

SignalLink™ Detailed Jumper Installation Procedure

This guide can be used to install the SignalLink jumper wires for virtually any radio connection. Before beginning, be sure to check the Jumper Settings page of our website at http://www.tigertronics.com/sl_wire.htm to see if jumper settings for your radio are already listed. Most common radios are covered there and some have multiple cable options, so be sure to check carefully.

Some SignalLink radio cables also include a printed document showing the required jumper settings. If jumper settings were supplied with your radio cable then you should install the jumpers as shown on that document.

If we do not have jumper settings available for your radio then you can follow the steps below to correctly identify and install them. **Be sure to double-check your work. Both the SignalLink and the radio can be damaged by incorrect jumper settings.**

Signal Lines - Every installation requires connecting the SignalLink to at least three pins on the radio's Mic, Data, or Accessory connector. On the Mic connector these are Mic Input, PTT, and Ground. On the Data or Accessory Port, these same basic signals are used, but they are usually labeled differently. The table in Figure 1 shows the common Mic signals and their Data / Accessory port equivalents. Please refer to this table if you are installing the SignalLink USB on your radio's Data or Accessory port.

<u>Mic Signal</u>	<u>Data/Accessory Port Signal</u>
PTT (Push-To-Talk) Mic / Mic Input	Standby, PKS, or Packet Standby TX Data, Data Input, PKD, or Mod In
AF Out / Speaker	RX Data, Data Out, RXD, or RX Audio
PTT GND Mic GND	PTT Ground, Chassis Ground Signal GND, Mic GND

Figure 1 - Data / Accessory Port Signal Names

Note that many radios actually have multiple ground connections (Mic Ground, PTT Ground, etc.). The Programming Socket has multiple ground (G) connections for this reason. On many radios the Mic, Data, and Accessory connectors also provide access to Speaker Audio. If Speaker Audio (or the equivalent Data / Accessory Port signal) is not available from the connector on your radio, then you will need to install the provided mono cable from the External Speaker or Headphone jack on your radio, to the SPKR jack on the rear panel of the SignalLink USB. If this signal is available on the connector, then you will connect it later in this section.

Before proceeding with jumper installation you should verify in your radio manual that the radio PTT requirements do not exceed the specifications of the SignalLink keying circuit. Verify that the PTT is Grounded to make the radio transmit and the PTT signal does not exceed 1 Amp at 90V. This should be within the ratings of all modern radios but could be a problem on some older rigs. If your radio exceeds these specifications or requires some other keying arrangement, then you will need to key the radio using a low voltage/low current relay. Please feel free to contact Technical Support if you need assistance with this.

Connectors With More Than Eight Pins - The jumper installation procedure in this manual is for use with radio connectors that have 8 pins or less. If you are installing the SignalLink on a 13-pin Accessory port (currently the only radio connector with more than eight pins), then you will either be using a fully assembled cable that we have provided, or you will be attaching your own 13-pin connector to our un-terminated cable. In either case, jumper settings and/or special instructions for installing the connector and jumpers were included with the radio cable. Please follow those instructions instead of the procedures in this manual.

Identifying Jumper Locations - Identifying the jumper locations for your radio is a two-step process. First we will identify the pin-out for the radio connector, and then we will verify that it is correct. The verification process is very important since incorrect wiring could damage your equipment. The final steps will be to draw a wiring diagram using Figure-2 and actually install the jumpers.

- **Lookup Pin-out** - In your radio Operators Manual, find the page that identifies the pin-out of the Mic, Data, or Accessory connector that you are going to use. Using the manual, identify the pin numbers assigned to the following signals, and record them below. Note that the signals found on radio Data and Accessory ports will likely be labeled differently from those shown. Please refer to the table in Figure 1 for the equivalent Data / Accessory Port signals.

- ___ PTT
- ___ Mic Input
- ___ Speaker Audio**
- ___ Mic Ground**
- ___ PTT Ground**
- ___ Chassis Ground**

** Note that some radios only have one ground pin.
** Speaker Audio is not always available.

- **Verify Pin-out** – This step is **Extremely Important** since not all manufacturers use the same numbering convention for their connectors. This is especially true of radios using RJ-45 mic connectors. This brief verification process could ward off a **major disaster** when you turn on the power! This procedure verifies that the pin numbers, which you just identified in the Operators Manual, do in fact match the numbers identified on the Programming Socket. The easiest way to do this is to use a multimeter to verify some of the more important lines. Before you start, you will need to make sure that the radio power is OFF, that there are NO JUMPERS are installed in JP-1, and that the supplied cable is connected between the Signalink and the radio.

Note that you should not find the lines “scrambled”. They will either be in the correct order or they will be completely reversed (pin 1=8, 2=7, 3=6, etc). First check the Ground pin (or pins) recorded earlier. You can do this by checking for continuity between the radio chassis and the pins numbered on the Programming Socket (JP-1). JP-1 is a very convenient place to probe since it is wired 1:1 to every pin on the radio connector. You will be checking against the numbers you recorded earlier from the Operators Manual. Note that if your radio has a separate mic ground it may have a slight resistance to chassis ground. Any other ground pin should test very close to zero ohms. If you do not get the expected continuity in this test, try checking against the numbers in the reverse order (1=8, 2=7, 3=6, etc). It would probably be very helpful to make a new table using the reversed number sequence to avoid mistakes! This step should establish whether or not the radio connector is “reverse ordered” and allow you to correct the numbers on your table.

Once you are confident about the ground lines you can move on to other pins. If your radio had Accessory Power you should be able to turn ON the radio and use your multimeter (volts scale) to test for power on the appropriate pin of JP-1. The Signalink USB does NOT use power from the radio, but this line can still be used for verification purposes.

You can test the PTT pin as follows: First check the pin with your multimeter (volts). You should see a voltage on the PTT pin (5-12v) when the radio is ON. You should be able to key the radio by grounding the PTT line. For the sake of safety, you should ground the PTT pin through a small value resistor (100-1000 ohms) in case it’s not the pin you think it is! Be sure

your radio power is set to LOW and an antenna or dummy load is connected for this test, as the radio will go into “transmit” with the line grounded.

If the Speaker signal is available on the connector you are using, then you can try attaching a speaker or headphone to the appropriate pin on JP-1 to see if you can hear audio. Note that you will NOT be able to hear anything if the speaker source is a low level output (usually the case on Data and Accessory ports). There is no easy way to test the mic line but there will be little doubt about it if the other lines are correct. The main thing you are looking for here is to determine whether or not the connector numbers are reversed on your radio. If you have any unresolved errors, then you should double check your numbering in the Operators Manual again.

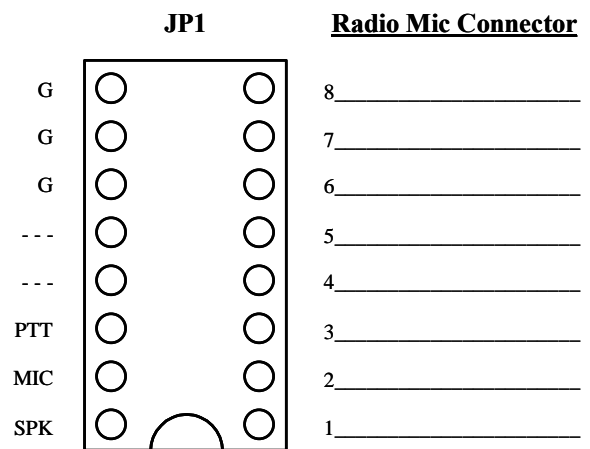


Figure 2 ó Jumper Wiring Diagram

- **Draw Jumper Wires** - Once you have verified your pin-out and are comfortable with the results, you are ready to label the lines in Figure-2 and draw in the jumper wires. To do this, you simply need to draw a line between the pins on the left of JP-1 (G, PTT, Mic & SPKR) and their appropriate match on the right side of the diagram. For example, draw a line between the “G” pin on the left of JP-1 and the line that you labeled “Ground”. The “PTT” pin should be connected to the pin that you labeled “PTT” and so on. If you are installing the Signalink on a Data or Accessory port, then refer to Figure 1 for the correct signal names. An example of the microphone Jumper Wiring Diagram for a Kenwood TS-450 is shown in Figure 3.

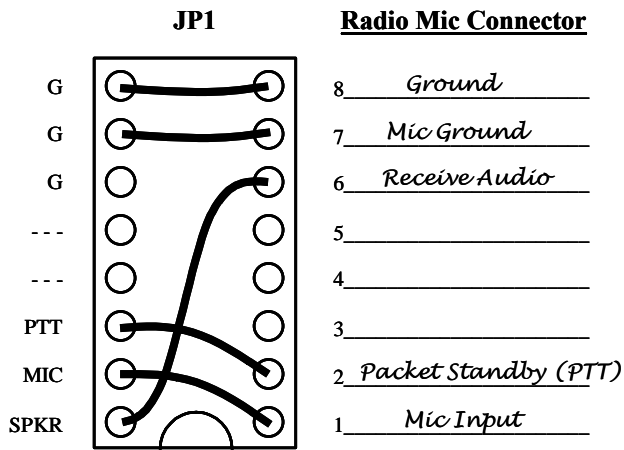


Figure 3 6 Example Jumper Wire Diagram for TS-450 Mic

VERY IMPORTANT NOTE! 6 You are about to install the jumper wires. The wires **must be 24ga AWG** or you will damage the socket! It would be best to use the wires that we provided for this purpose to avoid damage.

- **Install Jumper Wires** – Now that you know where the jumper wires go, all you need to do is install them! Installation of the jumper wires can be done without any tools, but you may find it easier to do with needle-nosed pliers. If you do use needle-nosed pliers, be sure to grip the wire close to the end that you are installing in the socket. When pushing the wires into the socket, be very careful not to bend them back and forth or they might break. If you break a wire off in the socket, there is no way to remove it. You will have to have a new socket installed! This should not be an issue if you are just a little bit careful.

Once you have all of the jumpers installed, please take a few minutes to look them over. You should have the SPKR jumper installed only if you have Speaker/RX audio available on the radio connector that you are using. If this signal isn't available (a possibility with Mic jacks), then this jumper should not be installed. Instead, you will need to install the provided mono cable from the External Speaker or Headphone jack of your radio, to the SPKR jack on the rear panel of the Signalink USB. This will pass the radio's Speaker Audio signal into the Signalink so that the unit can receive. Once you are confident that the jumpers are installed correctly, you can put the Signalink USB circuit board back into the case.