

RSS/99

A connected newsreader for the TI-99/4A

PROGRAM FILE: F18RSS | VERSION 1.42

Original idea and program by Zachary Fruhling | Adapted by Brad Snyder

RSS/99 brings internet news to the TI-99/4A. It retrieves text feeds through TIPI, presents them with smooth scrolling, and can play optional background music.

REQUIREMENTS

VIDEO

F18 or Pico9918 video support

MEMORY

32 KB RAM or SAMS memory

BASIC

RXB 2026 or newer

NETWORK

TIPI configured for network access

Also runs in js99er when RXB and TIPI are installed and configured.

HOW THE SYSTEM WORKS

1 Start

Run **RUN "DSK1.LOAD"**. The launcher starts the batch file.

2 Prepare

BATCH sets RXB's VDP stack and launches the F18RSS program.

3 Read

RSS/99 fetches feeds, weather and market headlines through TIPI.

FILES ON DSK1

LOAD, BATCH, F18RSS

Core startup chain: launcher, RXB setup, and the RSS/99 program.

SSCRL2, SSCRL3

Scrolling and sound routines used by the program; keep with the launch files.

MUSIC, BLUES, BOSSA, JAZZCLUB

Music data files. Include these if music playback or music changes are enabled.

PREFS (optional)

Saved feed and display choices. If absent, RSS/99 uses built-in defaults.

TIPI NOTE

News, weather and stock text are served over TIPI from retro-ti994a.com; they are not local disk files. An active TIPI/network connection is needed for fresh content.

Using RSS/99

A few keys, a connected TIPI, and your selected feeds.

STARTUP AND CONTROLS

● Start the program

At the RXB prompt, enter **RUN "DSK1.LOAD"** and press Enter.

● Splash screen

Press **Space** (Enter also works) to continue immediately. Press **S** to open feed setup. If left alone, the splash times out and continues.

● Choose feeds

Move the highlight in feed setup. Press **Space** to turn an item on or off; press **Enter** to save the choices to PREFS.

● Details message

The optional details screen includes the local weather location. Press **Space** to dismiss it; it also times out on its own.

● Quit

Press or hold **Q** to leave RSS/99.

TIMING

Splash screen

Space/Enter skips it; otherwise it continues automatically.

Details message

Space dismisses it; otherwise it continues automatically.

Change Music More OFF

Music changes at the next 10-minute interval as the feed cycle progresses.

Change Music More ON

Music changes after each feed category.

Stock ticker

Refreshes hourly through TIPI.

WHAT COUNTS AS A CATEGORY?

A category is one selected feed, such as a forum, news source, or weather. Music settings are available in the feed setup list.

A COUPLE OF USEFUL NOTES

PREFERENCES

Feed and display choices are stored in PREFS when you save the setup screen. Without PREFS, the program starts with its built-in selections.

CONTENT

RSS/99 cycles through the selected categories and scrolls their text on screen. Weather is local to the Northampton, Pennsylvania area.

MUSIC

Music is optional. The startup files include sound routines; the four music data files are only needed when using the music feature.

Questions or feedback?

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