



As with any antenna, care should be taken not to place conductive materials or objects near the antenna (except as described in the next section). The radiated fields from the antenna induce currents on the surface of the metal; as a result, those currents then produce their own radiation. These re-radiating fields from the metal interfere with the fields radiating from the FlexPIFA (this is true for any antenna). Other objects, such as an LCD display, placed close to the antenna may not affect its tuning but it can distort the radiation pattern. Materials that absorb electromagnetic fields should be kept away from the antenna to maximize performance. Common things to keep in mind when placing the antenna:

- Wire routing
- Speakers – These generate magnetic fields
- Metal chassis and frames
- Battery location
- Proximity to human body
- Display screen – These absorb radiation
- Paint – Do not use metallic coating or flakes

Flex Limits of the FlexPIFA

One of the unique features of the FlexPIFA is its ability to flex. However, due to the adhesive, there are limits as to how much the antenna can be flexed and remain secured to the device. The FlexPIFA should not be flexed in a convex position with a radius less than 16 millimeters. Going smaller than this may result in the antenna peeling off the surface over time. Should a tighter radius of curvature be required, contact Ezurio for assistance.



The FlexPIFA should not be flexed in a concave position with a radius less than 25 millimeters. In this scenario, the limiting factor is performance. The ground plate of the antenna is pressed closer to the main element. As previously discussed in the introduction of this datasheet, the fringing fields developing off the end of the element are responsible for most of the radiation. In a concave position with a radius of curvature less than 25 millimeters, the fringing fields are adversely affected, and gain suffers. If a tighter radius of curvature is required, contact Ezurio for assistance.



The FlexPIFA is not designed to be twisted or crumpled. The adhesive back should lay flush with the surface on which it is mounted.

Mounting on Metal and Body Loaded Applications

The FlexPIFA can tolerate being mounted on conductive surfaces. There will be some detuning of the antenna, which translates into some gain reduction. Even though the FlexPIFA is optimized to work on non-metallic surfaces, it still radiates efficiently due to the fringing fields (see the first diagram of [Optimal Installation Guide](#)). The ground plate of the FlexPIFA carries the adhesive backing; placing the antenna onto a metal surface simply enlarges the size of the ground beneath the main element. Previously, the fringing fields only interacted with the small ground of the FlexPIFA, however they are now interacting with the much larger ground. The fringing fields still develop and radiate, but the antenna will no longer tune as well to the 2.4 GHz frequency band. Consequently, the VSWR increases and there is some loss in radiated power. If the FlexPIFA cannot meet your range requirements after being implemented on a metal surface, contact Ezurio for a custom antenna build to help meet your application needs.