

**Quick
Start
Guide to:**

**The Island Keyer II
from Jackson Harbor Press
PIC based keyer with pot speed control**

If all went well building the kit, you should hear the keyer send: FB through the sidetone after applying power. If you don't hear the FB, it'll be necessary to perform a hardware debug of the keyer circuit - normally problems can be traced to soldering problems, either shorts but sometimes a cold or unsoldered joint can cause trouble.

Plug in your keyer paddle. Pressing the paddle switches should result in hearing dits and dahs through the sidetone. If the paddles are reversed from the way you normally key, try this: press memory switches 2 and 3 at roughly the same time and then release them. This should result in the keyer entering command mode and sending CE through the sidetone. To reverse the paddles: send RN with either the paddles or the straight key.

Note that pressing two switches at the same time is called a multipress or simulpress.

To change the keyer speed, adjust the speed potentiometer (pot), this can be done while sending, to a comfortable speed. To find out what the speed is, multipress memory switches 1 & 2. The current speed setting will be sent via the sidetone. Note that the sidetone frequency should be different (command sidetone frequency default is 990 Hz) from the normal sidetone (default is 600 Hz). You may also note that the sidetone frequency only plays through the sidetone, the keyer output will normally remain off during commands.

The memories have been pre-programmed with code. To play a memory, press and release (PAR) the corresponding memory switch. You can stop the message play with a PAR of either the dit or dah paddle switch.

There are 3 banks of 6 memories within chapter 0 (there are four chapters 0 to 3) - you are currently in bank 0 by default after powerup. To advance to bank 1, multipress switches 1 & 3. You should hear a dit played through the sidetone to signify bank 1. If you now PAR any of the switches, you'll note that the content is different from the bank 0 contents - by default, the bank 1 memory contents are set to their corresponding memory switch numbers. For example, if you press bank 1, switch 4 you'll hear a 4. If you multipress 1 & 3 again you'll advance to bank 2 (and hear an I to signify this). The contents are again different (this time pressing switch 4 will result in 4I being played). If you multipress 1 & 3 one more time, you'll go back to bank 0 and hear a T played to signify. Note that the pre-programmed messages are very short - you can record much longer messages if you like, see the manual for the memory sizes, they vary based on the bank and memory in question.

To record your own messages, use the following procedure:

- 1) select the chapter of the memory to be recorded with the 4 & 5 multipress
- 2) select the bank of the memory to be recorded with the 1 & 3 multipress
- 3) press and hold (PAH) the switch of the memory to be recorded
- 4) wait until the keyer plays something - this is different for each switch:

| | | | |
|------------|---|--------------|-----|
| for switch | 1 | you'll hear: | 1? |
| | 2 | | 2? |
| | 3 | | 3? |
| | 4 | | 4? |
| | 5 | | 5?) |
| | 6 | | 6? |

5) record your message by sending with your keyer paddle or the straight key.

6) when you are done, PAR any memory switch to complete the recording

Now PAR the memory switch to see how the recording plays.

One tip: When in the command mode (CE), including message recording, too, try to avoid "Farnsworthing" (adding extra space between characters). It may seem like running characters together, but the keyer will kerchunk in spaces automatically if too much time elapses between characters. This is important for command entry, but also for recording things like embedded commands where an extra space may turn the embedded command into two separate recorded characters.

This has been a short introduction to the Island Keyer II. There are a number of other commands and queries detailed in the keyer manual to allow you to customize the Island Keyer II the way you like it.

Most of the features in the Island Keyer II were the result of suggestions from PK-3 keyer users. Please feel free to email with any questions, comments, suggestions or problems with the keyer- email to: [wb9kzy at wb9kzy dot com](mailto:wb9kzy@wb9kzy.com)

Thanks for choosing the Island Keyer II and
Best Regards,

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