

Easy Antenna Mount

Have you ever been in the predicament of wanting to put up an outside antenna, but didn't want to risk drilling holes in your roof? I have been there, too. We had a new roof put on the house and I couldn't bring myself to drill the holes, so I went to the hardware store to see what could kluge up.

I found that the hardware store carries a number of sizes of pre-cut lengths of black ABS plastic pipe. If I could assemble some of these sections to fit over the peak of the roof it might hold a VHF antenna in place. So there, in the store, I temporarily assembled parts until I had what looked like an antenna mount. When I was satisfied with the possible result, I gathered the parts and a can of glue and went to the register.

At home, I took the parts up on the roof and assembled them again, this time with glue, and adjusted the angles to fit the roof exactly.



As can be seen in the photo, the mount is made up of four two foot sections ("legs"), three one foot sections (two along the ridge, one vertical), three tees and two 90 degree elbows.

I actually did this about five years ago and mounted a 2m 5/8 wave ground plane antenna. It has been in place all that time, including the storms and winds, and hasn't moved. I recently replaced the old antenna with a Diamond X50A 2m/440 dual band unit, which made me think about writing this up.

The new antenna has a slightly larger wind loading and might require some modification of the mount. Originally, I thought about filling the leg sections with sand to lower the center of mass and add stability. I'll try that if wind is a problem.



This mount won't be good for tall masts, unless it is guyed. But is an easy way to get the antenna up on the roof, if only temporarily.

73, de Rolf, N6NFI