

The Mic holder project by Robert Northrup, KC8PSW

In October 2004, I purchased my new truck and began the task of installing radio gear. As in all my previous equipment installations, I have tried to not drill holes all over the vehicle thus making extra work and diminishing its resale value in the future. The radio is a Yaesu FT-7100M, a dual-band 2M/70CM unit. I did purchase the remote head kit and mounted it to the instrument cluster with double-sided foam tape, then put the radio under the driver seat. I also grounded the radio case to the seat mounting bolts.

At first, I put the mic in one of the cup holders but it started to fall all over the cab so I needed a way to put it someplace out of the way and then in spring 2005, I saw an article in QST that did exactly what I wanted. The article described a cheap and easy-to-assemble mic holder that inserts into one of the power ports on the dash. The article said all parts came from The Home Depot and I was in one almost every day for my business. But I couldn't find the parts the article quoted so I improvised. The parts I used were white PVC plumbing fittings. The "plug" is a coupling with a 1/2" threaded male end and a 1/2" solvent-weld other end. I then inserted a 1/2" solvent-weld plug into the other fitting but didn't glue the two parts together. Then I drilled two holes for the mic clip, attached the clip with screws and tried it out. I found that I needed to trim a few threads off the male end to get the plug to fit into a power port socket and I wrapped the threads with a little electrical tape for a better fit. Attached are a few photos showing the clip in place and one of the clip by itself. It was a very easy project, took about 15 minutes to make and cost about 85 cents. What is nice is that it is easily removable and portable so it can go in any vehicle with a power port or cigarette lighter socket.

Photo of clip in dash



Mic in holder



Mic holder

