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› Uniden UM385 25 Watt Fixed Mount Marine VHF Radio Instruction Manual

Uniden UM385

Uniden UM385 25 Watt Fixed Mount Marine VHF Radio Instruction Manual

Model: UM385 | Brand: Uniden

INTRODUCTION

The Uniden UM385 is a compact 25-watt fixed-mount marine VHF radio designed for reliable communication on the water. It features IPX4 waterproofing, Triple Watch, DSC capabilities, NOAA weather alerts, and support for all USA, International, and Canadian marine channels with memory scan. This manual provides essential information for the proper installation, operation, and maintenance of your UM385 marine radio.

WHAT'S IN THE BOX

Upon unpacking your Uniden UM385, please ensure all the following items are present:

- VHF Radio
- Mounting Bracket and Knobs
- Microphone Hanger
- Mounting Hardware
- Printed Materials (including this manual)



Figure 1: Uniden UM385 Marine Radio and Accessories. This image displays the main radio unit, microphone, mounting bracket, knobs, microphone hanger, and various mounting hardware components.

KEY FEATURES

- **25 Watt Transmit Power:** Provides strong and clear communication range.
- **IPX4 Waterproof Rating:** Resistant to damage from rain or splashing water.
- **Triple Watch Feature:** Allows monitoring of Channel 16, Channel 9, and a user-selected channel simultaneously.
- **Digital Selective Calling (DSC):** Includes Distress Button for emergencies, Position Send, and Position Request capabilities. Full Class D DSC functionality ensures clear communication and helps prevent interference.
- **NOAA Weather Alert:** Receives emergency weather alerts with Specific Area Message Encoding (S.A.M.E.) for localized warnings.
- **All USA/International/Canadian Marine Channels:** Comprehensive channel access for global marine communication.
- **Memory Channel Scan:** Quickly scan through your favorite or frequently used channels.
- **Rugged Handheld Microphone:** Durable microphone designed for ease of use in marine environments.
- **Backlit Keypad and Display:** Ensures visibility and ease of operation in low-light conditions.
- **Channel Naming:** Assign custom names to marine channels for quick reference.



Figure 2: Front view of the Uniden UM385 Marine Radio. This image shows the radio unit with its display, control knobs, and attached microphone, highlighting its compact design.

SETUP

Mounting the Radio

The UM385 is designed for fixed-mount installation. Use the provided mounting bracket and hardware to secure the radio in a suitable location on your vessel. Ensure the location allows for clear visibility of the display and easy access to controls, while also protecting the unit from direct exposure to extreme weather conditions beyond its IPX4 rating.

Power Connection

Connect the radio to your boat's 12V DC power supply using the provided DC power cable. Ensure proper polarity (red to positive, black to negative) and secure all connections to prevent corrosion and ensure reliable power delivery.

Antenna Connection

Connect a suitable marine VHF antenna to the antenna connector on the rear of the radio. For optimal performance, ensure the antenna is properly installed and tuned according to its manufacturer's instructions.

OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

Power On/Off and Volume

- To power on/off, press and hold the **PWR** button.
- Adjust the volume using the **VOLUME** knob.

Channel Selection

- Use the **CHANNEL UP/DOWN** buttons to cycle through available channels.
- Press the **USA/INT/CAN** button to switch between USA, International, and Canadian channel groups.
- For quick access to Channel 16 (Distress/Calling) or Channel 9 (Secondary Calling), press the dedicated **16/9** button.

Triple Watch (TRI)

Activate the Triple Watch function by pressing the **TRI** button. This feature allows the radio to monitor Channel 16, Channel 9, and your currently selected working channel for incoming transmissions.

Digital Selective Calling (DSC)

The UM385 features Class D DSC for enhanced safety. Ensure your MMSI (Maritime Mobile Service Identity) number is programmed into the radio for full functionality. Refer to the detailed manual for programming instructions.

- **Distress Call:** In an emergency, lift the red cover and press and hold the **DISTRESS** button for 3 seconds to send an automated distress alert with your vessel's position.
- **Position Send/Request:** Use the menu options to send your position to another vessel or request the position of another vessel.

NOAA Weather Alert (WX)

Press the **WX** button to access NOAA weather channels. The S.A.M.E. (Specific Area Message Encoding) feature provides localized weather alerts, notifying you of severe weather conditions in your immediate area.

Memory Channel Scan (SCAN)

To activate memory scan, press the **SCAN** button. The radio will cycle through channels you have saved into memory. Refer to the full manual for instructions on how to save channels to memory.

High/Low Power (TW/25W)

Toggle between high (25W) and low (1W) transmit power by pressing the **TW/25W** button. Use low power for short-range communication to conserve battery and reduce interference, and high power for maximum range.



Figure 3: Uniden UM385 Marine Radio in a marine setting. This image shows the radio mounted on a sailboat, emphasizing its use for communication during boating activities.

Official Product Video: Uniden UM385/BK 25 Watt Fixed Mount Marine VHF Radio

Your browser does not support the video tag.

Video 1: An official product video from Uniden America Corp. showcasing the features and benefits of the UM385/BK 25 Watt Fixed Mount Marine VHF Radio. This video provides a visual overview of the radio's design and functionality.

MAINTENANCE

- **Cleaning:** Wipe the radio and microphone with a soft, damp cloth. Avoid using harsh chemicals or abrasive

cleaners.

- **Waterproofing:** While the unit is IPX4 waterproof, meaning it resists splashing water, it is not designed for submersion. Ensure all covers and connections are securely fastened to maintain its water resistance.
- **Connections:** Regularly check all cable connections (power, antenna, microphone) for corrosion or damage. Clean and secure as needed.
- **Storage:** When not in use for extended periods, store the radio in a dry, cool place away from direct sunlight.

TROUBLESHOOTING

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
No Power	Loose power connection, blown fuse, low battery voltage.	Check power cable connections, inspect fuse, verify battery voltage.
No Audio / Low Volume	Volume too low, squelch set too high, speaker obstructed.	Adjust volume, lower squelch level, check speaker for obstructions.
Poor Transmission/Reception	Antenna issue, low transmit power, interference.	Check antenna connection and condition, switch to high power, move away from sources of electrical interference.
DSC Features Not Working	MMSI not programmed, incorrect settings.	Ensure MMSI is correctly programmed. Review DSC settings in the menu.

SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Detail
Brand	Uniden
Model Number	UM385
Color	White and grey
Number of Channels	40
Special Feature	Waterproof
Frequency Range	USA/International/Canadian Marine Channels, including new 4-Digit and Canadian B Channels
Talking Range Maximum	40 Miles
Water Resistance Level	Waterproof
Waterproof Rating	IPX4
Product Dimensions (D x W x H)	2.6"D x 5"W x 6.3"H
Item Weight	3.55 Pounds
Tuner Type	VHF
Connectivity Protocol	DSC

Feature	Detail
Included Components	VHF Radio, Mounting Bracket and Knobs, Microphone Hanger, Mounting Hardware, Printed Materials

WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

For warranty information and customer support, please contact the vendor directly. Details regarding warranty coverage and service procedures can typically be found in the printed materials included with your product or on the official Uniden website.