Rockmite][-17 (ver 3) Power and Efficiency Modification

W5USJ Drawing 14 Nov 2014

This mod starts with an RM][-20 v3 kit. All the same up to the Q6 output circuits

Note: Best to make these changes before assembling the rest of the kit

Includes 18 MHz crystals

Change R18 to 3 Ohms (ORN, BLK GLD GLD)

Install the transformer in place of L1

Matching transformer: 1.6:1 turns ratio
Impedance (Z) Ratio = 2.56:1 (128:50)
Toroid FT23-43
8 turns #26 primary
5 turns #26 secondary
wound between the pri turns.
Strip insulation to about 1/8 inch from core

Cut the short trace between Q6-C and C14
See Figure 1.

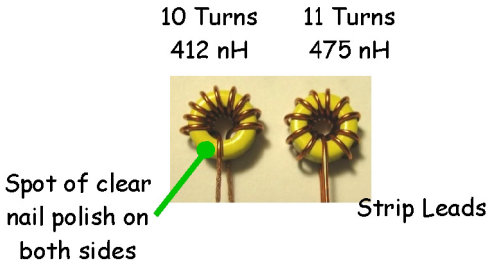
T30-6 Toroids
L2 = 475 nH 11 turns #26
L3 = 412 nH 10 turns #26 Measured
Spread or squeeze turns as needed
Strip insulation close to core

All Capacitors MLCC 5% C0G

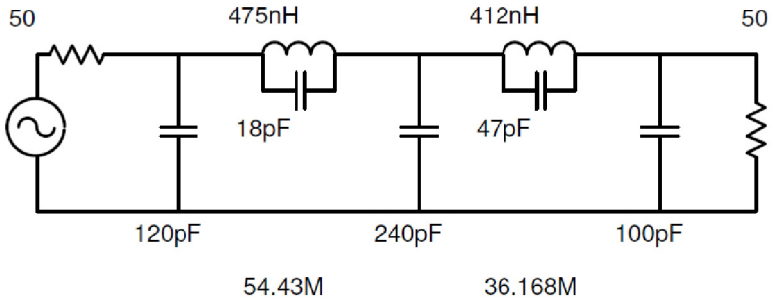
C15 = 120 pF (121)
C16 = 18 pF (180)
C17 = 240 pF (241)
C18 = 47 pF (470)
C19 = 100 pF (101)

Q6 = 2N3866
Alt = 2N3553

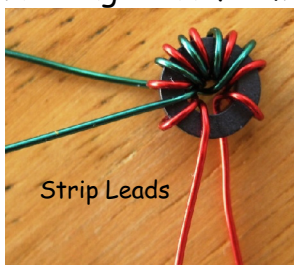
Matching Transformer:
As seen in the LPF schematic, the input and output impedance is 50 Ω Output resistance of Q6 is much higher and is a power transfer mismatch. Also, poor efficiency. So, a matching transformer can be used to even things up. The values chosen are median values between the range of Vcc (12-13.5). A 1 min keydown only warms the heatsink.



Elsie Design LPF Schematic 17m

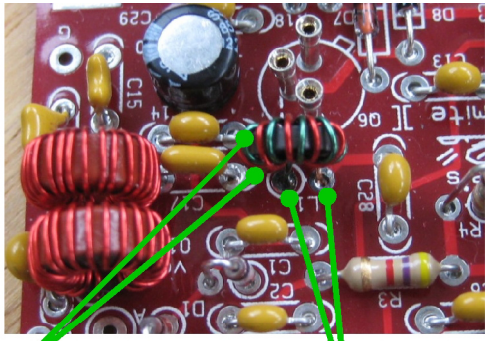


Matching Transformer



RM][PCB ver 3

First, cut short trace between Q6 C and C14 see illustration below



Gently scrape the solder mask from these two pads

Figure 1