



COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVER

# IC-R8500



# Discover a world of information and intrigue.

Icom "next generation" technology brings you super wide band, all mode coverage from *HF to 2 GHz*, including shortwave and VHF/UHF, while maintaining a constant receive sensitivity. The IC-R8500 is not simply a scanner—it's a professional quality communications receiver with versatile features from high speed scanning to computer control.



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## Wide frequency coverage

The IC-R8500 covers a wide frequency range continuously from 0.1 to 2000 MHz,\* with 10 Hz resolution, while maintaining a high receive sensitivity. You can be sure that if there are any communications or broadcasts out there, you'll be able to hear them with a minimum of interference from other signals.

\*Some versions have restricted coverage. Refer to the specifications for details.

## All mode capability

Radio signals are transmitted in a variety of modes. The IC-R8500's all mode capability allows you to receive signals in many different modes, from the world over. SSB (USB, LSB), CW, AM, FM and WFM are included, and several 'specialty' modes, CW narrow,\* AM wide, AM narrow and FM narrow are available to receive a variety of signals that require a matched passband width.

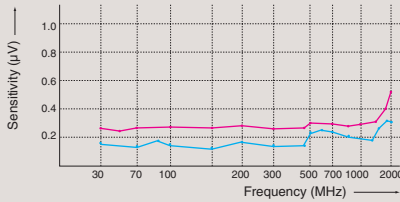
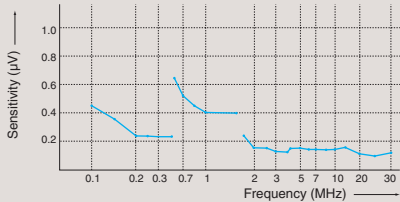
When the IC-R8500 connected to a PC equipped with a dedicated software, it allows you to watch amateur SSTV or receive RTTY on your screen.

\*Optional filter FL-52A is required.

## Superior receive characteristics

The IC-R8500 has superb high receive sensitivity over its entire range, and the built-in, high quality crystal (TCXO) provides good frequency stability of less than  $\pm 100$  Hz below 30 MHz; less than  $\pm 3$  ppm above 30 MHz. The crystal is the reference for the PLL and DDS circuits to achieve these specifications.

### Sensitivity characteristics (values are typical and not guaranteed)



— SSB (for 10 dB SN)  
— FM (for 12 dB SINAD)

## Convenient features for receive

IF shift and APF (audio peak filter) functions are built-in—a first for a receiver in this class. IF shift is used to reduce interference from nearby signals. It does so by adjusting the center frequency of the IF filter. APF is used to reduce interference from signals superim-

posed over a desired signal by adjusting the center frequency of the audio filter. The APF is especially useful when receiving CW, but is also useful in other modes as a tone control.

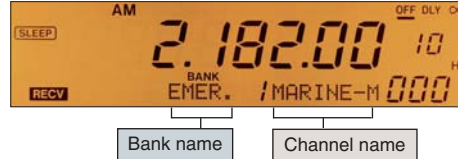
In addition, a noise blanker, RF attenuator and selectable AGC functions, clarify desired signals when experiencing various forms of interference. A digital AFC function tunes the receiver to the center of FM or WFM signals.

## Ample memory channels

The IC-R8500 has 1000 memory channels providing versatile operating possibilities. Each memory channel can store a frequency, mode (including passband width) and tuning step, etc.

To facilitate efficient use of the memory channels, they are divided into 20 banks of 40 channels each plus an auto memory write area of 100 channels and a skip area of 100 channels. Alphanumeric names can be assigned to the channels (up to 8 characters) and banks (up to 5 characters) for easy recognition.

In addition, there are 20 scan edge memory channels to store 10 sets of frequencies for programmed scan plus 1 priority channel for priority scan. And, the number of channels in each bank is user-assignable.



Memory editing capabilities include a memory copy and paste function for easy transferring of data from channel to channel.

## RS-232C interface

An RS-232C serial port is located on the rear panel of the receiver for direct connection to a personal computer. Icom's CI-V data communications format allows you to control and monitor many receiver functions from your PC, as well as to read data or levels in the receiver, such as AF gain, squelch level, re-

ceived signal strength, as well as receive frequency, channel names and many others.

## Versatile scanning functions

For basic scanning, memory, priority and program scans are available. And, for more advanced needs, select, skip, auto write, and mode select scans can be selected.

The IC-R8500 scans very quickly and the speed is continuously adjustable up to 40 channels per second (in both memory and programmed scans) with a continuously adjustable delay time. Also, VSC (voice scan control) provides efficient scanning by skipping unmodulated signals. Customize the scan behavior to suit your needs.

## Various tuning steps

Two methods of frequency entry are available: using the tuning dial or direct frequency entry from the keypad. Use the method that best suits the situation. Numerous tuning steps are available for operating a wide variety of stations. They are 10, 50, 100 Hz, 1, 2.5, 5, 9, 10, 12.5, 20, 25, 100 kHz and 1 MHz.

In addition, a programmable tuning step is available. The programmable tuning step can be set (independently for each memory channel) to a value between 0.5 to 199.5 kHz, in 0.5 kHz steps.

## Additional outstanding features

- 3 antenna connectors are provided: an SO-239 type and a phono (RCA) connector for below 30 MHz; a type-N connector for above 30 MHz
- S-meter squelch allows you to receive only those signals stronger than a pre-set level
- Easy-to-read analog S-meter and center frequency indicator
- Sleep timer (30, 60, 90, 120 min. selectable)
- REC and REC remote terminals are provided for tape recorder control and for recording received signals

### Rear view



## SPECIFICATIONS

- Frequency coverage :
 

Version	Frequency coverage
EUR/OTH	0.10000–1999.99999 MHz*

\* Specifications guaranteed: 0.1–1000 and 1240–1300 MHz.
- Mode : SSB (USB, LSB), AM (wide, normal, narrow), CW (normal, narrow\*), FM (normal, narrow), WFM  
\* Optional filter required.
- Number of memory channels : 1000 (plus 20 scan edges and 1 priority channel)
- Antenna connector : Below 30 MHz SO-239 (50 Ω),  
Phono [RCA (500 Ω)]  
Above 30 MHz Type-N (50 Ω)
- Usable temperature range : –10°C to +50°C; +14°F to +122°F
- Frequency stability : Below 30 MHz ±100 Hz (optional ±20 Hz)  
Above 30 MHz ±3 ppm (optional ±0.6 ppm)
- Tuning steps : 10, 50, 100 Hz, 1, 2.5, 5, 9, 10, 12.5, 20, 25, 100 kHz,  
1 MHz or programmable (0.5–199.5 kHz/0.5 kHz steps)
- Power supply requirement : 13.8 V DC ±15% (negative ground)  
or 117/220/240 V AC (with AD-55S)
- Current drain (at 13.8 V DC) : Standby 1.8 A  
Max. audio 2.0 A
- Dimensions (WxHxD) : 287 × 112 × 309 mm; 11.3 × 4.4 × 12.2 in  
(projections not included)
- Weight : 7.0 kg; 15.4 lb
- Receive system : Superheterodyne
- Intermediate frequencies :

Frequency band	1st	2nd	3rd
0.1– 29.99999 MHz	48.8 MHz	10.7 MHz	0.455 MHz*
30.0– 499.99999 MHz	778.7 MHz	10.7 MHz	0.455 MHz*
500.0–1024.99999 MHz	266.7 MHz	10.7 MHz	0.455 MHz*

\* Note: Converter system is adopted above 1025 MHz. \*Except WFM.

Frequency band (MHz)	Mode					
	SSB/CW	AM	AM-N	AM-W	FM	WFM
0.1– 0.49999	1.0μV	6.3μV	—	—	—	—
0.5– 1.79999	2.0μV	13.0μV	—	—	—	—
1.8– 1.99999	0.25μV	3.2μV	2.5μV	—	—	—
2.0–27.99999	0.2μV	2.5μV	2.0μV	—	—	—
28.0–29.99999	0.2μV	2.5μV	2.0μV	—	0.5μV	—
30.0–999.99999	0.32μV	2.5μV	2.0μV	3.2μV	0.5μV	1.4μV
1240.0–1300.00000	0.32μV	2.5μV	2.0μV	3.2μV	0.5μV	2.0μV

\* Note: SSB, CW, and AM modes are measured at 10 dB S/N; FM and WFM modes at 12 dB SINAD.

- Squelch sensitivity (threshold/tight) :
  - 1.8–29.99999 MHz
    - SSB, CW, AM-N 10 μV/320 mV
    - AM, AM-W 0.5 μV/320 mV
  - 28–29.99999 MHz
    - FM 0.5 μV/320 mV
  - 30–1000, 1240–1300 MHz
    - FM, AM, AM-W 0.4 μV/320 mV
    - WFM, SSB, CW, AM-N 4.5 μV/320 mV
- Selectivity :
  - WFM More than 150 kHz/–6 dB
  - FM, AM-W More than 12 kHz/–6 dB
  - FM-N, AM More than 5.5 kHz/–6 dB
  - AM-N, SSB, CW More than 2.2 kHz/–6 dB
- Spurious and image rejection ratio :
  - 1.8–29.99999 MHz More than 60 dB
  - 30–1000, 1240–1300 MHz 50 dB (typical)
- Audio output power (at 13.8 V DC) : More than 2.0 W at 10% distortion (8 Ω)
- IF shift variable range : More than ±1.2 kHz
- External speaker connector : 2-conductor 3.5 mm (1/8")/4–8 Ω

All stated specifications are subject to change without notice or obligation.

## OPTIONS

Available options may vary between countries.



**AH-8000 SUPER WIDEBAND OMNIDIRECTIONAL ANTENNA**  
Frequency coverage:  
100–3335 MHz



**AD-555 AC ADAPTER**  
Allows you to power the receiver via domestic AC.



**SP-21 EXTERNAL SPEAKER**  
Input impedance: 8 Ω  
Max. input power: 5 W



**SP-23 EXTERNAL SPEAKER**  
4 audio filters; headphone jack.  
Input impedance: 8 Ω  
Max. input power: 5 W  
(Not available for EU countries)



**CR-293 HIGH STABILITY CRYSTAL UNIT**  
Frequency stability:  
± 0.5 ppm at 0°C to +60°C



**FL-52A CW NARROW FILTER**  
Center freq.: 455 kHz  
Bandwidth: 500 Hz/–6 dB



**MB-23 CARRYING HANDLE**  
For easy portable operation.



**CT-17 CI-V LEVEL CONVERTER**  
For remote receiver control from a PC equipped with an RS-232C port.

Icom Inc.

1-1-32, Kami-minami, Hirano-Ku, Osaka 547-0003, Japan Phone: +81 (06) 6793 5302 Fax: +81 (06) 6793 0013

[www.icom.co.jp/world](http://www.icom.co.jp/world)

Count on us!

### Icom America Inc.

12421 Willows Road NE,  
Kirkland, WA 98034, U.S.A.  
Phone: +1 (425) 454-8155  
Fax: +1 (425) 454-1509  
E-mail: [sales@icomamerica.com](mailto:sales@icomamerica.com)  
URL: <http://www.icomamerica.com>

### Icom (Europe) GmbH

Communication Equipment  
Auf der Krautweide 24  
Bajos A 08174, Sant Cugat del Valles,  
Barcelona, Spain  
Phone: +49 (6196) 76685-0  
Fax: +49 (6196) 76685-50  
E-mail: [info@icom-europe.com](mailto:info@icom-europe.com)  
URL: <http://www.icomeurope.com>

### Icom France s.a.s.

Zac de la Plaine,  
1 Rue Brindejone des Moulinais, BP 45804,  
31505 Toulouse Cedex 5, France  
Phone: +33 (5) 61 36 03 03  
Fax: +33 (5) 61 36 03 00  
E-mail: [icom@icom-france.com](mailto:icom@icom-france.com)  
URL: <http://www.icom-france.com>

### Asia Icom Inc.

6F No. 68, Sec. 1 Cheng-Teh Road,  
Taipei, Taiwan, R.O.C.  
Phone: +886 (02) 2559 1899  
Fax: +886 (02) 2559 1874  
E-mail: [sales@asia-icom.com](mailto:sales@asia-icom.com)  
URL: <http://www.asia-icom.com>

Your local distributor/dealer:

### Icom Canada

Glenwood Centre #150-6165  
Highway 17A, Delta, B.C.,  
V4K 5B8, Canada  
Phone: +1 (604) 952-4266  
Fax: +1 (604) 952-0090  
E-mail: [info@icomcanada.com](mailto:info@icomcanada.com)  
URL: <http://www.icomcanada.com>

### Icom Spain S.L.

Ctra. Rubi, No. 88 "Edificio Can Castanyer"  
Bajos A 08174, Sant Cugat del Valles,  
Barcelona, Spain  
Phone: +34 (93) 590 26 70  
Fax: +34 (93) 589 04 46  
E-mail: [icom@icomspain.com](mailto:icom@icomspain.com)  
URL: <http://www.icomspain.com>

### Icom (Australia) Pty. Ltd.

Unit 1 / 103 Garden Road,  
Clayton, VIC 3168 Australia  
Phone: +61 (03) 9549 7500  
Fax: +61 (03) 9549 7505  
E-mail: [sales@icom.net.au](mailto:sales@icom.net.au)  
URL: <http://www.icom.net.au>

### Shanghai Icom Ltd.

No.101, Building 9, Caifuxingyuan Park,  
No.188 Maoting Road, Chedun Town,  
Songjiang District, Shanghai, 201611, China  
Phone: +86 (021) 6153 2768  
Fax: +86 (021) 5765 9987  
E-mail: [bjicom@bjicom.com](mailto:bjicom@bjicom.com)  
URL: <http://www.bjicom.com>

### Icom Brazil

Rua Itororó, 444 Padre Eustáquio  
Belo Horizonte MG,  
CEP: 30720-450, Brazil  
Phone: +55 (31) 3582 8847  
Fax: +55 (31) 3582 8987  
E-mail: [sales@icombrasil.com](mailto:sales@icombrasil.com)

### Icom (UK) Ltd.

Blacksole House, Altira Park,  
Herne Bay, Kent, CT6 6GZ, U.K.  
Phone: +44 (0) 1227 741741  
Fax: +44 (0) 1227 741742  
E-mail: [info@icomuk.co.uk](mailto:info@icomuk.co.uk)  
URL: <http://www.icomuk.co.uk>

### Icom New Zealand

39C Rennie Drive, Airport Oaks,  
Auckland, New Zealand  
Phone: +64 (09) 274 4062  
Fax: +64 (09) 274 4708  
E-mail: [inquiries@icom.co.nz](mailto:inquiries@icom.co.nz)  
URL: <http://www.icom.co.nz>