

Test generator. Pull the aerial out of the FT101, switch on the crystal calibrator and note the maximum reading which can be obtained with the pre-selector peaked, and set tuned to 14.2MHz. This should normally be between S9 and S9+20dB. Keep a note of this reading as it will be a most valuable guide when later making comparisons if there is any doubt as to whether or not the receiver is up to scratch.

Field effect transistors. The FT101 contains a fair quantity of field effect transistors which can very easily be damaged by heat or voltage. Plugging the FT101 into the mains supply — whether switched on or not — will usually guarantee a potential difference between the tip of your soldering iron and the circuitry. Touch the soldering iron on certain points and the nearest FET has gone for the chop! Your only safe way to solder on the FT101 is to completely detach it from the mains, aerial, earth, and any other equipment, and then to use an iron which is earthed to the chassis of the FT101. Familiarity with the normal

bipolar transistors can lead one to become careless, but heat shunts really are essential when soldering FETs. A piece of cotton wool soaked in water provides ideal heat and static protection if stuffed between the four legs of MOSFETs when soldering. An elastic band and a pair of snipe nosed pliers provide a third hand and a heat shunt when working on the three legged variety of FET.

Harry Leeming asks us to point out that while he is happy to answer brief queries on the FT101 series, correspondence must contain a stamped, addressed envelope to obtain a reply.

Harry Leeming will be covering modifications in future articles.

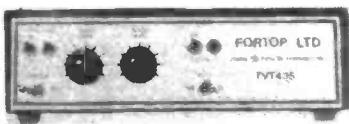
Alignment and fitting 10, 18 & 24 MHz will be covered, together with AGC and modifications and other receiver and transmitter improvements. But what about you?

'Bright ideas' and servicing experiences should be shared around so let us know what you have done with your FT101 — please type (or print CLEARLY) and send your contributions to the editor for possible inclusion in part 4 of the series. The best contribution will receive 12 months' subscription to Ham Radio Today.

NB In our April issue (p.21) the paragraph beginning "1976 FT101 Mark 2" should have been "1976 FT101E Mark 2".



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