

VK3AQZ RX1 kits: IMPORTANT INFORMATION

UPDATE: 12-2-2010

Please note:

I have received some feedback which is relevant to the current batch of RX1 kits.

KITS SUPPLIED AFTER 12-2-2010 WILL NOT CONTAIN THESE PROBLEMS.

1. The black plastic knobs on the variable capacitors are a little oversized and may bind on the PCB. Use a drill to enlarge the centre hole for the variable capacitor mounting, or counter bore some of the PCB material away so that the small black plastic shaft on the coupler can turn freely.

Note if you use a slightly larger drill watch that the PCB does not run up the flutes as you drill out the hole. A small reamer or round file would be better as the hole (8mm diameter) need only be enlarged by a mm or so. A bit of a chamfer will help too.

2. You may need more than 2 washers under the 2.5mm screws holding the variable capacitor to prevent the plates fouling.

This is due to thinner PCB material supplied by the PCB manufacturer. Alternatively you may have small flat washers which are thick enough instead – this will be neater. Also watch that the teeth of the star washers don't foul the plastic knob shaft.

3. The black plastic shafts used for the potentiometer coupler may be tight in the black aluminium knob. Place the shaft in a drill and remove a small amount of material from the knob end using emery paper for a distance of around 15mm so that it fits into the knob without binding. It will only need be a very thin layer.

This is due to the problem of not being able to obtain the exact ¼" diameter Delrin in Australia.

The ones supplied were either 6.45mm or 7mm requiring careful turning down. The knobs can also be ¼" or 6mm depending on supplier.

4. The rear of the pot may touch the RF DECK. But this should be okay – otherwise file back a small amount (1mm) from the PCB material behind the pot – best done before fitting components on.

5. The S0239 connector centre spigots do not solder easily. Clean the spigots with a small file etc. prior to fitting to the rear PCB. Also run a fine point file inside the spigot tube so as to clean off the oxidized material and allow the solder to run in.

Thanks to Peter Whellum, VK5ZPG, for finding these problems and bringing them promptly to my attention.

Thanking you,
Lou, VK3AQZ, 12-2-2010

UPDATE 14-2-2010

If you find that the screws locking the dial drums to the shaft are not quite long enough to lock the shaft, try twisting the screw head down tighter.

If that is not sufficient, maybe very carefully try countersink the hole a little deeper. The screws are ground down and are mated to the drums and shafts during manufacture. If there is a length problem it will only be by a very small amount. If you feel you need to drive the countersink deeper, only do it by degrees as you don't want the screw head floating above the countersink when it bears down on the shaft.

Thanks to Peter Whellum for this update.

Thanking you,
Lou, VK3AQZ, 14-2-2010