Simple 160m receiver based on K174XA2

- Working range: 160 meters, 1.800 – 2.000 MHz
- Core of the receiver: K174XA2
- Operation: SSB
- Power supply: 9V

Working description

The diagram of the heterodyne receiver based on K174XA2 shown below. The signal from antenna is going to the attenuator R1, R2, T1 and further through the coil L1 to the input circuit L2C1. Attenuator is designed as a bridge circuit – minimum signal to the input of the receiver receives in case of equality of resistances R1 and R2. The signal from L2C1 is going through a capacitor C2 to the RF amplifier of K174XA2. Another input of RF amplifier "grounded" through a capacitor C3. A variable resistor R3 regulates the gain of RF amplifier. The local oscillator of the receiver contains only a few external components – coil L3 and capacitors C7, C8 and C9. RF amplifier and local oscillator inside K174XA2 are connected to the inputs of the balanced mixer based on four transistors. In the collector circuit of one pair of transistors included resistor R7, which is allocated sound frequency equal to the frequency difference signal and the local oscillator. The variable resistor R6 allows tune the AF gain.

Assembly Details

- The coils L2 and L4 are wound on a 3–4-section skeleton. Wire 0.1mm, 60 turns (20 turns on each of 3 sections of the form).
- The coil L1 is wound over L2 in the lower section of the form. Wire 0.1mm. 10 turns
- The transformer T1 is wound on ferrite coil 10x6x5. Winding: **three twisted** wires 0.28 mm, 7-9 turns. The beginning of one of the wires connects to the end of secondary wire, forming a middle output of the transformer.
- The coil of AF is wound on ferrite coil 17x8x5. Wire 0.1mm. 260 turns. Inductance 100mH. ~6 meters of wire.

Adjustment

The adjustment of the receiver is extremely simple and comes down to configuring two loops (L2, C1, L1 and L4) to the frequency 160 meters. If you have frequency generator, then connect it to the antenna input and tune the core of coil L4 to set the desired receiving frequency. Reducing the level of the signal from the frequency generator, configure the circuit L2, C1, L1, to achieve the maximum volume. In the absence of frequency generator – all the same procedures can be done by taking signals from radio stations.

The adjustment of AF based on transistors VT1 and VT2 by selection of resistor R9. Its resistance should be such that the voltage at the emitters of transistors was equal to half the supply voltage. The quiescent current of the AF (in the absence of a signal) should not exceed 1-2 mA. At higher current, you should check the serviceability of transistors and diode VD1. AF load is headphones with impedance of 50 - 60 Ohms.

The receiver works well with an indoor antenna – cut the wire a few meters long, but for reception of distant stations it is better to use "long wire" antenna.

The receiver can be modified to the following bands 80, 40 and 20 meters by changing the values of L2, C1, L1 and L4, C7.