the battery does not touch the bottom of the KRX3A module enclosure.

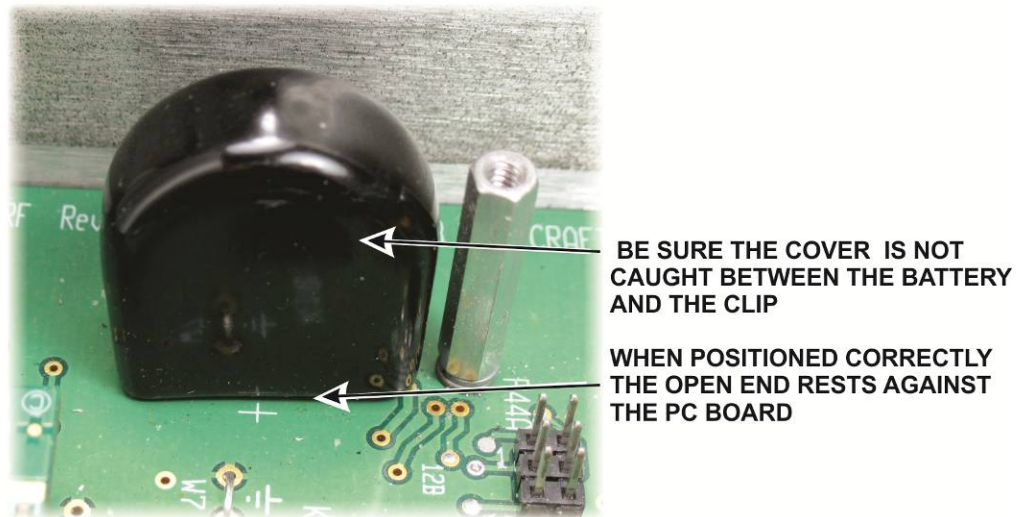


Figure 43. Installing the Battery Cover (K3 only).

☐ Remove jumper W4 from connector J64A on the K3 RF board. J64A is near the KIO3 board as shown in Figure 44. On some older RF boards, W4 is a jumper soldered between two pads on the board itself. If your board has a hard-wired jumper, cut it with diagonal cutters and completely remove the ends so they cannot short to the ground plane or nearby pads. If you ever want to operate your K3 with the KRX3A sub receiver removed, make up a jumper and insert it in J64A as shown in the figure.



Figure 44. Jumper W4 on the K3 RF Board.

☐ Plug the SUBIN interface board into J64A on the K3 RF board as shown in Figure 45. J64A is directly in front of the KIO3 board in the rear left corner of the K3. Be certain the connector on the SUBIN board is aligned with J64A so all pins are engaged.

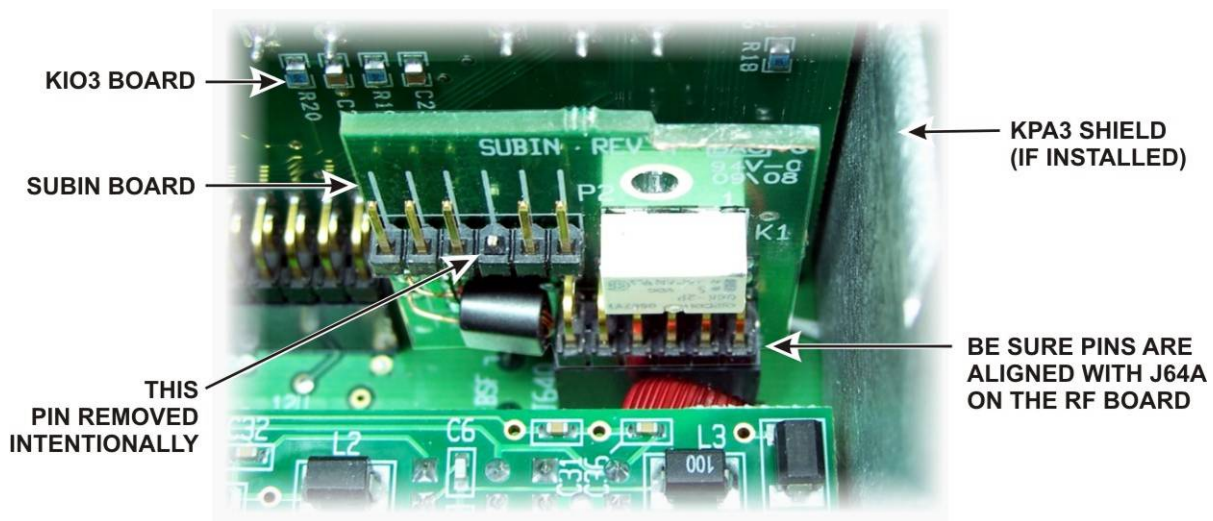
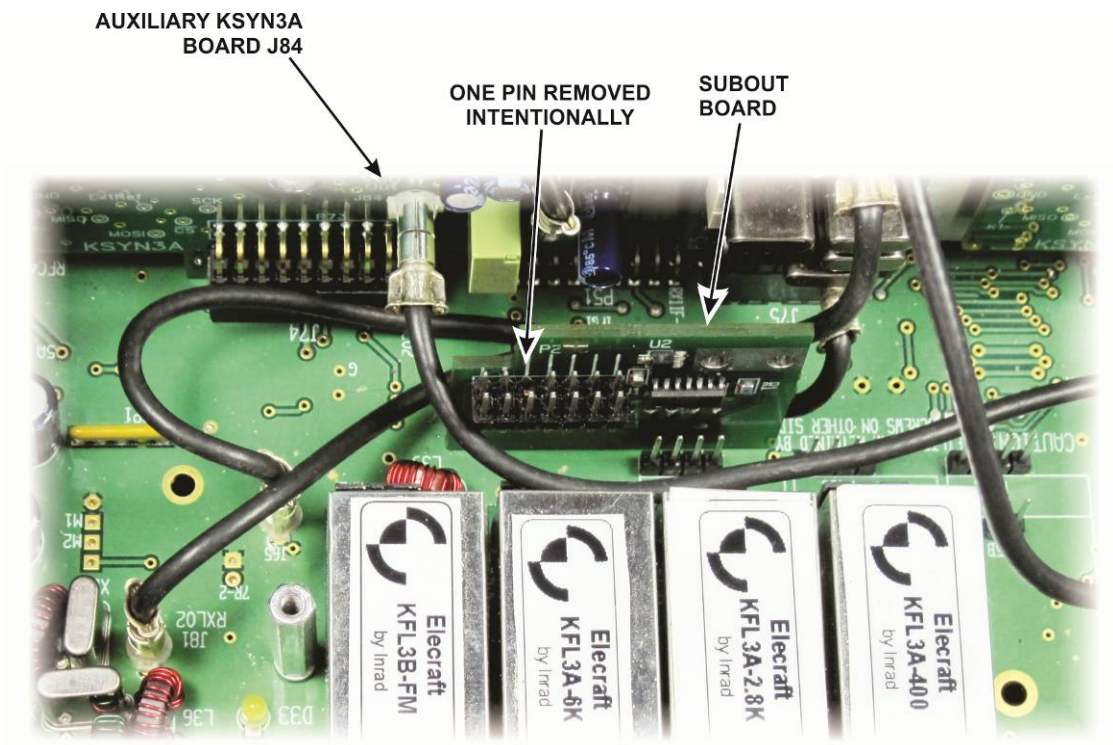


Figure 45. Mounting the SUBIN Interface Board.

Locate J64B on the K3 RF board. It is between the crystal filters and the front panel shield that holds the KREF3 and KSYN3A boards. J64B should have a plug in the third hole matching a missing pin on the SUBOUT connector P1 to ensure they are properly aligned.

Plug the SUBOUT interface board in J64B on the K3 RF board as shown in Figure 46. J64B is between the K3 roofing filters and the front panel. **Be certain the SUBOUT board is aligned so all pins of P1 are engaged with J64B.**



⚠ ROUTE THE THREE CABLES AROUND THE SUBOUT BOARD AS SHOWN. MAKE GENTLE BENDS IN THE CABLES.

Figure 46. Mounting the SUBOUT Interface Board.

Position the three TMP cables near the SUBOUT board as shown in Figure 46 so they will not interfere with installing the KRX3A RF enclosure. Note how the cable you attached to J84 on the Auxiliary KSYN3A board is placed between the roofing filters and the SUBOUT board. Avoid kinking the cables. Arrange them with smooth bends. You may need to unplug one end of the cable and twist the coax slightly so it will lie in smooth curves where needed.

If you have the K144XV 2-meter option with the K3EXREF phase lock option installed, connect one 6' (15 cm) cable to J4 on the Main KSYN3A board (see Figure 47). The other end will be connected to the K144XV module when you reinstall it later.

Connect the 10" (25 cm) TMP cable you connected to J4 on the Auxiliary KSYN3A earlier to J2 on the main KSYN3A board (see Figure 47).

⚠ That will complete all of the cables shown in Figure 47 except the cable between J83 on the Auxiliary KSYN3A and J1 on the KREF3 board. This will be installed after the KRX3A enclosure is installed. You may wish to remove the existing cable between J2 on the KREF3 board and J83 on the main KSYN3A board to provide better visibility when installing the KRX3A RF enclosure in the following steps.

Check the position of both the SUBOUT and SUBIN interface boards to be sure they are still fully seated in their corresponding connectors on the K3 RF board.

Check to ensure the battery cover is in place protecting the top of the battery from contact with the KRX3A enclosure (see Figure 43). The top edge of the battery is the positive terminal, and touching the enclosure during installation will short-circuit the battery.

Hold the assembled KRX3A module directly over the K3 and attach the TMP cables to J82 and J85 on the module as shown in Figure 47.

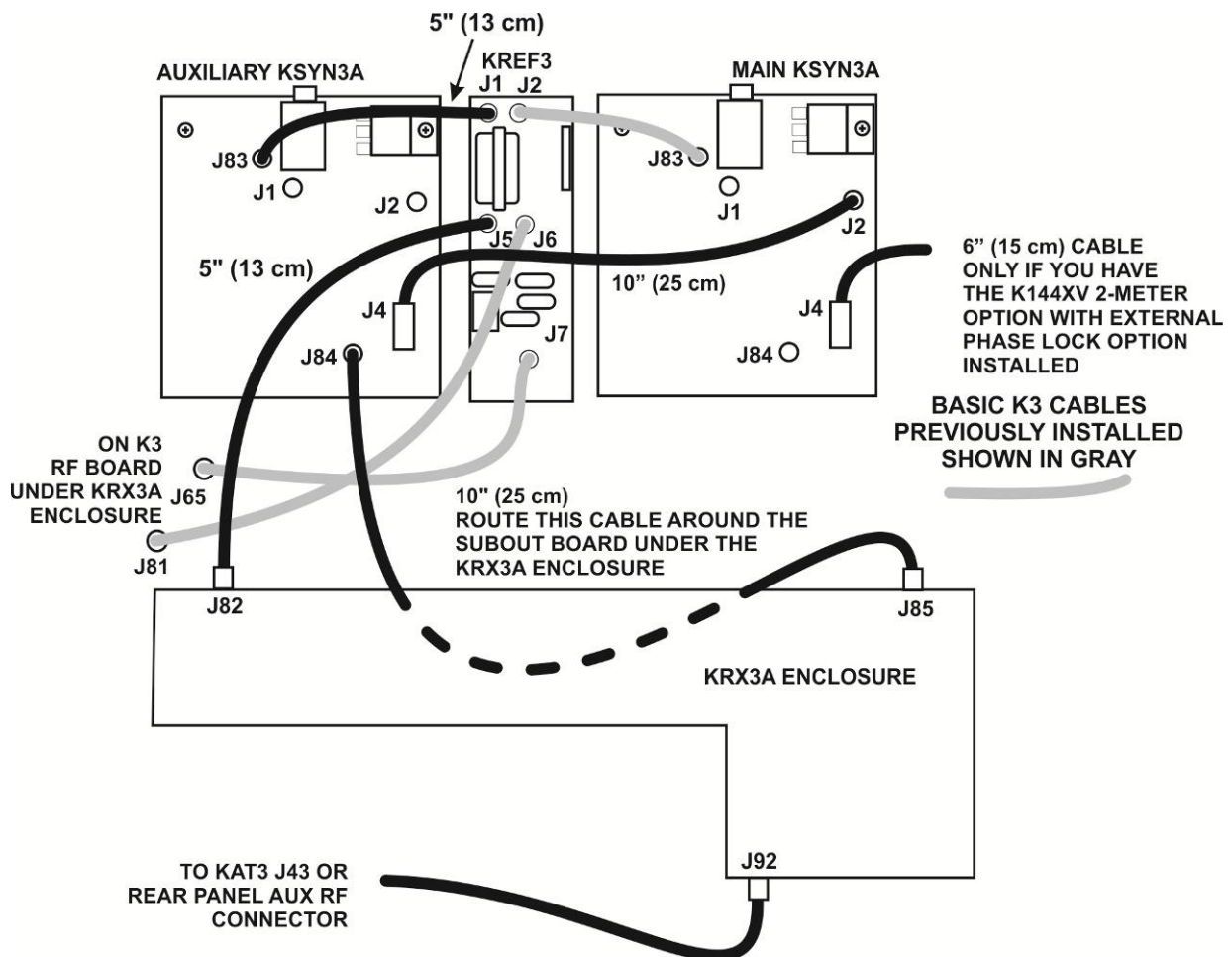


Figure 47. TMP Cable Connection Pictorial Diagram.

If installed, attach the antenna cable connected to either the KAT3 or to the AUX RF BNC jack on the rear panel to J92 at the end of the KRX3A as shown. This connector is angled upwards to provide clearance between the connector and the KIO3 board when the unit is installed. Be certain the TMP connector is fully inserted in J92. When the KRX3A module is installed the clearance between the connector and the nearby KIO3 board is very small.

□ With all the TMP cables attached, lower the KRX3A module into the K3 so that the connectors on the KRX3A mate with the connectors on the SUBIN and SUBOUT interface boards (see Figure 48). The knurled nuts are provided as handles to make holding the assembly easier. You may need to adjust the cables near the SUBOUT board so they don't interfere with mating the connectors. If the connection between J92 and the KAT3 is used, form the excess cable into a loop in front of the KIO3 board.

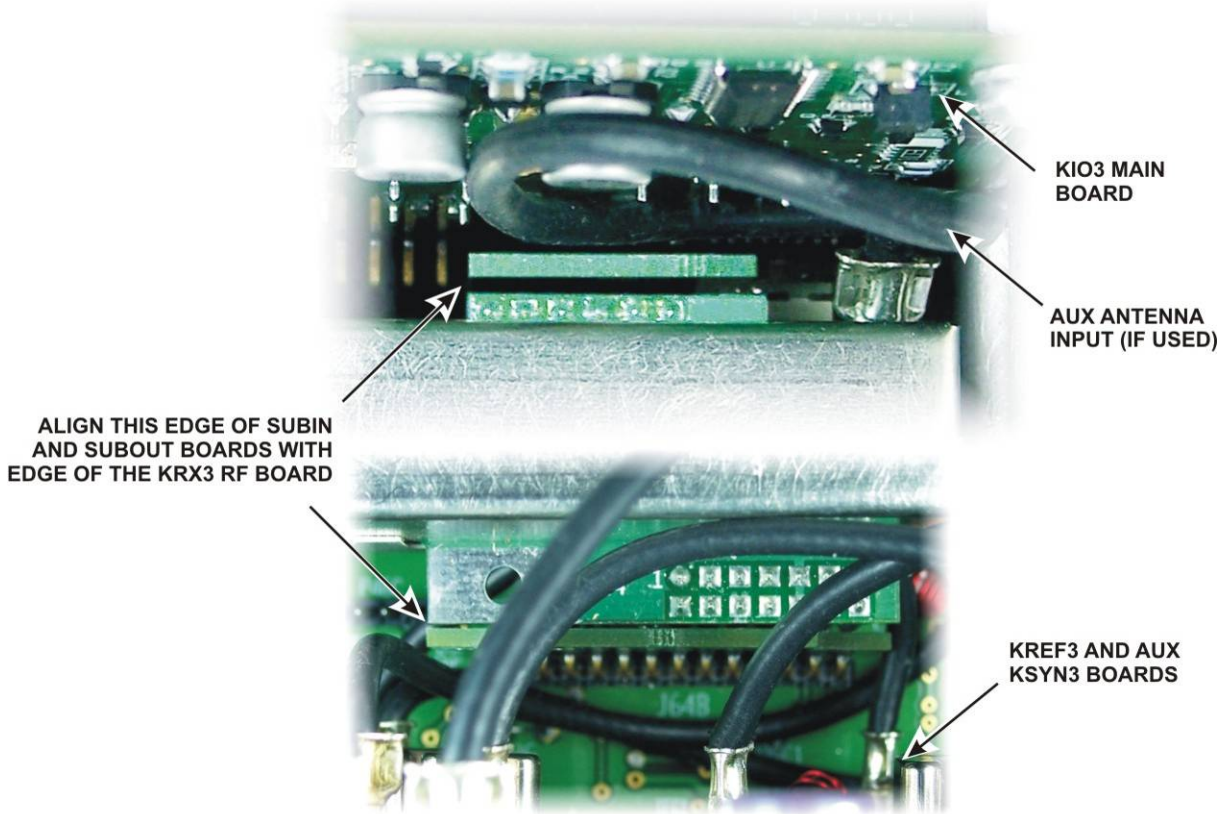


Figure 48. Aligning the SUBIN and SUBOUT Connectors.

Secure the KRX3A module to the two standoffs using 1-1/2" (38 mm) 4-40 pan head screws as shown in Figure 49. The screws will pass through the internal standoffs and circuit board inside the enclosure and screw into the standoffs you mounted on the K3 RF board earlier. Place an internal tooth lock washer under each screw head.

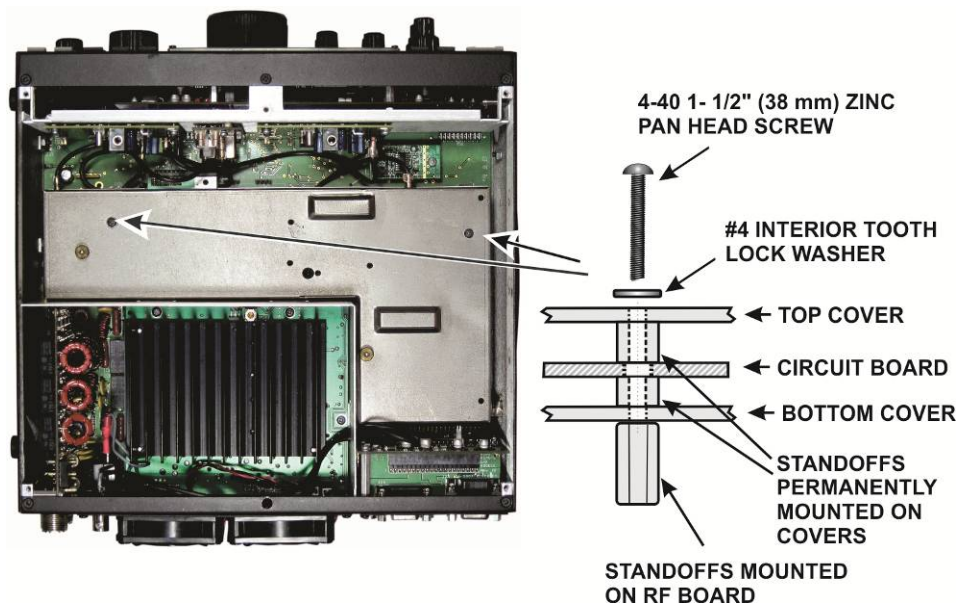


Figure 49. Installing the KRX3A Enclosure.

Connect a 5" (13 cm) TMP cable between J1 on the KREF3 board and J83 on the Auxiliary KSYN3A board (see Figure 47).

If you removed the cable between J2 on the KREF3 board and J83 and the Main KSYN3A synthesizer, replace it now (Figure 47).

Double check all the TMP cables to ensure none were dislodged from their connectors or kinked tightly while positioning the KRX3A module. The two cables attached to the K3 RF board are not visible, but should not have been disturbed by installing the KRX3A. Pay particular attention to cables attached to the KREF3 and KSYN3A boards. If needed, you can replace a dislodged cable without removing the KRX3A module using needle nose pliers to hold the finger grip part of the connector.

Final Assembly

- Remove the covering over the self-adhesive side of the foam pad and press the adhesive side against the speaker magnetic shield (see Figure 50). The pad will compress between the loudspeaker and the top of the KRX3A enclosure when the cover is installed.

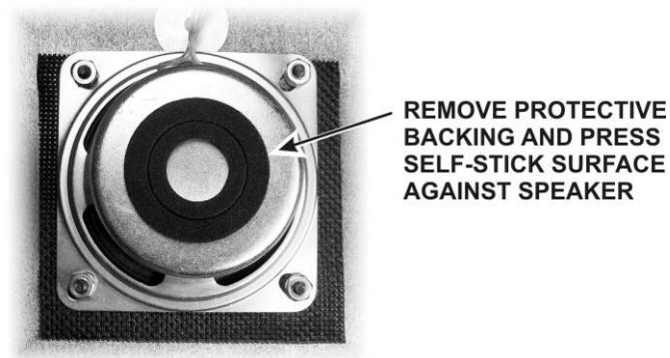


Figure 50. Attaching the Speaker Pad.

- Be sure the TMP cable between the KXREF3 and Main KSYN3A board does not lie on the area where the speaker pad will press against the KRX3 top cover (see Figure 51). Tuck the cable down alongside the KRX3A enclosure as shown.

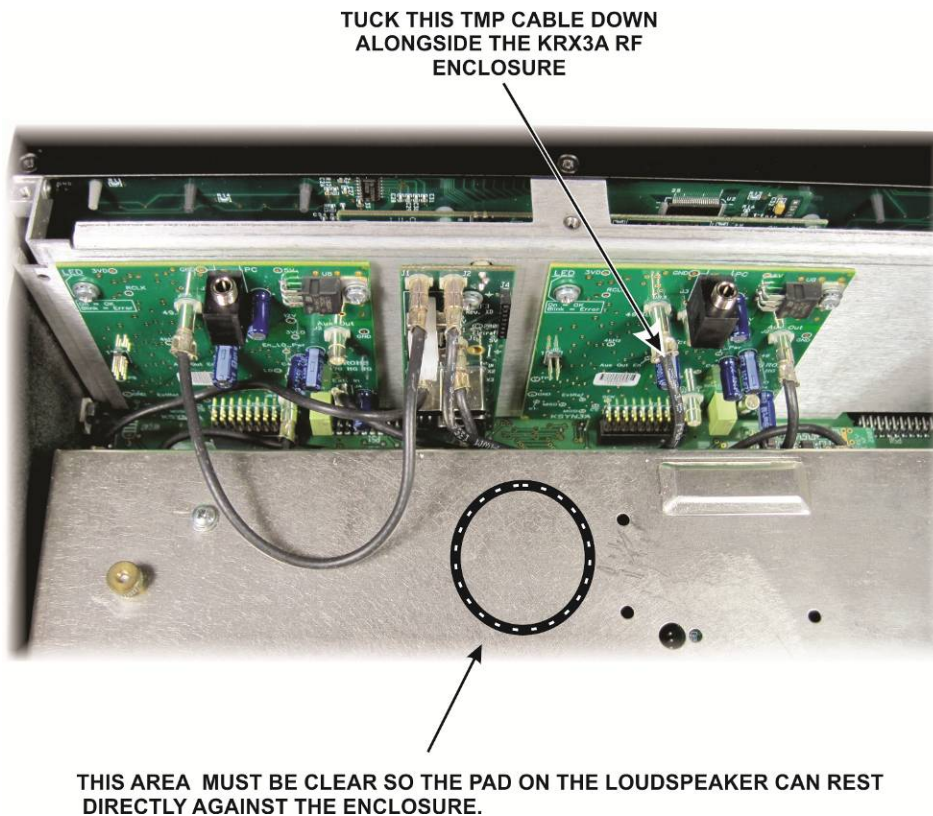


Figure 51. Positioning TMP Cable to Avoid Interference with the Speaker Pad.

- If your K3 is equipped with the K144XV 2-meter option, refer to the K144XV manual to reconnect the cables and remount the module on the left side panel. Route the power wire as shown in the K144XV manual so it won't be trapped between the speaker pad and the top of the KRX3A module.
- Replace the chassis stiffener bar using two 4-40 3/16" (4.8 mm) black flat head screws at the ends. If the KPA3 is installed, attach the stiffener to the shield using two 4-40 1/4" (6.4 mm) screws with lock washers under the screws (see Figure 3). Some stiffener bars do not have threaded PEM nuts attached. In that case, secure the screws with the 4-40 nuts and lock washers that you removed.
- Hold the top cover above the K3, route the speaker wire under the stiffener bar and plug it into P25 on the KIO3 board at the left rear of the K3 as shown in Figure 52. If you have the K144XV 2-meter module installed, there is an indentation in the top of the module where you can pass the speaker wire connector under the chassis stiffener.

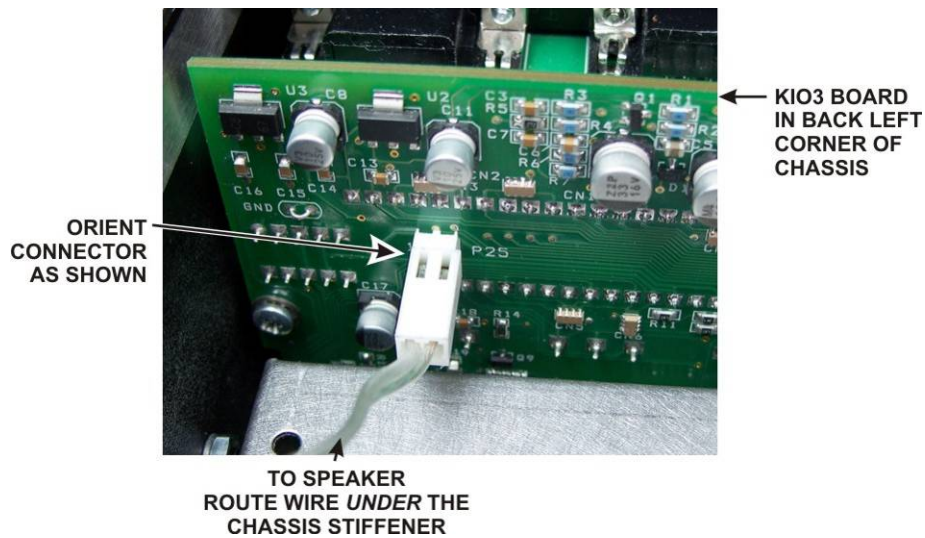


Figure 52. Connecting Speaker Cable.

- Position the top cover on the K3. Note that the tab on the back center goes under the rear lip of the K3 rear panel. Secure the top cover with the nine 4-40 3/16" (4.8 mm) black flat head screws you removed earlier.

⚠ REPLACE ALL THE SCREWS!

The chassis has excellent rigidity despite its light weight. The screws that hold the top cover in place are an important part of the structural design. Please be sure to replace all the screws and verify they are tight whenever you replace the cover or other panels.

If you installed the optional AUX IN antenna connector on the rear panel, check to be sure you replaced and tightened all the screws in the right side pane including the heat sink screws for U12 and U13 and the top screw on the rear panel above the ANT connectors.

- Turn to page 49 and perform the steps under *Preparing for Operation*. Your KRX3A sub receiver will not operate correctly until you complete all the steps.

Removing the KRX3A Module

You can remove the KRX3A Module by reversing the steps under Installing the KRX3A Sub Receiver Module above. It is not necessary to remove the Auxiliary DSP or the Auxiliary KSYN3A synthesizer boards to operate the K3 without the sub receiver module in place, however, leave the KRX3A enabled in the MENU even though you will see error messages relating to the missing KRX3A module when you switch POWER on. Tap **DISPLAY** to clear the error messages.

If you plan to apply power or operate the K3S or K3 with the sub receiver module removed, do the following.

Remove all the TMP cables that connect to the KRX3A module so their metal connectors cannot create shorts by touching solder pads or other components inside the K3S or K3. If you have installed the AUX RF connector and cable (see *Installing the Auxiliary KRX3A Antenna Input Via the Rear Panel BNC Connector*, page 30) it cannot be easily removed. Carefully insulate the TMP connector, covering all of the metal parts with electrical tape or other suitable material that you can remove easily later. Recommend you coil and secure the cable to the rear panel or, if the KAT3 is installed, tape the cable to the KPA3 shield.

Replace jumper W4 in the connector shown in Figure 44. Be sure to put the jumper on the pins shown.

The main K3 receiver will *not* work until this jumper is installed.


CAUTION

Failure to remove the loose TMP cables as described above may result in short circuits and extensive damage to your K3 when power is applied. If you have the TMP cable connecting to the AUX RF connector on the rear panel, insulate the connector completely. Electrical tape is a good choice. Tape the fully insulated connector end to the back panel or, (if a KPA3 is installed) the KPA3 shield.

Operation

Preparing for Operation

If you installed the KRX3A sub receiver yourself, you must complete the following before you can operate the sub receiver:

- If you have external speakers connected to your K3, disconnect them and use the internal speaker for the following procedure.
- Enter the *CONFIG* menu and check the firmware revision level (*FW REVS*). You must have firmware 5.10 or later (higher number) installed. If you've not updated the firmware before, see *Firmware Upgrades* in your K3 Owner's manual for details. Be sure to check the box to load DSP2 for the KRX3A DSP board.
- While still in the *CONFIG* menu, turn tech mode on (*CONFIG: TECH MD ON*).
- Tap **DISP** and Rotate the VFO B knob to display *SYN1* and *SYN2* in the VFO B area of the display. Verify that the display reads *OK* indicating the main (*SYN1*) and auxiliary (*SYN2*) synthesizers are operating normally.
- In *CONFIG*, set *SPKRS* to 1. (You will not hear any audio from the sub receiver if *SPKRS* is set to 2 as is frequently done when listening to the main receiver with stereo headphones. After completing the following steps, refer to the K3 Owner's manual for more details about listening to both main and sub receivers using line out, stereo phones or dual loudspeakers.)
- In *CONFIG*, under *KRX3A*, select one of the following:
 - ANT=BNC*: Specifies that the auxiliary antenna source for the KRX3A is the AUX RF BNC jack on the rear panel. Use this setting if you connected the AUX RF input to the AUX RF BNC jack, *or* if you did not connect anything to the AUX RF input.
 - ANT=ATU*: Specifies that the auxiliary antenna source for the KRX3A is the ATU non-transmit antenna (1 or 2). Use this setting only if you connected the AUX RF input to the TMP jack on the KAT3.
-  When using the KRX3A auxiliary antenna source, you must have the correct TMP cable installed between the KRX3A auxiliary antenna input and either the KAT3 or AUX RF BNC connector. See *Auxiliary KRX3A Antenna Input (Optional)* on page 29 for details.
- Refer to the data you recorded in Table 1 on page 36 and set up the filters you have installed as described under *Configuration / Crystal Filter Setup* in the K3S or K3 Owner's Manual.

There are other optional calibration procedures and setup choices that you can do at any time, such as calibrating the S-meter. These are also described in your K3S or K3 Owner's Manual.

Using the Sub Receiver

The KRX3A option adds an independent, high-performance *sub receiver* to the K3. It allows you to monitor a second frequency, using different bandwidths or modes. *Diversity receive* is possible if the main and sub receivers use different antennas.

Dedicated Sub Receiver Controls

Tapping **SUB** turns on the sub receiver (and **SUB** icon). VFO B then controls the sub receiver frequency, and also serves as the TX frequency during SPLIT.

i You should leave the sub turned off when not in use. This turns off the -3 dB passive splitter used when the sub receiver shares the main RX path.

The VFOs may be linked (whether the sub receiver is on or off) in the Configuration menu (*CONFIG;VFO LNK ON or OFF*). The kHz decimal point of **VFO B** flashes as a reminder. VFO A is the master, moving both VFOs in tandem.

Holding **SUB** turns on diversity receive (see next page). The kHz decimal point of **VFO A** flashes as a reminder. VFO A controls both the main and sub frequencies in diversity receive, but VFO B remains independent so it can be used as the SPLIT transmit frequency.

☉ **SUB AF** gain normally sets the sub receiver volume level. Alternatively, **SUB AF** can be used as a main/sub balance control (see *CONFIG;SUB AF*). With stereo headphones or dual speakers, you'll hear the sub on the right and main on the left. Otherwise main and sub receiver audio are merged.

⚠ *CONFIG;SPKRS* must be set to **2** if you use stereo speakers; otherwise, set it to **1**.

☉ **SUB RF** gain normally sets the sub receiver RF GAIN level. If this knob is assigned to main/sub squelch (*CONFIG;SQ MAIN*), then both main and sub RF gain are controlled by MAIN.

BSET: Additional Sub Receiver Controls

Normally, receive controls apply only to the main receiver. This includes **SHIFT**, **WIDTH**, **PRE**, **ATTN**, etc., as well as **MODE**. To change these settings for the sub receiver, first hold **BSET**. VFO A will show **BSET**, and the S-meter will show the sub receiver signal level. After you've made the

desired sub receiver changes, tap **A/B** or hold **BSET** to exit **BSET**.

i The sub receiver band cannot be set independently unless *CONFIG;VFO IND* is set to *YES*. If it is set to *NO*, you'll see *=MAIN* when you tap **BAND** during **BSET**, and the sub receiver band will always be set the same as main.

Sub Receiver Antenna Selection

The sub receiver gets its RF input either from the main receiver (sharing ANT 1-2 or RX ANT IN), or from its auxiliary antenna input (see your K3 Owner's Manual, *Main and Sub Receiver Antenna Routing*).

When using **BSET**, you can tap **ANT** to switch the sub between **MAIN** (shared) and **AUX** (the sub receiver AUX input). When **MAIN** is in effect, the **1-2** and **RX** icons show which antenna the sub is sharing with the main receiver. When **AUX** is in effect, these icons will all be off (if *CONFIG;KRX3A* is set for **ANT=BNC**) or will show the non-transmit ATU antenna, **1** or **2** (if *KRX3A* is set for **ANT=ATU**).

Shortcut: If you're not in **BSET** mode, you can quickly switch the sub between **MAIN** and **AUX** by holding **RX ANT**. (**Tapping** **RX ANT** turns RX ANT on/off for the main path.)

⚠ The sub receiver AUX antenna must be well-isolated from the main (transmit) antenna to avoid activating the carrier-operated relay in the sub receiver.

i Using the AUX input for the sub receiver slightly improves sensitivity of both the main and sub receivers because the splitter is not used.

Sub Receiver Band Independence

If *CONFIG;VFO IND* is set to **YES**, you can set the sub receiver to a different band from main. Hold **BSET**, then tap **BAND** up/down to select the band. If you only use band-independence for the sub receiver occasionally, you may want to assign *VFO IND* to a programmable function switch (See your K3S or K3 Owner's Manual, *Basic Operation, Programmable Functions*).

⚠ If the two receivers are sharing the main antenna path, putting the sub receiver on a

higher-frequency band than main may result in signal loss in the sub receiver. This is because the sub receiver shares the low-pass filters in the main receiver. To avoid sub receiver signal loss in this case, use the AUX input.

i When the main and sub receivers are used on separate bands, some additional weak spurious carriers may be heard in either receiver at certain VFO A and B settings. (Both receivers have high dynamic range, and use high-level signal sources which cannot be perfectly shielded.) Such spurious signals should be heard very rarely. If you encounter one that is problematic, try using the notch filter on the affected receiver.

Diversity Receive

Diversity receive can greatly improve signal copy during fading (QSB). True diversity requires a pair of identical receivers running from a common frequency reference and using two different antennas. The K3 is one of very few transceivers that offer this capability. Most offer only a low-performance sub receiver, or “dual watch” (split-I.F.) circuitry, which doesn’t provide for separate main/sub antennas.

An antenna with different polarization, or at least different orientation, should be used for the sub receiver (via its AUX input). This ensures that the two receivers will not experience the same fading characteristics.

To turn on diversity mode: Hold **SUB** to set the sub receiver to the same frequency as main (VFO A), match the sub receiver filter bandwidth to main, and switch the sub receiver to its AUX antenna. The kHz decimal point of the VFO A display flashes as a reminder. VFO A sets the receive frequency for both main and sub in diversity mode. This leaves VFO B free for use as the transmit frequency in SPLIT mode (see details at right).

Mode and filtering changes made to the main receiver will immediately be made at the sub, as well, to preserve diversity characteristics. However, **PRE**, **ATTN** and other receive controls remain independent for the sub. These must be changed using **BSET**.

You can change the sub receiver antenna selection by holding **BSET**, then tapping **ANT**. When you’re not using BSET, holding **RX ANT** will accomplish the same thing, providing a convenient shortcut.

i The K3 saves the sub receiver MAIN/AUX selection independently for diversity and non-diversity. AUX should be used for diversity, as

explained above. You might use MAIN with diversity when comparing main/sub receiver gain, such as when adjusting crystal filter gain compensation (*CONFIG:FLx GN*). The built-in true-RMS voltmeter is ideal for this purpose. Entering diversity mode will allow you to tune both receivers with VFO A, while VFO B displays the voltage (see your K3S or K3 Owner’s Manual, *VFO B Alternate Displays*).

Sub Receiver Crystal Filter Considerations

Like the main receiver, the sub has slots for up to five crystal filters. For best dynamic range, we strongly recommend the use of the narrowest filter consistent with each operating mode. CW and DATA operators should have at least one narrow filter, e.g. 400 or 500 Hz, on each receiver.

For diversity receive, we recommend using identical crystal filter configurations for the two receivers. This will ensure that both receivers have the same characteristics when strong QRM is present.

You should also use crystal filters with closely matched offsets (*CONFIG:FLx FRQ*). Otherwise, you may hear a slow phase modulation (similar to a beat note) between the two receivers on some signals. 8-pole filters are already matched (*FLx FRQ* = 0.00). Elecraft can provide pairs of 5-pole crystal filters with offsets within 40 Hz of each other on request. When setting up *FLx FRQ*, use the **average** of the filters’ marked offsets as the value entered for **both** filters (main and sub). If you enter different offsets, you’ll hear phase modulation, even if the offsets are very close.

SPLIT Mode with the Sub Receiver

During split (**SPLIT**), VFO A is always the receive frequency and VFO B is the transmit frequency. Holding **REV** allows you to temporarily listen to your transmit frequency.

Non-Diversity with SPLIT: If the sub receiver is on, but you’re *not* in diversity mode, you can listen to both your receive and transmit frequencies at the same time during SPLIT. You can set up the sub receiver mode and filtering independently using **BSET** in this case. Cross-mode SPLIT is possible in supported modes, e.g. CW/SSB.

Diversity with SPLIT: In diversity mode you can still use SPLIT, but both receivers will be set to the frequency of VFO A. Both receivers will always be in the same mode, and will use the same filter settings.

Appendix A: Installing Crystal Filters in the KRX3A Sub Receiver

The crystal (roofing) filters in the KRX3A sub receiver are contained in the L-shaped RF module mounted above the main K3S or K3 RF board (see Figure A-4). Installing or changing the filters involves removing the RF module and the circuit board inside. The filters plug into the circuit board and are held in place by screws. No soldering is required.

⚠ If you plan to operate your K3S or K3 with the sub receiver RF module removed, see *Removing the KRX3A Module* in the main text for information about replacing essential jumpers.

Tools Required

You will need a Phillips screwdriver and long nose pliers. Normally a No. 1 Phillips is correct, but some find a No. 2 is a better fit. Always use the screwdriver that best fits the screws.

A grounded wrist strap and ESD dissipating mat are recommended whenever you work inside your K3S or K3. If installed, your K144XV 2-meter Option Installation and Operation manual.

Procedure

⚠ If a screw seems very tight, try loosening the other screws first. Sometimes tightening other screws during assembly causes one already in place to bind. Loosening the others will usually free it.

☐ Remove the top cover as shown in Figure A-1. As you lift the cover off unplug the speaker wire that connects to the KIO3 board in the left rear corner of the K3S or K3. If you have the K144XV 2-meter option installed, slip the speaker wire under the chassis stiffener bar where it passes over a depression in the top of the K144XV module.

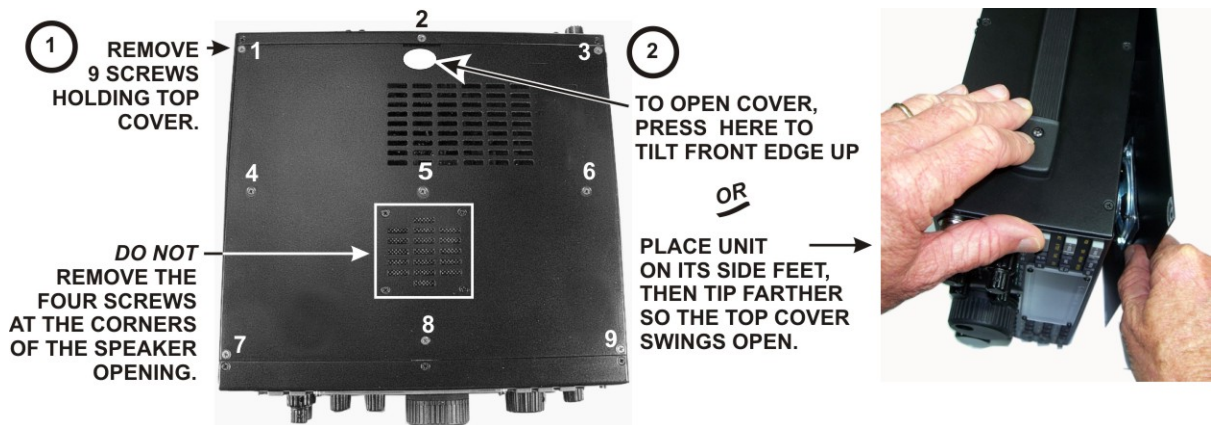


Figure A-1. Removing the Top Cover.

⚠ Observe ESD precautions when working inside your K3S or K3. Wear an ESD wrist strap or frequently touch an unpainted metal ground while working.

Remove the stiffener bar that runs across the top of the chassis (see Figure A-2) .

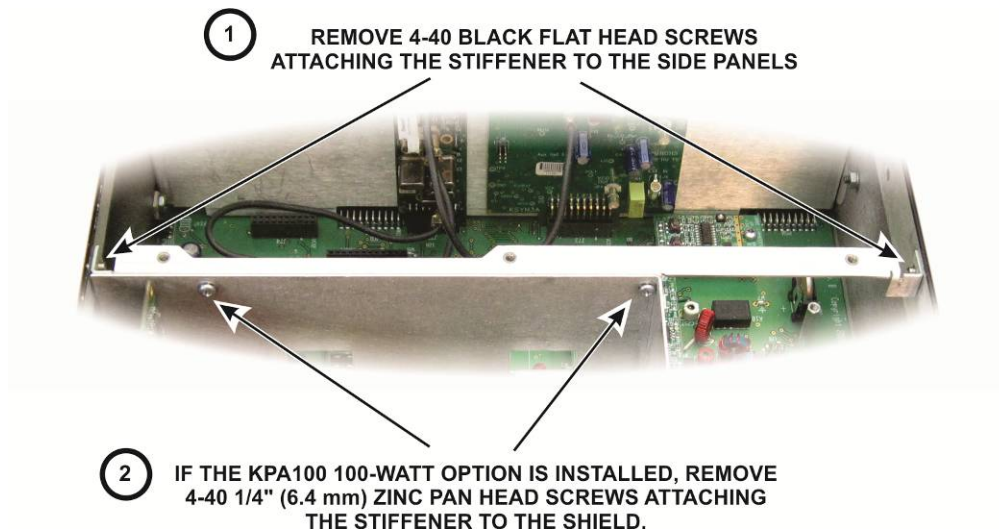


Figure A-2. Removing the Chassis Stiffener Bar.

If the K144XV 2-meter option installed, remove the three 6-32 black flat head screws holding it to the left side panel (see Figure A-3). Unplug the cables going to the K144XV module. The red power wire plugs into the main RF board. Unplug it and set it aside with the module.

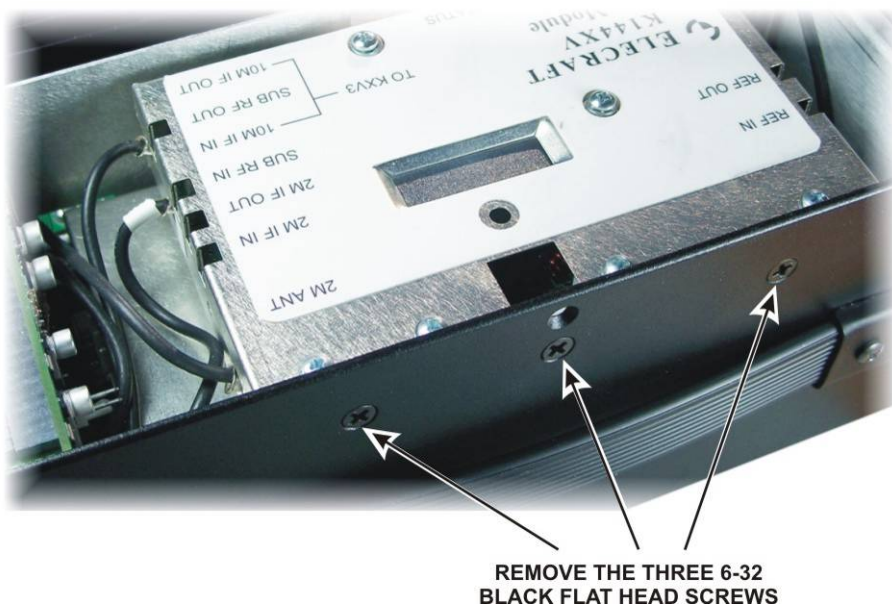


Figure A-3. Removing the K144XV Module

- Remove the KRX3A RF module as follows. The circled numbers refer to Figure A-4 below.
 - Remove the two long screws (1) that attach the KRX3A enclosure to the K3S or K3 main board.
 - Grip the knurled nuts (2) and lift the KRX3A enclosure up and out of the K3S OR K3. The enclosure will unplug from two interface boards (3), one near the front and the other at the back. Also there will be two coaxial cables attached to the forward edge and usually one cable attached at the back of the enclosure. Carefully unplug these cables holding onto the metal finger grip, not the black coax. The connectors are held by friction and slide apart. They do not unscrew.
- Remove the two small interface boards (3) that plug into the board on the bottom of the K3S OR K3 and the KRX3A enclosure. The boards may still be attached to the main board or may be attached to the connectors on the KRX3A RF module. Set them aside in an ESD-safe place.
- Place the KRX3A RF enclosure on your work table. Remove the two knurled nuts (2) and lift the top half of the KRXA3 RF enclosure off of the lower half

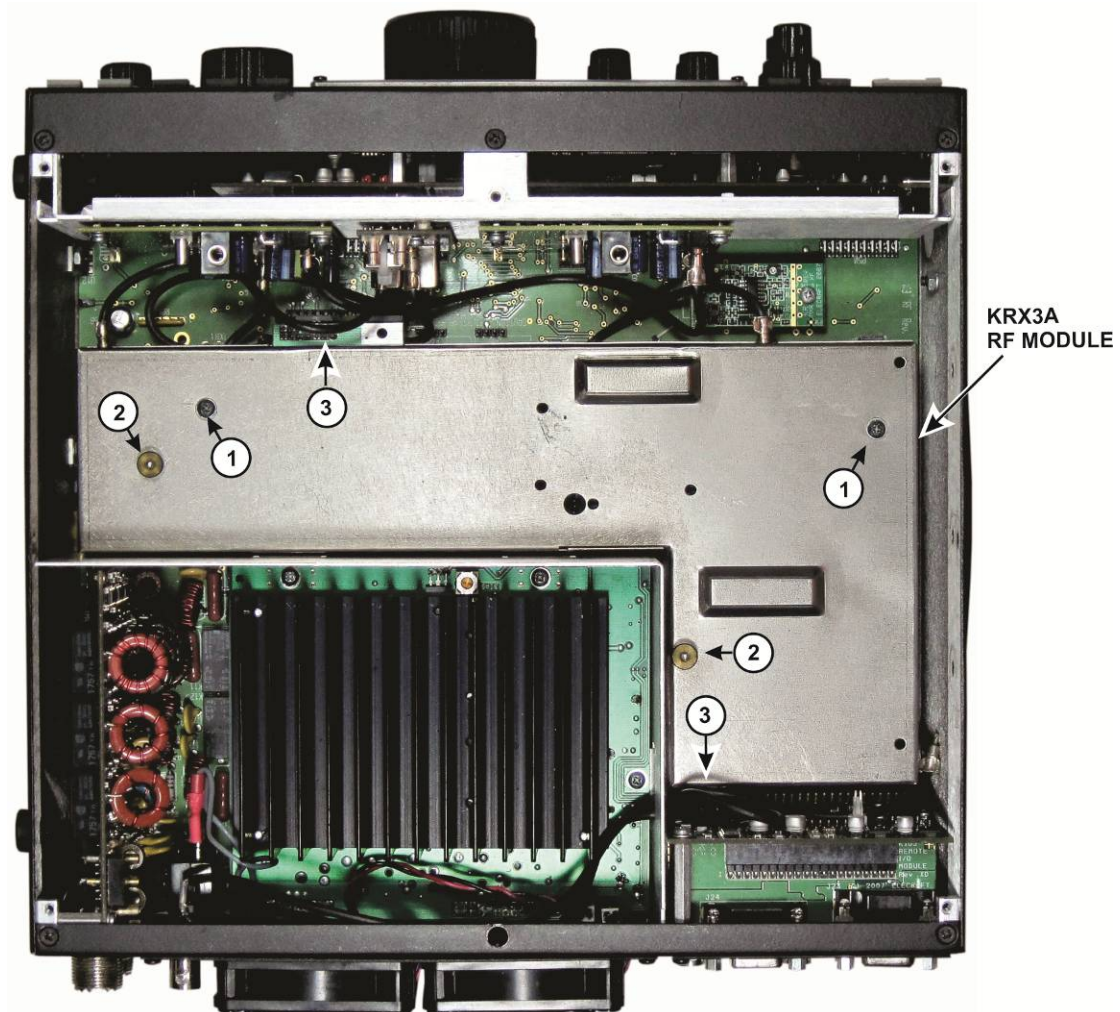


Figure A-4. Removing the KRX3A RF Module.

- Remove the RF board from the lower half of the enclosure as follows (see Figure A-5):
 - Remove the two sleeves (1) from the long screws.
 - If the KBPF3 option is installed, remove the two screws (2) and unplug it from the RF board underneath.
 - Remove the two screws (3) securing the KRX3A RF board to the bottom half of the enclosure. These screws thread into bushings attached to the enclosure with screws. If a screw seems to turn without loosening, hold the corresponding screw on the bottom of the enclosure so it cannot turn.
 - Lift the RF board out of the enclosure. It is a tight fit. There may be small bumps along the sides of the board that snap into holes in the sides of the enclosure. Start by lifting carefully at the two extensions where the board extends outside of the shield while pressing down on the edge of the shield to free it then work the board up and off of the long screws.

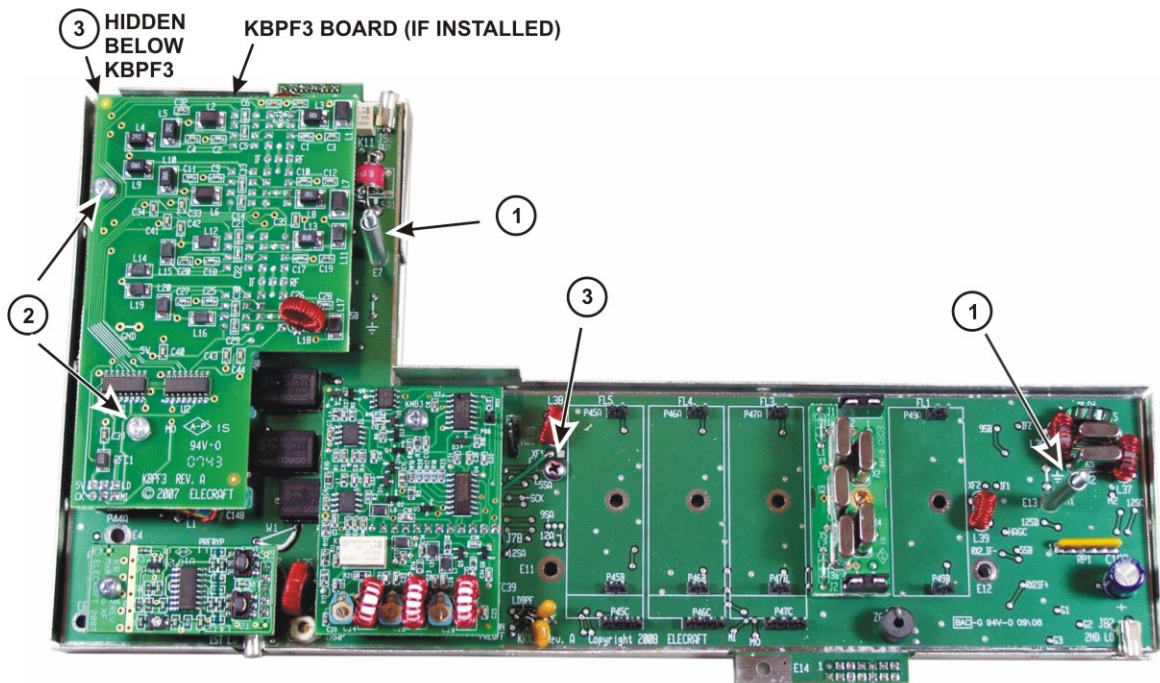


Figure A-5. Removing the RF Board from the Enclosure.

- The crystal I.F. filters are installed at positions FL1 through FL5 on the RF board. If the KRX3A has been in use there will be at least one filter already installed. Plan where you are going to install, replace or move the filters. They must be installed in a certain order according to the following rules:
 - a) The widest bandwidth filter must be closest to FL1. Note that FL1 is at the **right hand** end of the row of filters when the board is arranged to read the silk screening on the pc board. The filters must be in order of decreasing bandwidth from the right (nearest FL1) to the left (nearest FL5). If you're installing the K-FL3B FM filter, place it in position FL1 since it is the widest bandwidth filter available.
 - b) You may leave unoccupied filter positions as long as the order in a) above is followed. This is handy if you plan to add more filters later. Note that only a single filter is installed on the board shown in Figure A-5, leaving space for a wider bandwidth filter to be added in FL1 position and narrower filters to be added to FL3 through FL5 later if desired. More information and examples for planning your filters is included in Appendix A of your K3S or K3 Owner's manual.

⚠ Important: The information recorded in the next step is required to enable your filters after reassembling your K3S or K3. Record the data in the table clearly and completely. If the information is incomplete or incorrect, you will have to disassemble your KRX3A again to retrieve it before you can use your sub receiver. Recommend using a pencil so you can change the data later should you decide to install additional filters.

Enter the following data on Table A-1. Be sure you're following the rule described in the step above about the proper order for the filters. Note that Table 1 is set up with FL1 to the right and FL5 to the left, just as they must be installed on the RF board.

- Enter the bandwidth of each filter in the row below the filter position in which it will be installed.
- Enter the FREQ OFFSET shown on each 5-pole filter (see Figure A-6). The optional 8-pole filters have no offset. Enter a zero in the FREQ OFFSET column for those filters. **For the 5-pole filters, note that the frequency offset may be *negative*, indicated by a minus sign (single dash) ahead of the number.**

Table A-1. Filters Installed.

Note: FL1 is to the right and FL5 is to the left. In the next step you will install the filters right-to-left on the KRX3A RF board as well.

POSITION	FL5	FL4	FL3	FL2	FL1 ¹
BANDWIDTH ²					
FREQ OFFSET ³					

1. If you're installing the KFL3B FM filter, place it at FL1 since it is the widest bandwidth filter available.
2. The bandwidth is shown in the label attached to the filters except the KFL3B FM filter. Record a bandwidth of 13 kHz for the KFL3B FM filter.
3. All of the optional 8-pole filters have an offset of zero. Note that the 5-pole filters may have a negative offset, indicated by a minus sign ahead of the number.

Install the filters as shown in Figure A-6. Refer to the list of filters you created in Table A-1 to determine which filter to install at each location.

If the sub receiver RF module top cover has a label on it with places to record the bandwidth (BW), and frequency offset (FRQ) of each filter, copy the information from Table 1, erasing and moving the information already there to match your filter setup. The label will ensure you have the installed filter information in case this page is misplaced. (If you do not have a filter information label on your sub receiver, you can obtain one from Elecraft.) Use pencil in case you change your filters later. Note that the filters read *right to left* on the label, just as they were installed on the pc board and shown on Table 1. The label also has a row for Gain. This is a value you can determine later after installation is finished. It is a value set in the MENU to adjust the overall gain for each roofing filter so the audio remains constant when switching from one filter to another. Making this adjustment is described under *Filter Loss Compensation* in your owner's manual.

⚠ CAUTION

1) Do not use screws longer than 1/4" (6.4 mm) to mount the filters. Longer screws may extend into the optional 8-pole filter and destroy it. We strongly recommend you use a 1/4" screw even when installing the 5-pole filters to reduce the possibility of damaging an 8-pole filter should you change them later.

2) Do not over-tighten the screws. Too much torque may pull the threaded bushing out of the bottom of the filter module.

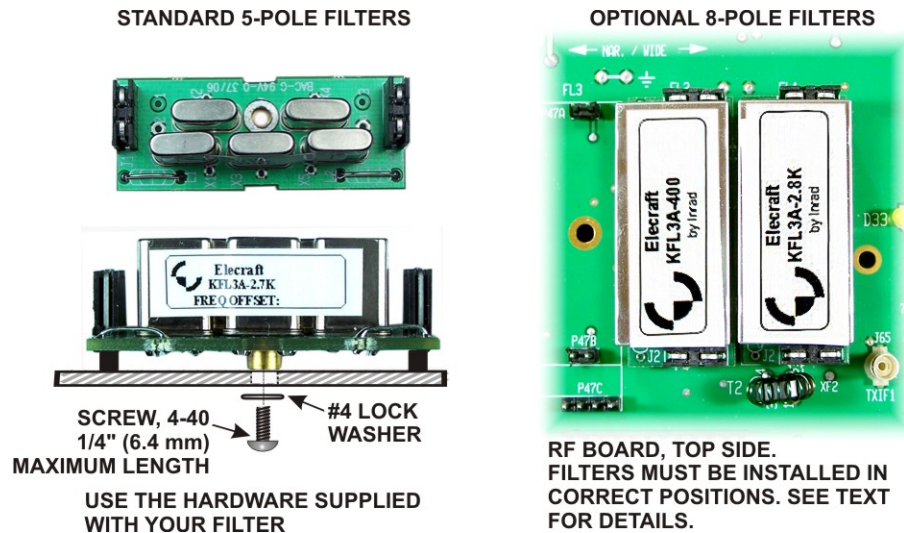


Figure A-6. Installing the Crystal Filters.

Double-check to ensure you installed each filter in the location you noted in Table 1. If you make a mistake recording the data or installing the filters and miss it now, you'll need to disassemble the KRX3A again.

⚠ Important: Do not over-tighten screws during reassembly. The screws should be tightened so that the lock washers are fully compressed but *never* as tight as you can make them.

In the bottom half of the enclosure, check to ensure the four standoffs are tight against the enclosure. If not, tighten the screws. Two are short standoffs for the board mounting screws and two standoffs have the long screws threaded through them.

Place the KRX3A RF board in the bottom shield so that the long screws extend through holes shown in Figure A-5. Press the circuit board down against the standoffs. The board may “snap” into position as the small bumps along the edges of the board slip into the holes in the sides of the shield. When properly positioned, the board will be against the standoffs in the bottom half of the enclosure. If needed, press down gently on the board near the long screws to ensure it is not caught on the threads.

Secure the KRX3A main circuit board to the short standoffs at locations ③ in Figure A-5 with the 4-40 3/16" (4.8 mm) black pan head screws and #4 *split* lock washers you removed earlier. Do not use interior tooth lock washers.

If you removed the KBPF3 board, replace it. Be sure the three connectors are aligned so all the pins engage. The connectors are visible from the sides. Secure the board at locations ② in Figure A-5. Use the 4-40, 1/4" (6.4 mm) pan head screws and *split* lock washers you removed earlier. Do not use interior tooth lock washers.

Replace the unthreaded sleeves over each of the long screws so they rest against the top of the circuit board (locations ① in Figure A-5), then place the top shield over the assembly and adjust its position so the edge of the top fits inside the bottom and rests against the KRX3A main board on all sides. The long screws will pass through holes in the top cover. Secure the top with the knurled nuts finger-tightened only enough to hold the cover in place so it isn't loose. Lock washers are not used under the knurled nuts.

Turn to your KRX3A Installation and Operation manual, and follow the procedures under *Installing the KRX3A Sub Receiver Module* and *Final Assembly* to complete the installation and reassembly of your K3s or K3. Note that:

- a) If you have a K3 (not a K3S), be sure to replace the battery cover. The cover is essential to avoid shorting the battery to the bottom of the KRX3A enclosure.
- b) Jumper W4 already will have been removed since the KRX3A was previously installed.
- c) The speaker pad should already be in place.

⚠ Important: When you have finished reassembling your K3S or K3, you must complete the filter setup in the next step or your sub receiver will not function correctly.

Refer to the data you recorded in Table A-1 and set up the filters you have installed as described under *Configuration / Crystal Filter Setup* in your K3S or K3 Owner's Manual.

That completes the installation of crystal filters in your KRX3A sub receiver.