

Chess Click-Clack Alu 65 cm and 85 cm

Aluminum dishes with a collapsible LNB support arm

If you ever installed a satellite antenna in a difficult position, you know that dishes are not the same. The first very obvious difference is the material: steel or aluminum. Aluminum dishes are really light. It is especially perceivable for bigger antennae. If your support is at a certain distance from your balcony or you have to climb a steep roof to mount your antenna on the chimney pole, the weight counts. When we learnt that Max Communication would like us to test their dishes, all we knew was that they were made with aluminum.

Assembly and alignment

After unpacking the flat parcels a courier had delivered, we discovered more. First, we want to emphasize that the workmanship of the hardware was really perfect. Both models (65 and 85 cm) looked very elegant. The complete package contained a dish

itself, a piece of hardware making up both a dish holder and an LNB support arm and a small plastics bag with a few nuts and bolts. When the hardware was attached to the dish, a unique feature of these antennae became visible. The arm supporting an LNB is folding!

Thank to this, you can prepare everything inside your house, then collapse the arm and take everything up to the roof through a small roof trap. When on the roof, you mount the assembled set onto a pole, attach a cable to LNB, unfold the support arm, fix it in this position by turning a plastic knob and voila – antenna is ready to be aligned to the desired satellite.

The alignment process is also easier when compared to other models because of 2 things. First, the antennae have double clamps for fixing it to a pole. Thanks to this, when you loosen the nuts to turn the dish east or west, it does not slip down the pole as it happens with single clamp models - see also our observations about how to mount a dish elsewhere in this magazine.

The second feature that can be very important for a beginner is the elevation scale. Cheap dishes do not have it and this is additional trouble because not only azimuth has to be found experimentally, but also the elevation. With Max Communication Click-



One Click, and the mount is fixed to it's elevation position - all what is needed now is a Clack to turn to correct azimuth

Clack models, the elevation can be set in advance, and when on the roof, all you have do is to turn your dish slightly to the right or to the left to find a signal.

The supporting hardware can be mounted in three different ways described in the assembly drawing as: 1-A, 1-B and 2-A, offering you three different ranges of the elevation angles. The ranges printed in the drawing are respectively: 17°-57°, 5°-44° and 44°-82°.

The dishes can thus be optimized for nearly every region on Earth, to show correct Elevation angles for ease-of-installation. A clever idea, avoiding long searches.

Reception

Of course our test could not finish right after the successful assembly. We installed the 0.3 dB LNB and checked which satellites we could receive. We were able to receive everything one could expect with the dishes of those



Pre-assembled dish with the mount collapsed for very easy transport and fast mounting



Close-up of movable mount

sizes. The dish performance was exactly as expected. There is no point in listing the satellites we "did" because it differs for various location.

Generally with the 65 cm dish, one can receive signals of 48 dBW

or stronger and with the 85 cm antenna - 46 dBW or stronger. Although the difference may not look big, in our test location in Western Poland, the number of satellites one can receive with a 85 cm dish is significantly greater than the number with a 65 cm dish.



*These two types of dishes can confidently claim Click-Clack: **click** for opening the mount, and **clack** for turning the dish into right direction. **Ready!***

The elevation scale allows to assemble the dish before it is actually mounted to the pole

TECHNIC DATA

Manufacturer/Distributor	Max Communication GmbH, Siemensstr. 47 25462 Rellingen, Germany
E-mail / Internet	info@max-communication.de / www.click-clack.eu
Telephone	+49 4101 6060-0
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Models	Chess Click-Clack Alu 65 cm and 85 cm
Description	Offset dishes for Ku-Band
Outside diameter	665x710 mm and 852x903 mm
Reflector diameter	610x654 mm and 780x832 mm
Elevation angle	17°-82° in 3 ranges
LNB holder	40 mm
Mast diameter	32-60 mm
Gain at 12 GHz	36 dB and 38.8 dB
Weight	0.9 and 2.1 kg

Expert Conclusion

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Folding support arm, low weight, double pole clamp, elevation scale make those dishes a good choice both for a beginner as well as for a professional installer who needs to transport a number of pre-mounted antennae in his car boot. Excellent workmanship ensures long durability.



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