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BAOFENG UV-18H

BAOFENG UV-18H 6 Band Ham Radio Instruction Manual

Model: UV-18H | Brand: BAOFENG

1. Introduction

Thank you for choosing the BAOFENG UV-18H 6 Band Ham Radio. This advanced two-way radio is designed for reliable communication across multiple frequency bands, featuring GPS, NOAA weather alerts, and convenient USB-C charging. This manual provides essential information for the proper setup, operation, and maintenance of your device to ensure optimal performance and longevity.
The UV-18H offers a 1.77-inch TFT large screen, a full keyboard for easy menu navigation, and a robust set of features including wireless frequency copy, DTMF capabilities, and extensive memory channel storage.

2. What's in the Box

Carefully unpack your BAOFENG UV-18H radio and verify that all components are present. The standard package includes:

- UV-18H Portable Radio
- USB-C Cable (Gift)
- Headset (Gift)
- High Gain Antenna
- 1800mAh Large Capacity Battery
- Belt Clip
- Battery Charger (Dock and US Adapter)
- Hand Strap
- User's Manual
- 18.89in Tactical Antenna
- Programming Cable



Figure 2.1: All components included with the BAOFENG UV-18H radio.

3. Setup

3.1 Battery Installation

1. Align the 1800mAh Lithium-Ion battery with the battery compartment on the back of the radio.
2. Gently slide the battery into place until it clicks securely.
3. To remove, press the release latch (if present) and slide the battery out.

3.2 Antenna Attachment

1. Screw the desired antenna (High Gain or Tactical Antenna) clockwise onto the antenna connector at the top of the radio until it is finger-tight. Do not overtighten.

3.3 Charging the Battery

The UV-18H offers versatile charging options:

- **Using the Charging Dock:** Place the radio with the battery installed into the charging dock. Ensure the charging contacts align. The indicator light on the dock will show charging status.
- **Direct USB-C Charging:** Connect the provided USB-C cable directly to the USB-C port on the side of the radio. You can charge from a power bank, PC, car charger, or any standard USB power adapter. This method provides convenient charging on the go.



Figure 3.1: USB-C charging options for the UV-18H.

3.4 Initial Power On

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

3.5 Connecting the Programming Cable

For advanced configuration and channel management via computer, connect the programming cable to the radio's side port and to your PC's USB port. Refer to the programming software's instructions for detailed steps.

4. Operating the Radio

4.1 Display and Keypad

The UV-18H features a 1.77-inch TFT large screen and a full keyboard, allowing for fully open menu operation and direct input. The display illumination is programmable via the keypad.



Figure 4.1: The 1.77-inch Full LCD Screen of the UV-18H.

4.2 Frequency and Channel Management

- **Frequency Bands:** The UV-18H supports six bands, including FM, AM, VHF (144-148MHz), and UHF (420-

450MHz).

- **Frequency Step:** Selectable between 2.5K, 5.0K, 6.25K, 10.0K, 12.5K, 20.0K, 25.0K, and 50.0K.
- **Memory Channels:** Store up to 999 named memory channels across 10 zones. The built-in input method allows for editing channel names directly on the device.
- **Wireless Copy Frequency:** This feature allows for quick and easy duplication of frequencies from another radio.
- **Programmable Repeater Offset:** Configure the radio for repeater use.
- **PC Programmable:** Utilize the programming cable and software for comprehensive channel and feature management.



Figure 4.2: Six-Band frequency capabilities of the UV-18H.

4.3 Scanning Functions

The UV-18H includes various scanning capabilities:

- **VFO Scan:** Set a range for frequency scanning.
- **Channel Scan:** Scan through programmed memory channels.

- **CTC/DCS Scan:** Scan for CTCSS tones and DCS codes.
- **Scan Recovery Methods:** Three methods available for resuming scanning after a signal is detected.
- **Channel Addition/Removal:** Add or remove channels from the scan list.

4.4 DTMF (Dual-Tone Multi-Frequency)

The radio supports DTMF encoding and manual dialing, useful for accessing repeaters or other DTMF-controlled systems.

4.5 Squelch Adjustment

Adjust the squelch level (10 levels available) to filter out weak signals and background noise, ensuring clearer reception.

4.6 Dual Watch / Dual Reception

This feature allows the radio to monitor two different frequencies or channels simultaneously, ensuring you don't miss important communications on either frequency.

4.7 Cross Band Reception

The UV-18H supports cross-band reception, allowing it to receive signals on one band while transmitting on another, enhancing communication flexibility.

4.8 Keypad Lock

Activate the keypad lock function to prevent accidental button presses and changes to settings.

4.9 Power Settings

Select between high or low power output depending on your communication range requirements and battery conservation needs.

4.10 Alarm Function

The radio includes an alarm function for emergency situations. Refer to the on-screen menu for activation steps.

4.11 GPS Functionality

The UV-18H features built-in GPS, providing a simple compass display on the screen to indicate location. It does not require an APRS cable for this basic GPS functionality. Please note that detailed operation steps for the GPS are not included in this manual; video tutorials may be available from the manufacturer for further guidance.



Figure 4.3: GPS functionality for positioning.

4.12 NOAA Weather Alerts

The radio is equipped with NOAA weather alert capabilities, allowing you to receive important weather broadcasts and alerts.



Figure 4.4: The UV-18H features GPS, unlike the UV-18L which has a flashlight.

5. Maintenance

5.1 Battery Care

- Avoid fully discharging the Lithium-Ion battery frequently.
- Charge the battery regularly, even if the radio is not in use, to maintain battery health.
- Store the battery in a cool, dry place when not in use for extended periods.

5.2 Cleaning the Device

- Use a soft, damp cloth to wipe the radio's surface.
- Do not use harsh chemicals or abrasive cleaners.

- Ensure the radio is powered off and disconnected from any power source before cleaning.

5.3 Storage

When storing the radio for a long time, remove the battery and store both the radio and battery in a dry, temperature-controlled environment away from direct sunlight and extreme temperatures.

6. Troubleshooting

If you encounter issues with your BAOFENG UV-18H, refer to the following common problems and solutions:

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Radio does not power on	Battery low or not installed correctly	Charge the battery or re-install it securely.
No reception or poor audio	Antenna loose, squelch too high, or out of range	Check antenna connection, adjust squelch level, move closer to transmitting radio.
Cannot transmit	Incorrect frequency, busy channel lock-out, or low battery	Verify frequency, wait for channel to clear, charge battery.
Keypad unresponsive	Keypad lock is active	Deactivate keypad lock (refer to radio's on-screen menu or quick guide).

7. Specifications

Detailed technical specifications for the BAOFENG UV-18H:

Feature	Specification
Model Number	UV-18H
Item Weight	25.39 Ounces (approx. 1.59 pounds)
Package Dimensions	8.07 x 4.64 x 4.13 inches
Battery Type	1 Lithium Ion battery (included)
Number of Channels	999
Special Features	1.77inch Screen, GPS, NOAA, Six Bands, USB-C Charging
Frequency Range	144-148MHz, 420-450Mhz
Maximum Talking Range	6 Miles
Voltage	7.4 Volts (DC)
Water Resistance Level	Not Water Resistant

8. Warranty and Support

8.1 Warranty Information

The BAOFENG UV-18H comes with a 1-year warranty. This warranty is provided exclusively through "Shiqun Electronics Co., Ltd." Please retain your proof of purchase for any warranty claims.

8.2 Customer Support

For technical assistance, troubleshooting beyond this manual, or warranty inquiries, please contact the seller, Shiqun Electronics Co., Ltd., or visit the official BAOFENG store on Amazon for additional resources:

Visit the BAOFENG Store

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