RX Scout user manual

RX Scout controls Yamaha RX-V and AVENTAGE network receivers (about 2010-2016 models, such as the RX-V677) from Windows and Android, and reaches settings Yamaha's own apps never showed. Every button has a tooltip: hover with the mouse, or long-press on a phone.

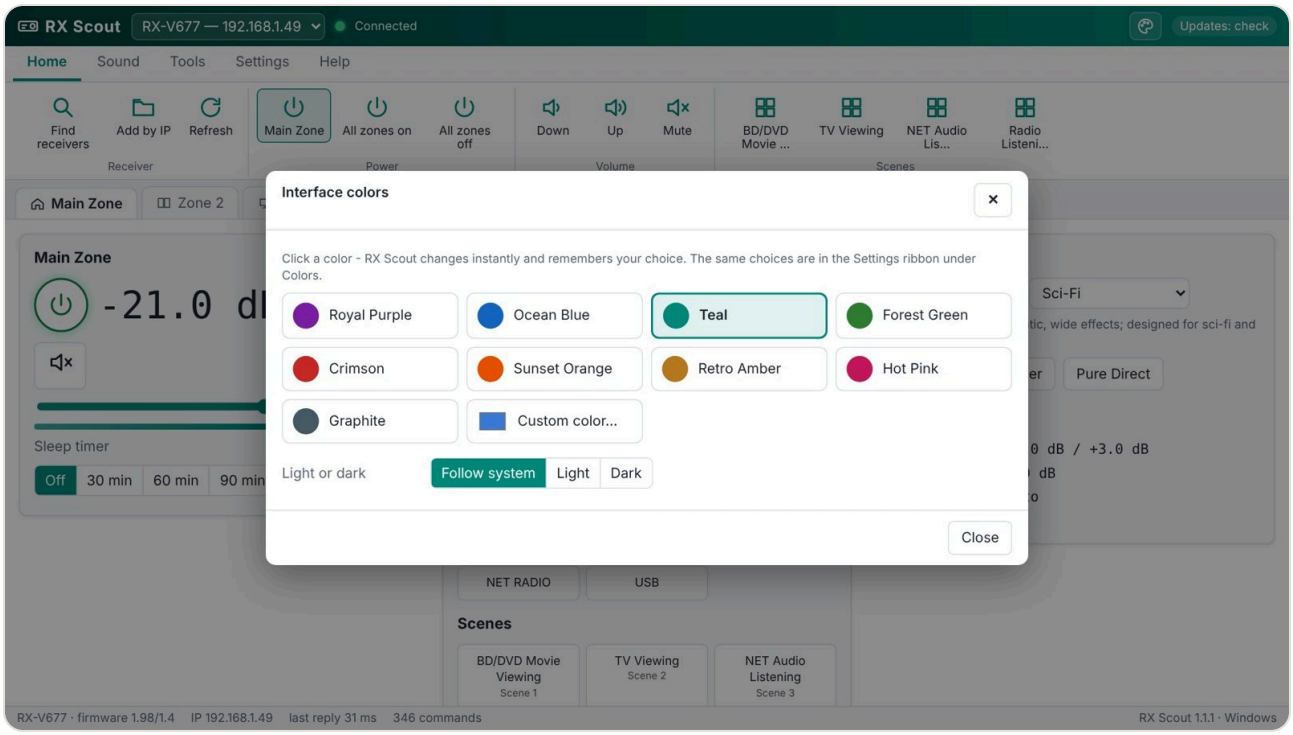
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1. Getting started

1. **Windows:** download `RXScout.exe` and put it on your Desktop or in `C:\Tools` (not Program Files, so it can update itself). Double-click it. If Windows says “Windows protected your PC”, click **More info → Run anyway**.
2. **Android:** download `RXScout.apk` on the phone, open it, and allow installs from your browser when asked.
3. RX Scout searches your network and connects to the receiver by itself. The dot at the top turns **green** when the receiver answers.
4. Nothing found? Click **Home → Add by IP** and type the receiver's address (shown on the receiver under SETUP → Network → Information, or in your router).

> **Turning the receiver on remotely** needs **Network Standby** set to On (System tab, or the receiver's own setup menu).

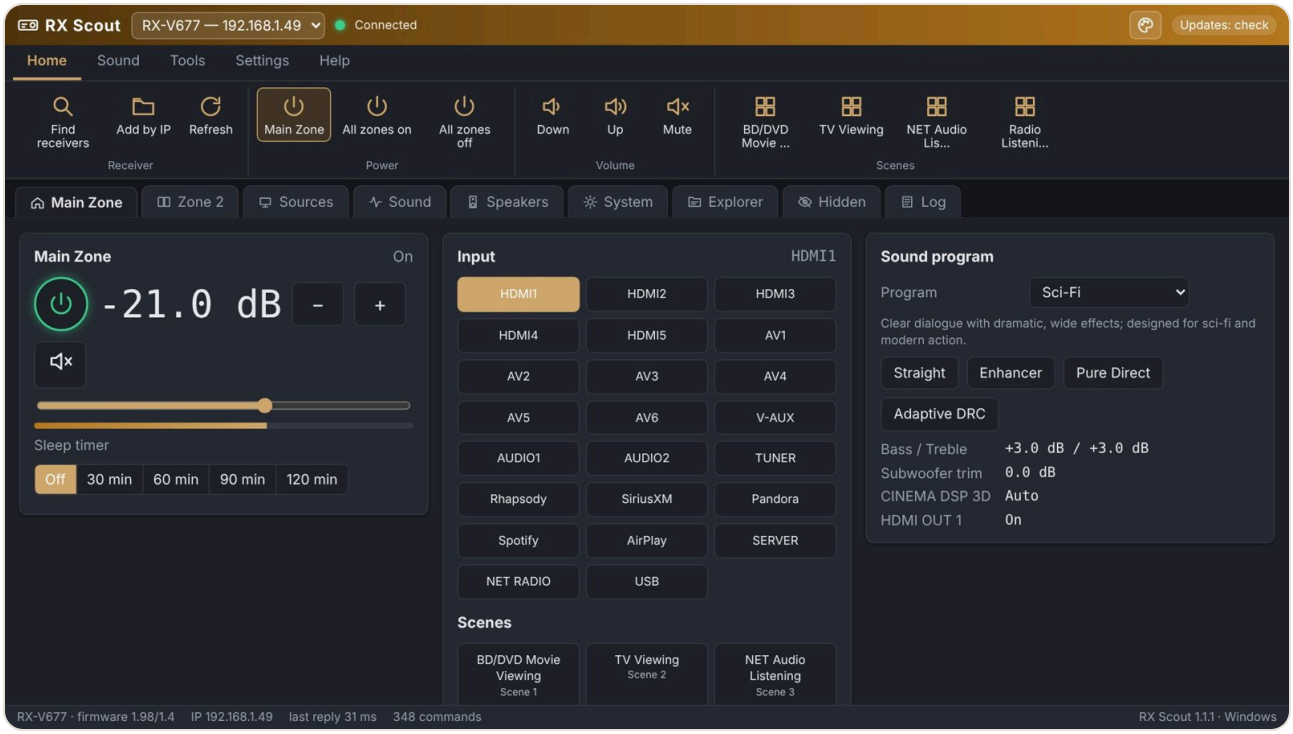
2. Changing the colors



The Interface colors window, opened with the palette button at the top right.

1. Click the **palette button** at the top right of the window, next to the “Updates” indicator.
2. Click a color: Royal Purple, Ocean Blue, Teal, Forest Green, Crimson, Sunset Orange, Retro Amber, Hot Pink or Graphite.
3. Want something else? Click **Custom color…** and pick any color. RX Scout makes the matching lighter and darker shades for you.
4. At the bottom choose **Light**, **Dark** or **Follow system**.

The change happens instantly and is remembered next time. The same choices are in the **Settings** ribbon under **Colors**. On Android the phone's status bar changes to match.



Retro Amber with the Dark theme.

If the receiver's IP address changes

Routers sometimes hand the receiver a new IP address, and apps lose it. RX Scout doesn't: it remembers the receiver by its **MAC address** and **Yamaha System ID**, which never change.

- If the receiver stops answering, RX Scout searches the network for it, switches to the new address and reconnects by itself.
- You get a pop-up and a Windows/Android notification saying where it moved, e.g. “moved from 192.168.1.49 to 192.168.1.73”.
- **Find by MAC** (Home ribbon, or the System tab) searches right away.
- **Email alerts:** Settings → *If the IP changes* → tick **Email me** → **setup…**. Enter your mail server (for SmarterMail: e.g. `mail.dialsoft.com`, STARTTLS, port 587), the mailbox login and password, and the address to send to. Click **Save & send test**. The password is stored encrypted on the PC (protected by your Windows login) and never in the settings file.
- **Keep running in the tray** (Windows): closing the window hides RX Scout next to the clock, where it checks the receiver every minute so alerts still arrive. Click the tray icon to open it; right-click it for *Check the receiver now* or *Exit*.

> **Stop it changing at all:** on the System tab click **Copy MAC**, then add a **DHCP reservation** for that MAC in your router or UniFi gateway. Or set a static address on the receiver itself: SETUP → Network → IP Address → DHCP Off. RX Scout doesn't change network settings remotely, because one wrong value would cut the receiver off the network.

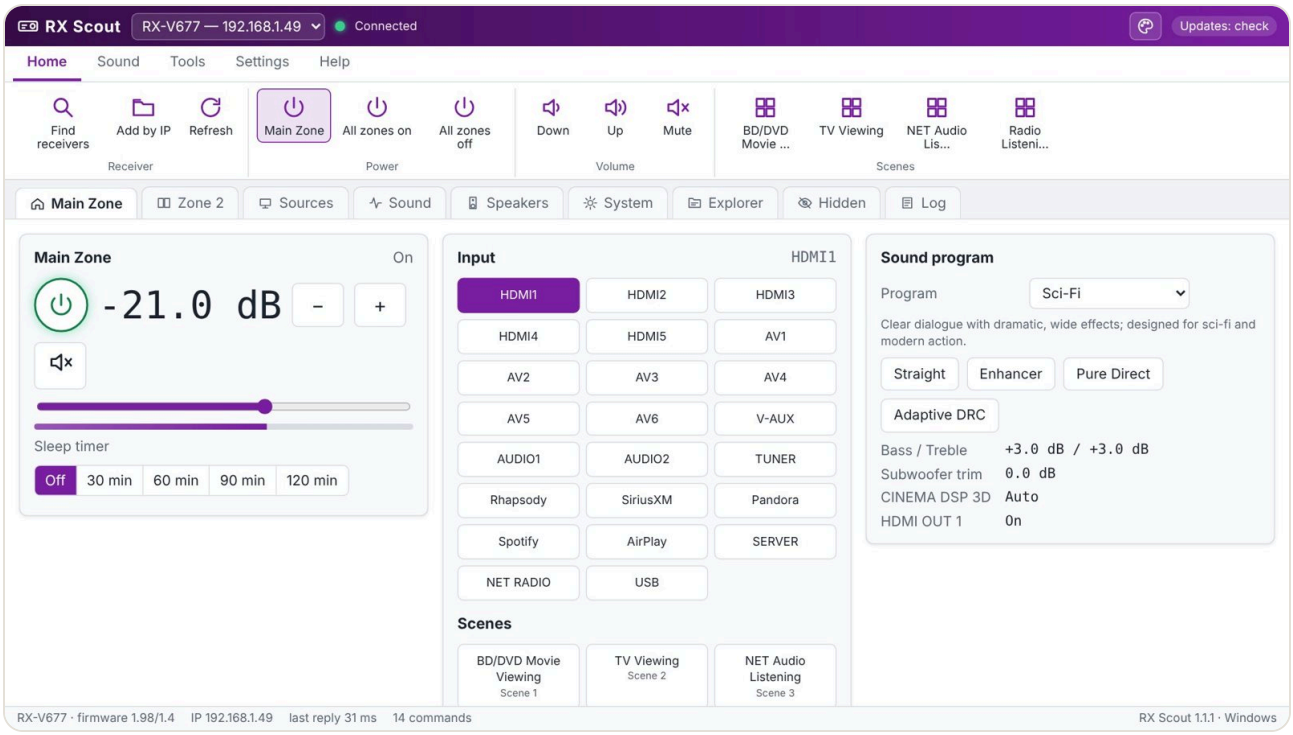
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3. The ribbon

Ribbon tab	What's on it
Home	Find receivers, Add by IP, Refresh · Main Zone power, all zones on/off · volume down/up/mute · the receiver's four SCENE buttons
Sound	One-click DSP programs (Standard, Sci-Fi, Spectacle, Drama, 2ch/7ch Stereo) · Straight, Enhancer, Pure Direct, Adaptive DRC
Tools	Command Explorer, Discover hidden, Traffic log · Back up, Restore, Export snapshot
Settings	Refresh speed, volume step, volume safety limit, confirm raw commands, theme, tooltips, colors, start tab
Help	User guide, release notes, about, check for updates, tell someone

The small arrow at the right end of the ribbon tabs hides the ribbon buttons to give the page more room.

4. Main Zone

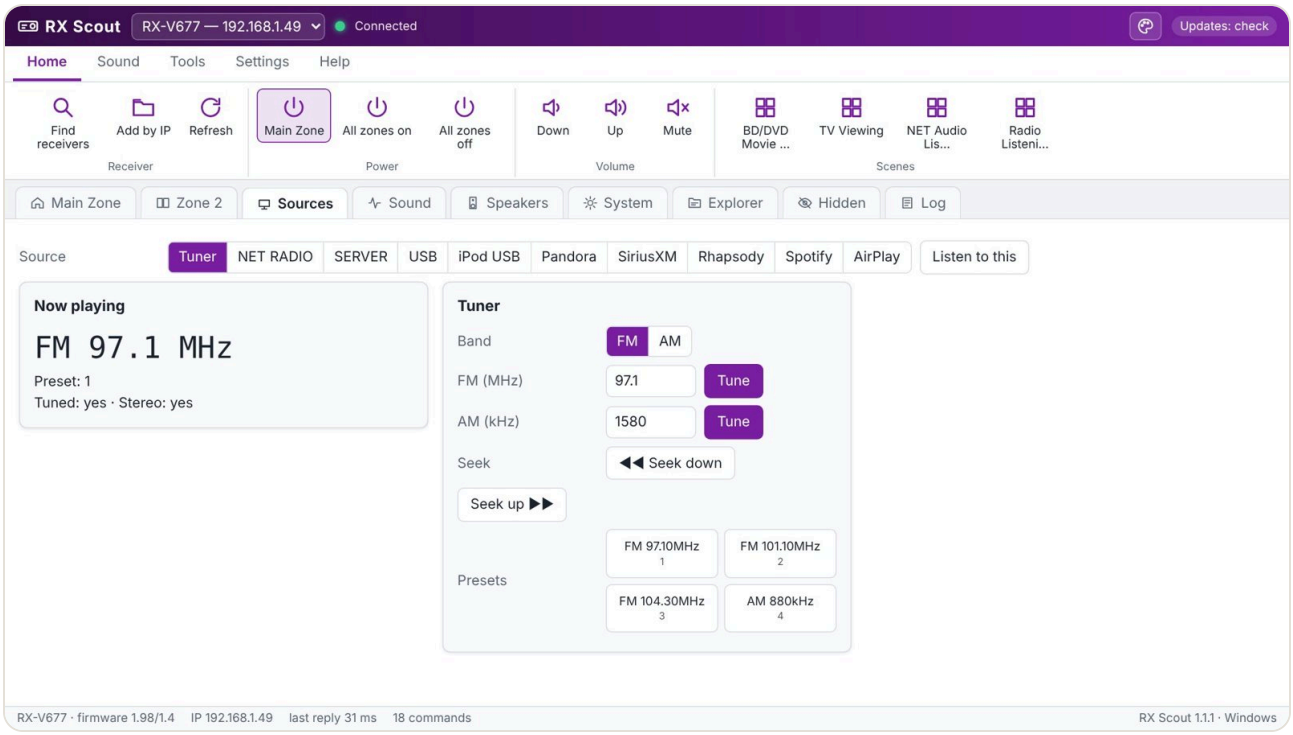


- **Power**: the round button. **Volume**: drag the slider and let go, or use − / +. Range is −80.5 to +16.5 dB; 0 dB is already very loud.
- **Inputs** show the receiver's own names, so renamed inputs appear as you named them. **Scenes** recall your stored SCENE presets.
- **Sound program**: pick a Cinema DSP program; the text under it says what it's for. Straight, Enhancer, Pure Direct and Adaptive DRC are one click each.
- **Now playing** shows the station, track and album art for network sources and the tuner.
- **Sleep timer**: Off, 30, 60, 90 or 120 minutes.

5. Zone 2

Power, volume, mute, input and sleep for the second zone. Most RX-V models can't send HDMI inputs to Zone 2; use analog or network sources there.

6. Sources



- **Tuner**: type an FM frequency (MHz) or AM (kHz) and click Tune, seek up/down, or click a preset.
- **Net Radio, Server, USB, iPod, Pandora, SiriusXM, Rhapsody**: click a folder to open it, ◀ Back to go up, Top to start over, Page ▲/▼ for more. Clicking a song or station plays it.
- **Listen to this** switches the Main Zone to the source you're looking at.

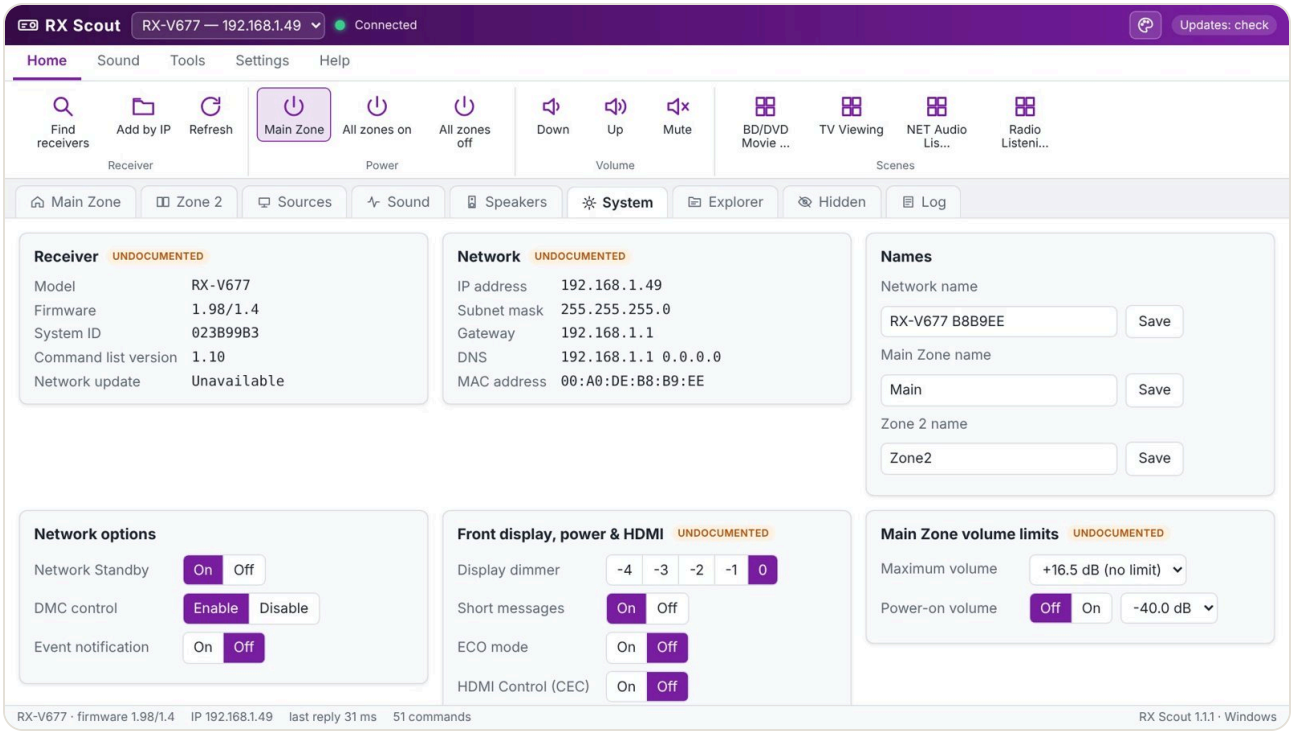
7. Sound

Bass and treble (−6 to +6 dB), subwoofer trim, Adaptive DRC (keeps dialogue clear at low volume), CINEMA DSP 3D, Extra Bass, YPAO Volume and Dialogue Lift/Level. **Per-input volume trim** evens out loudness between sources. Tone controls do nothing while Pure Direct is on.

8. Hidden settings

These are labelled **Undocumented**: the receiver supports them but they aren't in Yamaha's published command list. After every change RX Scout reads the value back and tells you

whether the receiver kept it.



Setting	Where	Range
Speaker channel levels (10 speakers)	Speakers	−10.0 to +10.0 dB
Speaker distances	Speakers	feet or meters
Volume trim per input	Sound	−6.0 to +6.0 dB
Front display dimmer	System	−4 (dim) to 0 (bright)
Short display messages	System	On / Off
Maximum volume, each zone	System	−30.0 to +16.5 dB (+16.5 = no limit)
Power-on volume, each zone	System	Off, or a fixed level
HDMI Control (CEC)	System	On / Off
HDMI standby pass-through	System	Off / On / Auto
HDMI output resolution	System	Through, Auto, 480p … 4K (model dependent)
ECO mode	System	On / Off (takes effect after the receiver is turned off and on)
Network details incl. MAC address	System	read-only

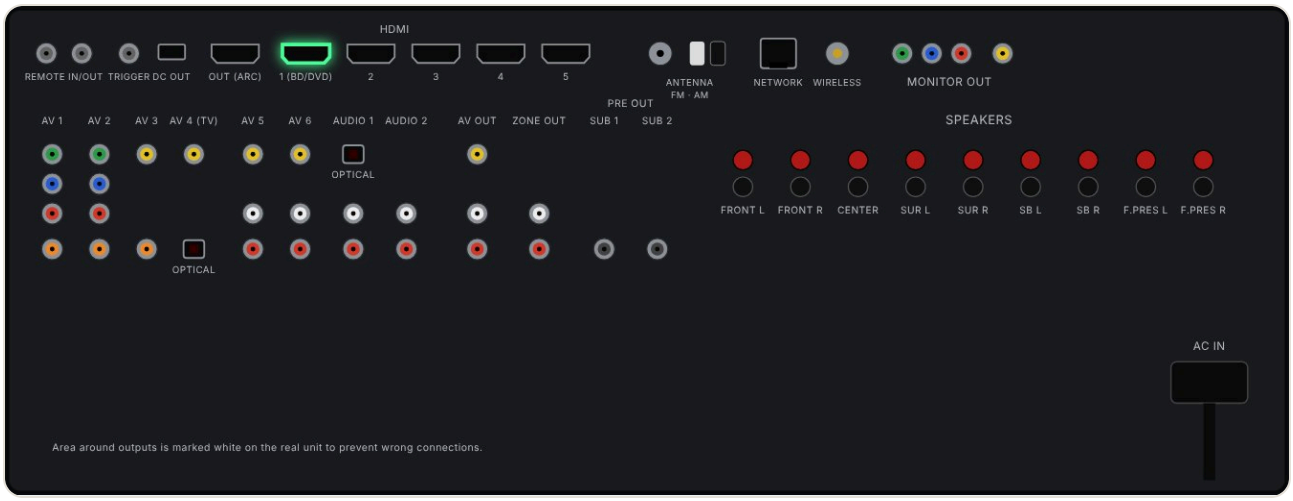
Before experimenting, use Tools → Back up settings. Speaker levels and distances are normally set by YPAO, the auto-setup microphone.

The Unit tab: front & back



The front panel. The display is a live copy and the keys work.

- **Live display.** The receiver doesn't send its display text over the network, so RX Scout rebuilds it from the status it reads: input name, sound program, volume bar and indicator lights (ECO, HDMI OUT, ENHANCER, CINEMA DSP, STEREO/TUNED, SLEEP, ZONE2, MUTE, ADAPTIVE DRC), at your Display dimmer brightness. Click **INFO** to change what it shows.
- **Working keys.** MAIN ZONE, ZONE 2, INPUT ◀▶, the four SCENE keys, PROGRAM ◀▶, STRAIGHT, PURE DIRECT, FM/AM, TUNING and PRESET do what the real keys do. Turn the **VOLUME** knob with the mouse wheel, or click its left half (down) or right half (up).
- **On-screen menu keys.** ON SCREEN, OPTION, DISPLAY, the cursor pad, ENTER and RETURN work the receiver's setup menu *on your TV*, so you can reach settings that only exist there. Watch the TV while you press them.

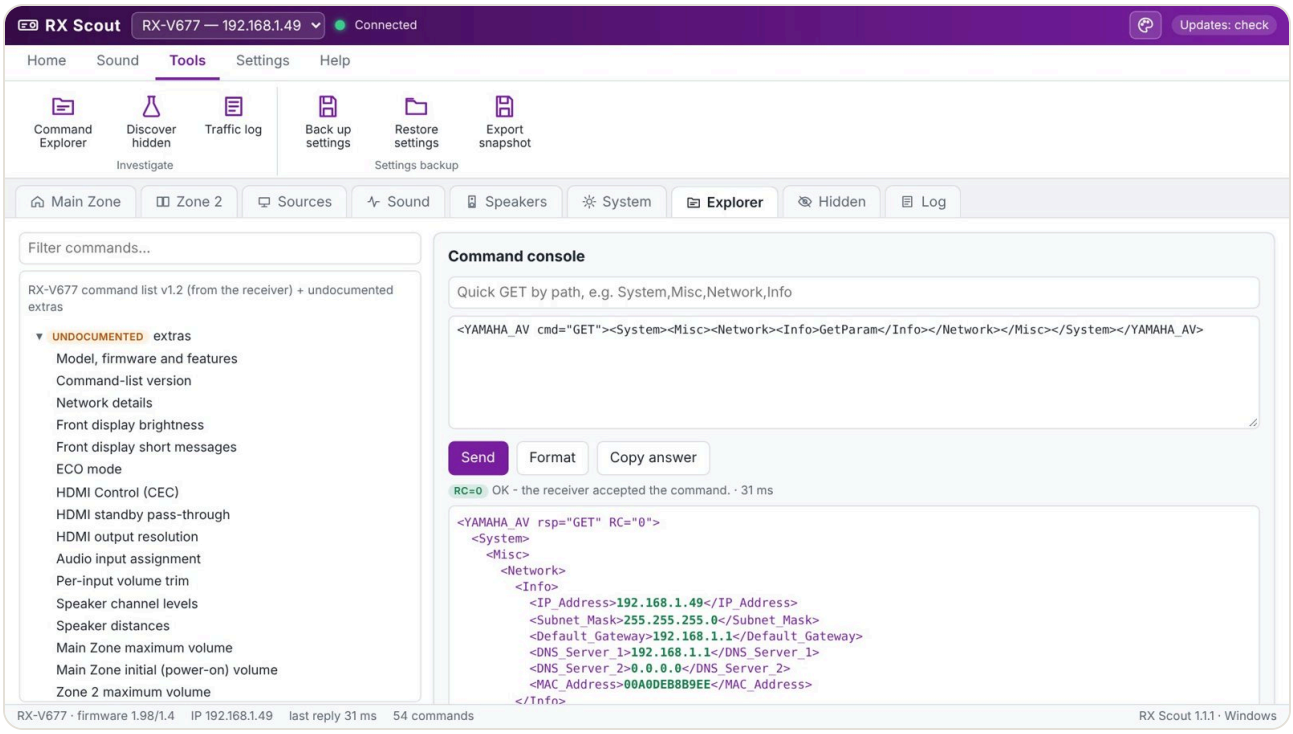


The rear panel. Hover any jack for what it's for; the jack for the input you're using glows green.

The drawings are made by RX Scout from the owner's manual's part lists, so positions are close but not exact.

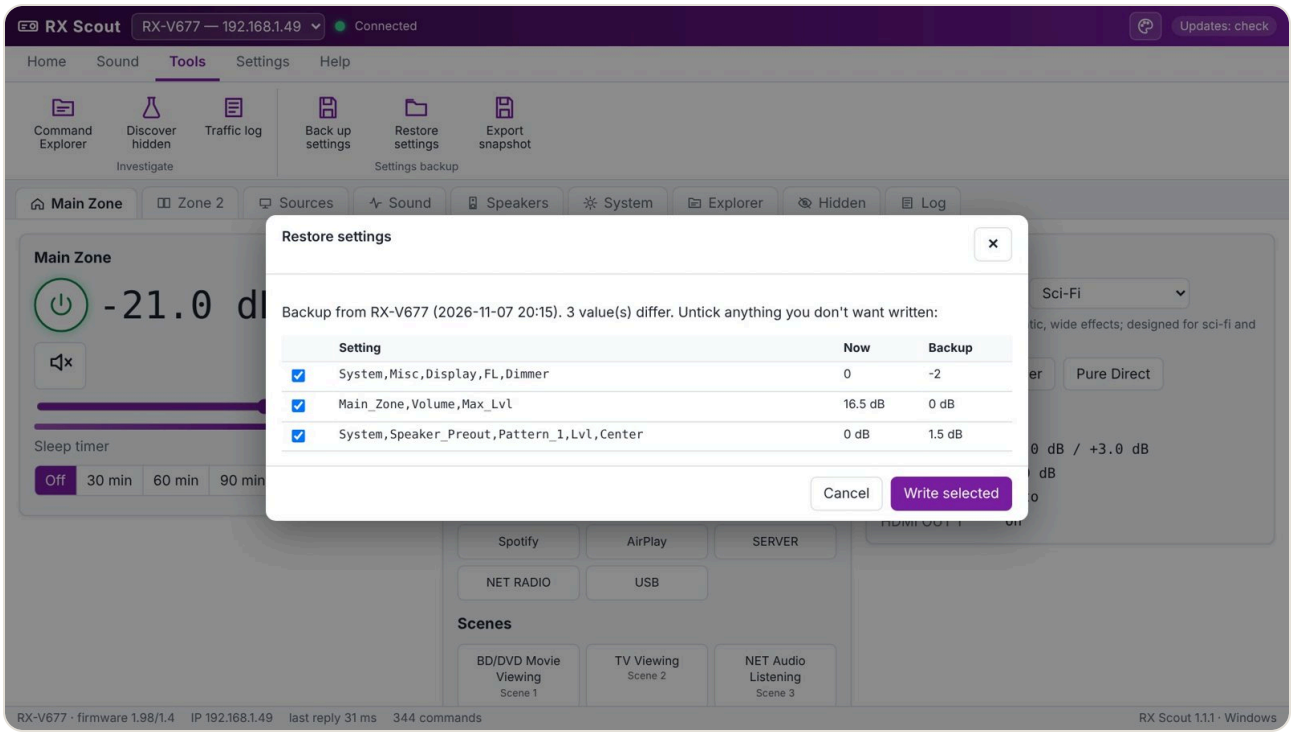
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9. Explorer & hidden-command scanner



- The **Explorer** tab shows every command the receiver publishes, plus the undocumented extras. Click one to load it into the console, change the value and click **Send**.
- Type a path such as `System,Misc,Network,Info` in the Quick GET box and press Enter to read it.
- A **GET** only reads and is always safe. A **PUT** changes a setting, and RX Scout asks first (Settings → Confirm raw PUT).
- **Hidden → Start scan** tries every published command plus about 70 names used on other Yamaha models, and lists everything that answers. It only reads.

10. Backup & restore



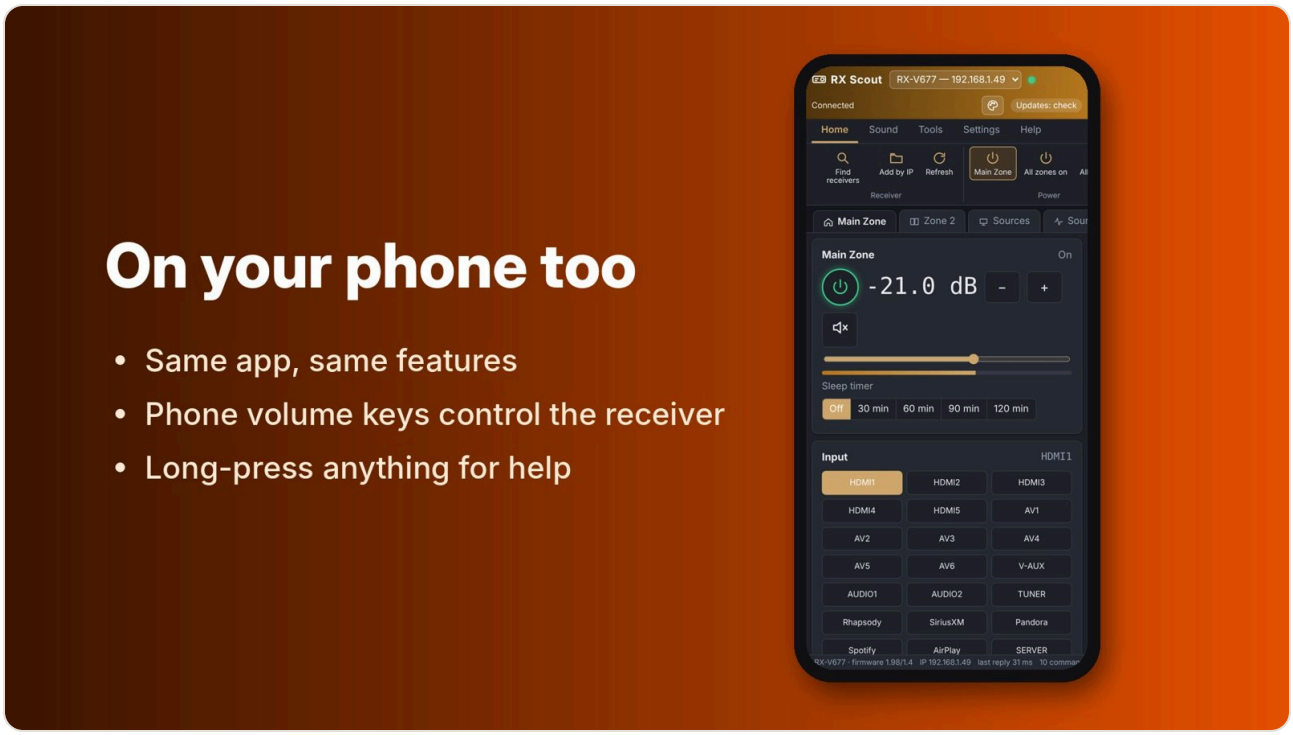
- **Tools → Back up settings** saves tone, DSP, dialogue, names, display, ECO, HDMI, volume limits, every input trim and all speaker levels to a file (57 values on the RX-V677).
- **Tools → Restore settings** opens a backup, compares it with the receiver, and lists only what's different. Untick anything you don't want, then click **Write selected**.
- **Export snapshot** saves the receiver's answer to every command in one file, handy for troubleshooting.

11. Settings

All settings apply immediately; nothing needs a restart.

- **Status every**: how often RX Scout reads the receiver's status (0.5 to 10 s).
- **Volume step**: 0.5, 1, 2 or 5 dB per press.
- **Volume limit**: RX Scout never sets the volume above this level.
- **Theme, colors, tooltips** (Verbose, Short or Off) and the tab RX Scout opens on.
- Keyboard on Windows: `↑` / `↓` or `+` / `−` volume, `M` mute, `F5` refresh.

12. On Android



- The phone must be on the same Wi-Fi as the receiver (not a guest network).
- While RX Scout is open, the phone's **volume buttons** change the receiver's volume. Turn this off in Settings → Phone volume keys.
- Long-press any control for its explanation. The Back button closes a window first, then returns to the Main Zone tab.
- Saved backups and logs go to `Downloads/RX Scout`. RX Scout tells you when a new version is out.

13. Return codes

Code	Meaning
RC=0	Accepted
RC=2	This model doesn't have that command
RC=3	Not allowed right now: the zone is off or the source isn't active
RC=4	Value rejected: out of range or wrong text

14. Troubleshooting

Problem	What to do
No receiver found	Use Add by IP. Make sure the PC or phone is on the same network, not guest Wi-Fi or another VLAN.
Red dot, “Not reachable”	The receiver is unplugged, changed address, or is in standby with Network Standby off. Give it a fixed address in your router using the MAC shown on the System tab.
“Value read back is different”	The receiver ignored that change; this model can't change it remotely.
Tone controls do nothing	Turn off Pure Direct.
Antivirus warning	New, unsigned programs get flagged sometimes. Download only from dialsoft.com and report it as a false positive to your antivirus vendor.

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