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> [Browning BR-180-B Amateur Dual Band NMO Antenna Instruction Manual](#)

## Browning BR-180-B

# Browning BR-180-B Amateur Dual Band NMO Antenna Instruction Manual

Model: BR-180-B | Brand: Browning

## INTRODUCTION

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The Browning BR-180-B is an Amateur Dual Band NMO Antenna designed for reliable communication. It features a 37-1/2 inch black chrome whip and is intended for use with an NMO mount (sold separately). This manual provides essential information for the proper setup, operation, and maintenance of your antenna.





Image: The Browning BR-180-B Amateur Dual Band NMO Antenna, showing its full length and black finish.

## SETUP AND INSTALLATION

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Proper installation is crucial for optimal antenna performance. This antenna is designed for NMO mounting.

### 1. NMO Mount Installation

- Ensure you have a compatible NMO mount (sold separately).
- Install the NMO mount according to its specific instructions on a suitable surface, such as a vehicle roof or a ground plane. A robust ground plane is essential for effective operation.
- Once the NMO mount is secured, screw the Browning BR-180-B antenna onto the mount.

### 2. Securing and Tuning

- The antenna comes with set screws. Use the provided Allen wrench to snugly tighten all set screws on the antenna. This helps maintain tuning and stability.
- While the antenna is typically pre-tuned, it is recommended to check the Standing Wave Ratio (SWR) across the desired operating bands (144-148 MHz and 430-450 MHz) using an SWR meter.
- If tuning is necessary, carefully loosen the set screw(s) just enough to allow the elements to slide with some friction. Adjust the bottom element for the 2-meter band (144-148 MHz) first, then adjust the top element for the 70-centimeter band (430-450 MHz). After tuning, re-tighten all set screws securely.



Image: The Browning BR-180-B antenna installed on a vehicle roof, demonstrating a typical mobile setup.

## OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

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The Browning BR-180-B antenna is designed for amateur radio use across two primary frequency bands:

- **VHF Band:** 144 MHz to 148 MHz, delivering 2.4 dBd gain.
- **UHF Band:** 430 MHz to 450 MHz, delivering 5.5 dBd gain.

Key operational features:

- **Power Rating:** The antenna is rated for up to 100 watts, ensuring reliable performance with various amateur radio transceivers.
- **Signal Efficiency:** Equipped with a gold-plated plunger-type contact pin and a high-quality coil with a solid brass base and top, maximizing signal transfer and efficiency.
- **Impedance:** The antenna has a standard 50 Ohm impedance, compatible with most amateur radio equipment.



Image: A close-up view of the antenna's base, showing the Browning logo and frequency specifications (144-148 MHz 2.4 dBd, 430-450 MHz 5.5 dBd).

## MAINTENANCE

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To ensure the longevity and consistent performance of your Browning BR-180-B antenna, follow these maintenance guidelines:

- **Regular Inspection:** Periodically inspect the antenna for any signs of physical damage, corrosion, or loose connections.
- **Check Set Screws:** Over time, vibrations (especially in mobile installations) can cause set screws to loosen. Regularly check and re-tighten all set screws to maintain tuning and structural integrity.
- **Cleaning:** Clean the antenna whip and base with a soft, damp cloth as needed to remove dirt and grime. Avoid abrasive cleaners or solvents.
- **Weather Protection:** The antenna features a black chrome finish and stainless steel whip for durability. While designed for outdoor use, extreme weather conditions may warrant additional protective measures if possible.

## TROUBLESHOOTING

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If you experience issues with your antenna, consider the following troubleshooting steps:

- **Poor SWR Readings:**
  - Verify the antenna is securely mounted to the NMO base.
  - Ensure all set screws on the antenna elements are tight.
  - Check the coaxial cable and connectors for damage or improper installation.
  - Confirm the NMO mount has a good electrical connection to a sufficient ground plane.
  - Re-tune the antenna elements as described in the "Setup and Installation" section if necessary.
- **Reduced Reception/Transmission Range:**
  - Check SWR to ensure the antenna is properly tuned for your operating frequency.
  - Inspect the antenna for any physical damage or bends in the whip.

- Ensure the coaxial cable is not damaged or kinked.
- Verify the transceiver's power output and settings.
- **Intermittent Signal:**
  - Check all connections, including the antenna to the NMO mount, and the coaxial cable to the radio, for looseness or corrosion.
  - Inspect the gold-plated plunger-type contact pin for cleanliness and proper contact.

## SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Detail
Model	BR-180-B
Brand	Browning
Frequency Bands	VHF: 144-148 MHz, UHF: 430-450 MHz
Gain	VHF: 2.4 dBd, UHF: 5.5 dBd
Power Rating	Up to 100 Watts
Impedance	50 Ohms
Antenna Type	Amateur Dual Band NMO
Whip Material	Stainless Steel with Black Chrome Finish
Contact Pin	Gold-plated plunger-type
Base Material	Solid Brass
Antenna Whip Length	Approximately 37.5 inches (95.25 cm)
Overall Dimensions (Approximate LxWxH)	2" x 2" x 35"
Item Weight	8 Ounces (0.23 kg)

## WARRANTY INFORMATION

The Browning BR-180-B Amateur Dual Band NMO Antenna comes with a **1-year warranty** from the date of purchase. This warranty covers manufacturing defects under normal use. Please retain your proof of purchase for warranty claims. For specific terms and conditions, refer to the warranty documentation included with your product or contact customer support.

## CUSTOMER SUPPORT

For technical assistance, troubleshooting beyond this manual, or warranty inquiries, please contact Browning customer support. Visit the official Browning website for contact information or refer to the packaging for support details.

**Online Resources:** For additional information and resources, you may visit the [Browning Store on Amazon](#).

