How to Setup Your Transceiver and get on the air for Most Digital Modes, and Specifically on the

ICOM 7300 for FT-8

These notes are not meant to provide the answers on how to get you up and running on FT-8, but rather it is a presentation of how I have been able to set up my IC-7300 for best performance in this mode. All settings referenced are the ones I currently use on my 7300 and I have to this date made about 10,000 confirmed contacts, so at least I can say they work for me. They are not meant to give you a comprehensive understanding nor a foolproof setup but should be a good starting point. Good luck..... Mert Kenniston KC1KVA

- Download and Install Driver from your IC-7300 CD or the ICOM website on your computer (or from your transceiver manufacturer's website)
- Install required cable Standard USB with the Type B Square End to your transceiver and a standard USB Type A end on the computer side.

Note: If you are not using the IC-7300 check you transceiver manual to determine if your transceiver has a built in sound card. If it does not, you will need an outboard unit to act as your sound card, connected between your computer and the transceiver. Popular models of this interface are Signalink Tigertronic unit, MFJ's Digi Link, West Mountain's Rig Expert or Rig Blaster or Yaesu's digital interface box. You will probably need a special cable from the interface manufacturer to connect. Make sure you have the right pin wiring set up on the unit.

1. Setup IC-7300 Switches

a. <u>Switches:</u>	Selection:
2. Preamp (Front panel button) Off (except for very weak stations)
3. Function, AGC: Off	
4. Menu, Set, Connectors:	
a. Data Mode: USB	
b. ACC/USB Output Select	AF
c. ACC/AF Output Level 50%	
d. ACC/USB AF SQL	Off (Open)
e. ACC/USB Beep/Speech	Off
f. ACC/USB IF Output Level	50%
g. ACC MOD Level	50%
h. USB MOD Level	40 to 50%
i. DATA OFF MOD	MIC,ACC
j. DATA MOD	USB
k. USB Serial Function CI-V	
I. USB SEND	RTS or DTR
m. USB Keying (CW)	DTR
n. USB Keying (RTTY) DTR	
5. Menu, Set, Connectors, CI-V: <i>i. CI-V Baud Rate</i>	Auto
ii. CI-V Address	94h
iii. CI-V Transceive	Off
iv. CI-V USB Remote Transceiv	e 00h
v. CI-V Output (for ANT)	Off
vi. CI-V USB Port	Unlink Remote
vii. CI-V USB Baud Rate	Auto
viii. CI-V USB Echo Back	On

2. Download WSJT-X Users Guide Check out the FT-8 Portion of the guide

- 3. Download WSJT-X Software
- 4. Setup WSJT-X

Do Search for WSJT-X PrincetonPhysics

Review On-Line Users Guide for WSJT-X 2.5

Start WSJT-X – *Then at top of screen select:*

View – Click on waterfall

Mode – Click on **FT-8**

Decode – Click on Normal

At top of WSJT screen Click on FILE, then on Settings then on General

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Station	Details							
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Then click on RADIO

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CAT Control	D VOX
Serial Port: COM3 ~	
Baud Rate: 9600 V	Port: COM3 🗸
Data Bits	Transmit Audio Source
● Default ○ Seven ○ Eight	Mode None USB Data/Pkt
Stop Bits	Split Operation None O Rig Fake It
Handshake Default None XON/XOFF Hardware	
Force Control Lines	Test CAT Test PTT

Then click on Audio

General Radio Audio Tx Macros Rej	oorting Frequencies Colors Advanced
Rig: Icom IC-7300	✓ Poll Interval: 1 s
CAT Control Serial Port: COM3 Serial Port Parameters Baud Rate: 9600	PTT Method VOX O DTR CAT O RTS Port: COM3
Data Bits Default	Transmit Audio Source Rear/Data Front/Mic Mode
Stop Bits	○ None ○ USB ● Data/Pkt Split Operation ○ None ○ Rig ● Fake It
Handshake	Test CAT Test PTT

5. WSJT-X Screens

Main Screen

Click on a CQ entry to initiate a response

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SJT-X v2.5.4 by K1JT, G4WJS, K9AN, and IV3NWV

File Configurations View Mode Decode Save Tools Help

				Band Activity							Rx Frequency			
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JT Alert Callsign Window

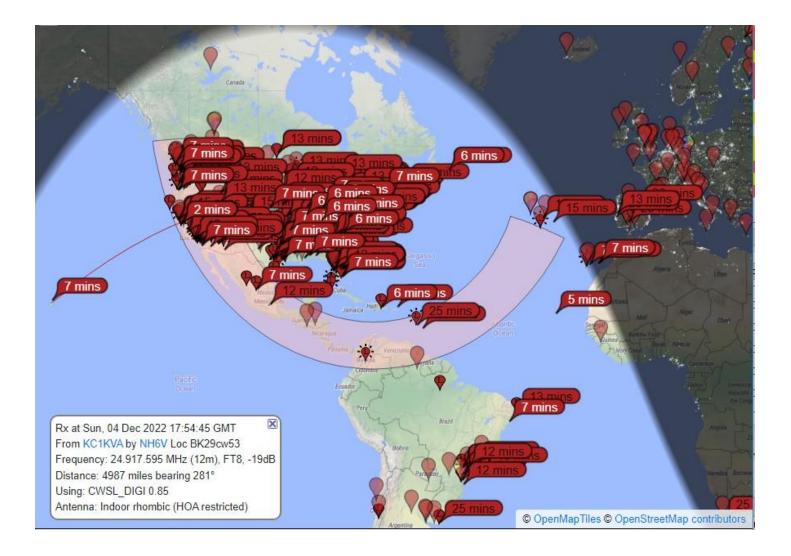
U.S.A.	KA0BOJ B4 U.S.A.	J79WTA B473 Dominica	N2EDU B4 CU7A U.S.A. Azore		EA4DB CO J691 Spain St. Lu		G4NXG/M CQ England	
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6. Time.is	<i>Check your time sync delta.</i> >1.5 seconds is problem Which will be red flagged on mail WSJT screen.
7. Sync your clock	Net Time, Dimension 4, or Meinberg NTP
8. Time to Test Your Setup	<i>WSJT-X and transceiver now have preliminary setup</i> <i>Solve any configuration and test problems before</i> <i>continuing</i>
	CAT and PTT Test buttons on WSJT should work. Test Cat should turn Green, PTT Should turn Red

- 9. Load & setup JT Alert if Wanted Online: HamApps.com
- **10.** Auto ACLog Interface Allows automatic logging to ACLog

11. **JT Alert Messaging** Message your FT- Contacts

Messaging	>
	K5AKM 17:53 utc
QSO Logged	d - Thanks - Mert Kenniston KC1KVA 73
K5AKM 17:54 utc	
Thanks !	
	Send
	Send ONLINE
	ONLINE



12.	PSK Reporter	See who received your signals
13.	QRZ	For more detail on your contacts
14.	Upload to QRZ & LOTW	Save from wsjt log.adi to LOTW and/or QRZ