

One Fuse or Two; That is the Question!

In the article "Cigarette Lighter Socket or A Dedicated Fused 12 Volt Power Source" I wrote about installing an amateur radio in your vehicle. I also discussed the installation of a fuse in the "+" / positive cable but didn't mention putting one in the "-" / negative cable. Why I didn't address fusing both wires connected to the battery is a good question to which I don't have a good answer.

Subsequent to writing that article, I began to wonder why some put a fuse in both cables connected to the battery, especially why the manufacturers of most amateur radios provide power cables with fuses in both leads. So I started to research the topic and found an article at this web address, "<https://www.k0nr.com/wordpress/2020/03/one-fuse-or-two/>". I think this is a well written article and it also discusses a couple things we, as average American hams, normally don't think about.

If you are somewhat like me and wonder about these things, I suggest you read the article at the above website address.

And if you choose to not read that article, there are two things I learned from the article that I will close with. First, manufacturers put a fuse in the negative lead so the radio is protected when installed in a vehicle (English vehicle) with a positive ground. And second, it doesn't hurt anything so why not put a fuse on both leads.