

ICOM

INSTRUCTION MANUAL

VHF MARINE TRANSCEIVER
IC-M3A

This device complies with Part 15 of the
FCC Rules. Operation is subject to the
condition that this device does not cause
harmful interference.

Icom Inc.



FOREWORD

Thank you for purchasing this Icom product. The IC-M3A VHF MARINE TRANSCEIVER is designed and built with Icom's superior technology and craftsmanship. With proper care this product should provide you with years of trouble-free operation.

IMPORTANT





READ ALL INSTRUCTIONS carefully and completely before using the transceiver.

SAVE THIS INSTRUCTION MANUAL—This instruction manual contains important operating instructions for the IC-M3A.

EXPLICIT DEFINITIONS

WORD	DEFINITION
⚠ WARNING	Personal injury, fire hazard or electric shock may occur.
CAUTION	Equipment damage may occur.
NOTE	If disregarded, inconvenience only. No risk of personal injury, fire or electric shock.

FEATURES

-  **Water-resistant construction**
Built tough to withstand the punishing marine environment, the IC-M3A meets JIS water-resistant specification grade 4.
-  **Dual watch and tri-watch functions**
Convenient functions which allow you to monitor the distress channel (ch 16) while receiving a channel of your choice—dual watch; or monitor the distress channel and another channel while receiving a channel of your choice—tri-watch.
-  **Large, easy-to-read LCD**
With dimensions of 18(H) × 32(W) mm, the IC-M3A's function display is easy to read and shows operating conditions at a glance. Backlighting and contrast can be adjusted to suit your preferences.
-  **Simple operation**
Ergonomic design with a minimum number of switches and controls provides simple intuitive operation.

CAUTIONS

⚠ WARNING! NEVER connect the transceiver to an AC outlet. This may pose a fire hazard or result in an electric shock.

⚠ WARNING! NEVER hold the transceiver so that the antenna is very close to, or touching exposed parts of the body, especially the face or eyes, while transmitting. The transceiver will perform best if the microphone is 5 to 10 cm away from the lips and the transceiver is vertical.

NEVER connect the transceiver to a power source other than the BP-204. Such a connection will ruin the transceiver.

AVOID using or placing the transceiver in direct sunlight or in areas with temperatures below -20°C (-4°F) or above $+60^{\circ}\text{C}$ ($+140^{\circ}\text{F}$).

KEEP the transceiver out of the reach of children.

KEEP the transceiver at least 1 meter away from your vessel's magnetic navigation compass.

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY

If your vessel requires assistance, contact other vessels and the Coast Guard by sending a distress call on channel 16.

○ *USING CHANNEL 16*

DISTRESS CALL PROCEDURE

1. "MAYDAY MAYDAY MAYDAY."
2. "THIS IS" (name of vessel)
3. Your call sign or other indication of the vessel.
4. "LOCATED AT" (your position)
5. The nature of the distress and assistance required.
6. Any other information which might facilitate the rescue.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

FOREWORD	ii	■ Operation	9
IMPORTANT	ii	5 SCAN OPERATION	10-11
EXPLICIT DEFINITIONS	ii	■ Scan types	10
FEATURES	ii	■ Setting tag channels	11
CAUTIONS	iii	■ Starting a scan	11
IN CASE OF EMERGENCY	iii	6 SET MODE	12-13
TABLE OF CONTENTS	iv	■ SET mode programming	12
1 OPERATING RULES	1	■ SET mode items	12
2 PANEL DESCRIPTION	2-4	7 BATTERY CHARGING	14-15
■ Front panel	2	■ Installing batteries in the battery case	14
■ Top and side panels	3	■ Battery charging	14
■ Function display	4	■ Battery cautions	15
3 BASIC OPERATION	5-10	8 SUPPLIED ACCESSORIES	16
■ Channel selection	5	9 TROUBLESHOOTING	17
■ Lock function	6	10 CHANNEL LIST	18
■ Adjusting the squelch level	6	11 SPECIFICATIONS AND OPTIONS	19
■ Receiving and transmitting	7	■ Specifications	19
■ Call channel programming	8	■ Options	19
■ Automatic backlighting	8		
4 DUALWATCH/TRI-WATCH	9		
■ Description	9		

◇ Priorities

- Read all rules and regulations pertaining to priorities and keep an up-to-date copy handy. Safety and distress calls take priority over all others.
- You must monitor channel 16 when you are not operating on another channel.
- False or fraudulent distress calls are prohibited under law.

◇ Privacy

- Information overheard but not intended for you cannot lawfully be used in any way.
- Indecent or profane language is prohibited.

◇ Radio licenses

SHIP STATION LICENSE

When your craft is equipped with a VHF FM transceiver, you must have a current radio station license before using the transceiver. It is unlawful to operate a ship station which is not licensed.

Inquire through your dealer or the appropriate government agency for a Ship-Radiotelephone license. This license includes the call sign which is your craft's identification for radio purposes.

OPERATOR'S LICENSE

A restricted Radiotelephone Operator Permit is the license most often held by small vessel radio operators when a radio is not required for safety purposes.

The Restricted Radiotelephone Operator Permit must be posted near the transceiver or be kept with the operator. Only a licensed radio operator may operate a transceiver.

However, non-licensed individuals may talk over a transceiver if a licensed operator starts, supervises, ends the call and makes the necessary log entries.

A current copy of the applicable government rules and regulations is only required to be on hand for vessels in which a radio telephone is compulsory. However, even if you are not required to have these on hand it is your responsibility to be thoroughly acquainted with all pertinent rules and regulations.

NOTE: Even though the IC-M3A is capable of operation on VHF marine channels 3, 21, 23, 61, 64, 81, 82 and 83, according to FCC regulations these simplex channels cannot be lawfully used by the general public in USA waters.

■ Front panel

① DUALWATCH /TRI-WATCH SWITCH [DW•TRI]

- Starts dualwatch when pushed momentarily.
- Starts tri-watch when pushed for 1 sec.
- Stops dualwatch/tri-watch when either is activated.

② SQUELCH SWITCH [SQL]

- Push this switch, then set the squelch level with the UP/DOWN [▲]/[▼] switches. (p. 6)

③ CHANNEL 16 SWITCH [16 • 9]

- Selects channel 16 when pushed.
- Selects the call channel when pushed for 1 sec.
- Enters call channel write mode when the call channel is selected and this switch is pushed for 3 sec.

④ CHANNEL/WEATHER CHANNEL SWITCH [CH/WX•U/I/C]

- Selects and toggles the regular channels and weather channel when pushed momentarily.
- Selects one of 3 regular channels in sequence when pushed for 1 sec.

- International, U.S.A. and Canadian channels are available.

⑤ SCAN/TAG SWITCH [SCAN • TAG]

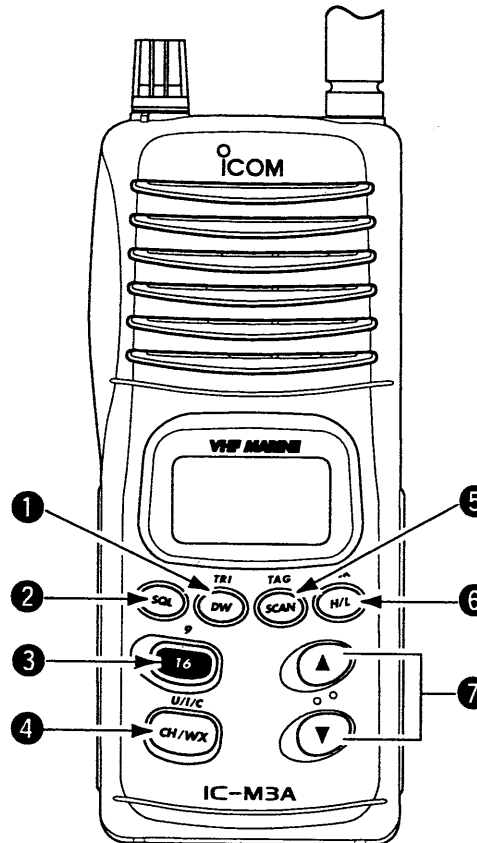
- Starts and stops normal or priority scan when tag channels are programmed.
- Sets and clears the displayed channel as a tag (scanned) channel when pushed for 1 sec.
- While pushing this switch, turn the power ON to clear all tag channels in the selected regular channel group.

⑥ TRANSMIT POWER/LOCK SWITCH [H/L • LOCK]

- Toggles high and low power when pushed.
- Toggles the lock function ON/OFF when pushed for 1 sec.

⑦ CHANNEL UP/DOWN SWITCHES [▲]/[▼]

- Select an operating channel in the selected channel group.
- Selects the set mode condition of the item.



■ Top and side panels

① PTT SWITCH [PTT]

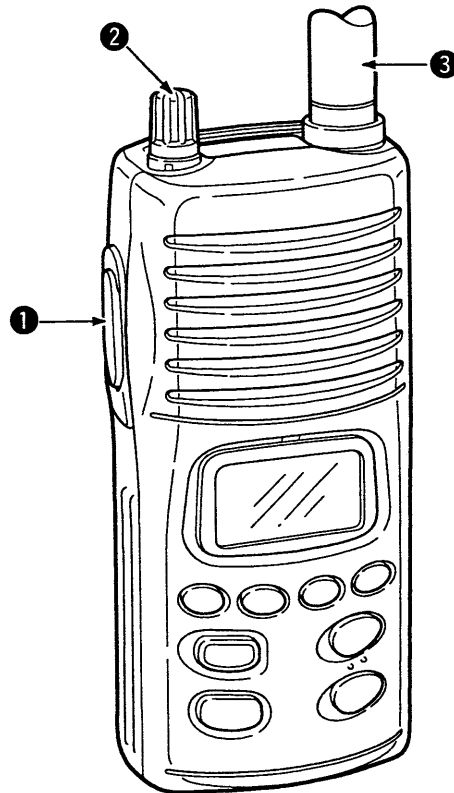
Push and hold to transmit; release to receive.

② VOLUME CONTROL [OFF/VOL]

Turns power ON and adjusts the audio level.

③ ANTENNA CONNECTOR

Connects the supplied antenna.



◇ BATTERY CASE RELEASE BUTTON

To remove the battery case:

Push and hold the battery release button downwards, then open the battery case as shown below.

To attach the battery case:

Mate the notched ends of the transceiver and battery case, and click the battery case into place.

