

QST Magazine Product Reviews - Key Measurements Summary - HF-Transceivers or Receivers (page 1/7)

Subject of measurement, band: 14 MHz										Transmitter					Price in USD; over the years prices may vary...	Company's site	
	20 kHz reciprocal mixing dynamic range	2 kHz reciprocal mixing dynamic range	20 kHz blocking gain compression	2 kHz blocking gain compression	20 kHz 3rd-order dynamic range	2 kHz 3rd-order dynamic range	20 kHz 3rd-order intercept	2 kHz 3rd-order intercept	Transmit 3rd-order IMD typical	Transmit 9th-order IMD typical	5 kHz Transmit keying bandwidth	10 kHz Transmit phase noise	Tx/Rx turnaround time SSB	Rx/Tx turnaround time (TX delay) SSB			
Min/max of scale	-60/-140 dB	-60/-140 dB	70/140 dB	70/140 dB	50/110 dB	50/110 dB	-40/+35 dBm	-40/+35 dBm	-20/-35 dB	-20/-70 dB	-55/-95 dB	-110/-150 dB					
Transceivers/receivers sorted by 2 kHz 3rd-order dynamic range and if equal by 20 kHz 3rd-order dynamic range																	
1	Yaesu FTdx5000D, December 2010	-109 dB	-102 dB	136 dB *	136 dB *	114 dB **	114 dB **	+41 dBm **	+40 dBm **	With Class A: -43 dB **	With Class A: -72 dB **	N/M	N/M	66 ms	37 ms	\$5,399	www.yaesu.com
2	WINRADIO WR-G31DDC, January 2012	N/M	N/M	128 dB	128 dB	107 dB	107 dB	+32 dBm	+32dBm	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$899	www.winradio.com
3	Kenwood TS-590SG, July 2015	-118 dB	-94 dB	139 dB	130 dB	106 dB	106 dB	+29 dBm	+29 dBm	-42 dB **	-58 dB	N/M	N/M	28 ms	17 ms	\$1,609	www.kenwood.com
4	Icom IC-7851, July 2016	-125 dB	-114 dB	131 dB	129 dB	110 dB	105 dB	N/M	N/M	-36 dB	-61 dB	-92 dB	-148 dB	8 ms	16 ms	\$13,099	www.icomamerica.com
5	Elecraft K3S, November 2016	-119 dB	-115 dB	145 dB **	136 dB	105 dB	104 dB	N/M	N/M	-35 dB	-62 dB	-95 dB	-142dB	33 ms	40 ms	\$2,900	www.elecraft.com
6	Elecraft K3 %, after Synthesizer Upgrade, November 2015	-119 dB	-115 dB	143 dB **	143 dB **	106 dB	103 dB	N/M	N/M	N/M	N/M	N/M	N/M	N/M	N/M	\$2,200	www.elecraft.com
7	Elecraft K3 %, January 2009 with update, November 2015	-115 dB	-93 dB	143 dB **	135 dB	106 dB	103 dB	+29 dBm	+28 dBm	-29 dB	-51 dB	N/M	N/M	25 ms	12 ms	\$2,200	www.elecraft.com
8	FlexRadio FLEX-6700, April 2015	-124 dB	-116 dB	128 dB	128 dB	103 dB	103 dB	+46 dBm **	+46 dBm **	-41 dB **	-61 dB	N/M	N/M	184 ms	140 ms	\$7,499	www.flexradio.com
9	Elecraft K3, April 2008	N/M	N/M	139 dB	139 dB	103 dB	102 dB	+26 dBm	+26 dBm	-27 dB	-53 dB	N/M	N/M	22 ms	N/M	\$2,200	www.elecraft.com
10	Kenwood TS-990S, February 2014	-117 dB	-87 dB	138 dB	133 dB	112 dB **	101 dB	+44 dBm **	+35 dBm	-39 dB **	-56 dB	N/M	N/M	35 ms	18 ms	\$8,000	www.kenwood.com
11	FlexRadio FLEX-6500, February 2017	-122 dB	-115 dB	130 dB	129 dB	103 dB	101 dB	N/M	N/M	-39 dB **	-55 dB	-95 dB	-153 dB **	84 ms	50 ms	\$4,299	www.flexradio.com
12	Icom IC-7610, October 2018	-127 dB	-113 dB	120 dB	120 dB	101 dB	101 dB	N/M	N/M	-41 dB **	-61 dB	-89 dB	-138 dB	50 ms	60 ms	\$3,400	www.icomamerica.com
13	Yaesu FTdx3000, April 2013	-106 dB	-82 dB	137 dB *	127 dB	110 dB	100 dB	+40 dBm **	+23 dBm	-27 dB	-52 dB	N/M	N/M	36 ms	34 ms	\$2,699	www.yaesu.com
14	SSB Electronic ZEUS ZS-1, June 2014	-128 dB	-120 dB	129 dB	129 dB	105 dB	100 dB	+31 dBm	+31 dB	-34 dB	-60 dB	N/M	N/M	344 ms	68 ms	\$1,700	www.ssb.de
15	Hilberling PT-8000A, November 2014	-118 dB	-111 dB	138 dB	138 dB	104 dB	100 dB	+35 dBm	+30 dBm	-35 dB	-59 dB	N/M	N/M	40 ms	43 ms	\$17,500	www.hilberling.de
16	Elecraft KX3, December 2012	-120 dB	-114 dB	130 dB	128 dB	103 dB	100 dB	+34 dBm	+34 dBm	-30 dB	-55 dB	N/M	N/M	44 ms	30 ms	\$999	www.elecraft.com
17	Apache Labs ANAN-8000DLE, April and November 2018	-115 dB	-110 dB	125 dB	125 dB	100 dB	100 dB	N/M	N/M	With Pure Signal: -54 dB & **	With Pure Signal: -60 dB &	-95 dB	-136 dB	110 ms	130 ms	\$3,995	www.apache-labs.com
18	Icom IC-R8600, November 2017	-122 dB	-108 dB	115 dB	124 dB	103 dB	99 dB	N/M	N/M	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$2,599	www.icomamerica.com
19	ELAD FDM-DUO, May 2016	-108 dB	-104 dB	124 dB	106 dB	99 dB #	99 dB #	N/M	N/M	-39 dB **	-70 dB	-88 dB	-141 dB	52 ms	18 ms	\$1,149	http://ecom.eladit.com
20	FlexRadio FLEX-5000A, July 2008	N/M	N/M	123 dB	123 dB	99 dB	99 dB	+35 dBm	+30 dBm	-34 dB	-54 dB	N/M	N/M	29 ms	25 ms	\$2,799	www.flexradio.com

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Subject of measurement, band: 14 MHz									Transmitter				TX/RX turnaround time SSB	RX/TX turnaround time (TX delay) SSB	Price in USD; over the years prices may vary...	Company's site		
	20 kHz reciprocal mixing dynamic range	2 kHz reciprocal mixing dynamic range	20 kHz blocking gain compression	2 kHz blocking gain compression	20 kHz 3rd-order dynamic range	2 kHz 3rd-order dynamic range	20 kHz 3rd-order intercept	2 kHz 3rd-order intercept	Transmit 3rd-order IMD typical	Transmit 9th-order IMD typical	5 kHz Transmit keying bandwidth	10 kHz Transmit phase noise						
Min/max of scale	-60/-140 dB	-60/-140 dB	70/140 dB	70/140 dB	50/110 dB	50/110 dB	-40/+35 dBm	-40/+35 dBm	-20/-35 dB	-20/-70 dB	-55/-99 dB	-110/-150 dB						
Transceivers/receivers sorted by 2 kHz 3rd-order dynamic range and if equal by 20 kHz 3rd-order dynamic range																		
21	TenTec 599AT Eagle, August 2011	N/M	N/M	136 dB	126 dB	98 dB	98 dB	+22 dBm	+22 dBm	-28 dB	-48 dB	N/M	N/M	70 ms	16 ms	\$1,795	www.tentec.com	
22	Kenwood TS-590S, May 2011	N/M	N/M	141 dB **	121 dB	106 dB	97 dB	+26 dBm	+22 dBm	-29 dB	-52 dB	N/M	N/M	30 ms	14 ms	\$1,649	www.kenwood.com	
23	Perseus SDR, December 2008	N/M	N/M	129 dB	129 dB	100 dB	97 dB	+35 dBm	+35 dBm	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$999	www.microtelecom.it	
24	Apache Labs ANAN-100D, October 2015	-117 dB	-105 dB	124 dB	122 dB	97 dB	96 dB	+22 dBm	+22 dBm	With Pure Signal: -49 dB **	With Pure Signal: -60 dB	N/M	N/M	240 ms	142 ms	\$3,489	www.apache-labs.com	
25	TEN-TEC 539 Argonaut VI, August 2013	N/M	N/M	N/M	N/M	96 dB	96 dB	+20 dBm	+20 dBm	-30 dB	-51 dB	N/M	N/M	36 ms	20 ms	\$995	www.tentec.com	
26	Icom IC-7700, October 2008	N/M	N/M	125 dB	102 dB	106 dB	95 dB	+35 dBm	+24 dBm	-28 dB	-53 dB	N/M	N/M	15 ms	11 ms	\$7,179	www.icomamerica.com	
27	Flex-3000, Oct/Nov 2009	N/M	N/M	113 dB	113 dB	99 dB	95 dB	+28 dBm	+26 dBm	-30 dB	-45 dB	N/M	N/M	16 ms	48 ms	\$1,699	www.flexradio.com	
28	Icom IC-7300, August 2016	-114 dB	-102 dB	123 dB	123 dB	97 dB	95 dB	N/M	N/M	-30 dB	-58 dB	-95 dB	-139 dB	15 ms	14 ms	\$1,500	www.icomamerica.com	
29	TenTec Orion-II, September 2006	N/M	N/M	136 dB	136 dB	92 dB	95 dB	+20 dBm	+21 dBm	-28 dB	-52 dB	N/M	N/M	30 ms	18 ms	\$4,295	www.tentec.com	
NEW	FlexRadio FLEX-6400M, February 2019	-122 dB	-118 dB	123 dB	123 dB	95 dB	94 dB	N/M	N/M	-41 dB **	-55 dB	-95 dB	-129 dB	200 ms	47 ms	\$2,999	www.flexradio.com	NEW
31	FlexRadio FLEX-6300, April 2015	-121 dB	-116 dB	127 dB	126 dB	92 dB	92 dB	+43 dBm **	+43 dBm **	-41 dB **	-54 dB	N/M	N/M	184 ms	136 ms	\$2,499	www.flexradio.com	
32	Icom IC-7410, October 2011	N/M	N/M	143 dB **	111 dB	106 dB	88 dB	+29 dBm	+5 dBm	-30 dB	-61 dB	N/M	N/M	85 ms	45 ms	\$1,949	www.icomamerica.com	
33	Icom IC-7600, November 2009	N/M	N/M	122 dB	102 dB	106 dB	88 dB	+31 dBm	+13 dBm	-31 dB	-48 dB	N/M	N/M	16 ms	21ms	\$4,976	www.icomamerica.com	
34	Icom IC-9100, April 2012	-101 dB	-77 dB	142 dB **	111 dB	108 dB	87 dB	+29 dBm	+2 dBm	-29 dB	-64 dB	N/M	N/M	87 ms	61 ms	\$3,650	www.icomamerica.com	
35	Elecraft KX2, May 2017	-99 dB	-102 dB	116 dB	112 dB	93 dB	87 dB	N/M	N/M	-36 dB	-58 dB	-94 dB	-128 dB	40 ms	30 ms	\$750	www.elecraft.com	
36	Icom IC-7800 V2, March 2007	N/M	N/M	144 dB **	117 dB	108 dB	86 dB	+38 dBm **	+22 dBm	-32 dB	-52 dB	N/M	N/M	15 ms	10 ms	\$12,499	www.icomamerica.com	
37	FlexRadio FLEX-1500, December 2011	N/M	N/M	107 dB	107 dB	100 dB	86 dB	+31 dBm	+13 dBm	-22 dB	-48 dB	N/M	N/M	210 ms	200 ms	\$649	www.flexradio.com	
38	Yaesu FTdx9000MP, July 2010	N/M	N/M	137 dB	102 dB	99 dB	85 dB	+28 dBm	+7 dBm	With Class A: -37 dB **	With Class A: -75 dB **	N/M	N/M	38 ms	32 ms	\$11,629	www.yaesu.com	
39	TenTec R4020 QRP, February 2011	N/M	N/M	N/M	N/M	84 dB	84 dB	-10 dB	-10 dBm	N/M	N/M	N/M	N/M	N/M	116 ms	\$249	www.tentec.com	
40	Yaesu FTdx1200, January 2014	-104 dB	-81 dB	132 dB	123 dB	101 dB	83 dB	+31 dBm	+4 dBm	-32 dB	-50 dB	N/M	N/M	35 ms	38 ms	\$1,600	www.yaesu.com	

QST Magazine Product Reviews - Key Measurements Summary - HF-Transceivers or Receivers (page 3/7)

Subject of measurement, band: 14 MHz											Transmitter				Price in USD; over the years prices may vary...	Company's site	
	20 kHz reciprocal mixing dynamic range	2 kHz reciprocal mixing dynamic range	20 kHz blocking gain compression	2 kHz blocking gain compression	20 kHz 3rd-order dynamic range	2 kHz 3rd-order dynamic range	20 kHz 3rd-order intercept	2 kHz 3rd-order intercept	Transmit 3rd-order IMD typical	Transmit 9th-order IMD typical	5 kHz Transmit keying bandwidth	10 kHz Transmit phase noise	TX/RX turnaround time SSB	RX/TX turnaround time (TX delay) SSB			
Min/max of scale	-60/-140 dB	-60/-140 dB	70/140 dB	70/140 dB	50/110 dB	50/110 dB	-40/+35 dBm	-40/+35 dBm	-20/-35 dB	-20/-70 dB	-55/-99 dB	-110/-150 dB					
Transceivers/receivers sorted by 2 kHz 3rd-order dynamic range and if equal by 20 kHz 3rd-order dynamic range																	
41	Yaesu FT-991, November 2015	-103 dB	-75 dB	134 dB	99 dB	100 dB	82 dB	+31 dBm	-1 dBm	-26 dB ~	-46 dB	N/M	N/M	39 ms	34 ms	\$1,550	www.yaesu.com
42	Yaesu FT-991A, May 2018	-103 dB	-75 dB	133 dB	99 dB	99 dB	82 dB	N/M	N/M	-30 dB ~	-48 dB	-85 dB	-119 dB	35 ms	32 ms	\$1,400	www.yaesu.com
43	TenTec Omni-VII, July 2007	N/M	N/M	137 dB	134 dB	91 dB	82 dB	+11 dBm	+6,5 dBm	-27 dB	-55 dB	N/M	N/M	20 ms	18 ms	\$2,695	www.tentec.com
44	Icom IC-R9500, January 2008	N/M	N/M	144 dB **	109 dB	5kHz/92 dB	81 dB	+32 dBm	-4dBm	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$17,000	www.icomamerica.com
45	Yaesu FTdx9000C, March 2006	N/M	N/M	128 dB	97 dB	101 dB	78 dB	+35 dBm	+1 dBm	With Class A: -43 dB **	With Class A: -80 dB **	N/M	N/M	35 ms	38 ms	\$5,779	www.yaesu.com
46	Expert SunSDR2 Pro, October 2016	-118 dB	-65 dB	129 dB	107 dB	78 dB	78 dB	N/M	N/M	-30 dB	-57 dB	-95 dB	-135 dB	120 ms	69 ms	\$2,100	www.eesdr.com
47	Yaesu FT-450D, November 2011	N/M	N/M	134 dB	88 dB	97 dB	76 dB	+16 dBm	-21 dBm	-25 dB	-50 dB	N/M	N/M	50 ms	26 ms	\$999	www.yaesu.com
48	Yaesu FT-950, March 2008	N/M	N/M	128 dB	98 dB	95 dB	71 dB	+21 dBm	-4 dBm	-35 dB	-56 dB	N/M	N/M	25 ms	39 ms	\$1,449	www.yaesu.com
49	Alinco DX-SR8T, June 2011	N/M	N/M	100 dB	83 dB	94 dB	70 dB	+1 dB	-30 dBm	-28dB	-53 dB	N/M	N/M	102 ms	50 ms	\$519	www.alinco.com
50	Yaesu FT-2000D, October 2007	N/M	N/M	136 dB	87 dB	98 dB	69 dB	+26 dBm	-16 dBm	With Class A: -41 dB **	With Class A: -65 dB	N/M	N/M	24 ms	37 ms	\$3,549	www.yaesu.com
51	Icom IC-7100, July 2014	-103 dB	-84 dB	120 dB	89 dB	95 dB	68 dB	+13 dBm	-25 dBm	-34 dB	-49 dB	N/M	N/M	30 ms	22 ms	\$1,370	www.icomamerica.com
52	Yaesu FT-891, June 2017	-98 dB	-72 dB	131 dB	123 dB	93 dB	68 dB	N/M	N/M	-30 dB	-49 dB	-85 dB	-116 dB	30 ms	49 ms	\$700	www.yaesu.com
53	Icom IC-7200, June 2009	N/M	N/M	140 dB	83 dB	99 dB	67 dB	+23 dBm	-11 dBm	-32 dB	-58 dB	N/M	N/M	30 ms	13 ms	\$1,396	www.icomamerica.com
54	Yaesu FT-450, December 2007	N/M	N/M	134 dB	90 dB	97 dB	67 dB	+13 dBm	-31 dBm	-30 dB	-48 dB	N/M	N/M	40 ms	20 ms	N/A	www.yaesu.com
55	Yaesu FT-2000, February 2007	N/M	N/M	126 dB	92 dB	95 dB	64 dB	+16 dBm	-22 dBm	-32 dB	-60 dB	N/M	N/M	27 ms	35 ms	\$2,819	www.yaesu.com
56	Icom IC-7000, May 2006	N/M	N/M	112 dB	86 dB	89 dB	63 dB	+6 dBm	-27 dBm	-33 dB	-58 dB	N/M	N/M	24 ms	12 ms	\$1,299	www.icomamerica.com
57	Yaesu FT-818ND, January 2019	-99 dB	-71 dB	124 dB	93 dB	92 dB	62 dB	N/M	N/M	-31 dB	-60 dB	-81 dB	-117 dB	37 ms	25 ms	\$800	www.yaesu.com
58	Alinco DX-SR9T, October 2014	-88 dB	-72 dB	114 dB	91 dB	87 dB	60 dB	+17 dBm	-25 dBm	-28dB	-47 dB	N/M	N/M	96 ms	60 ms	\$770	www.alinco.com

QST Magazine Product Reviews - Key Measurements Summary - HF Power Amplifiers (page 4/7)

	Subject of measurement, HF	Driving Power	Output Power, CW	Spurious and harmonic suppression 3rd harmonic worst case	Transmit 3rd-order IMD	Transmit 5th-order IMD	Transmit 7th-order IMD	Transmit 9th-order IMD	TR switching time key to RF	TR switching time un-key to power off	Weight	Price in USD; over the years prices may vary...	Company's site
HF Power Amplifiers sorted by 3rd-order IMD and if equal by 9th-order IMD													
1	Alpha 8100, April 2007	50-55 W	1500 W	-55 dBc	-52 dB	-48 dB	-53 dB	-61 dB	N/M	N/M	31.3 kg	\$4,850	www.rfconcepts.com
2	Ameritron AL-800H, September 1997	41-61 W	1500 W	-50 dBc	-49 dB	-55 dB	N/M	N/M	N/M	N/M	23.6 kg	\$2,295	www.ameritron.com
3	AlphaPower 91b, September 1997	45-80 W	1500 W	-52 dBc	-45 dB	-49 dB	N/M	N/M	N/M	N/M	29.9 kg	\$2,798	www.rfconcepts.com
4	Acom 1000, November 2002	70 W	1000 W	-53 dBc	-44 dB	-55 dB	N/M	N/M	N/M	N/M	22 kg	\$2,750	www.acom-bg.com
5	OM Power OM2500A, November 2014	48-60 W	1500 W	-49 dBc	-43 dB	-44 dB	>-60 dB	-56 dB	10 ms	10 ms	41.7 kg	\$7,995	www.om-power.com
6	QRO Technologies HF-2500DX, September 1997	40-80 W	1500 W	-46 dBc	-43 dB	-40 dB	N/M	N/M	N/M	N/M	40,8 kg	\$2,895	www.qrotec.com
7	SPE Expert 1K-FA, September 2009	28-32 W	900 W	-51 dBc	-42 dB	-43 dB	-49 dB	-56 dB	N/M	N/M	20 kg	\$3,850	www.radio-ham.eu
8	Acom 600S, August 2015	22-28 W	600 W	>-60 dBc	-42 dB	-39 dB	-49 dB	-55 dB	12 ms	23 ms	12 kg	\$2,800	www.acom-bg.com
9	RM Italy HLA305V, April 2016	3.3-14.4 W	200 W ***	57-70 dBc	-40 dB ***	-40 dB	-50 dB	-63 dB	3 ms	4 ms	4.4 kg	\$700	www.dxengineering.com
10	Ten-Tec Centaur Model 411, June 1997	90-100 W	600 W	-48 dBc	-39 dB	-45 dB	N/M	N/M	N/M	N/M	18 kg	\$750	www.tentec.com
11	Ameritron ALS-1300, September 2011	65-100 W	1200 W @	-49 dBc	-38 dB	-43 dB	-54 dB	-49 dB	N/M	N/M	6.8 kg	\$2,400	www.ameritron.com
12	Hardrock 50, December 2014	2,4-5 W	50 W	-48 dBc	-38 dB	-33 dB	-38 dB	-46 dB	3,2 ms	3,8 ms	1.4 kg	\$299	www.hobbypcb.com
13	Acom 2000A, May 2000	50-60 W	1500 W	-50 dBc	-37 dB	-60 dB	N/M	N/M	N/M	N/M	35.8 kg	\$5,500	www.acom-bg.com
14	Acom 1010, December 2006	60 W	500 W	-53 dBc	-37 dB	-53 dB	-56 dB	-62 dB	N/M	N/M	18 kg	\$2,340	www.acom-bg.com
15	Emtron DX-1d, December 2004	40-60 W	750 W	-45 dBc	-37 dB	-46 dB	N/M	N/M	N/M	N/M	20 kg	\$2,184	www.emtron.com.au
16	Ameritron ALS-600, August 2001	100 W	400 W	-49 dBc	-37 dB	-40 dB	N/M	N/M	N/M	N/M	22 kg	\$1,130	www.ameritron.com

QST Magazine Product Reviews - Key Measurements Summary - HF Power Amplifiers (page 5/7)

	Subject of measurement, HF	Driving Power	Output Power, CW	Spurious and harmonic suppression 3rd harmonic worst case	Transmit 3rd-order IMD	Transmit 5th-order IMD	Transmit 7th-order IMD	Transmit 9th-order IMD	TR switching time key to RF	TR switching time un-key to power off	Weight	Price in USD; over the years prices may vary...	Company's site	
HF Power Amplifiers sorted by 3rd-order IMD and if equal by 9th-order IMD														
17	Ten-Tec 418, February 2013	1-20 W	100 W	-52 dBc	-37 dB	-38 dB	-47 dB	-57 dB	N/M	N/M	2.5 kg	\$785	www.tentec.com	
18	Ameritron ALS-1306, January 2016	60-100 W	1100 W	-60 dBc	-37 dB	-40 dB	-54 dB	-56 dB	12 ms	29 ms	5.4 kg	\$3,000	www.ameritron.com	
19	Icom IC-PW1, February 2001	40 W	1000 W @	-60 dBc	-36 dB	-41 dB	N/M	N/M	N/M	N/M	25 kg	\$5,400	www.icomamerica.com	
20	Tokyo Hy-Power HL-1.2KFX, June 2008	75-95 W	630 W	-55 dBc	-36 dB	-39 dB	-50 dB	-68 dB	N/M	N/M	15 kg	\$2,350	None	
21	Tokyo Hy-Power HL-1.5KFX, September 2007	85 W	900 W	-52 dBc	-36 dB	-39 dB	-50 dB	-57 dB	N/M	N/M	20.6 kg	\$3,000	None	
22	Elecraft KPA500, February 2012	30-40 W	500 W	-51 dBc	-34 dB	-53 dB	-46 dB	-54 dB	N/M	N/M	11.8 kg	\$2,400	www.elecraft.com	
23	Acom 1500, June 2013	53-73 W	1500 W @	>-50 dBc	-33 dB	-39 dB	-50 dB	-55 dB	N/M	N/M	26.5 kg	\$4,750	www.acom-bg.com	
24	Yaesu VL-1000, January 2002	40 W	1000 W @	-60 dBc	-32 dB	-44 dB	N/M	N/M	N/M	N/M	35.4 kg	\$4,000	www.yaesu.com	
25	SPE Expert 2K-FA, November 2013	36-48 W	1500 W	-49 dBc	-32 dB	-39 dB	-49 dB	<-60 dB	7 ms	17 ms	25 kg	\$7,300	www.radio-ham.eu	
26	Palstar LA-1K, firmware v1.02B, November 2018	45-55 W	1000 W	-57 dBc	-32dB	-39 dB	-48 dB	-60 dB	25 ms	24 ms	12.25 kg	\$3,495	www.palstar.com	
27	Elecraft KXPA100, October 2014	4-6 W	100 W	-42/-65 dBc	-32 dB	-34 dB	-42 dB	-52 dB	3 ms	8 ms	2.4 kg	\$750	www.elecraft.com	
28	SPE Expert 1.3K-FA, July 2016	25-35 W	1300 W	>-60 dBc	-31 dB	-39 dB	-57 dB	-55 dB	13 ms	5 ms	9.5 kg	\$4,995	www.radio-ham.eu	
29	Tokyo Hy-Power HL-550KFX, March 2013	50-80 W	550 W	-55 dBc	-30 dB	-43 dB	-50 dB	-57 dB	N/M	N/M	9.5 kg	\$3,000	None	
30	Ameritron ALS-600, March 2005	100 W	400 W	-49 dBc	-30 dB	-40 dB	N/M	N/M	N/M	N/M	10.2 kg	\$1,428	www.ameritron.com	
31	Ten-Tec Titan III, March 2004	75 W	1500 W	-43 dBc	-30 dB	-37 dB	N/M	N/M	N/M	N/M	38.1 kg	\$3,565	www.tentec.com	
NEW	RM Italy BLA600, February 2019	25-40 W	480 W	-56 dBc	-30 dB	-36 dB	-53 dB	-59 dB	4 ms	3 ms	21.5 kg	\$2,499	www.dxengineering.com	NEW
33	TenTec Titan II, September 2001	60 W	1500 W	-43 dBc	-29 dB	-31 dB	N/M	N/M	N/M	N/M	38.1 kg	\$2,990	www.tentec.com	
34	SGC SG-500, February 2006	50 W	500 W	-49 dBc	-28 dB !	-48 dB !	-49 dB !	-53 dB !	N/M	N/M	9.5 kg	\$1,395	www.sgcworld.com	

Notes (page 6/7)

= IMD
* = Blocking exceeded the levels indicated
** = Below/above measurable levels
*** = Stick with the low power (200 W) setting for the cleanest signal. On HI setting (250 W) 3rd-order IMD= -29 dB
% = Preamp off
! = vs. carrier
@ = PEP
& = After update QST November 2018, with Pure Signal ON, 200 Watt full power.
\$ = Listprice in US according to Elecraft, FlexRadio, TenTec and Universal Radio
N/A = Not applicable
N/M = Not measured

Please take into account that there might be a difference in the numbers when comparing the older product reviews compared to the later product reviews, due to changes in the testing methodology, measurements filters, etcetera.

Dark green = awesome
Green = excellent
Light green = good
Yellow = average
Orange = moderate
Red = poor
Dark red = bad

Blocking gain compression:

When a very strong off channel signal appears at the input to a receiver it is often found that the sensitivity is reduced. The effect arises because the front end amplifiers run into compression as a result of the off channel signal. This often arises when a receiver and transmitter are run from the same site and the transmitter signal is exceedingly strong. When this occurs it has the effect of suppressing all the other signals trying to pass through the amplifier, giving the effect of a reduction in gain.

Blocking is generally specified as the level of the unwanted signal at a given offset (normally 20 kHz) which will give a 3 dB reduction in gain. A good receiver may be able to withstand signals of about ten milliwatts before this happens. The blocking specification is now more important than it was many years ago. With the increase in radio communications systems in use, it is quite likely that a radio transmitter will be operating in the close vicinity to a receiver. If the radio receiver is blocked by the neighbouring transmitter then it can seriously degrade the performance of the overall radio communications system.

Reciprocal mixing dynamic range:

ARRL Lab reports three dynamic range measurements that determine a transceiver's overall performance.

Along with blocking gain compression dynamic range and two tone third order dynamic range, we must consider RMDR while evaluating how well a receiver hears.

Which of these measurements is the most important factor in comparing receivers depends a lot on how you plan to use that receiver. For hearing weak signals at or near the receiver's noise floor, receiver noise typically is the limiting factor. For the reception of stronger signals under crowded band conditions, two tone third order DR is the most important number.

To assess a receiver's ability to perform well in the presence of a single, strong off-channel signal (common within geographical ham radio "clusters" or with another ham on the same block), blocking gain compression DR is usually the dominant factor.

Reciprocal mixing is noise generated in a superheterodyne receiver when noise from the local oscillator (LO) mixes with strong, adjacent signals. All LOs generate some noise on each sideband, and some LOs produce more noise than others.

This sideband noise mixes with the strong, adjacent off-channel signal, and this generates noise at the output of the mixer. This noise can degrade a receiver's sensitivity and is most notable when a strong signal is just outside the IF passband.

RMDR at 2 kHz spacing is almost always the worst of the dynamic range measurements at 2 kHz spacing that we report in the "Product Review" data table.

3rd order dynamic range:

The difference in decibels between the weakest signal the receiver can handle and the strongest signal the same receiver can handle simultaneously, - without the need of using additional controls of the receiver, manually carried out by the operator - within 20 kHz (wide spaced) and 2 kHz (close in) within the receiver's passband. For more information on this important item, written by Rob Sherwood NCOB, please use this link: <http://www.sherweng.com/documents/Barc2008.pdf>

3rd order intercept:

This more or less theoretical point, gives a good indication of a receiver's overall strong signal performance. Third order intercept is related to two-tone third order IMD.

When receiver's response on desired and undesired signals (within the passband) were plotted in the same graph, the two lines would intersect at a point called the third-order intercept.

ARRL Product Review testing includes Two-Tone IMD results at several signal levels. Two-tone, Third-order Dynamic Range figures comparable to previous reviews are shown on the first line in each group.

The "IP3" column is the calculated Third-order Intercept Point. Second-order intercept points were determined using -97 dBm reference.

Third order two-tone dynamic range values shown are best case. IMD DR depends on band activity and signal strengths. See text and February 2010 QST, page 52, for an explanation.

Notes continued, Version, Website and Disclaimer (page 7/7)

As from May 2016 you may notice ARRL is no longer publishing third-order intercept point data for receivers. Technology has changed, and most modern receivers do not have a 3:1 ratio between the IMD signal level and the IMD input level. This ratio can be significantly higher or lower than 3:1. Since the IP3 figure is mathematically based on a 3:1 ratio, publication of this data would be meaningless. Instead, pay attention to the three dynamic ranges — IMD, blocking, and reciprocal mixing. The lowest of these three dynamic ranges represents the limiting dynamic range of the receiver.

Transmit 3rd and 9th order IMD:

All measurements in dB are below PEP output, except note 1.

Transmit two-tone intermodulation distortion, or two-tone IMD, is a measure of spurious output close to the desired audio of a transmitter being operated in SSB mode. This spurious output is often created in the audio stages of a transceiver, but any amplification stage can contribute**

If you have ever heard someone causing "splatter", the noisy audio that extends beyond a normal 3 kHz nominal SSB bandwidth, then you have heard the effects of transmit IMD.

Frequencies close to the transmit signal are affected the most, but depending on the amount of IMD, large portions of the band can suffer from one poor transmitter**

Pure Signal = Pre Distortion

Transmit phase noise

As from May 2016, ARRL introduces several changes to the Key Measurements Summary chart for HF transceivers. ARRL has added bars for transmitted phase noise, which are important parameters of transmission quality, in addition to transmitted intermodulation distortion (IMD) products on SSB.

Over the past decade, we have seen substantial improvements in receiver technology in terms of dynamic range — the ability to perform well in a band crowded with strong signals.

However, the best receiver cannot remove interference created by the poor transmission quality of an adjacent signal.

High levels of IMD products caused by poor transmitter design or improper adjustment causes SSB splatter on both sides of the intended transmitted spectrum, interfering with others on nearby frequencies.

High levels of transmitted phase noise add to the background noise level, masking signals that would normally be audible.

Transmit keying bandwidth

As from May 2016, ARRL introduces several changes to the Key Measurements Summary chart for HF transceivers. ARRL has added bars for transmitted CW keying sidebands, which are important parameters of transmission quality.

The ranges for these new Key Measurements were determined from data of 30 transceivers tested from 2008 to the present.

The transmitter Key Measurements give an indication of the overall cleanliness of the transmitter. As with the receiver dynamic range measurements, more detailed information is available in the accompanying table of tests performed in the ARRL Lab.

ARRL will also continue to publish the detailed plots showing keying waveform, keying sidebands, and transmitted phase noise.

Note that high keying sideband levels are mainly caused by little or no rise and/or fall time (≤ 1 millisecond) on the keying waveform.

A transmitter with a 1 millisecond of rise and/or fall time will create key clicks and keying sidebands that are 35 dB down and 500 Hz away from the carrier and will likely interfere with neighboring stations.

The Lab tests transceivers with default settings, but some radios that are very clean at default settings can be adjusted for rise/fall times that increase the keying sidebands significantly.

Strong keying CW sidebands from an adjacent transmitter can cause a thumping sound in the speaker, with or without key clicks.

TX/RX turnaround time:

The time after PTT release, to 50% of the audio output.

RX/TX turnaround time (TX delay) SSB:

The time before RF leaving the transceiver

For more information (including what the numbers really mean) please read ARRL's QST Magazine August 2004 and January 2006 very interesting articles, and the ARRL Lab Test Procedures Manual, available at the ARRL website www.arrl.org.

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Please send me an e-mail (to: [hans at pa0q dot nl](mailto:hans@pa0q.nl)) if you have corrections, remarks, etc.

Visit my website on www.pa0q.nl (redirect page of www.remeeus.eu)

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This overview is provided for your convenience by Hans PA0Q; it is a summary of measurement figures and gives no indication of the ergonomics, the features and/or the operational characteristics of the transceivers/receivers.

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