



Rural Training Center-Thailand: Technical Paper

ศูนย์ฝึกอบรมชนบท-ประเทศไทย: ทางเทคนิคกระดาษ



Low-cost PL-259 Dust Cap

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Operating outdoors presents more than ample opportunity for dust and grime to create connectivity problems for you coax. There are more than enough speed bumps between your rig and antenna (e.g. lightning arrestors, antenna switches, etc.).

It is common to see folks pulling coax or trying to uncoil it and having the loose end PL-259 connect literally bite the dust. To save time and despair over cleaning dirt, dust, grime, etc. from the befallen connector, I decided to try putting dust caps on my connectors.

I cut 5/8" ID tubing into 1 1/2" long pieces; made a string tether and positioned it so when I stapled one end of the tubing shut, the tether was looped around the staple. I then looped the tether around the coax so the dust cap wouldn't be separated and lost from the coax.

I made pairs of dust caps for all of my coax that are coiled and ready to go to the field. When it come time to deploy them, I know they have some protection from the dust and grime of the real world. 🌐



Clear tubing 5/8" ID left over from another project.



Cut the tubing to 1 1/2" lengths and ready for stapling.



The tether is looped around the staple..



Dust cap on (left) and off (but tethered) on the PL-259..

