

# Comments, Questions, Clarifications and Corrections for “Icom IC M802 Starting from Scratch”



If you find errors or need clarification in “Icom IC M802 Starting from Scratch” or any of my other books please let me know as it will benefit other cruisers to have the information clear and correct. Many thanks to the Cruisers that submitted the below items to help us all!

10/14/2013

1. A reader/installer has pointed out the various spellings used for Morse code. In the KISS dictionary it was typed Morris as part of the definition for CW on page 204 and typed Mores for the definition of Morse code. My apologies to Mr. Morse.
2. 10/14/2013 One of my readers/installers pointed out the note on page 42. On number 2 below, “Ground Terminal”, it should say “Important connect only the green ground wire from the tuner control cable to this lug”. (Do not connect to ships ground as it can result in a ground loop causing noise and possibly other things in your boat to turn on)

#### 1. TUNNER CONTROL SOCKET

Connect the control cable for the AT-140 antenna tuner here (OPC-1147 cable)

#### 2. GROUND TERMINAL

**Important!** Connect the ships ground here.

#### 3. ANTENNA CONNECTOR 1

Primary Antenna Connection.  
Connect the coaxial cable going to the AT-140 tuner via an RF Isolator here with a PL259 connector.

#### 4. ANTENNA CONNECTOR 2

DSC Emergency Reception Antenna Connection.  
Connect the DERA here via a PL-259 connector

#### 5. DC POWER SOCKET

Connect the battery 13.6 VDC power for the IC M802 here. (OPC 1107A cable)

01/14/2014

Another reader/Installer has identified some additional errors and asked for clarification on a few topics. See below:

Page 27, item 1

It's not clear what comes in the box with the ICOM 802, and what needs to be purchased separately

ANS: That is a list of what comes with the IC M802 and AT140 except the flush mount kit and tuner control cable that need to be purchased separately. I need to clarify

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that. I thought the tuner control cable came with the tuner as did the package I bought. Talking with vendors I have found it is an extra charge.

From the Icom Manual:

The following accessories are supplied with IC-M802.

1 Microphone (HM-135) .....	1
2 External speaker (SP-24) .....	1
3 Mounting bracket kit for main unit .....	1 set
4 Mounting bracket kit for remote controller (MB-81) .....	1 set
5 Mounting bracket kit for speaker (MB-82) ...	1 set
6 DC power cable (OPC-1107A) .....	1
7 Microphone hanger kit.....	1 set
8 Cable tie set .....	1 set
9 Spare fuses (FGB 30 A).....	1
10 Spare fuses (FGB 5 A) .....	2
11 Remote control cable (OPC-1106) .....	1
12 Tuner connector kit .....	1 set
13 Accessory connector (8-pin DIN) .....	1 set

Page 41, item 5

“Tuner control cable (OPC-1106)...” shouldn’t that be OPC-1147?

ANS: Yes and it is listed as such. The OPC-1106 is the control head (spall box the microphone connects to) cable comes with the radio.

Page 44, item 8b

Isn’t this the same as item e other than the addition of i. sub-bullet? If so, I suggest you delete 8b as it’s redundant and has less info.

ANS: you are correct.

Page 44, item 9b

Shouldn’t this be indented underneath item 9a? Or you could simply not number it and leave it as part of 9a.

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ANS: You are correct that should have been indented to reflect the cable we are discussing in this section.

Regarding the location of the ferrites and the line isolator on the coax:  
The book says the ferrites go on the tuner end, and the isolator goes on the transceiver end. I mentioned that to Judy at RadioWorks and she said the isolator should go on the tuner end as that will immediately block any reflected RF coming back from the antenna, rather than have it travel all the way back to the transceiver and then get blocked. With that in mind it seems these ferrites would go on the transceiver end and the isolator on the tuner end. Judy also mentioned that most marine installers are doing it this way. Comments?

ANS: Judy has probably not tested as many units as I have over the past 6 years nor has she discussed it with the ICOM people. While she is correct that it will keep reflected energy from coming out of the tuner, the real goal is to keep the RF out of the Transceiver so it does not shut down. If you are planning to install a 24 foot pole antenna you will not see any difference with ether location. However if you are using a backstay antenna, there will be a lot of radiation coming into your boat. The RF will walk down the shield of the coax and the control cable and into the radio. The radio will think it is reflected power and shut down.

Typically when I test SWR on boats, on boats with the RF Isolator at the tuner, I get shocked on my meter. I am not sure who came up with the tuner end idea, but Icom and the RF Isolator manufactures both say at the transceiver end. Here in Mexico I see a lot of boats coming from CA wired wrong with issues. Usually putting the RF Isolator in the right place and 2 cores on the tuner end solve the issues.

However I recommend using the Snap on cores as that will eliminate one connections. The RF Isolators are just cores in a PVC tube.

Page 52

“it may not be the standoffs may not be needed” needs to be corrected.

ANS: That is clearly correct.

Page 196

In general, it's not clear what the color code means, I think it's just to separate individual components. Indenting under topic headings, or adding blank lines would help. It's not clear what comes in the box with the ICOM 802, and what needs to be purchased separately

ANS: You are correct. The colors are just groupings of small subsystem components that need to be purchased together. By the way the spread sheet is on my web site in Excel.

See page 27 comments above.

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Page 197, second item on list

As far as I know, there is no OPC-1101. You already list a pair of ferrites for each cable that can connect to the tuner on page 198, the top two items. Either this is entirely redundant, or perhaps you mean OPC-1106, the remote control cable? I bought two ferrites on that assumption, but please explain.

ANS: That is a typo for sure, but the tuner control cable is OPC 1147. The 1106 is the control head cable.

Page 198 second item

I assumed this was the OPC-1147 cable. The part number should be added for clarity and consistency

ANS: That is correct.