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BAOFENG CH340 Programming Cable

USB Baofeng Programming Cable Instruction Manual

Model: CH340 Programming Cable

1. Introduction

This manual provides comprehensive instructions for the USB Baofeng Programming Cable, featuring the CH340 chip. This cable is designed to connect your Baofeng two-way radio to a personal computer, enabling you to program settings, frequencies, and other parameters using compatible software.



Image: The USB Baofeng Programming Cable, featuring a standard USB-A connector on one end and a 2-pin connector for Baofeng radios on the other. The cable is black and coiled, with the BAOFENG logo visible on the USB connector housing.



Image: A visual representation of the programming cable connecting a Baofeng two-way radio to a laptop computer, illustrating its primary function of facilitating radio programming via PC.

2. Setup

2.1 Driver Installation

The programming cable utilizes a CH340 chip, which typically requires a driver for proper communication with your computer. While many modern operating systems (like Windows 10/11) may automatically install the necessary driver upon first connection, manual installation might be required.

- **Automatic Installation:** Connect the USB cable to your PC. Windows may detect and install the driver automatically.
- **Manual Installation:** If the cable is not recognized, you may need to install the driver manually. A mini-CD with

drivers is often included with the cable. If your computer lacks a CD drive, drivers can typically be downloaded from the manufacturer's official website or reputable driver repositories.

- **Verification:** After installation, verify the COM port assignment in your computer's Device Manager (under 'Ports (COM & LPT)'). Note the assigned COM port number, as this will be needed for the programming software.



Image: The USB connector end of the programming cable, highlighting the CH340 chip, which is essential for data communication between the computer and the radio.



Image: The programming cable displayed alongside a mini-CD, which typically contains the necessary drivers for the CH340 chip to ensure compatibility with Windows operating systems.

2.2 Software Installation

To program your radio, you will need compatible programming software. CHIRP is a widely used, free, open-source program that supports a broad range of radios, including Baofeng models.

- Download the appropriate programming software (e.g., CHIRP) for your radio model and operating system from a trusted source.
- Install the software following the on-screen instructions.

3. Operating Instructions

Once the drivers and programming software are installed, you can proceed with programming your radio.

1. **Connect the Cable:** Ensure your radio is turned off. Connect the 2-pin connector of the programming cable firmly

into the radio's accessory port. Then, connect the USB end to an available USB port on your computer.

2. **Turn on Radio:** Turn on your Baofeng radio.
3. **Launch Software:** Open your chosen programming software (e.g., CHIRP) on your computer.
4. **Configure COM Port:** In the software settings, select the correct COM port that was identified in Device Manager during driver installation.
5. **Read from Radio:** Use the software's "Read from Radio" function to download the current configuration from your device. This is crucial for backing up your existing settings before making changes.
6. **Modify Settings:** Adjust frequencies, channel names, squelch levels, and other parameters as desired within the software interface.
7. **Write to Radio:** Once modifications are complete, use the "Write to Radio" function to upload the new configuration to your Baofeng device. Ensure the radio remains connected and powered on during this process.
8. **Disconnect:** After successful writing, safely disconnect the cable from both the radio and the computer.



Image: A Baofeng two-way radio connected to a laptop via the programming cable, demonstrating the setup for transferring data and programming the radio.

4. Maintenance

Proper care of your programming cable will ensure its longevity and reliable performance.

- **Storage:** Store the cable in a cool, dry place, away from direct sunlight and extreme temperatures. Avoid tightly coiling or kinking the cable, as this can damage the internal wires.
- **Cleaning:** Use a soft, dry cloth to clean the cable and connectors. Do not use liquid cleaners or abrasive materials.
- **Handling:** Always grasp the connectors when plugging or unplugging the cable, rather than pulling on the cord itself.
- **Software Updates:** Regularly check for updates to your programming software (e.g., CHIRP) to ensure compatibility with new radio models and operating system versions.



Image: A close-up of the programming cable, emphasizing its durable PU material construction, designed for long-term use and resistance

to wear.

5. Troubleshooting

If you encounter issues during the programming process, refer to the following common troubleshooting steps:

- **Cable Not Recognized / Driver Issues:**
  - Ensure the CH340 driver is correctly installed. Check Device Manager for any yellow exclamation marks next to the COM port.
  - Try a different USB port on your computer.
  - Temporarily disable antivirus software, as it can sometimes interfere with driver installation or software operation.
- **Software Communication Errors:**
  - Verify that the correct COM port is selected in your programming software.
  - Ensure the cable is fully and securely inserted into both the radio and the computer.
  - Confirm that your radio is powered on.
  - If using CHIRP, ensure you have the latest stable version. Some older versions or specific builds might have compatibility issues.
- **Radio Model Not Supported by Software:**
  - While the cable is broadly compatible, ensure your specific radio model is supported by the programming software you are using. Consult the software's documentation or community forums.

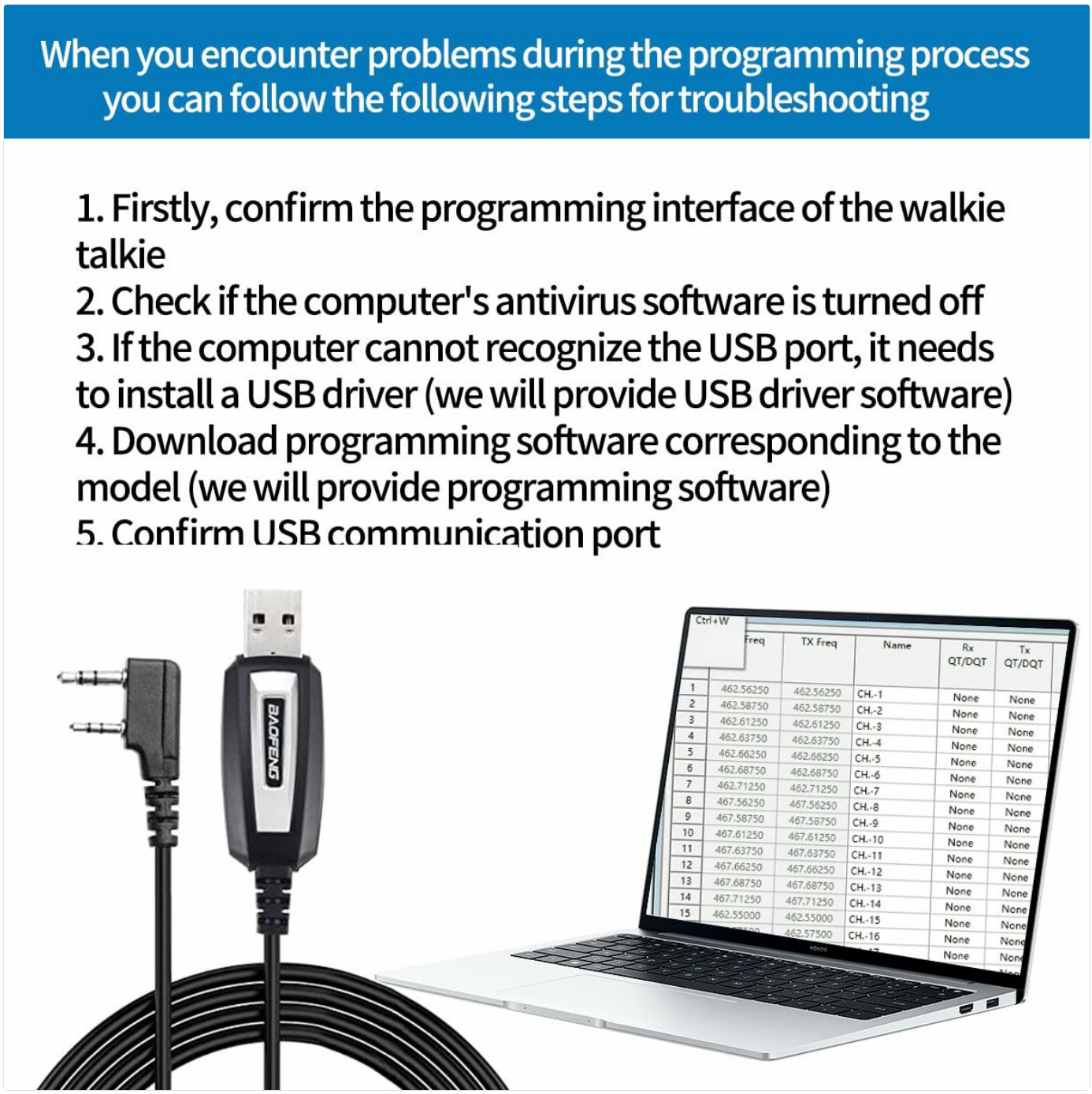


Image: A diagram illustrating common troubleshooting steps for the programming process, including confirming programming interface, checking antivirus, installing drivers, downloading software, and confirming COM port.

6. Specifications

Feature	Detail
Item Model Number	CH340 Programming Cable
Brand	BAOFENG
Chipset	CH340

Feature	Detail
Connector Type	2-pin (for Baofeng radios)
Cable Type	USB
Compatible Devices	UV-5R, BF-F8HP, 5RM, UV-21R, BF-888S, UV-82, UV-S9 PLUS, GMRS UV-5G Plus, GM-15PRO, GM-5RH, GM21, K5PLUS, AR-152, UV-17R, TIDRADIO TD-H3 8, Quansheng UV-K5 8 Ham Radio (and others with 2-pin K-type connector)
Special Feature	Tangle Free
Package Dimensions	6.1 x 5.2 x 0.91 inches
Weight	0.01 ounces



Image: A detailed view of the 2-pin K-type connector, showing its dimensions: 15mm and 12mm pin lengths, 8mm and 11mm pin spacing, ensuring proper fit for compatible radios.

7. Warranty and Support

For specific warranty information regarding your USB Baofeng Programming Cable, please refer to the product packaging or contact the retailer from whom you purchased the item. General support for Baofeng products can often be found on the official BAOFENG website or through authorized distributors.

For technical assistance related to the programming cable or software, it is recommended to consult online forums and communities dedicated to Baofeng radios and CHIRP software, as these resources often provide solutions to common issues.

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