

BTC30 and 40 Series Brief Instructions and Applications

If your coil is factory assembled it is tuned for operation and includes the toroid terminal. Your coil may however be peaked for more output at users discretions as shown steps 3, 4, 5. Use caution as this exposes you to dangerous high voltages.

Application and operation

Please note this device produces electromagnetic radiation that can damage or interfere with certain types of equipment. Operation inside of a screen room or Faraday cage may be required for FCC compliance.

Danger! Remove power cord before making any of the following adjustments. Tap lead when ungrounded from primary is a shock hazard and can produce dangerous ground currents.

Optimum output requires proper selection of the correct tap position on the primary coil. Start at end of outer most turn and reconnect tap to exposed sections changing a quarter of a turn at a time noting increasing or decreasing output. You may secure via soldering into place when proper position is determined. Caution: keep this lead flat, as breakdown to secondary will permanently damage windings. *Note tap lead clip position and mark when using different terminals. Note figure 18-10 for proper routing of the tap lead that we found tuned reasonably close with this terminal.*

The capacitance of the output terminal will greatly effect the tuning, requiring more turns the larger the terminal size and vice versa.

1. Place coil on table away from sensitive electronic equipment. Computers must be removed from area or disconnected from power if on same line. ***Observe, read and heed all warning labels.***

2. There is no front panel switch on the BTC40 unit. Device is energized by plugging into a three wire grounded outlet. You cannot be that close to unit. Some customers used a switched power cord.

A switch may be added into the power cord. **Defeating the ground on the plug will result in system failure, potential fire and an extreme shock hazard**

3. Attach secondary coil as shown on completed view. If the coil has the aluminum brackets with the tapped hole, it may be now simply screwed on to the bottom brass stud. Do not over tighten as you can damage threads. Repeat for top terminal. All coils made after 511 have these brackets

If your does has leads and not the aluminum brackets, you must make sure that leads from the coil are as short as possible. This allows only that necessary to make the connections to the bottom grounding screw and repeating for the top terminal. Failure to do this will result in unreversible damage to the coil form that must now be replaced.

4. The spark gap is preset at the factory. You can obtain more out put at the expense of blowing out the transformer, capacitor or the secondary coil. These parts are not covered for this action!! However If you choose to widen the gap, you do so“at your own risk”. The coil must be run for short 5-10 sec intervals. Further spacing may also cause premature shutdown of the gap.

Kit or other builders using this data should always initially set both gaps at a spacing of 1/8”.
Gaps must not be opened where they fire intermittently. Reliable steady firing is recommended for continued operation.

The secondary coil should be terminated into a conductive object such as a sphere or toroid. A metal 13 to 16 ounce coffee can, salad bowl etc., may also be used with reasonable results. ***All completed ready to use coils come with a toroid terminal and tuned to this setup***

5. The trick now is to adjust the tap lead for maximum spark output for the particular terminal used. Note the lead position along with the spark out put of secondary coil noting increasing or decreasing discharge length as adjustments are made. A variance of several inches along primary coil winding can make a noticeable difference in output. The actual air discharges will be longer than the point to point.

Factory made coils are reasonable tuned with good output as shown by the attachment mark on the primary copper coil

Experiments using your coil

1. Adjustment - Suspend a grounded metallic object above the device. Start at about 3" separation and make adjustments increasing separation until the optimum spark length is obtained. (Note grounding means connection to metal base).

2. Effect on human body - Use caution as this may cause a reflex secondary reaction.

Hold a metal object tightly and advance to coil terminal. You will receive a moderately painful shock that most people can tolerate. Fake out your pals by letting them think it is really painful. This demonstrates the "skin" or surface effect of high frequency electricity. **Caution!** Make sure you are standing on a dry non-conductive surface. ***NOTE BTC40 WILL CAUSE A MODERATELY PAINFUL SHOCK-NOT ADVISED FOR THOSE LOW PAIN THRESHOLD INDIVIDUALS***

3. Effect on insulators - Place various objects on the top of the coil and note the effects of the high frequency electricity. Glass or other usual insulators do not stop the sparks. Experiment by placing objects such as light bulbs, bottles, glass, etc. on top

4. Effect on partial insulators - Place wood pieces about 12" X 1" x 3" and note red streaks and other weird phenomena occurring from within the piece. Try other materials

5. Ionization of gases - Obtain a fluorescent lamp or plasma globe and allow it to come within several feet of the device. It will glow and produce light without direct connection, clearly demonstrating the effects of the electric and magnetic fields on the gas. Note the distance from the coil that the lamp will glow. Experiment using neon and other lamps and note the colors, distances, and other phenomenon.

6. Induction fields - this is demonstrated by obtaining a small filament type lamp such as a flashlight bulb or similar and connecting between a large 1-1/2 to 2' diameter metal or wire loop. The lamp will now light due to energy coupled by induction. You will note that current is required to light this type of lamp and is entirely different than the radiation field that ionizes and causes the gas lamps to glow.

7. Create special effects, pinwheels, and color fires - by connecting pieces of nichrome wire as shown in sketches. Note - rotor rotates creating a ring of fire. Try different types of rotors.

8. Ion motors - Fabricate and carefully balance rotor as shown. Use piece of thin spring beryllium copper. Pin prick center of rotor with a punch for bearing point. Rotor will spin at high speeds if carefully balanced demonstrating ion propulsion.

Special note - Your Tesla coil output is hungry for "capacitance". It is suggested to obtain a 12" toroid terminal such as our TO8 or TO12 on web site at www.amazing1.com. You may substitute two metal bowls and attach together for producing a spherical shaped object. The toroid however provides electrostatic shielding of the coil eliminating discharge at these points. Most coils include this part.