

User Guide for The Whip Extension Cable

The radio receiver module is fragile. It is possible to pull the radio module off the circuit board if you are not careful when unsnapping the whip antenna. This damage is not covered by any warranty.

Disconnecting The Whip Antenna From The Radio Module

The little whip antenna has a female connector that snaps onto the radio module. It is fragile and easily damaged. However, do not simply pull off the antenna like a band-aid. This will damage the whip antenna's outside connector wings and probably bend the center pin on the radio module. In either case, the damage is not repairable.

Using a small pair of tweezers or miniature bent needle-nose pliers simplifies removal. The top picture shows tweezers with sharp ends being used to help pry up the antenna. Use a gentle side to side rocking motion to vertically raise the connector until it releases. Place your finger on top of the radio module to help prevent accidental removal of the module during antenna removal. The whip connector is rotated to get the whip antenna out of the way.

The next picture shows the use of the miniature needle nose pliers. Gentle pull straight up on the connector until it snaps off. Once again, a finger is used to hold the radio module down on the board. The connector is rotated to get the whip out of the way of the pliers.

Snap On The Extension Cable to Module

Double check that the proper end has been selected. The female connector snaps onto the radio module.

Align the connector so that the female connector rests evenly across the surface of the male connector. Be sure that the two connectors are centered on top of one another left-to-right and up-to-down when you look at the connector from above the board.

If everything looks good, use the center of your finger to press down firmly - you'll feel a definite "snap."

Protecting The Connector At The Module

It is important that some form of strain relief be used at the connector where the cable snaps onto the module. It is important to insure there is no vertical strain on the connection. Usually, any horizontal strain will cause the connector to rotate which is OK.

It is OK to bundle the antenna cable with other wiring. The cable's shield protects against noise pickup. Use tape, tie-wraps, clamps or some other method to secure the cable.

Snap on the Antenna To The Cable's Other End

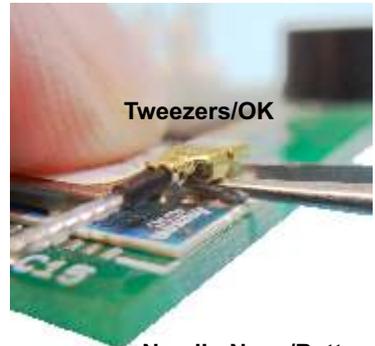
This is easy since you know how the connectors work. Snap on the antenna and you are nearly done.

Whip Antenna Placement

Just about any location away from noisy wiring is best. It can be mounted on the outside of the shell. Non-metallic paint can be used to hide the antenna.

The connection is somewhat fragile. Protect it as much as possible.

Orienting the whip vertical is usually the best. However, horizontal also works. Try both and pick the one that provides the best range for your railroad. []



This end
to radio module



This end to
whip antenna