

Extending the transmit range

The modification posted earlier in this location was not working on most units. Here is a mod which appears to be correct:

Remove bottom cover..near battery there are 6 solder pads numbered 1 thru 6....pad 1 is already shorted with a chip resistor.....short pads 2 and 3 with solder...check pad 6 and if it has a chip resistor on it ...remove it...this one has to be removed to go out of band on hf and 6m.....replace cover and turn on radio while holding in the lock and fast buttons....this resets micro and you will also lose all your memories that you have entered...you will have to reprogram these....TX coverage will be 1.8-76mhz with no gaps...DO NOT TX BETWEEN 30-36MHZ -- not only is it illegal, but you may damage the HF PA.

Thanks to Jim KB2ZBM & Tom KF4TRZ, Brent K9WV, and others for sharing this information.

George Nelson WB7VWK Email: WB7VWK.GEORGE@worldnet.att.net

I have just received the Technical Supplement (Service Manual) for the Yaesu FT-847. This radio has an Alignment Menu in addition to a User Menu. To enter this Alignment Menu, you turn off the transceiver, press the UP, DWN, and FAST keys on the microphone together, while turning the transceiver on again.

In the alignment procedure, each alignment parameter is selected by rotating the SUB-TUNE dial. The alignment is performed by pressing the MCK/W key while injecting a signal of the required frequency and level. Pressing the MENU key after a setting is made stores the entry. To exit the alignment routine, press POWER.

This radio seems to be very high tech in all. I have not entered the Alignment Menu, and do not suggest that anyone do so, without the proper test gear and electronic knowledge.

Dave Sublette K4TO - Help with a noisy fan

A common complaint about the FT-847 is that the fan noise is irritating (and it is). I have been able to quiet the whine using the following method:

Cut a 3" x 3" piece of soft packing foam that is about 2" thick. Be sure to use the "open cell" type of foam. You can tell that it is open cell type construction by holding it up to your mouth and blowing air through it. Wedge the piece of foam between the four coax connectors so that it covers the intake area for the fan. The whine will then disappear.

The foam has little effect on the cooling of the radio. I think it works because the foam causes turbulence in the air flow, disrupting the formation of the sound of the whine, which is probably generated by the tips of the fan blades. It may even slow the fan a bit, which stops the noise. However it works, it works. I can't even see it when it is in place. It should also have an added bonus in that it will filter dust from the air before it enters the radio.

Hope this works for you.

Bob Nagy, AB5N - Throttling back the audio output level

Although Yaesu did a fantastic job of gain distribution in the FT-847's receiver, they bombed when it came to the last stage...the audio output. The volume control's lowest setting results in room filling audio. The TDA200 audio amp chip is not actually being over-driven, it just is getting too much audio signal at the lowest input level from the previous stages. A great improvement can be gotten with the following mod.

Take off the covers and turn the rig over on its top....exposing the bottom. Near the rear, opposite side from the power input connector, you will easily be able to locate the audio amp IC. It has 6 legs and is next to the purple 470mf capacitor which it's output goes through. The input to that amp comes in on it's #1 pin - which is the long leg -at the end nearest the rear of the rig. You can see the small 1uf cap feeding it -quite close to it. The mod is to add a 47K resistor in line with that leg. The easiest way is to snip it in the middle of the leg..seperate the snipped conductor and add the 47K in series with the two leads. Prepair the 1/4 watt 47K resistor with just enough lead length to contact the seperated amp leg. "Tin" resistor and leg contact points and tac solder the resistor in. (be sure that the leg is really seperated). Remember-You can always remove the resistor and bridge the leg together again at a later date.

The 47K gives just enough level reduction that you will now set your volume control at 11am instead of 10am, and the innitial lowest level point will be about half what it was. You may find that 68K or 100K may still provide acceptable volume levels. There is still enough audio to "blast out" the internal speaker...or drive any external unit. I even think that the audio sounds smoother and cleaner at this input level.
Good Luck and 73's!

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