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› [FrSky](#) /

› [FrSky Tandem X18 Radio Transmitter User Manual](#)

## FrSky Tandem X18

# FrSky Tandem X18 Radio Transmitter User Manual

Model: Tandem X18 | Brand: FrSky

## INTRODUCTION

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The FrSky Tandem X18 is a state-of-the-art dual-band 2.4GHz and 900MHz radio transmitter designed for remote control hobbyists. It features the ETHOS operating system, a color touchscreen, and high-precision Hall-sensor gimbals, offering a powerful, intuitive, and flexible control experience. This manual provides essential information for the safe and effective operation of your Tandem X18 transmitter.

## SAFETY INFORMATION

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Always operate your radio transmitter responsibly and in accordance with local regulations. Failure to do so may result in injury or damage to property.

- Ensure the transmitter battery is fully charged before each use.
- Always perform a range check before flying to confirm proper signal integrity.
- Never operate the transmitter in adverse weather conditions, near power lines, or in crowded areas.
- Keep the transmitter away from water and extreme temperatures.
- Store the transmitter in a safe place, out of reach of children.

## PRODUCT OVERVIEW

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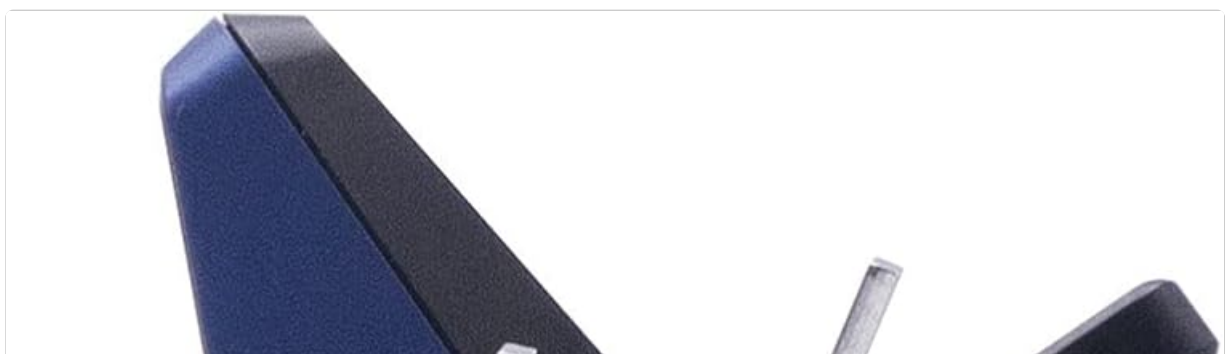
The FrSky Tandem X18 transmitter is designed with user comfort and functionality in mind. Below are key components and features.



**Figure 1:** Front view of the FrSky Tandem X18 Radio Transmitter. This image displays the ergonomic design, the central color touchscreen, dual gimbals, and various switches and buttons on the front panel.



**Figure 2:** The FrSky Tandem X18 with its color touchscreen displaying the ETHOS operating system interface. This view highlights the intuitive graphical user interface for system settings and model management.





**Figure 3:** Rear view of the FrSky Tandem X18 Radio Transmitter. This image shows the battery compartment cover and the textured hand grips designed for comfortable holding.

## Key Features:

- **Ergonomic Design:** Enhanced case with comfortable rounded hand grips and a flat base for stability.
- **Control Inputs:** High-Precision Hall-Sensor Gimbals with metal panels, 4 standard trims, 2 extra trims, 6 quick-mode custom buttons (front), and 2 momentary buttons (rear).
- **Display:** Color Touch-Screen Display with clear and intuitive UI design.
- **Internal RF Module:** Built-in TD 900M/2.4G Dual-Band Internal RF Module supporting ACCST D16, ACCESS, and TD modes.
- **External Module Bay:** Lite Type External Module Bay for connecting additional devices.
- **Feedback:** Haptic Vibration Alerts and Voice Speech Outputs.
- **Power:** Supports Recharge System for 2S Li-ion Battery via USB Type-C Interface.
- **Training System:** High-speed PARA Wireless Training System.
- **Operating System:** ETHOS OS, offering dual operation modes (touch and non-touch), multi-language switching, and LUA script support.

## SETUP

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### 1. Charging the Battery

The Tandem X18 supports charging a 2S Li-ion battery via its USB Type-C interface. Connect the transmitter to a suitable USB power adapter using a USB-C cable. The charging indicator will show the charging status. Ensure the battery is fully charged before first use.

### 2. Powering On/Off

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

### 3. Binding to a Receiver

The Tandem X18 supports various FrSky receiver protocols (ACCST D16, ACCESS, TD). The binding process typically involves:

1. Place the receiver into bind mode (refer to your receiver's manual for specific instructions).
2. On the transmitter, navigate to the Model Setup menu within the ETHOS OS.
3. Select the appropriate RF protocol (e.g., ACCESS, TD) and initiate the bind process.
4. Once bound, the receiver's LED indicator will confirm successful binding.

For detailed binding procedures for specific receiver types, please consult the official FrSky documentation or the receiver's user manual.

## OPERATING THE TRANSMITTER

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### ETHOS Operating System

The ETHOS OS provides a comprehensive and user-friendly interface for managing your models and transmitter settings. It supports both touch and non-touch operation modes.

- **Navigation:** Use the touchscreen for direct interaction or the navigation buttons/scroll wheels to move through menus.
- **Model Setup:** Create new models, configure channel assignments, mixes, and flight modes.
- **System Settings:** Adjust display brightness, sound, haptic feedback, and calibrate gimbals.
- **Telemetry:** Monitor real-time data from your receiver and connected sensors.
- **LUA Scripts:** ETHOS supports running custom LUA scripts for advanced functionalities.

## Gimbal and Control Usage

The high-precision Hall-sensor gimbals provide smooth and accurate control. Utilize the various switches, sliders, and trim buttons for fine-tuning your model's performance during flight.

- **Gimbals:** Control primary flight surfaces (aileron, elevator, rudder, throttle).
- **Trims:** Adjust the neutral position of control surfaces.
- **Switches/Sliders:** Assign to various functions like gear, flaps, flight modes, or special functions.
- **Custom Buttons:** Program for quick access to frequently used functions.

## MAINTENANCE

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Proper maintenance ensures the longevity and reliable operation of your FrSky Tandem X18 transmitter.

- **Cleaning:** Use a soft, dry cloth to clean the transmitter's surface. Avoid abrasive cleaners or solvents.
- **Storage:** Store the transmitter in a cool, dry place, away from direct sunlight and extreme temperatures.
- **Battery Care:** For long-term storage, charge the Li-ion battery to approximately 50% capacity. Avoid fully discharging or overcharging the battery.
- **Firmware Updates:** Periodically check the official FrSky website for firmware updates for the ETHOS OS and internal RF module. Keeping the firmware updated ensures optimal performance and access to new features.

## TROUBLESHOOTING

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Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Transmitter does not power on.	Low or depleted battery.	Charge the transmitter battery using the USB-C port.
No control response from model.	Receiver not bound or out of range; incorrect model selected.	Ensure receiver is properly bound. Check model selection on transmitter. Perform a range check.
Screen is unresponsive or frozen.	Software glitch.	Perform a soft reset by holding the power button until it restarts. If issue persists, consider a firmware re-flash.
Poor signal quality/range.	Antenna position; environmental interference; outdated firmware.	Adjust antenna orientation. Avoid operating near sources of interference. Update transmitter and receiver firmware.

## SPECIFICATIONS

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Feature	Detail
Model	Tandem X18
Brand	FrSky
Dimensions (Package)	10 x 8 x 7 inches
Item Weight	2 pounds
Color	Blue
Special Feature	Ergonomic
Max Supported Devices	1 (per binding)
Compatible Receivers	FrSky ACCST D16, FrSky ACCESS, FrSky TD receivers
RF System	Internal TD 900M/2.4G Dual-Band
Latency	Down to 4ms end-to-end (TD mode)
Operating System	ETHOS

## WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

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For warranty information, technical support, and service inquiries, please contact FrSky Hobby directly. Refer to the official FrSky website for the most up-to-date contact details and support resources.

**Official Website:** [www.frsky-rc.com](http://www.frsky-rc.com)

It is recommended to register your product on the FrSky website to receive important updates and support.