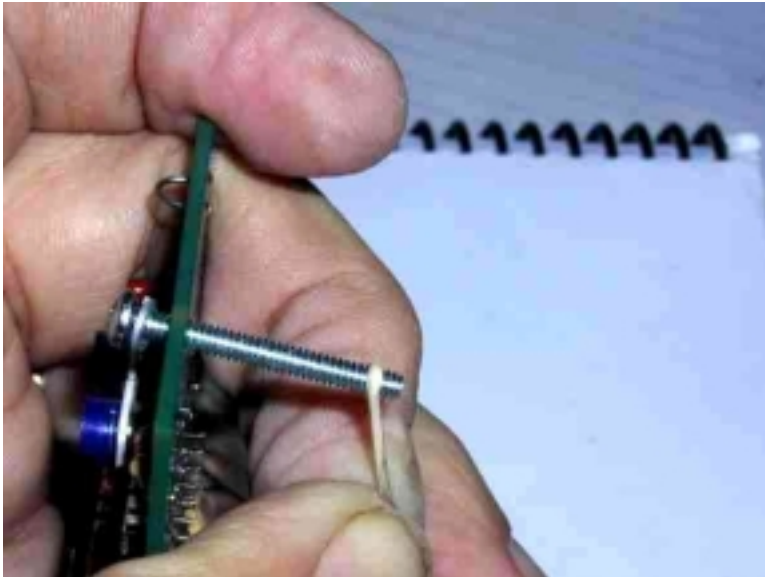


# Securing The Standoffs For The Elecraft KAT1

by: Tom Hammond NØSS

There has been some discussion among K1/KAT1 owners regarding the level of difficulty involved with installing the KAT1 using separate machine screws and metal standoffs. There is no effortless way to accomplish the feat, although some of us have been fortunate to get both standoffs installed on the first pass.

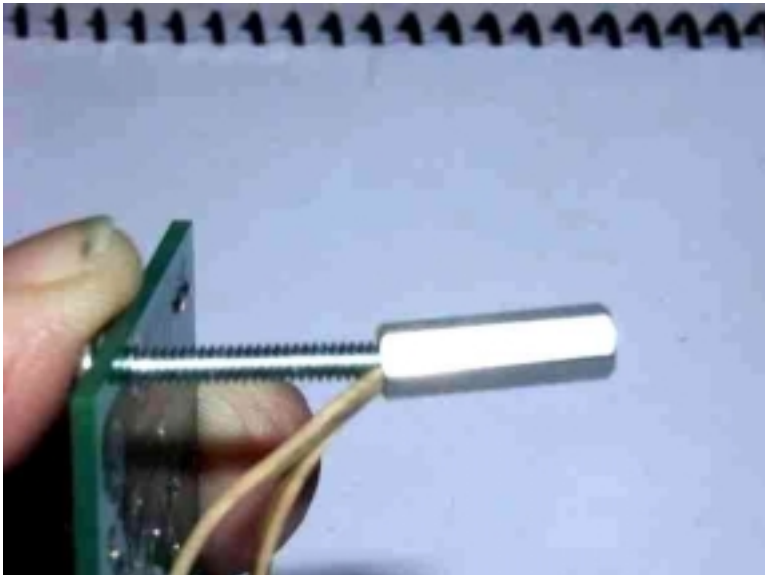
I believe I have come up with a temporary solution to the problem... at least until Elecraft comes up with a way to install the standoff either onto the screw itself, or directly to the PC board. And the good thing is that there's NO COST to the solution. and it involves only one thin rubber band!



The picture to the left illustrates how a thin rubber band is stretched across one of the K1 PC board mounting screws. In the illustration, I placed the rubber band about 1/8" from the end. After having tried several placement locations, I now feel that placing it about half way up on the length of the screw is the better choice of starting points.

Once the rubber band has been stretched over the screw, place the standoff onto the screw and press it just enough that it 'captures' the rubber band and holds it securely (see second picture)

Next, using a pair of diagonal cutters, clip off ALL excess rubber band.



Finally, while holding the head of the screw against the TOP of the PC board, PUSH on the standoff, to force it up against the bottom of the PC board. You may find it easier to place the head of the screw down on the desktop and then press the standoff on with a pair of pliers.

The standoff will be securely held in place regardless of what you may do with the PC board.

**DONE!**

NOTE: If the standoff does not fit closely against the bottom of the PC board, just turn the screw a couple turns to bring it up nice and snug.

If the standoff must be removed, it can either be pulled off or the screw merely backed out.

Finally, I think you will find it easier to perform this operation if you can locate a 'gum' rubber band (somewhat translucent, and more pliable than the other types). I didn't have one handy for this article.