Subject: Re: Old gear lovers and the electronics savvy...
Posted by Wayne Parham on Mon, 23 Jun 2003 02:57:47 GMT
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If I understand you correctly, the receiver was made in the 1970's. I've not really experienced much trouble with electronics from the seventies, with most of it still working fine. The only parts I would expect trouble from would be electrolytic capacitors, rechargeable batteries and picture tubes. Stuff like coils and resistors almost never go bad, and same thing with transistors, diodes and integrated circuits. If they're used within their limits, they'll be fine for a lifetime. Even most of the capacitors of this era will outlast their owners, with a few exceptions such as electrolytics.Now then, gear that's from the 1950's and back is a different story. I'd really like to use all-original parts, but find that the capacitors are usually leaky or completely open. Resistors and coils are usually fine, but obviously tubes will have a finite lifespan, just like light bulbs. And even the wire will often need to be replaced - The early plastic insulation doesn't stand the test of time, and if it isn't cloth, I'd suggest replacing the wire. You can buy spools of wire with cloth insulation from Antique Electronic Supply, and it looks appropriate for the age and will definitely last a long time.