



[Manuals.plus](#) /

› [FrSky](#) /

› FrSky Tandem X18 Radio Transmitter User Manual

**FrSky FR-03010148**

# FrSky Tandem X18 Radio Transmitter User Manual

Model: FR-03010148

## INTRODUCTION

---

The FrSky Tandem X18 is an advanced dual-band radio transmitter designed for remote control applications, featuring both 2.4GHz and 900MHz TD systems. It boasts a 4ms low latency, a color touchscreen, and operates on the ETHOS OS. Equipped with metal hall gimbals, it supports 24 channels and is compatible with Access, ACCST D16, and TD receivers. This manual provides essential information for the proper setup, operation, maintenance, and troubleshooting of your Tandem X18 transmitter.



Figure 1: Front view of the FrSky Tandem X18 Radio Transmitter, showcasing the color touchscreen and control layout.

## SETUP

---

### 1. Unboxing and Initial Inspection

Carefully remove all components from the packaging. Verify that all items listed below are present and undamaged:

- FrSky Tandem X18 Radio Transmitter
- USB-C Cable
- Neck Strap Balancer (optional accessory)
- Quick Start Guide

### 2. Charging the Battery

The Tandem X18 comes with an internal 2S Li-ion battery. Before first use, fully charge the battery using the supplied USB-C cable. Connect the USB-C cable to the port on the bottom of the transmitter and the other end to a compatible USB power adapter (not included). The charging indicator LED will show the charging status.

### 3. Powering On/Off

To power on the transmitter, press and hold the power button located centrally below the screen until the screen illuminates. To power off, press and hold the power button again until the shutdown prompt appears, then confirm.

## 4. Gimbal Calibration

For optimal performance, it is recommended to calibrate the gimbals upon initial setup or if you notice any inconsistencies in control. Access the calibration menu through the ETHOS OS system settings. Follow the on-screen instructions to move the gimbals through their full range of motion.

## 5. Binding with Receivers

The Tandem X18 supports TD, ACCESS, and ACCST D16 protocols. The binding process varies slightly depending on the receiver type. Generally, put the receiver into bind mode, then select the appropriate protocol and bind option in the transmitter's RF System settings. Refer to your receiver's manual for specific binding instructions.



*Figure 2: Rear view of the FrSky Tandem X18, showing the Lite type external module bay for additional connectivity options.*

## 1. Navigating the ETHOS OS

The Tandem X18 utilizes the ETHOS Operating System, which offers a clear and intuitive user interface. Navigation is primarily done via the color touchscreen, supplemented by the scroll wheels and quick-mode custom buttons. Swipe gestures and taps are used to access menus, adjust settings, and manage models.



*Figure 3: The FrSky Tandem X18 display showcasing the ETHOS OS interface with various icons and settings.*

## 2. Model Creation and Management

To create a new model, navigate to the 'Models' menu in ETHOS OS. You can select from various templates or start from scratch. Configure channel assignments, mixes, flight modes, and other parameters specific to your aircraft or vehicle. Models can be saved, loaded, and copied for convenience.

## 3. Control Stick and Switch Functions

The Tandem X18 features high-precision hall-sensor gimbals for precise control. It includes 4 standard trims, 2 extra trims, 6 quick-mode custom buttons (front), and 2 momentary buttons (rear). Each switch and button can be assigned to control specific functions within your model setup. Familiarize yourself with their locations and functions before operation.

## 4. Telemetry Data

The TD dual-band RF system provides real-time telemetry data. This allows you to monitor critical information

such as receiver battery voltage, signal strength, and other sensor data directly on the transmitter screen. Telemetry alarms can be configured to alert you to predefined conditions.

## MAINTENANCE

---

### 1. Cleaning

Regularly clean the transmitter's exterior with a soft, dry cloth. For stubborn dirt, a slightly damp cloth can be used, but ensure no moisture enters the internal components. Avoid using harsh chemicals or abrasive materials.

### 2. Firmware Updates

FrSky periodically releases firmware updates for the Tandem X18 to improve performance, add features, and fix bugs. It is recommended to keep your transmitter's firmware up-to-date. Firmware updates can typically be performed via the USB-C connection and the FrSky S.Port tool or ETHOS Suite software. Always back up your model data before performing an update.

### 3. Battery Care

To prolong battery life, avoid fully discharging the battery. Store the transmitter with the battery charged to approximately 50% if it will not be used for an extended period. Use only the recommended charging methods.

## TROUBLESHOOTING

---

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Transmitter does not power on.	Low or depleted battery.	Charge the battery using the USB-C cable.
No control response from receiver.	Receiver not bound or out of range.	Ensure receiver is properly bound. Check range and signal strength.
Gimbal input is erratic or inaccurate.	Gimbals require calibration.	Perform gimbal calibration through the ETHOS OS system settings.
Touchscreen is unresponsive.	Software glitch or temporary issue.	Restart the transmitter. If issue persists, check for firmware updates.

## SPECIFICATIONS

---

Feature	Detail
Model	FrSky Tandem X18
Operating System	ETHOS OS
RF Module	Internal TD 900M/2.4G Dual-Band
Protocols Supported	TD, ACCESS, ACCST D16

Feature	Detail
Latency	4ms (end-to-end)
Gimbals	High-Precision Hall-Sensor with Metal Panel
Display	Color Touch-Screen
Battery	Internal 2S Li-ion (USB Type-C Rechargeable)
External Module Bay	Lite Type
Alerts	Haptic Vibration, Voice Speech Outputs
Weight	Approximately 3.54 pounds
Dimensions	12.44 x 10.28 x 5.04 inches (Package)

## WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

---

FrSky products are manufactured to high quality standards. For warranty information, please refer to the warranty card included with your product or visit the official FrSky website. For technical support, firmware downloads, and additional resources, please visit the FrSky support page or contact your local distributor. Keep your proof of purchase for warranty claims.