

BAOFENG BF-108CM

BAOFENG BF-108CM 42.5-inch Foldable VHF/UHF High Gain Ham Radio Antenna User Manual

Model: BF-108CM

1. INTRODUCTION

This manual provides essential information for the proper setup, operation, and maintenance of your BAOFENG BF-108CM 42.5-inch Foldable VHF/UHF High Gain Ham Radio Antenna. Designed for seamless integration with compatible Baofeng radios, this antenna offers reliable communication and enhanced signal performance. Its durable and flexible design ensures portability and long-lasting use.

2. PRODUCT FEATURES

- **Frequency:** 144/430 MHz (VHF/UHF Dual Band)
- **Connector Type:** SMA-Female
- **Length:** 42.5 inches (108 cm) when extended
- **Gain:** 5.0 dBi for improved signal strength
- **Design:** Foldable for enhanced portability and storage
- **Compatibility:** Designed for a wide range of Ham Radios, including Baofeng UV-5R, UV5RA, UV-5RE, BF-F8HP, BF-F8, UV-82, UV-82HP, BF-888S, BF-88A, UV-5X3, UV-5RM, UV-9R, BF-666S, BF-777S, BF-320, BF-480, BF-490, BF-V6, BF-V8, BF-F9, BF-F8Plus, BF-388A, GT-3, UV-5RB, UV-5RC, UV-5RD, UV-5REPlus, UV-5RG, UV-5RQ, UV-5RT, UV-5S, UV-5U, UV-B5, UV-B6, etc.

3. SETUP AND INSTALLATION

Follow these steps to properly attach and prepare your antenna for use:

1. **Unpack the Antenna:** Carefully remove the antenna from its packaging. You will find the foldable antenna and typically a small rubber O-ring.
2. **Prepare the Radio:** Ensure your compatible Baofeng radio is powered off before attaching or detaching any accessories. Remove any existing antenna by unscrewing it counter-clockwise.
3. **Attach the Antenna:** Align the SMA-Female connector of the BF-108CM antenna with the SMA-Male port on your radio. Gently screw the antenna clockwise until it is finger-tight. Do not overtighten.
4. **Secure the Connection (Optional):** For some radio models, an included O-ring can be placed around the antenna base before screwing it on to ensure a snug fit and prevent moisture ingress.
5. **Unfold the Antenna:** The antenna is secured in a folded position with a Velcro strap. Release the strap and carefully unfold the antenna to its full 42.5-inch (108 cm) length. Ensure it is fully extended for optimal performance.





Figure 3.1: BAOFENG BF-108CM antenna attached to a Baofeng radio in its folded configuration.



Figure 3.2: BAOFENG BF-108CM antenna fully extended, showing its 42.5-inch length.

Video 3.1: Demonstration of attaching and unfolding the BAOFENG BF-108CM antenna. This video illustrates the process of connecting the SMA-Female antenna to a radio's SMA-Male port and then extending the antenna from its folded state.

Video 3.2: Overview of the 42.5-inch ABBREE SMA-Female Dual Band Foldable Antenna. This video highlights the antenna's features, including its length and folding capability, and demonstrates its attachment to a radio.

4. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

The BAOFENG BF-108CM antenna is designed to enhance the performance of your compatible ham radio. To achieve optimal results:

- **Full Extension:** Always ensure the antenna is fully extended to its 42.5-inch length when transmitting or receiving for maximum gain and range.
- **Frequency Bands:** This antenna supports both VHF (144 MHz) and UHF (430 MHz) frequency bands, providing versatility for various communication needs.
- **Do Not Transmit When Folded:** Transmitting with the antenna in a folded or partially folded state can result in a high Standing Wave Ratio (SWR), which may damage your radio. Always unfold the antenna completely before transmitting. Receiving is possible when folded, but performance will be reduced.
- **Improved Performance:** Expect significantly improved signal reception and transmission range compared to standard stock antennas, especially in challenging environments.

5. MAINTENANCE

To ensure the longevity and optimal performance of your antenna, follow these maintenance guidelines:

- **Cleaning:** Wipe the antenna with a soft, damp cloth to remove dirt and dust. Avoid using harsh chemicals or abrasive materials.
- **Storage:** When not in use, fold the antenna and secure it with the Velcro strap. Store it in a dry, cool place away from direct sunlight and extreme temperatures.
- **Inspection:** Periodically inspect the antenna for any signs of damage, such as cracks in the rubberized coating or bent elements. Ensure the SMA connector is clean and free of corrosion.
- **Connector Care:** Keep the SMA connector clean and dry. If necessary, use a small brush or compressed air to remove debris.

6. TROUBLESHOOTING

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

- **Poor Signal/Range:**
 - Ensure the antenna is fully extended.
 - Verify the antenna is securely attached to the radio.
 - Check for any physical damage to the antenna or its connector.

- Confirm your radio settings (frequency, power output) are correct.
- **Antenna Not Folding/Unfolding Smoothly:**
 - Check for any obstructions or debris in the folding mechanism.
 - Avoid forcing the antenna; it should move with moderate pressure.
- **Radio Damage After Transmitting:**
 - If you transmitted with the antenna folded, this could cause high SWR and potential damage to the radio's final amplifier stage. Consult your radio's manual or a qualified technician.



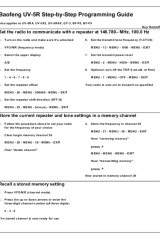



7. SPECIFICATIONS

Attribute	Value
Model Number	BF-108CM
Brand	BAOFENG
Frequency Range	144/430 MHz (VHF/UHF)
Antenna Length	42.5 inches (108 cm)
Gain	5.0 dBi
Connector Type	SMA-Female
Impedance	50 Ohms
Item Weight	0.317 ounces
Color	Black
UPC	755745260416

8. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

For any questions, concerns, or assistance with your BAOFENG BF-108CM antenna, please feel free to contact our customer service. We are committed to providing high-quality after-sales service to ensure your satisfaction.

Please refer to your product packaging or the retailer's website for specific warranty details and contact information.

	<p>Baofeng UV-5R Programming Guide: CHIRP & Manufacturer Software</p> <p>A comprehensive guide to programming Baofeng UV-5R series radios using CHIRP software and the manufacturer's programming tool. Covers system requirements, software installation, connection, and parameter settings.</p>
	<p>Baofeng UV-5R Series Two-Way Radio User Manual</p> <p>Comprehensive user manual for Baofeng (Pofung) UV-5R series two-way radios and compatible models. Covers safety, features, unpacking, assembly, battery charging, controls, LCD display, menu settings, technical specifications, and troubleshooting. Includes details on antenna installation, battery usage, and advanced functions like VOX, Squelch, and DTMF tones.</p>
	<p>Baofeng UV-5R Programming Guide: Step-by-Step Instructions</p> <p>Learn how to program your Baofeng UV-5R, UV-5RA, UV-5X3, GT-3, BF-F8, BF-F9 two-way radios with this step-by-step guide for setting up repeaters and simplex frequencies.</p>
	<p>Baofeng HT Radio Manual Programming Guide: UV-5R, BF-F8HP, and More</p> <p>A comprehensive guide to manually programming memory channels on Baofeng HT radios, including models like UV-5R, UV-6R, BF-F8, GT3, BF-F8HP, UV-5X3, and UV-82 series. Learn simplex and duplex channel setup, menu options, and troubleshooting.</p>
	<p>Baofeng BF-888S Руководство пользователя</p> <p>Подробное руководство пользователя для портативной двусторонней радиостанции Baofeng BF-888S. Содержит инструкции по установке аккумулятора и антенны, настройке, использованию функций, таких как РТТ, монитор, сканирование, VOX, CTCSS/DCS, а также информацию о зарядке и обслуживании.</p>
	<p>BAOFENG BF-888S User Manual - Battery, Antenna, Controls, and Operation Guide</p> <p>Comprehensive user manual for the BAOFENG BF-888S two-way radio, covering battery installation and charging, antenna setup, control elements, operational procedures, and advanced functions. Includes detailed instructions for optimal use.</p>