

CT1ECW - Amateur Radio Station

 [CT1ECW](#)[My Experiments](#)[SWL - Short Wave Listener](#)[Mapa do site](#)

My Experiments

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[Unique Hits](#)

Antennas

When we have restrictions in mounting the station antennas, we start to make experiments with other alternative ways. It was what I did.

I made and test several antennas, the magnetic loops was on of them. In my research, I read many things and this kind of antennas seemed to be the solutions for my problem. They are small and in some cases very small indeed. In my research it seems that this antennas was announced as a miracle. Even inside shack we could make astonished contacts, cause the antenna works the magnetic part of the wave. Unfortunately I verified that this is not totally truth. That is truth if the shack is a really wood shack. If the building is brickwork, you beter forget the part of miracle.



Really, I made contacts that impressed me much, with the antenna inside home. I didn't expect. But were not Dx contacts. I made contacts to 200 km or a little more. The iron structure of the building have influence on that. Outside is another story, however don't expect big signal reports. With the little MagLoop in the pictures below, with a pedestrian QRP station with 2 Watts, in a cold winter saturday afternoon, I made two good contacts with a Belgium (ON4YOTA) and Spanish station (EA3BFX). For 2 Watts the report were good 5/8, 5/7, but only two contacts in a afternoon... that's the problem of 2 Watts! In this antenna I used a diferent coupling, a kind of triangle. Initial the small coupling loop was 1/5 of the diameter of the big loop, but the swr meter did not give me the expected readings, so I started with my experiments. The length that goes from the top of the loop to the coax is indeed 1/5 of the diameter of the loop and the plastified rigid wire makes 20 turns on each side as you can see in the middle picture below.

