

# Yaesu FT-857 vs. ICOM 706MKIIG

## I. Summary

Presentation based on personal experience

Purchased my first ICOM 706 10 years ago (base station)

Purchased the ICOM 706MKIIG 5 years ago (mobile station)

Purchased the Yaesu FT-857D 5 months ago.

## II. Why the ICOM 706

All bander / All Mode (HF/6M and 2M)

Price

Size and portability (But purchased as a base station)

Optional accessories (AT-180 antenna tuner/keypad Mic)

## III. Why the ICOM 706MKIIG

Same reasons as the first 706 plus 70cm capabilities

Purchased for use in my vehicle

## IV. Vehicle radio problems

Both ICOM 706's were unusable in my Nissan Frontier

- S9 noise with the engine running
- Noise blanker worthless in either 706
- DSP MKIIG made no difference

Noise was coming from fuel pump

- Tested by turning on the ignition 2 clicks
- Noise appeared
- When pressure equalized and pump shut off, noise was gone

Nissan and ICOM blamed each other for the problem

Frustrated, I decided to purchase another brand of radio, the Yaesu

## V. Yaesu FT-857D purchase

The Yaesu look like a good option

Decent price

Small size

All bander HF/6M + 2M, 70cm and 60M

Also liked the separation kit (MIC and Head cable)

I was taking a gamble that this would fix the problem

Researched eHam and most reviews were good.

## VI. Post Yaesu Purchase

Installed the Yaesu as soon as I received it

Immediately I realized the noise was gone

I could hear most stations with the engine running

Good signal reports from all other the US

- Running 70 watts on 20 Meters

- Antenna is tri-mag with Diamond 4 bander 2M/70cm/6M/20M

Better RF filtering than the ICOM 706 models

**(Review the handout on comparisons)**

## VII. Summary

ICOM 706 models have been good radios and easy to use

For a base station the AT-180 antennas tuner completes your setup  
(spend less time tuning)

Yaesu appears to be a new design (looks and electronics)

Yaesu is easy to used once the manual is read. So many software options to learn,  
But well worth it.