

# This Old Rialta

## Outside Radio Installation

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After installing the new WAECO refrigerator I was left with the vent on the outside of the motor home. I found a radio/CD player that was enclosed in a plastic housing much like the outside shower I had added during my initial rebuild of the coach. The box comes equipped with the radio/CD player a 12 volt outlet, 2 speakers, connections for 2 additional speakers (these will be the rear speakers on the fader control of the radio), TV coax connection and a 110 volt outlet. The first thing was to paint the white plastic enclosure the same color as the motor home. I used Duplicolor Arctic White it matches the Rialta almost perfectly. To apply the paint I first disassembled the unit removing all the components down to just the bare plastic case.



I sanded the case with 200 grit sandpaper then applied 3 coats of Duplicolor clear plastic primer. This primer is specially formulated to help the paint stick to the plastic. I followed the

primer with 4 coats of the Arctic White paint. I let the paint dry over night and then reassembled the system.

Next up was to cut the opening in the side of the motor home. I lay out the opening and mask off the area with some duct tape.

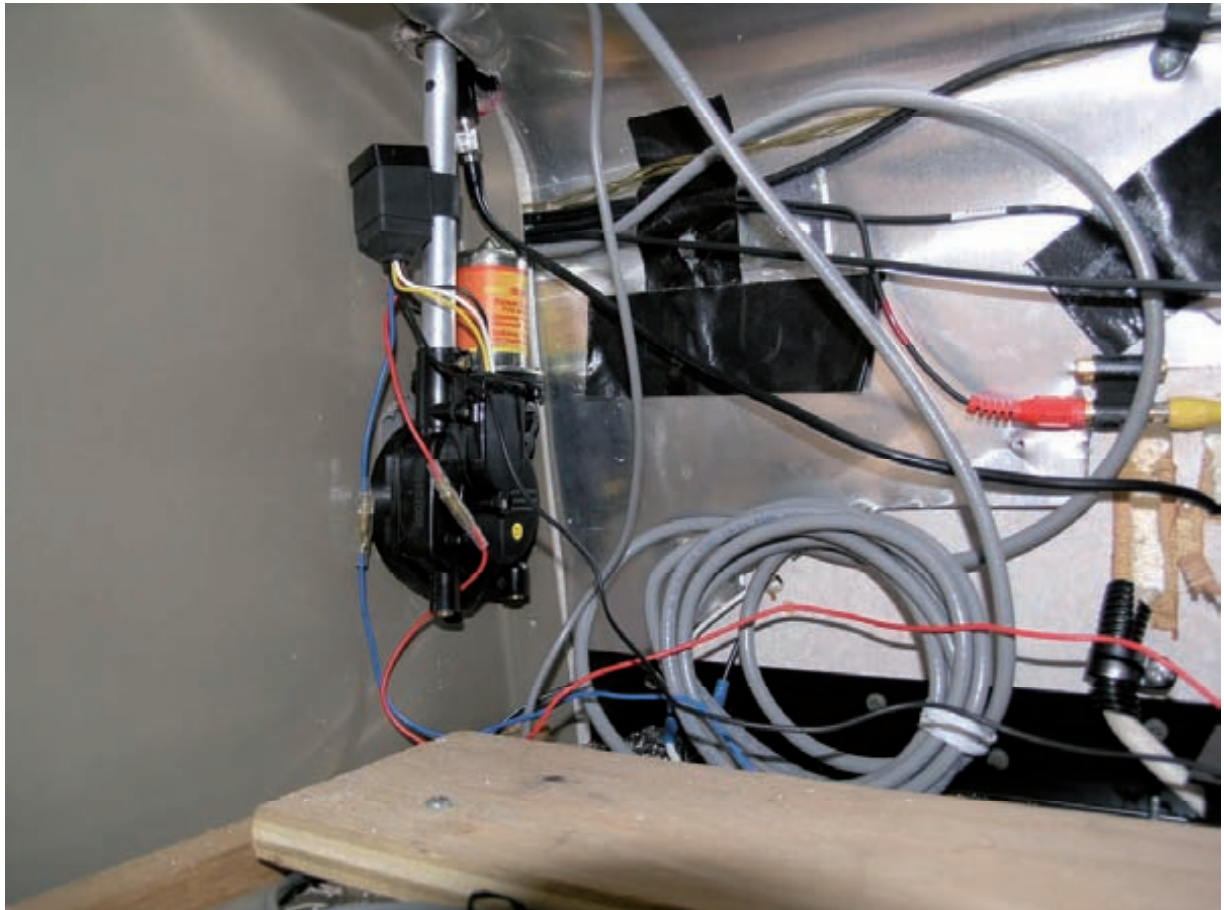


Then using a sawsall I cut out the opening.



The nice thing about the sawsall is it cuts all the way thru the wall.

Now I really got creative. Since the system has an AM/FM radio as well as a CD player I needed an antenna. I decided on a power automotive antenna that would be controlled by the radio. There was just enough space behind the left rear corner of the microwave to fit the antenna motor.



As you can see all things electronic either start, terminate or pass thru here. The grey coil of wire is from the satellite dish and all the wires to the rear TV and speakers as well as the backup camera come thru here on their way to the front cabinet. I had to drill a 1 inch hole thru the inside ceiling followed by a  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch hole thru the outside roof. The roof is really thick in this area because of the aluminum beam that runs down the side where the roof meets the sidewall. There are several wires and the coax cable from the old batwing antenna (I have removed that antenna and replaced it with the Dish) running down the side wall and out into the cabinet under the sink. Since I did need the old coax I removed it and ran the new antenna coax and the power line for the antenna switch down thru the wall and out into the cabinet. This came out just above the new opening for the radio. I connected the ground wire and the power supply line from the antenna motor to the 12v light wiring inside the microwave cabinet and a little double stick tape completed the mounting of motor housing to the cabinet wall.

The antenna comes with several mounting options depending on the slope of the area you are mounting it in. I used the flat/swivel mounting hardware and it worked out perfect. The antenna has rubber gaskets and O-rings for a water tight seal.

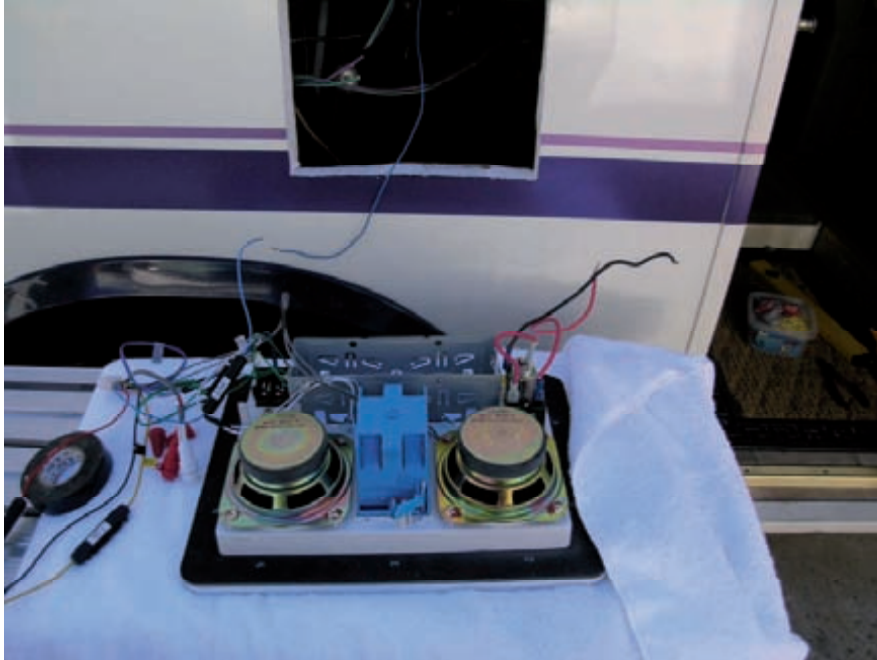


When you turn on the Radio it goes UP!



With the antenna finished I then mounted the system box into the sidewall.

Connected all the wires first then placed it in the opening.



It comes complete with a key lock.



The finished product looks like it came from the factory!



The system sounds great and I plan on adding some additional speakers that I can hang under the awning. I ran a coax from the satellite receiver to the TV jack inside the box so we can setup a TV outside. So with 4 channel sound this rig "ROCKS" inside and out!

