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BAOFENG SQ-48

BAOFENG UV5R Folding Tactical Antenna User Manual

Model: SQ-48
Brand: BAOFENG

1. Introduction

The BAOFENG SQ-48 Folding Tactical Antenna is designed to enhance the signal reception and transmission capabilities of compatible two-way radios. Its unique folding design allows for portability while maintaining effective performance when unfolded. This manual provides essential information for the proper use, installation, and maintenance of your antenna.



Figure 1.1: BAOFENG SQ-48 Folding Tactical Antenna (3-pack view)

2. Features

- **Excellent Reception and Transmission:** The 48cm (18.89-inch) length is optimized for signal strength while remaining portable.
- **Folding Design:** Allows for easy portability and storage, making it suitable for outdoor activities like camping, hiking, and cycling.
- **Durable Construction:** Features finely welded loaded coils, and a double-glued, tight-seam shell and interface to prevent shedding and separation.
- **Dual Band Support:** Operates on both VHF and UHF frequencies (144/430MHz).
- **SMA-Female Connector:** Ensures broad compatibility with various two-way radios equipped with an SMA-Male jack.

3. Package Contents

Each package of the BAOFENG SQ-48 Folding Tactical Antenna typically includes the following components:

- BAOFENG SQ-48 Folding Tactical Antenna (48cm/18.89inch)
- Loop Fastener (for securing the antenna when folded)
- O-ring (to fill any gap between the radio and antenna connector)



Figure 3.1: Included Package Components

4. Specifications

Parameter	Value
Model	SQ-48
Type	Folding Tactical Antenna
Gain	3.0dBi
Connector	SMA Female
Frequency Range	VHF UHF 144/430MHZ
VSWR	<1.5
Impedance	50 ohm

Parameter	Value
Direction	Omnidirectional
Antenna Length (Unfolded)	48cm / 18.89inch
Antenna Length (Folded)	Approx. 25.5cm / 9.84inch (folded once), 18.5cm / 7.28inch (folded twice)
Net Weight	85g
Outer Material	Plastic



Figure 4.1: Antenna Dimensions (Unfolded and Folded)

5. Compatibility

The BAOFENG SQ-48 Folding Tactical Antenna is designed to be compatible with a wide range of two-way radios that feature an SMA-Male antenna jack. This includes, but is not limited to, the following models:

- BAOFENG UV-5R, UV-5RA, UV-5RE, UV-5RX3

- BAOFENG BF-F8, BF-F8HP, GT-5R, BF-F9, BF-R3, V2N
- BAOFENG UV-5X3, UV-82, UV-82L, UV-82C, UV-89, UV-8D, UV-82HP, UV-82HPL, UV-82HX, UV-82X
- BAOFENG GMRS-V1, GMRS-V2, MURS-V1, MURS-V2
- BAOFENG UV-82 MK3/5, UV-8R, UV-98D, UV-Q5, UV-82RT, UV-K5, UV-K5(8), UV-K6
- BAOFENG DM-1701, UV-5RH, UV-17, UV-17 Plus, UV-888S

If your radio has an SMA-Male connector, this antenna should be compatible. Refer to your radio's manual for its specific antenna connector type.



Figure 5.1: Compatibility with SMA-Male Radios

6. Setup and Installation

Installing the BAOFENG SQ-48 antenna is a straightforward process:

1. **Identify Radio Connector:** Ensure your two-way radio has an SMA-Male antenna connector.
2. **Unpack Antenna:** Carefully remove the antenna from its packaging.

3. **Attach Antenna:** Align the SMA-Female connector of the antenna with the SMA-Male connector on your radio. Gently screw the antenna onto the radio's connector clockwise until it is finger-tight. Do not overtighten.
4. **Use O-ring (Optional):** If there is a small gap between the antenna base and the radio body after tightening, place the included O-ring over the radio's connector before attaching the antenna to ensure a snug fit and prevent dust/moisture ingress.



Figure 6.1: SMA-Female Antenna Connector Detail

7. Operation

Once installed, the BAOFENG SQ-48 antenna operates passively to enhance your radio's performance. For optimal signal reception and transmission:

- **Unfold for Use:** For best performance, fully unfold the antenna to its maximum length (48cm/18.89inch) when operating your radio. This maximizes its gain and range.
- **Fold for Portability:** When not in active use or during transport, fold the antenna using its articulated joints. Use the included loop fastener to secure it in the folded position. This protects the antenna and makes it more compact for carrying.
- **Antenna Orientation:** For general use, a vertical orientation of the antenna is typically best for omnidirectional communication.

- **Environmental Factors:** Be aware that obstacles such as buildings, dense foliage, and terrain can affect signal propagation. Positioning yourself in an open area can improve performance.



Figure 7.1: Antenna in Use (Unfolded for Optimal Performance)

8. Maintenance

Proper maintenance will extend the lifespan of your BAOFENG SQ-48 antenna:

- **Cleaning:** Wipe the antenna with a soft, damp cloth to remove dirt or dust. Do not use harsh chemicals or abrasive cleaners.
- **Inspection:** Periodically inspect the antenna for any signs of damage, such as cracks in the plastic casing, bent elements, or loose connections.
- **Connector Care:** Keep the SMA-Female connector clean and dry. Avoid getting dirt or moisture inside the connector.
- **Storage:** When not in use, store the antenna in a cool, dry place, preferably in its folded state to protect the elements.

9. Troubleshooting

If you experience issues with your antenna, consider the following:

- **Poor Signal Quality:**
  - Ensure the antenna is fully unfolded when in use.
  - Verify the antenna is securely tightened to the radio's connector.
  - Check for physical damage to the antenna or its connector.
  - Ensure you are within range of other radios or repeaters.
  - Consider environmental obstructions (buildings, hills, etc.).
- **Antenna Not Fitting:**
  - Confirm your radio has an SMA-Male connector. This antenna is SMA-Female.
  - Do not force the connection. If it doesn't fit, it may not be compatible.

10. Warranty and Support

The BAOFENG SQ-48 Folding Tactical Antenna comes with a **3-month warranty**. This warranty is provided exclusively through "Shiqun Electronics Co., Ltd."
For any warranty claims, technical support, or inquiries regarding compatibility, please contact Shiqun Electronics Co., Ltd. directly. Refer to your purchase documentation for specific contact details.

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