

W3EDP End-fed Multiband Antenna

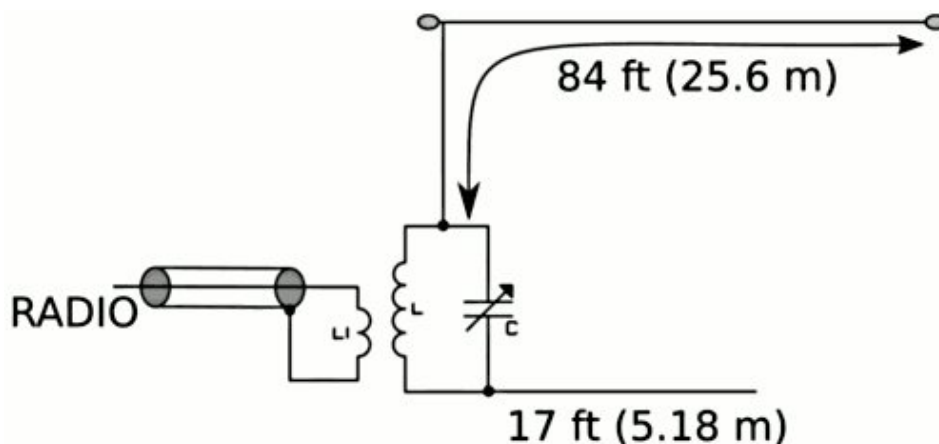
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Just to remember the old (but still good) antenna tricks, here is a brief description of the W3EDP antenna. I worked some DX stations operating from portable sites with very strong signals. When I asked "what antenna are you using" - they replied "a W3EDP".

I started to search what the W3EDP is and found this description:

In 1936, Yardley Beers, W3AWH, described an empirically-derived antenna "designed by the writer's friend, Mr. H. J. Siegel, W3EDP. It consisted of an 84 foot radiator and a 17 foot "counterpoise."

The design has lasted through the years. With the indicated dimensions, the antenna works well on 40, 20, 15, and 10 meters. Like the FFD, the 'EDP **requires a tuner**.



If you're at a site calling for an end-fed antenna, the W3EDP may be the one for you. Rather than run the short wire off in an odd direction, slightly better performance results from configuring the two wires to produce an end-fed Zepp.

Terminate the short wire with a top spacer at the 17 foot point along the long wire (with a couple of other spacers along the way), and run a support cord outward from the same (short-wire) end of the top spacer.

This gives a 17 foot feedline with 6 inch spacing. From the other end of the top spacer, run the remaining 67 feet of the long wire outward as the flattop portion of the Zepp.

If you don't configure the W3EDP as a Zepp, it is still best not to lay the short wire on the ground in the usual counterpoise fashion. This wire is part of the radiating system.

If you're not sure whether you'll need an end-fed or a center-fed design, carry two 84 foot lengths of wire and one 17 foot length. Use the 17 foot length and one 84 foot length to whip up a W3EDP/End-Fed Zepp, or use the two 84 foot lengths for an FFD.