

Manuals+

[Q & A](#) | [Deep Search](#) | [Upload](#)

[manuals.plus](#) /

› [Midland](#) /

› [Midland 18-2442 Mobile CB Antenna Instruction Manual](#)

Midland 182442

Midland 18-2442 Mobile CB Antenna Instruction Manual

INTRODUCTION

This manual provides detailed instructions for the proper installation, operation, and maintenance of your Midland 18-2442 Mobile CB Antenna. Please read this manual thoroughly before use to ensure optimal performance and longevity of your antenna.

The Midland 18-2442 is a center load magnetic mount mobile antenna system designed for reliable CB radio communication. It features a durable 17-7 stainless steel whip and a plastic-coated magnetic base to protect vehicle surfaces.

PACKAGE CONTENTS

- Midland 18-2442 Magnetic-mount Antenna
- Coaxial Cable with PL-259 Connector (pre-wired)
- Allen Wrench (for tuning)

SETUP AND INSTALLATION

Choosing a Mounting Location

Select a flat, metallic surface on your vehicle, such as the center of the roof or trunk lid, for optimal performance. Ensure the surface is clean and dry before mounting. The magnetic base is designed to adhere securely and prevent scratching.

Avoid mounting near other antennas, sunroofs, or areas that might obstruct the antenna's radiation pattern.

Mounting the Antenna







This image displays the complete Midland 18-2442 Mobile CB Antenna. It features a black magnetic base, a central loading coil, and a flexible silver stainless steel whip. The coaxial cable is visible extending from the base.

1. Clean the chosen mounting surface thoroughly to remove dirt, dust, and wax.
2. Carefully place the magnetic base of the antenna onto the cleaned surface. Ensure full contact for maximum magnetic adhesion.
3. Route the coaxial cable into the vehicle, avoiding sharp edges or areas where it could be pinched or damaged. Ensure the cable does not interfere with door seals or moving parts.
4. Connect the PL-259 connector of the antenna cable to the antenna input jack on your CB radio.

Antenna Tuning (SWR Adjustment)

Proper antenna tuning is critical for efficient operation and to prevent damage to your CB radio. An SWR (Standing Wave Ratio) meter is required for this procedure.

1. Connect an SWR meter between your CB radio and the antenna cable.
2. Turn on your CB radio and set it to Channel 1.
3. Key the microphone and observe the SWR reading. Record this value.
4. Switch to Channel 40, key the microphone, and observe the SWR reading. Record this value.
5. If the SWR is high on Channel 1 and lower on Channel 40, the antenna is too short. If the SWR is lower on Channel 1 and higher on Channel 40, the antenna is too long.
6. Adjust the length of the stainless steel whip using the provided allen wrench. Loosen the set screw, slide the whip up or down in small increments, then tighten the set screw.
7. Repeat steps 2-5 until the SWR readings are as low as possible across all channels (ideally below 2.0, with 1.5 or lower being excellent). Aim for the lowest SWR on Channel 19 (the center channel).

Note: An SWR reading of 3.0 or higher indicates a serious problem and should be corrected immediately to prevent radio damage.

OPERATION

Once the antenna is properly installed and tuned, your Midland 18-2442 Mobile CB Antenna is ready for use with your CB radio. Ensure your CB radio is correctly powered and configured according to its own instruction manual.

For optimal communication, ensure the antenna whip is vertical and unobstructed during operation.

MAINTENANCE

- **Regular Cleaning:** Periodically clean the magnetic base and the vehicle surface beneath it to prevent dirt and debris from accumulating, which could scratch the paint or reduce magnetic adhesion.
- **Cable Inspection:** Regularly inspect the coaxial cable for any signs of wear, cuts, or kinks. Damaged cables can lead to poor performance or radio damage.
- **Whip Inspection:** Check the stainless steel whip for any bends or damage. A damaged whip can affect antenna tuning and performance.
- **Magnetic Base Check:** Ensure the plastic coating on the magnetic base remains intact to protect your vehicle's finish.
- **SWR Re-check:** If you notice a significant drop in performance or if the antenna has been subjected to physical stress, re-check the SWR.

TROUBLESHOOTING

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
High SWR Readings	Improper antenna length	Adjust antenna whip length using an SWR meter.
High SWR Readings	Poor ground connection	Ensure the magnetic base has good contact with a metallic vehicle surface. Check for paint or rust preventing contact.
High SWR Readings	Damaged coaxial cable or connector	Inspect cable and connectors for damage. Replace if necessary.

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Poor Transmit/Receive Range	Improper SWR	Tune the antenna for the lowest possible SWR.
Poor Transmit/Receive Range	Antenna obstruction	Ensure the antenna is mounted in a clear, unobstructed location.
Antenna Falls Off Vehicle	Insufficient magnetic adhesion	Clean mounting surface and magnetic base. Ensure full contact. Avoid mounting on non-metallic surfaces.
Vehicle Paint Scratched	Dirt under magnetic base or damaged coating	Clean base and surface regularly. Ensure plastic coating is intact. Replace if coating is damaged.

If problems persist after following these troubleshooting steps, contact Midland customer support.

SPECIFICATIONS

- **Model:** 18-2442
- **Antenna Type:** Center Load Magnetic Mount Mobile CB Antenna
- **Whip Material:** 17-7 Stainless Steel
- **Base:** Plastic Coated Magnetic Base
- **Impedance:** 50 Ohms
- **Product Dimensions:** 17 x 1.4 x 5 inches
- **Item Weight:** 1.4 pounds
- **Cable:** Prewired Coaxial Cable with PL-259 Connector
- **Compatibility:** Works with all Midland Mobile CB Radios

Note: Specifications are subject to change without notice.

WARRANTY INFORMATION

Specific warranty details for the Midland 18-2442 Mobile CB Antenna are not provided in this document. Please refer to the warranty card included with your purchase or visit the official Midland website for the most current warranty policy.

CUSTOMER SUPPORT

For technical assistance, replacement parts, or further information regarding your Midland 18-2442 Mobile CB Antenna, please visit the official Midland website or contact their customer service department. Contact information can typically be found on the product packaging or the manufacturer's website.

Midland Website: <https://midlandusa.com>