

# ELECRAFT K3 OWNER'S MANUAL ERRATA

Rev. D10-8, March 31, 2015

## IMPORTANT NOTES – READ BEFORE OPERATING THE K3

**SAVE K3 CONFIGURATION OFTEN:** Whenever you make a configuration change to your K3, such as adding a new option module or changing important menu settings, use the *K3 Utility* application to save the configuration file. This can be used to restore your configuration in the event of data loss or following an EEINIT (initialization).

**IF THE SPEAKER IS NOT WORKING with headphones unplugged:** Locate the *CONFIG:SPKR+PH* menu entry. Tap '1' on the numeric keypad until you see **PH.R SW-**. The minus sign (-) indicates inverted switch logic for the jack for the newer KIO3 audio board. Exit the menu and re-save your configuration using *K3 Utility*.

**EXTERNAL SPEAKER JACK CAUTION:** This jack is stereo. If you use a mono speaker plug, turn off the right channel amplifier by setting the *CONFIG:SPKRS* menu entry to 1. This will eliminate the possibility of damaging the right-channel amplifier. (You will still hear stereo when using headphones.)

**K3EXREF (external 10-MHz reference) SETUP REQUIRED:** In the *CONFIG:REF CAL* menu entry, tap 2 to change the external reference setting; flashes **XREF IN** (enabled) or **XREFOUT** (disabled—default). If you use **XREF IN** setting *without* a K3EXREF module installed, you may hear digital switching noise on the 6-m band.

## NEW FEATURES

**KSYN3A SYNTHESIZER:** If your K3 is equipped with the new KSYN3A synthesizer, the VFOs will tune down to as low as 100 kHz, close-in phase noise will be lower, and high-speed CW will be much more accurate. See [www.elecraft.com/manual/KSYN3A%20FAQ-ver-C-2.pdf](http://www.elecraft.com/manual/KSYN3A%20FAQ-ver-C-2.pdf) for details.

**KAT500 ATU VFO TRACKING:** The K3 can now send its VFO frequency to the KAT500 ATU continuously to allow it to automatically update its L-C network. Locate the *CONFIG:KAT3* menu entry, then tap '1' to change the KAT500 setting to **KAT500Y** (yes) or **KAT500N** (no—the default).

**PSK63 DATA MODE:** To select PSK31 or PSK63, first tap either end of the MODE switch to select DATA, then hold the DATA MD switch and use VFO A to select the PSK data rate.

**AM and ESSB TRANSMIT CAN USE THE FM FILTER:** This can potentially free up a crystal filter slot for operators who were using the 6-kHz filter only for AM and ESSB. Note: The 6-kHz filter is still recommended for high-performance ESSB and AM, as it provides significantly better close-in dynamic range than the FM filter.

## MANUAL CORRECTIONS

**Pgs. 5, 8, and 17 (Accessory DC jack):** For K3 s/n # 6588 or later, the accessory DC output is rated for a maximum current of 1.0 A (0.5 A prior to this). Earlier K3s can be updated using Elecraft part number "K312MDKT" (K3 12-V modification kit).

**Pgs. 8 and 9 (Specifications):** Frequency range lower limit with KSYN3A synthesizer is now 100 kHz. (See KSYN3A FAQ, referenced above.) Maximum K3/100 power output on 6 meters is 80 W typ. @13.8V ( $\pm 1$  dB).

**Pg. 14 (VFO Tuning Controls):** Holding SUB now turns diversity receive on/off. To link VFOs, use *CONFIG:VFO LNK*.

**Pgs. 21 and 52 (Menu):** Holding the CONFIG switch for 3 seconds places the K3 into TERM mode, where the radio becomes a control terminal for a remotely located K3. This is most often used with the K3/0-mini, a front panel only (see [http://www.elecraft.com/K3-Remote/k3\\_remote.htm](http://www.elecraft.com/K3-Remote/k3_remote.htm)). Exit TERM mode by holding CONFIG for ~5 seconds.

**Pg. 22 (Antenna Selection and Matching):** Per-band antenna matching memories for the KAT3 ATU can be cleared on the current band by entering the *CONFIG:KAT3* menu entry, then tapping CLR.

**Pg. 36 (General-Coverage Receive):** For better sensitivity below 1.8 MHz, use the RX ANT IN or XVTR IN jacks (KXV3).

**Pg. 36 (VFO B Alternate Displays):** With a KSYN3A installed, the PLL1/2 displays become SYN1/2 (synthesizer status).

**Pg. 45 (Options):** New options include the **K3/0-Mini** remote panel (see item above), and the **PR6-12** Preamp (replaces PR6).

**Pgs. 49 and 62 (Synthesizer Calibration and VCO MD menu entry):** No calibration is needed for the KSYN3A synthesizer.

**Pg. 52 (MIC SEL menu entry):** To turn on additional front-panel mic gain, tap 7, not 3. *Use with very low-output mics only.*

**Pg. 58 (REF CAL with K3EXREF module):** Tap 2 to enable or disable the 10-MHz external reference (XREF IN/OUT).

**Pg. 59 (RS232 menu entry):** The PC configuration program for the K3 is *K3 Utility*, not *K3FW* (a predecessor program).