

ELECRAFT BUILDER'S ALERT

INSTALLING SMALL MOLDED CHOKES

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Background

Elecraft is phasing out the smallest “micro-miniature” chokes and substituting slightly larger chokes in many kits. The larger chokes are more resistant to damage during installation, however, it is important to handle them properly as described below when forming the leads.

Forming Choke Leads

Do not bend the leads sharply where they leave the choke body. The winding uses a very fine wire that attaches to the leads just inside the epoxy coating at each end (see Figure 1). Bending the leads sharply at that point may crack the epoxy and break the electrical connection to the winding.

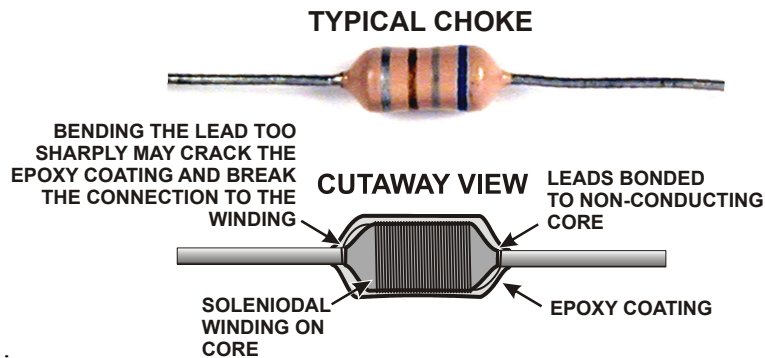


Figure 1. Typical Choke Construction.

Mounting Chokes on the PC Board

Normally you need only bend the leads smoothly where they leave the choke and they will line up with the solder pads on the printed circuit board. If the choke is too long for the leads to line up with the solder pads, bend them smoothly under the choke body as shown in Figure 2. The choke will stand above the pc board slightly. **Do not force it down against the board.**

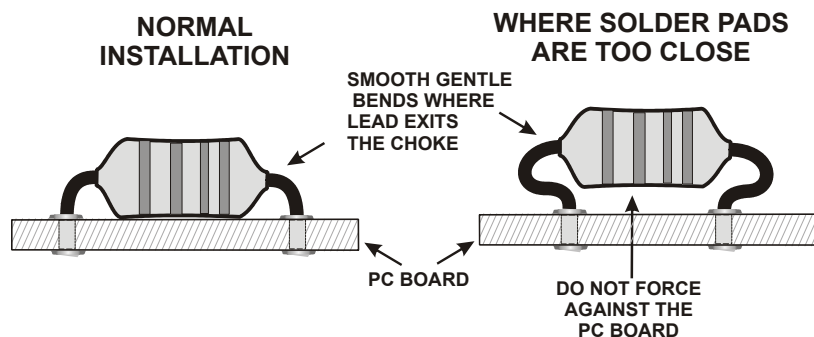


Figure 2. Mounting Chokes.