BAOFENG UV 17R

BAOFENG UV-17R Ham Radio Handheld

User Manual

1. Product Overview

The BAOFENG UV-17R is a versatile dual-band two-way radio designed for various communication needs. It supports UHF/VHF frequencies, NOAA weather alerts, and FM radio reception. With 999 programmable channels, an 1800mAh rechargeable battery, and user-friendly features like wireless frequency copy and DTMF customization, it provides reliable communication in diverse environments.





Figure 1: BAOFENG UV-17R Ham Radio Handheld

2. Package Contents

Verify that all items are present in the package:

- 1 x UV-17R Two-way radio
- 1 x Li-ion Battery (with one screw)
- 1 x Belt Clip
- 1 x Lanyard
- 1 x Headset
- 1 x Desktop Charger
- 1 x User Manual



Figure 2: Included accessories and radio unit

3. Key Features

- **UHF/VHF Dual Band:** TX: 144-148MHz and 420-450MHz; RX: 136-174MHz and 400-519.995MHz, plus NOAA and FM reception.
- **Wireless Frequency Copy:** Simplifies programming by cloning frequency settings from nearby radios.
- **User-Friendly DTMF Customization:** Edit DTMF settings directly using the '#' key for enhanced communication control.
- **Wide and Narrow Bandwidth Options:** Select between 12.5KHz and 25KHz for compatibility.
- **High Capacity Battery:** Equipped with a rechargeable 1800mAh battery.
- **Extensive Channel Storage:** 999 channels available.
- **CTCSS/CDCSS Codes:** 104 CDCSS and 50 CTCSS codes for privacy.
- **Dual Watch Capabilities:** Monitor two frequencies simultaneously.
- **1.77" TFT Color Display:** Clear and vibrant display for easy readability.
- **VOX Function:** Voice-operated transmission with 1-9 VOX levels.
- **Squelch Level:** Adjustable 0-5 squelch levels to filter out weak signals.
- **FCC ID:** 2AJGM-UV17.

4. Controls and Display

Familiarize yourself with the radio's components and controls:



Figure 3: Labeled diagram of the UV-17R radio components.

1. **SMA-F Antenna Connector:** For attaching the antenna.
2. **Flashlight/Alert Button:** Activates the built-in flashlight or alert function.
3. **PTT (Push-To-Talk) Button:** Press and hold to transmit.
4. **FM Broadcast Button:** Toggles FM radio reception.
5. **MENU Button:** Accesses the radio's menu system.
6. **Power/Volume Knob:** Turns the radio on/off and adjusts volume.
7. **Speaker/Mic Jacks:** Ports for external speaker-microphone accessories.
8. **Exit Button:** Used to exit menus or functions.
9. **LED Flashlight:** Integrated light source.
10. **LED Status Indicator:** Displays radio status (e.g., transmitting, receiving).

5. Setup

5.1 Battery Installation and Charging

The UV-17R comes with an 1800mAh Li-ion battery. Ensure it is fully charged before first use.

1. To install the battery, align the battery pack with the grooves on the back of the radio and slide it upwards until it clicks into place. Secure with the provided screw if necessary.

2. Place the radio into the desktop charger. Ensure the radio makes proper contact with the charging terminals. The charger's LED indicator will show charging status (typically red for charging, green for fully charged).
3. A full charge typically takes several hours. Do not overcharge the battery.

5.2 Antenna Attachment

Screw the antenna clockwise onto the SMA-F connector on top of the radio until it is finger-tight. Do not overtighten.

5.3 Headset Connection

Connect the headset to the Speaker/Mic Jacks on the side of the radio. Ensure the plugs are fully inserted.

6. Operating Instructions

6.1 Power On/Off and Volume Adjustment

Rotate the Power/Volume knob clockwise to turn the radio on. Continue rotating to increase volume. Rotate counter-clockwise to decrease volume and turn off the radio.

6.2 Channel Selection and Frequency Input

The UV-17R supports 999 channels. You can switch between channel mode and frequency mode. In frequency mode, directly input desired frequencies using the keypad.

6.3 Wireless Frequency Copy

This feature allows you to quickly copy frequency settings from another compatible radio. Place the two radios close to each other and follow the on-screen prompts or refer to the specific menu option for "Wireless Copy".



Figure 4: Wireless Frequency Copy in action.

6.4 DTMF Customization

To edit DTMF settings, press the '#' key. This allows for direct configuration of Dual-Tone Multi-Frequency signals, providing greater control over your communication.



Figure 5: DTMF Manual Dial feature.

6.5 Bandwidth Options

The radio supports both wide (25KHz) and narrow (12.5KHz) bandwidths. Select the appropriate setting via the menu to ensure compatibility with other radios or specific communication standards.

6.6 VOX (Voice Operated Exchange)

The VOX function allows for hands-free transmission. When enabled, the radio will transmit automatically when it detects your voice. Adjust the VOX level (1-9) in the menu to set the sensitivity.

6.7 Squelch Level

The squelch function mutes the speaker when no signal is present, eliminating background noise. Adjust the squelch level (0-5) in the menu. A higher level requires a stronger signal to open the squelch.

6.8 Dual Watch and FM Receiver

The dual watch feature allows the radio to monitor two different frequencies simultaneously. The radio can also receive standard FM broadcast radio stations.

6.9 Flashlight and SOS Function

Press the dedicated Flashlight/Alert button to activate the built-in LED flashlight. Holding the button may activate an SOS alert function, emitting a distress signal.



Figure 6: Integrated flashlight feature.

6.10 Adjustable Screen-on Time

You can adjust how long the display backlight remains active after a button press or activity. This setting helps conserve battery life.



Figure 7: Adjustable screen-on time for display backlight.

6.11 Chirp Programming

The BAOFENG UV-17R supports programming via Chirp software. This allows for advanced customization of channels, frequencies, and other settings using a computer. Refer to the Chirp software documentation for detailed instructions on programming your radio.

7. Maintenance

7.1 Cleaning

Wipe the radio's surface with a soft, damp cloth. Do not use harsh chemicals or abrasive cleaners. Ensure the radio is dry before use or charging.

7.2 Battery Care

- Avoid fully discharging the battery frequently to prolong its lifespan.
- Charge the battery in a cool, dry environment.
- If storing the radio for an extended period, charge the battery to about 50% and remove it from the radio.

7.3 Storage

Store the radio in a cool, dry place away from direct sunlight, extreme temperatures, and corrosive

materials.

Important Note: The BAOFENG UV-17R is Not Water Resistant. Avoid exposure to water or high humidity.

8. Troubleshooting

Problem	Possible Cause / Solution
Radio does not power on.	Battery is not installed correctly or is depleted. Ensure battery is properly seated and charged.
Cannot transmit or receive.	Incorrect frequency/channel selected. Antenna not properly attached. Battery low. Ensure you have a valid license to transmit on certain frequencies.
Poor audio quality / Static.	Squelch level set too high. Weak signal. Interference from other electronic devices. Adjust squelch or move to a different location.
Difficulty programming channels.	Refer to the user manual's programming section or consider using Chirp software for easier programming via computer.
Battery drains quickly.	VOX or backlight settings may be too high. Excessive transmission. Battery may be nearing end of life.

9. Specifications

Feature	Detail
Model Number	UV 17R
Brand	BAOFENG
Frequency Range (TX)	144-148MHz, 420-450MHz
Frequency Range (RX)	136-174MHz, 400-519.995MHz, NOAA, FM
Number of Channels	999
Battery Type	1800mAh Li-ion (included)
Voltage	3.7 Volts
Tuner Technology	UHF/VHF
Item Weight	1.26 pounds
Package Dimensions	8.03 x 4.69 x 4.21 inches
Water Resistance Level	Not Water Resistant
FCC ID	2AJGM-UV17



Figure 8: Physical dimensions and port details.

10. Warranty and Support

For warranty information and technical support, please refer to the documentation provided with your purchase or contact BAOFENG customer service directly. Keep your purchase receipt as proof of purchase.

Additional resources and software updates, including Chirp programming guides, may be available on the official BAOFENG website or authorized dealer websites.

© 2025 BAOFENG. All rights reserved.