

Re: Help with Digital Alarm Clock Radio "repair"

Source: <http://sci.tech-archive.net/Archive/sci.electronics.repair/2005-01/0313.html>

From: DMF (*me_at_sans.spam.com*)

Date: 01/03/05

Date: Sun, 2 Jan 2005 18:18:29 -0800

"jakdedert" wrote...

> *t.hoehler* wrote:

>> *"DMF"* wrote in message

>>> *I was hoping someone here might be able to help me*

>>> *with my clock radio. I have a GPX Digital Alarm/Clock*

>>> *Radio (Model# D505) that I want to modify. I like to*

>>> *set the morning alarm to play music but I don't want any*

>>> *stations. I want it to wake me up with the soothing hiss*

>>> *of white noise. I've tried setting it between stations, at the*

>>> *ends of the dial, etc. but it still seems to pick up various*

>>> *broadcasts and other chatter. So the questions is -- what*

>>> *wire or component do I have to snip out of the circuit in*

>>> *order to disable the radio's ability to pick up any signals?*

>>> *I believe (and correct me if I am wrong) that if the antenna*

>>> *portion of the (FM?) circuit is snipped out then I should*

>>> *just get white noise, no matter where the tuner is set. Also,*

>>> *would removing the antenna circuit create any kind of*

>>> *problem for the downstream amplifying circuits?*

>>>

>>> *Can this be done, if so, how? (This is a \$9 radio, so I'm*

>>> *not too concerned if I ruin it) Thank you.*

>>>

>>> *Regards,*

>>> *David (waiting with wire cutters at the ready)*

>>>

>> *If you can figure out where the LO (local osc) is, you can just*

>> *short its output to ground. I did that to a discarded boom box*

>> *board years ago, put it in a small speaker enclosure, run the*

>> *whole shebang off an old telephone light wall wart, and use it*

>> *to bathe the bedroom in pink noise, I rolled the highs off some*

>> *what with a cap. We've been using it for almost 16 years, works*

>> *great.*

>

> *You might even get by with taking the antenna input to ground...a lot*

> *easier to locate.*

Thank you for the replies. I think finding that oscillator is a bit

beyond my skills. However, I can identify the tuner (clear plastic box with metal plates that move when the tuner control is moved). I can also see a ferrite bar AM antenna with a wire that connects near the tuner. Would snipping this wire and grounding it get me what I want? Also, I was hoping to use the FM band since the hiss is more pleasant than AM hiss -- would grounding that wire work to disable both bands or is there a separate FM antenna lurking somewhere in the circuitry that I would have to ground?

Regards,
David