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BAOFENG UV-18L

BAOFENG UV-18L 4 Band Ham Radio User Manual

Model: UV-18L

Introduction

The BAOFENG UV-18L is an advanced 4-band ham radio designed for reliable two-way communication. Featuring a 1.77-inch LCD screen, 999 channels, and USB-C charging, it offers enhanced functionality and convenience for various communication needs, including amateur radio, UHF, VHF, and NOAA weather alerts. This manual provides detailed instructions for setting up, operating, and maintaining your UV-18L radio.



Image: The BAOFENG UV-18L radio displayed with its full set of accessories, including the antenna, battery, charger, belt clip, hand strap, USB-C cable, and earpiece.

Key Features

- **1.77-inch LCD Screen:** Provides clear display of operating information.
- **Four-Band Operation:** Supports FM, VHF (144-148MHz), UHF (420-450MHz), and Amateur bands.
- **999 Channels:** Extensive channel capacity for diverse communication needs.
- **USB-C Charging:** Convenient and versatile charging via USB-C cable or charging base.
- **NOAA Weather Alarm:** Receive alerts for severe weather conditions.
- **Waterproof Design:** Enhanced durability for outdoor use.

- **Advanced Scanning Functions:** Includes VFO scan, channel scan, CTCSS/DCS scan, and three scan recovery methods.
- **VOX Function:** Voice-activated transmission for hands-free operation.
- **DTMF:** Dual-tone multi-frequency signaling for advanced control.
- **Dual Watch:** Monitor two frequencies simultaneously.

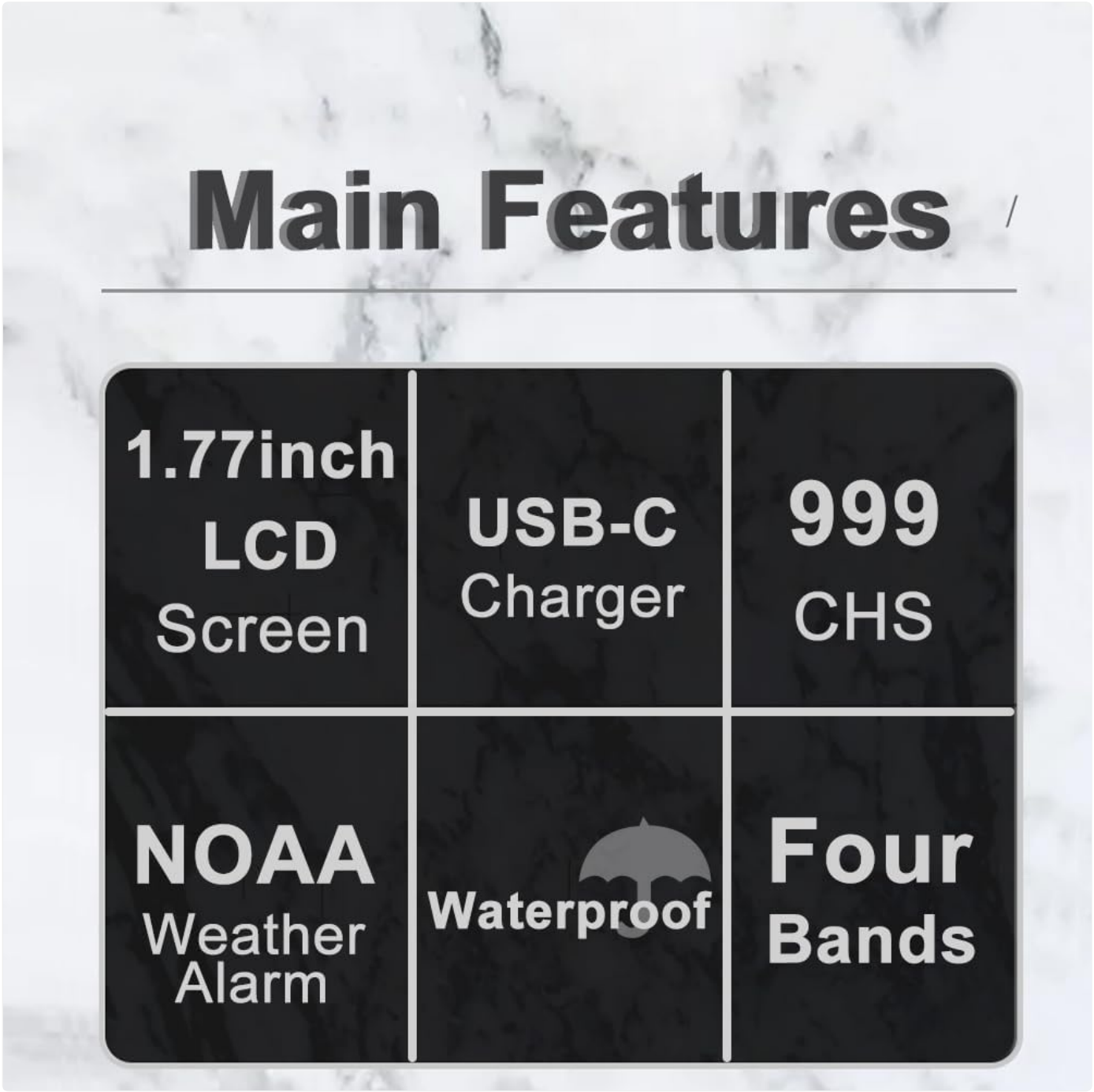


Image: A visual summary of the BAOFENG UV-18L's main features, highlighting the 1.77-inch LCD screen, USB-C charging, 999 channels, NOAA weather alarm, waterproof capability, and four-band support.

What's in the Box

- UV-18L Portable Radio
- USB-C Cable (Gift)
- High Gain Antenna
- 1800mAh Large Capacity Battery
- Belt Clip

- Battery Charger (Dock and US Adapter)
- Hand Strap
- User's Manual
- Earpiece

Setup

1. Battery Installation and Charging

1. Ensure the radio is powered off.
2. Align the 1800mAh Lithium Ion battery with the battery compartment on the back of the radio.
3. Slide the battery into place until it clicks securely.
4. To charge, connect the USB-C cable directly to the radio's USB-C port or place the radio in the charging dock. Connect the charging dock to a power source using the US adapter.
5. The charging indicator light will show charging status.



Image: The BAOFENG UV-18L radio highlighting its USB-C charging port, illustrating how it can be conveniently charged via various USB power sources like a car charger, laptop, or power bank.

2. Antenna Attachment

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

3. Belt Clip and Hand Strap Attachment

- Attach the belt clip to the designated slot on the back of the radio for easy carrying.
- Thread the hand strap through the loop on the radio for added security.

4. Earpiece Connection

- Insert the earpiece plug into the audio jack on the side of the radio.

Operating Instructions

1. Power On/Off

- To power on, rotate the volume knob clockwise until you hear a click.
- To power off, rotate the volume knob counter-clockwise until you hear a click.

2. Channel Selection and Frequency Bands

The UV-18L supports 999 channels and operates across four bands:

- **FM Radio**
- **VHF:** 144-148MHz
- **UHF:** 420-450MHz
- **Amateur Bands**

Use the keypad to directly input frequencies or navigate through stored channels. The 1.77-inch LCD screen displays the current frequency and channel information.



Image: The BAOFENG UV-18L radio's display showing its four-band capabilities, including FM, VHF (144-148MHz), UHF (420-450MHz), and Amateur bands, emphasizing its versatility for different communication ranges.



Image: A close-up view of the BAOFENG UV-18L's 1.77-inch full LCD screen, demonstrating its clear display for frequency and operational information.

3. Scanning Functions

The UV-18L offers various scanning modes:

- **VFO Scan:** Scans within a defined frequency range.
- **Channel Scan:** Scans through programmed channels.
- **CTCSS/DCS Scan:** Detects sub-tones for selective calling.
- **Scan Recovery Methods:** Three methods available (Time, Carrier, Search) to resume scanning after a signal is detected.

4. VOX (Voice Operated Exchange)

Enable VOX for hands-free transmission. The radio will transmit automatically when it detects your voice.

5. NOAA Weather Alarm

Activate the NOAA weather alarm function to receive alerts for severe weather conditions on designated NOAA channels.

6. DTMF (Dual-Tone Multi-Frequency)

Use DTMF for various control functions, such as remote control of repeaters or selective calling.



Image: The BAOFENG UV-18L radio illustrating its Frequency Hopping Function for anti-interference and anti-crosstalk, alongside its DTMF capabilities for advanced signaling.

7. Dual Watch

The dual watch feature allows you to monitor two different frequencies simultaneously, ensuring you don't miss important communications.



Image: An exploded view of the BAOFENG UV-18L's speaker components, demonstrating the design for a comprehensively upgraded listening experience with clearer calls and resistance to noisy environments.

Maintenance

1. Cleaning

- Wipe the radio's surface with a soft, damp cloth. Do not use harsh chemicals or abrasive cleaners.
- Ensure the USB-C port and audio jack are free of dust and debris.

2. Battery Care

- To prolong battery life, avoid fully discharging the battery frequently.
- Store the radio and battery in a cool, dry place when not in use for extended periods.

3. Waterproof Information

The UV-18L is designed with waterproof features. While it can withstand splashes and light rain, it is not intended for

submersion. Ensure all port covers are securely closed to maintain water resistance.

Troubleshooting

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Radio does not power on.	Battery is low or not installed correctly.	Charge the battery or re-install it securely.
Cannot transmit or receive.	Incorrect frequency/channel, antenna not attached, or out of range.	Verify frequency/channel settings. Ensure antenna is securely attached. Move closer to the other radio.
Poor audio quality.	Low battery, interference, or earpiece issue.	Charge battery. Move away from sources of interference. Check earpiece connection or try without earpiece.

Specifications

- **Power:** 5-Watt
- **Channels:** 999
- **Battery Capacity:** 1800mAh Lithium Ion
- **Frequency Range:** FM; VHF: 144-148MHz; Amateur; UHF: 420-450MHz
- **NOAA Channel No.:** 10
- **Net Weight:** 645g / 22.75 ounces (approx. 1.33 pounds)
- **Working Temperature:** -20℃ to +60℃
- **Residual Modulation:** 40dB
- **Stray Component:** ≤7.5uW
- **Modulation Distortion:** ≤5%
- **Audio Distortion:** ≤10%
- **Water Resistance Level:** Waterproof
- **Voltage:** 3.7 Volts (DC)
- **Talking Range Maximum:** 3.1 Miles
- **Tuner Technology:** UHF/VHF

Warranty and Support

A **1-year warranty** is provided for the BAOFENG UV-18L radio. This warranty is exclusively provided through "Shiqun Electronics Co., Ltd." Please retain your proof of purchase for warranty claims.
For technical support or warranty inquiries, please contact Shiqun Electronics Co., Ltd. directly. Refer to the contact information provided with your purchase documentation or visit the official BAOFENG store on Amazon for further assistance.
Manufacturer: Shiqun Electronics Co., Ltd
Country of Origin: China

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