TAPE INTERCONNECT - THE RIGHT WAY!

- Don Davis

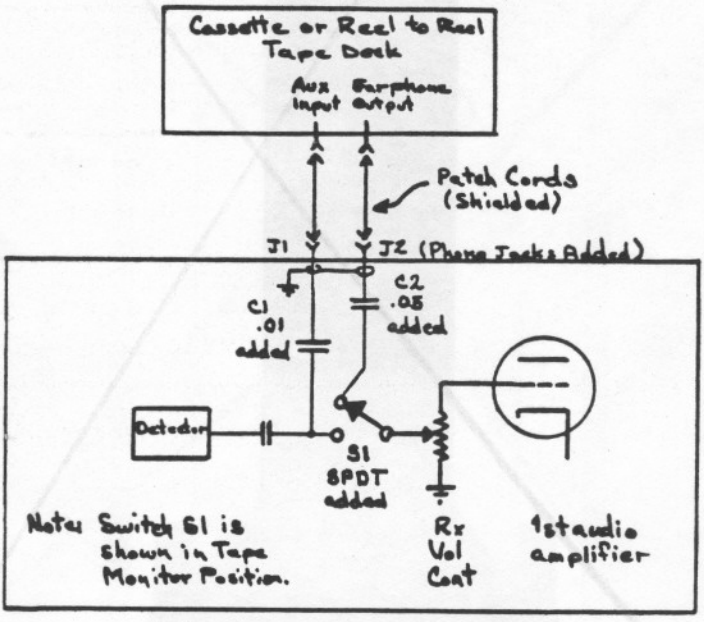
So you think you've got it made by using a tape recorder in your shack? Well, you're right! But, is it as versatile and as convenient as it could be? Perhaps not. For years I've struggled along with an ailing S-76, and a maze of patch cords to facilitate recording, and then being able to play-back through the vastly superior audio section of the Hallicrafters. This also permits use of the receivers' head phones (which are a neccesity for me!) to spot check an ID or other information just taped.

The circuit detailed here, will be directly applicable to all tube-type receivers, being used with either a transistor or tube-type recorder. For use with a transistorized receiver, the value of isolation capacitors C1 & C2 may need to be increased, or eliminated entirely if the low frequency response is not acceptable.

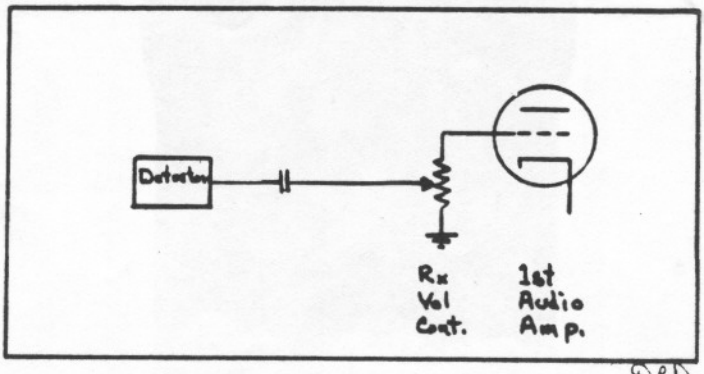
Wiring is straight-forward, and parts values are not critical. I used two chassis-mount "RCA" Phono jacks on my receiver and bought RCA to 3½mm patch cords to make the inter-connect between the receiver and tape deck. I disabled the standby switch in the Hallicrafters and installed a SPDT toggle switch in it's place. To this, I ran very short wires to the volume control. Shielded wire should be used on any wires over 2" long, as hum pick-up may become intolerable.

During operation, the receiver will function normally in the "Receiver" position. (The switch is shown in the "Monitor" position on the schematic). If you wish to record the station you're listening to, simply start the tape deck on record, and you're recording. To play back, place switch S1 to the "Monitor" position (as shown in schematic), and start tape deck in play mode.

I hope that everyone who uses a tape machine in their DX work will benefit from my experiences, and be able to improve on my primitive method outlined here. What? You don't use a tape recorder.....



Modified Receiver Wiring



Existing Receiver Wiring

DRD