Retevis RA79

Retevis RA79 Ham Radio Instruction Manual

Model: RA79

1. INTRODUCTION

This manual provides detailed instructions for the proper setup, operation, maintenance, and troubleshooting of your Retevis RA79 Ham Radio. Please read this manual thoroughly before using the device to ensure optimal performance and safety.

The Retevis RA79 is a versatile handheld ham radio designed for reliable communication. Key features include multi-band receiving capabilities, NOAA weather alerts, USB-C charging, and an emergency alarm function.

2. PACKAGE CONTENTS

Before proceeding with setup, please verify that all items listed below are present in your package:

- 2 x RA79 Radio Body
- 2 x Antenna
- 2 x 1400mAh Lithium-Ion Battery
- 2 x Belt Clip
- 2 x Hand Strap
- 2 x USB Desktop Charger
- 1 x USB Charging Cable
- 2 x User Manual

Image: Contents of the Retevis RA79 package, including two radios, antennas, batteries, belt clips, hand straps, desktop chargers, a USB cable, and user manuals.

3. SETUP INSTRUCTIONS

3.1 Battery Installation

1. Align the battery with the back of the radio body.
2. Slide the battery upwards until it clicks securely into place.

Image: The back of the Retevis RA79 radio and its removable 1400mAh Lithium-Ion battery, showing the contact points.

3.2 Antenna Attachment

1. Screw the antenna clockwise onto the connector at the top of the radio until it is finger-tight. Do not overtighten.

3.3 Charging the Battery

The RA79 radio uses a 1400mAh rechargeable Li-ion battery. It can be charged using the included USB desktop charger or directly via the USB-C port on the radio.

1. **Using the Desktop Charger:** Place the radio (with battery installed) into the desktop charger. Connect the USB charging cable to the desktop charger and a compatible USB power source (e.g., USB adapter, power bank, PC). The indicator light on the charger will show charging status.
2. **Direct USB-C Charging:** Connect the USB-C charging cable directly to the USB-C port on the side of the radio and to a compatible USB power source.

Image: The Retevis RA79 radio in its desktop charger, highlighting the USB-C charging port on the radio itself and various charging methods like USB adapter, power bank, PC, and vehicle charging.

3.4 Initial Power On

1. Rotate the power/volume knob clockwise to turn on the radio.
2. Adjust the knob to set the desired volume level.

Image: Two Retevis RA79 ham radios, each placed in its respective desktop charging cradle, with antennas attached and screens displaying frequency information.

4. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

4.1 Basic Controls

- **Power/Volume Knob:** Rotate to turn on/off and adjust volume.
- **PTT (Push-to-Talk) Button:** Press and hold to transmit, release to receive. Located on the left side of the radio.
- **Menu Button:** Accesses the radio's menu system.
- **Up/Down Arrows:** Navigate menu options or adjust frequencies.
- **Keypad:** For direct frequency entry and accessing specific functions.

4.2 Frequency and Channel Modes

The RA79 supports both VFO (Variable Frequency Oscillator) mode for direct frequency input and Channel mode for pre-programmed frequencies.

1. **VFO Mode:** Allows manual entry and editing of frequencies. Press the **VFO/MR** button (often labeled 3) to switch to VFO mode. Use the keypad to enter the desired frequency.
2. **Channel Mode:** Accesses pre-stored channels. Press the **VFO/MR** button to switch to Channel mode. Use the Up/Down arrows or keypad to select a channel.

Image: A close-up of the Retevis RA79 radio's screen showing the VFO function, allowing manual frequency input without

4.3 Programming

The RA79 can be programmed via its keypad or using CHIRP software.

- **Keypad Programming:** Frequencies and settings can be entered directly using the radio's keypad. Refer to the detailed menu structure in the full user manual for specific programming steps.
- **CHIRP Software:** For advanced programming and channel management, the RA79 is compatible with CHIRP software (Windows XP/7/8/10/11). A programming cable (not always included, check package contents) is required to connect the radio to a computer.

4.4 Multi-Band Receiving

The RA79 supports receiving across multiple bands, including V/UHF, AM, and FM, as well as the Air Band.

Image: The Retevis RA79 radio's screen showing an AM aviation receiving frequency, indicating its capability to receive AM modulation.

4.5 NOAA Weather Alert

The radio features 10 NOAA weather channels, providing access to weather alerts and forecasts. This function is particularly useful for outdoor activities.

Image: The Retevis RA79 radio displaying a NOAA weather channel frequency on its screen, indicating its weather alert capability.

4.6 Emergency Alarm

The RA79 includes an emergency alarm function to signal for assistance when needed. Consult the full user manual for instructions on activating and deactivating this feature.

Image: A close-up of the top of the Retevis RA79 radio, showing a red emergency alarm light illuminated, indicating the activation of the emergency function.

4.7 Frequency Capture (Fast Pair)

The radio can quickly scan and capture frequencies from other two-way radios, displaying them on the LCD for easy pairing.

FAST PAIR ONE CHANNEL

Search frequencies for fast communication

Image: The Retevis RA79 radio's screen showing a 'SCAN..' message, indicating its 'Fast Pair One Channel' function to search and capture frequencies.

5. MAINTENANCE

5.1 Cleaning the Device

- Wipe the radio's surface with a soft, damp cloth.
- Do not use harsh chemicals or abrasive cleaners.
- Ensure the radio is powered off and disconnected from any charging source before cleaning.

5.2 Battery Care and Storage

- Avoid fully discharging the battery frequently to prolong its lifespan.
- Store batteries in a cool, dry place away from direct sunlight and extreme temperatures.
- If storing for extended periods, charge the battery to approximately 50% capacity.

5.3 Antenna Care

- Handle the antenna carefully to prevent bending or damage.
- Ensure the antenna is securely attached during operation.

6. TROUBLESHOOTING

If you encounter issues with your Retevis RA79 radio, refer to the following common problems and solutions:

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Radio does not power on	Low or depleted battery; improperly installed battery	Charge the battery; ensure battery is correctly installed.
No signal or poor reception	Antenna not attached; out of range; incorrect frequency/channel	Attach antenna securely; move closer to other radios/repeater; verify frequency/channel settings.
Cannot transmit	Incorrect frequency/offset; PTT button not pressed correctly; battery low	Check frequency and offset settings; ensure PTT is fully pressed; charge battery.
Distorted audio	Volume too high/low; squelch level incorrect; interference	Adjust volume; adjust squelch level; move away from sources of interference.

If the problem persists after attempting these solutions, please contact customer support.

7. SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Specification
Model Number	RA79
Item Weight	7.9 ounces
Product Dimensions	1.48 x 2.36 x 4.53 inches
Battery Type	2 Lithium Ion batteries (1400mAh each)
Display Type	LCD
Number of Channels	200
Frequency Range	Dual Band
Talking Range Maximum	5 Mile (under optimal conditions)
Voltage	7.4 Volts (DC)
Water Resistance Level	Not Water Resistant
Special Features	Emergency Alarm, Keypad Lock

8. WARRANTY INFORMATION

Retevis provides a 2-year warranty for the radio body and a 1-year warranty for accessories. A 30-day no-reason return policy is also offered. For service beyond the warranty period, maintenance services are available, with buyers

responsible for associated costs.

To initiate a warranty claim or for service inquiries, please contact Retevis customer support via Amazon. Responses are typically provided within 12 hours.

9. CUSTOMER SUPPORT

For any questions, technical assistance, or support regarding your Retevis RA79 Ham Radio, please contact Retevis Direct through the Amazon platform. Ensure you provide your product details and a clear description of your inquiry for efficient assistance.

Related Documents - RA79

	Retevis RB67 Two-Way Radio User Manual: Features, Operation, and Safety Comprehensive user manual for the Retevis RB67 two-way radio. Learn about its features like 22 channels, CTCSS/DCS, VOX, NOAA weather, and essential safety guidelines for optimal performance and RF exposure control.
	Retevis RA79 Analog Ham Radio User Manual This user manual provides detailed instructions for operating the Retevis RA79 Analog Ham Radio, covering its features, specifications, safety precautions, and troubleshooting tips.
	Retevis RT628 Kids Walkie Talkie User's Guide User's guide for the Retevis RT628 Kids Walkie Talkie, covering setup, operation, features, safety information, and specifications. Includes instructions for installation, volume control, channel setting, special features like VOX and call tones, and safety precautions.
	Retevis RA89 User's Manual and Operating Guide Comprehensive user manual for the Retevis RA89 two-way radio, covering operation, features, safety, and technical specifications. Find setup guides and support resources.

[Retevis RT628 Kids Walkie Talkies FAQ: Compatibility, Communication, and Battery Installation](#)
Frequently asked questions about the Retevis RT628 kids walkie talkies, covering compatibility with other FRS radios, how to establish communication, avoiding unwanted voices, and battery installation.

[RETEVIS RB48 Two-Way Radio User Manual - FRS Walkie-Talkie](#)
Comprehensive user manual for the RETEVIS RB48 FRS two-way radio, covering operation, charging, technical specifications, frequency charts, safety guidelines, and FCC/CE/IC compliance. Learn how to use your RB48 walkie-talkie effectively.