

YAESU FT-60R MEMORY BANK OPERATION

For many, learning to use the memory features of the FT-60R has proven to be one of the more challenging aspects of this radio. This document is an effort to provide help in learning to use this powerful feature. While there are other documents available, including the “FT-60R Operating Manual”, perhaps another perspective will help. If you agree, read on.

NOTE: Page references in [] refer to the YAESU Operating Manual 0609J-JK for the FT-60R.

MEMORY MODE

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First, let’s review a bit of information about memory CHANNELS. The Operations Manual uses several terms in the discussions on memory operation. The terms used are “CHANNEL”, “BANK” and “GROUP”. Simply defined, these are:

CHANNEL – a memory location where the radio stores information about transmit and receive frequencies, access tones, power levels, etc for one specific set up of the radio tuning. Most of us are likely quite familiar with the concept of a CHANNEL. The FT-60R has 1000 standard memory CHANNELS, numbered from 000 to 999. You can read about this starting on page 27 of the manual. It also has some other special use CHANNELS, but these are not related to MEMORY BANK operation.

One note of caution: the manual suggests on page 27 that the PMS (Programmable Memory Scan) channels can be assigned to a BANK. However, on page 33 bold note #2 indicates that they may not. We will follow the latter direction.

GROUP – The manual refers to a MEMORY GROUP. A GROUP is just another way to say a BANK.

BANK – A list of CHANNELS. The MEMORY BANK feature is a way to organize these 1000 CHANNELS so as to make it easier to use the memory feature. The FT-60R has 10 BANKS; each BANK can contain a list of up to 1000 channels.

An important concept to grasp is that a memory BANK does not actually contain the memory CHANNEL information itself. A BANK or GROUP is merely a list of CHANNELS. You might think of a BANK as being a folder containing a sheet of paper with list of CHANNELS. Each BANK can contain in its list 1000 CHANNEL numbers. You may list any CHANNEL in each BANK if you want. When operating in the MEMORY BANK mode, the radio merely recalls the CHANNEL information from its memory location and uses it to tune the radio for the desired transmit and receive frequencies.

The power of the MEMORY BANK feature is that you can select a BANK and the radio then operates on only the memory CHANNELS included in that BANK. This applies to manually selected CHANNELS using the DIAL knob as well as when scanning CHANNELS. In this document we will cover how to add CHANNELS to BANKS, how to remove a CHANNEL from a BANK, how to enable operation on a particular BANK and how to revert from BANK operation back to normal MEMORY or VFO operation.

The radio provides 10 MEMORY BANKS, numbered 1 through 10. They have no individual characteristics, you can put any channel into any bank. You would do well to plan out how you will organize your BANKS to make it easy for you to perform a specific activity, such as local repeaters, ARES frequencies or emergency service frequencies you want to scan. One additional feature is that the radio will allow you to link two or more BANKS while scanning. This allows expanded coverage without modifying the contents of any BANK. A great feature!

MEMORY BANK MODE

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The first step in utilizing the MEMORY BANK feature is to load the desired information into the memory CHANNELS, numbered 000 to 999. Instructions for this can be found in the manual on pages 27 through 32. Remember that the CHANNELS are the heart of the memory function. You may program more channels and modify already programmed channels at any time. However, you can only add a CHANNEL to a BANK if you have already programmed that CHANNEL. Once programmed, it can then be added to any BANK.

Another note of caution: we will be pressing the [V/M], [F/W] and [BAND] keys to accomplish various tasks. Sometimes the press will be 'momentary' and sometimes 'Press and hold'. Be very alert to which type of 'press' you are to use, as very different results will come from using the wrong type. This error is often the cause of the familiar refrain: "I did exactly what you said and it didn't work!". You have been warned.

ASSIGNING CHANNELS TO A BANK

1. **Enter the Memory mode** by pressing the [V/M] key until the display shows a channel number. (If you are already in Memory mode, skip this step).
2. **Rotate the DIAL knob** until the desired CHANNEL number is displayed.
3. **Press and hold the [BAND] key** for one second. The display will show a flashing "SEL" and the words "NO BANK". You have about 5 seconds to begin step 4. If you wait too long, the radio terminates this activity and reverts to normal Memory mode.
4. **Rotate the DIAL knob** until the desired BAND number is displayed.
5. **Press and hold the [F/W] key for one second.** The selected CHANNEL is now included in that BAND. Wait a few seconds and the display will revert to the MEMORY mode display.

ACTIVATING MEMORY BANK OPERATION

The manual refers to this as MEMORY BANK RECALL. This is simply how to set the radio up to operate on the CHANNELS contained in a particular BANK or group.

1. **Enter the Memory mode** by pressing the [V/M] key until the display shows a channel number. (If you are already in Memory mode, skip this step)
2. **Press and hold the [BAND] key** for one second. The display will show a flashing "SEL" and the words "NO BANK". You have about 5 seconds to begin step 3.
3. **Rotate the DIAL knob** until the desired BAND number is displayed.
4. **Momentarily Press the [V/M] key.** The display will show a CHANNEL number upper left, the word BANK in inverse type, and as you rotated the DIAL knob, you will see that only those CHANNELS in the bank can be selected.

REMOVING CHANNELS FROM A BANK

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1. You can remove a CHANNEL from a BANK only when that BANK is in active operation. To accomplish this, follow steps 1 to 4 in "ACTIVATING MEMORY BANK OPERATION". Then:
2. If scanning is in progress, **stop the scan.**
3. **Rotate the DIAL knob** to select the CHANNEL to be removed.
4. **Press and hold [BAND]** for one second. The display will show a flashing "SEL" and the active BANK. You have about 5 seconds to begin step 5. **DO NOT TURN THE DIAL KNOB.**
5. **Press and hold [F/W]** for one second, the display will revert to the normal BANK screen and resume normal BANK operation. Rotating the DIAL knob will show the CHANNEL has been deleted from this BAND. **NOTE:** This has not removed the CHANNEL from memory, only from this BAND list.

EXITING FROM MEMORY BANK OPERATION

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1. **Press and hold [BAND]** for one second. The display will show a flashing “SEL” and the current active BANK. You have about 5 seconds to begin step 2.
2. **Rotate the DIAL knob** until the display shows “NO BANK”.
3. **MOMENTARILY press [V/M]**. You are now in the standard MEMORY mode.

CONCLUSION

While there are various software packages available which to varying degrees make the initial programming of the channels quite easy, one must still be adept at enabling and cancelling the functions and features described above using only the keypad. It can be confusing to remember which key press sequence is used for each case; some practice will make it come automatically. Or nearly so. Using the wordy descriptions provided, a serious operator could make up some personalized charts with abbreviations or acronyms to remind them of the keys to press without having to read it all again.

As mentioned briefly, one of the more powerful uses of the MEMORY BANK feature is the ability to set the radio up to scan one or more BANKS of CHANNELS. How to do this will be the subject of another paper.

I hope this will help some to make fuller use of this great radio.

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