

*How Do I*

*An Occasional Series*

*This Week: How Do I Operate This Field Day Rig  
That I Never Saw Before In My Lifetime?  
Yaesu FT991A*

This article first appeared in the August 2024 Meeting Agenda of the Cumberland Amateur Radio Club.

It has been reproduced here so that can be more readily accessible when needed.

The theme of this article is the identification and operation of various buttons and knobs found on the Yaesu FT991A transceiver.

❖ How to Operate that Field Day Rig You Never Saw Before

Yaesu FT-991A

Standard Configuration



Yaesu FT-991A Front Panel:

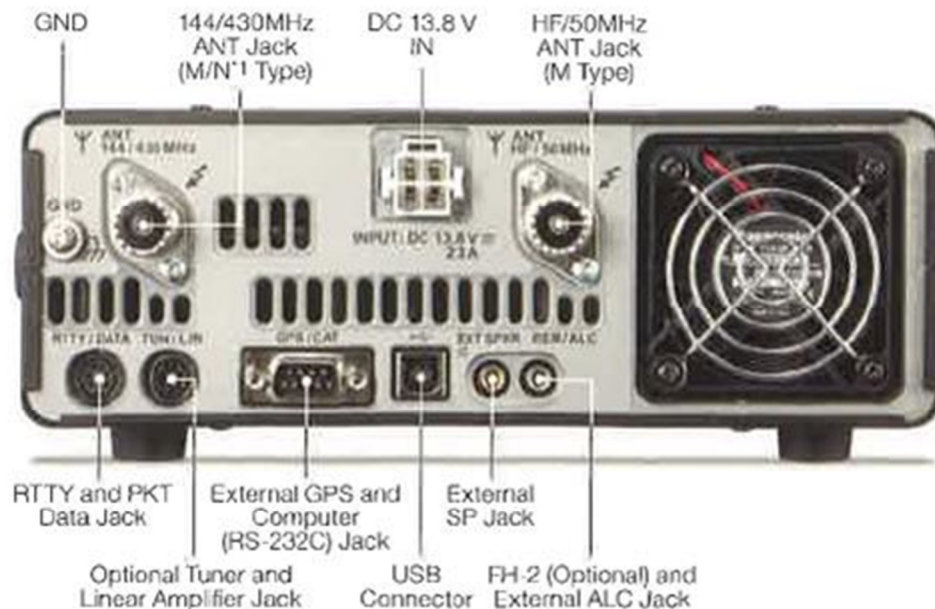
ON-OFF Press and hold for >1 second to toggle.

Key Jack – Accepts Straight Key, Bug, Electronic Keyer Paddles. Accepts 3.5 mm Stereo Plug

Headphone Jack – Accepts 3.5 mm Stereo Plug

Mic Jack – Accepts Yaesu Modular 8 pin Plug. E.g. Heil AD-1 YM (Yellow)

Yaesu FT-991A Rear Panel



Attach an Antenna or two.

Ant labeled for HF to 50 MHz (6 meters) Located closest to the fan.

Ant labeled for 144 MHz/430 MHz (2 meters & 70 cm)

Attach a DC Power Cord

Attach a USB Cable, if needed. Attach the other end to your PC.

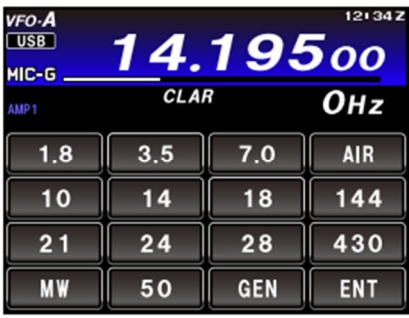
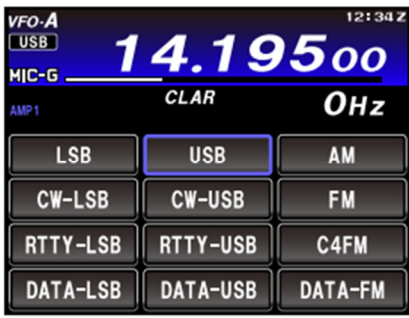


Maybe attach a CAT Cable


Yaesu FT-991A

Operation Techniques

The operation of this transceiver is performed in several ways. You need to learn some of these navigation techniques more than others.

1. Turn a knob
2. Press a button and quickly release

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. Press a button and hold it for longer than 1 second.</li> <li>4. Press a button and then touch the screen</li> <li>5. Press a button and then turn a knob</li> <li>6. 6a. Press a button, touch the screen, then turn the MULTI knob</li> <li>6b. Similar, but with more complex combinations and variations of Push, Touch, Turn.</li> </ol>
Example #1 Turn a knob	AF Gain knob, RF Gain knob, Main Tuning Knob. The effect of turning any of those knobs is immediate.
Example #2 Press quickly	Quickly press and release TUNE to toggle the Antenna Tuner feature ON or OFF. Or, Quickly press and release CLAR to toggle the Clarifier feature ON or OFF
Example #3 Press >1 second	Press and Hold the TUNE button for >1 second to invoke the Antenna Tuner processing logic. Or, Press and Hold the CLAR button for >1 second to reset the CLAR offset to 0 Hz.
Example #4:  Press a button and then touch the screen	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p>Press <b>BAND</b> button, then touch screen</p>  </div> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p>Press <b>MODE</b> button, then touch screen</p>  </div> </div>
Example #5  Press a button and then turn a knob.	<p>Press CLAR to toggle the CLARIFIER feature ON (or OFF). When CLAR is ON, observe RX beneath CLAR on the display screen. With CLAR turned ON, turn CLAR/VFO-B knob to make minor changes to the Receive frequency without affecting your Transmit frequency.</p>
Example #6a:  Press a button, touch the screen, and then turn a knob.	<div style="display: flex;"> <div style="flex: 1;"> <p>F(M-LIST) button. F stands for <b>FUNCTION</b>. You get F with a short press. Then the touch screen changes. Touch MIC GAIN (Additional features can be displayed by using BACK or FWD to scroll.)</p> <p>Turn the MULTI knob to raise or lower the Microphone Gain.</p> <p>Observe the words "MIC-G" and the thin white line immediately below the frequency display. The line will grow longer when you turn the knob clockwise or shorter when turned counter-clockwise.</p> </div> <div style="flex: 1;">  </div> </div>
Example #6b  Press a button, turn a knob, touch the screen, turn a knob again, touch the screen again in various	<div style="display: flex;"> <div style="flex: 1;"> <p>MENU is an operation you might perform on an as-needed basis. A short press of the button invokes the MENU function.</p> <p>SETUP typically is done once to a new radio and then left alone. A long press of the button invokes the SETUP function.</p> <p>We will deal with MENU in this example.</p> <p>Study User Manual to identify which Menu # you want to change.</p> </div> <div style="flex: 1;">  </div> </div>

<p>combinations.</p> <p>This scenario typically takes place when using the MENU (SETUP) Button.</p>	<p>Press and quickly release the MENU button.,</p> <p>Note: in the next two “Turn” steps the MULTI knob can be turned either direction (clockwise, or counter-clockwise) based on the positions and numbers of the questions and answers.</p> <p>** Turn the MULTI knob to highlight the desired MENU Number. Touch the screen to SELECT that MENU Number. Turn the MULTI knob to vary the setting to the desired value. Touch the screen to ENTER (Save) that new value. To make additional changes return to the “**” step.</p> <p>When finished press BACK on the screen, or press MENU button to exit this function.</p>	
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A few thoughts as expressed in the Yaesu FT-991A Sales Brochure:

All modes from HF to UHF bands condensed into a small body.	Uncompromising Circuit Design Ensures Excellent Receiver Performance from HF to VHF/UHF.
Supports Real-Time Spectrum Scope with Multi-Color Waterfall Display	High quality push-pull amplifier with 100 watts for HF/50 MHz.
Latest Touch Panel Operation, Combined With Traditional Front Panel Layout, Achieve Optimal Ease of Use.	High speed 1.8 to 54 MHz antenna tuner included as standard equipment. 100-channel tuning data memory.
Covers the amateur radio bands from 160 m to 70 cm, and is capable of all modes SSB/CW/AM/FM, even C4FM...	Sophisticated receiver front end engineering is on a par with FTDX Series Transceivers.
3.5 inch full color touch panel display for convenient comfortable operating.	(IF WIDTH, IF SHIFT, DNF AUTO NOTCH, CONTOUR, NOTCH) are provided for comfortable and convenient DX and Contest QSO operation.