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While early model Baofeng UV-5R radios were problematic (politely phrased), the quality and spectral purity has significantly improved in past ten years: dispelling early genuine Baofeng model trash talk. The fake clones were garbage. The UV-5R is discontinued and replaced with the third generation BF-F8HP. Which brings me to the newest 5RM. The highlights are: * Tri-band 2 M, 1.25 M, and 70 CM * Aviation AM monitor. * 1.77 inch color TFF display (barely readable in sunlight) * One-touch NOAA weather channels. * 999 channels * USB Type C charging cable plugs into back of battery * Desktop charger (not compatible for UV-5R radios). * 2500 mAh battery (not compatible for UV-5R radios). * Like the UV-5R radios it can illegally transmit (not type certified) on GMRS, FRS and LMR channels, and (gasp) even the NOAA weather channels! Pic of my BF-F8HP and 5RM side by side. Redacted because I erroneously labeled radio on left as UV-5R. Last edited: May 27, 2024 The Baofengs may have improved, but they still have a long way to go to catch up to Yaesu, iCom and Kenwood. I'm not near anyway to check that, and not have manual handy. The manual gives conflicting information. It appears that there is a "locked" (ham-only TX) and "unlocked" (ham plus GMRS, VHF LMR, etc. TX) version of this radio. How helpful of them to call both of them by the same name. I'm also seeing reviews saying that the spectral purity of this radio is atrocious. I don't know which version they're reviewing, however. Yes, but do they actually produce clean transmit audio that isn't muffled and does not sound like a bag of smashed buttholes? It appears that there is a "locked" (ham-only TX) and "unlocked" (ham plus GMRS, VHF LMR, etc. TX) version of this radio. What do you mean by "it appears" there is a locked and unlocked version. You have any info that points to two versions? My UV5RM is obviously "unlocked' as I can transmit (into dummy load) on MURS, GMRS/FRS, LMR, and NOAA frequencies. Maybe it is true tri-band. But still crappy spurious emissions. The Baofengs may have improved, but they still have a long way to go to catch up to Yaesu, iCom and Kenwood. Yes, but you pay an arm and a leg for a Yaesu (my favorite radios) and yet they reach end-of-life faster than any other radio. I "love" Yaesu, but my first Ham radio was a Yaesu VX8DR ... I paid dearly for it and it was an awesome radio. But it had an issue with the battery connection that required me to send it it, not once, but THREE TIMES!!! NOW, they say they don't service them anymore!!!! I can purchase a Baofeng for a fraction of the cost and have a very nice radio. Some new to ham radio, it's all they can afford. So while Yaesu is still a better, radio, they've got a lot of improvement they can make as well. Yes, but you pay an arm and a leg for a Yaesu (my favorite radios) and yet they reach end-of-life faster than any other radio. I "love" Yaesu, but my first Ham radio was a Yaesu VX8DR ... I paid dearly for it and it was an awesome radio. But it had an issue with the battery connection that required me to send it it, not once, but THREE TIMES!!! NOW, they say they don't service them anymore!!!! I can purchase a Baofeng for a fraction of the cost and have a very nice radio. Some new to ham radio, it's all they can afford. So while Yaesu is still a better, radio, they've got a lot of improvement they can make as well. They also sound like hot garbage. Case in point, a ham new to the area popped up on my (and other) repeaters. Anemic audio and you could barely hear him. Kept telling him to speak up and even when he did, his audio was muffled and turdy. You get what you pay for. Yaesu at least has a US service center and support. Can you get that from Bowelturd? Nope. Oh I know, just buy two or three, you know, one to crap one and one to cover it up with. Or buy a QUALITY radio that actually has good transmit fidelity both AF and RF, good receiver selectivity and good firmware so things like band scan actually work. They also sound like hot garbage. Case in point, a ham new to the area popped up on my (and other) repeaters. Anemic audio and you could barely hear him. Kept telling him to speak up and even when he did, his audio was muffled and turdy. You get what you pay for. Yaesu at least has a US service center and support. Can you get that from Bowelturd? Nope. Oh I know, just buy two or three, you know, one to crap one and one to cover it up with. Or buy a QUALITY radio that actually has good transmit fidelity both AF and RF, good receiver selectivity and good firmware so things like band scan actually work. Uh, I get the impression, with all of these expletives, that you're very angrily against Baofeng ... I'm sorry to hear that. These newer versions, or at least the ones some of my Ham radio buddies have, work great! "Bowelturd"? "Turdy"? "Crap one"? I now know what they mean, when they same that someone is "anal retentive". LOL I'm guessing you're not a ham radio guy ... we're trained to be kind with our replies. I'm sorry you don't like the Baefeng radios. I am currently using an AnyTone AT-878 UVII plus digital radio. The audio is really nice, and the features are phenominal. And yes, "support" is a big deal when it comes to radios. I'm going to have to go to the dump though to see if I can find out what "hot garbage" sounds like. LOL Thanks for the reply. Last edited: Sep 11, 2024 On a side note - using a plug-in speaker/mic is a big improvement over the Baofeng internal mic and speaker. There is a YouTube showing how to replace a generic speaker/mic microphone element with a larger microphone element that improved the audio. I agree and often do this as my radio is attached to my backpack. Good suggestion! Two improvements are a MOLLE radio pouch (Amazon around $20) to attach to backpack instead of the radio's clip and a tactical "measuring tape" antenna (Amazon) or sleeve antenna. Last edited: Sep 11, 2024 Uh, I get the impression, with all of these expletives, that you're very angrily against Baofeng ... I'm sorry to hear that. These newer versions, or at least the ones some of my Ham radio buddies have, work great! "Bowelturd"? "Turdy"? "Crap one"? I now know what they mean, when they same that someone is "anal retentive". LOL I'm guessing you're not a ham radio guy ... we're trained to be kind with our replies. I'm sorry you don't like the Baefeng radios. I am currently using an AnyTone AT-878 UVII plus digital radio. The audio is really nice, and the features are phenominal. And yes, "support" is a big deal when it comes to radios. I'm going to have to go to the dump though to see if I can find out what "hot garbage" sounds like. LOL Thanks for the reply. Not all Chinese radios are junk. The AnyTone 878 is a much different class of radio. Quality audio, quality RF produced. Fairly refined firmware. Plenty of USA support. They don't sound like mud puppy road apples. They aren't $30 either. Again, one gets what one pays for. I've been a ham for 40 of my 49 years. We are also trained to do better. We train to put quality signals out that are not full of spurious emissions, with readability and intelligible audio. We strive to encourage good operating practices, like not using CB radio sounding roger beeps, kerchunkerbating repeaters, etc. But thanks for the pro-tip. Speaking of pro, some of us do radio (LMR) for a living and care about things like FCC rules, staying within our emission mask, not interfering with others or transmitting out of the ham bands with non-certified radios...but you know all that I'm sure. Here's my review of the 5RM: I've had a couple of UV-5Rs that were definitely junk. Early this year, I decided to get another car and found 5RM on Amazon and ordered a pair. It feels better in the hand, and more solid than the 5r series. I can't comment on wattage output on the bands, but it does transmit on any FM VFO frequency available to it. Fairly clean on 2m, not too bad on 70cm, but more spurs than a rodeo on 1.25m. Recieve is surprisingly good on all but the FM BCB. I wound up getting four more. The price was too good to pass up. July brought a reason to use them when Beryl hit Houston. Plugged MURS and FRS into them and passed them out to my neighbors (at 60, I'm the youngest by over 20 years). Power was out 13 days, but we kept in touch the whole time on MURS 1 using those admittedly cheap radios. Never heard anyone else on any of those frequencies the whole time. I'd love to have nice equipment. My budget dictates otherwise. Sure, I could have gotten a decent rig for what I paid for the six 5RMs, but how would that have been useful for my elderly neighbors during the hurricane? You don't like the performance of a certain rig? Don't buy it, tell folks straight up what you don't like about it, and then drop it. All the condescension and snark doesn't provide any information about the specific radio mentioned by the OP, nor does it encourage anyone trying to learn about something useful that they can afford. "CCRs bad." Scratched vinyl, and all that... Not all Chinese radios are junk. The AnyTone 878 is a much different class of radio. Quality audio, quality RF produced. Fairly refined firmware. Plenty of USA support. They don't sound like mud puppy road apples. They aren't $30 either. Again, one gets what one pays for. I've been a ham for 40 of my 49 years. We are also trained to do better. We train to put quality signals out that are not full of spurious emissions, with readability and intelligible audio. We strive to encourage good operating practices, like not using CB radio sounding roger beeps, kerchunkerbating repeaters, etc. But thanks for the pro-tip. Speaking of pro, some of us do radio (LMR) for a living and care about things like FCC rules, staying within our emission mask, not interfering with others or transmitting out of the ham bands with non-certified radios...but you know all that I'm sure. I agree on the AnyTone radio. I have the AnyTone AT-878uviiPlus ... and I cannot imagine being without it now. I get in my Jeep and it "syncs up" with bluetooth to my stereo, and while I'm listening to music, will interrupt me with a call on my speakers, and use my Jeep mic for the response. The bluetooth key button on my shifter works great for responses! The GPS works flawlessly, and APRS constantly reports my location, analog or digital. Even the FM radio feature works great! But I love the fact that I have VHF and UHF contact repeaters set up in a scan list, along with my digital radio, and "all of them" are being scanned constantly, so I don't miss calls because I was on another channel. There's no way a Baofeng UV5R could ever come close to this!! BUT ... it's a great radio for the dirty jobs, like acting as a camping repeater, or replacing the el-cheapo GMRS radios I used to have, etc. They serve the purpose they were designed to serve. And the AnyTone serves it's purpose flawlessly! I even special ordered the labels to replace the "AnyTone" labels with my name and callsign, so the radio "shows as mine" at first glance. When using my backpack, I plug in the external mic, and a longer antenna (my fly rod), and it works awesome! I can even use my Plantronics headset to listen to it while shopping so it doesn't disturb others. Which AnyTone radio is that? Nevermind. Just noticed first line of your post. $364 from Amazon little steep for a portable unless its your primary radio. Page 2 Not all Chinese radios are junk. The AnyTone 878 is a much different class of radio. Quality audio, quality RF produced. Fairly refined firmware. Plenty of USA support. They don't sound like mud puppy road apples. They aren't $30 either. Again, one gets what one pays for. I've been a ham for 40 of my 49 years. We are also trained to do better. We train to put quality signals out that are not full of spurious emissions, with readability and intelligible audio. We strive to encourage good operating practices, like not using CB radio sounding roger beeps, kerchunkerbating repeaters, etc. But thanks for the pro-tip. Speaking of pro, some of us do radio (LMR) for a living and care about things like FCC rules, staying within our emission mask, not interfering with others or transmitting out of the ham bands with non-certified radios...but you know all that I'm sure. How about the way I solve the Chinese transmit issues..I use by Baofeng UV17 for receive only mainly dmr and my Icoms for transmit.. This "AnyTone" has become my primary. Eventually I'll get my dream HF, but this AnyTone is the AT-878uvii Plus. It does literally "everything"! It took a while to learn the codeplug and get the programming right, but ... it scans my repeaters and channels that I want to monitor, which includes the standard VHF and UHF repeater frequencies, my personal GMRS frequency, our repeaters in the area, and my DMR digital channels I monitor as well. My DMR hotspot stays in my Jeep because it works while I'm in the house. My iPad Mini-2 (mounted on the dash), also provides Internet for it. This radio is much more than I ever thought it could be. It even updates APRS on both analog and digital, depending on which I'm using. The bluetooth interfaces it to my sound system, and the bluetooth remote key switch I mounted on my shifter. I never have to lift the mike! This radio comes with everything I needed "except" the external mic, and a 2nd battery. On your second battery, get the one with the USB-C connector on the bottom. That way when you're traveling and have it in the car, it can be plugged in charging as you drive, using it. Amazon: While early model Baofeng UV-5R radios were problematic (politely phrased), the quality and spectral purity has significantly improved in past ten years: dispelling early genuine Baofeng model trash talk. The fake clones were garbage. The UV-5R is discontinued and replaced with the third generation BF-F8HP. Which brings me to the newest 5RM. The highlights are: * Tri-band 2 M, 1.25 M, and 70 CM * Aviation AM monitor. * 1.77 inch color TFF display (barely readable in sunlight) * One-touch NOAA weather channels. * 999 channels * USB Type C charging cable plugs into back of battery * Desktop charger (not compatible for UV-5R radios). * 2500 mAh battery (not compatible for UV-5R radios). * Like the UV-5R radios it can illegally transmit (not type certified) on GMRS, FRS and LMR channels, and (gasp) even the NOAA weather channels! Pic of my BF-F8HP and 5RM side by side. Redacted because I erroneously labeled radio on left as UV-5R. I bought two Here's my review of the 5RM: I've had a couple of UV-5Rs that were definitely junk. Early this year, I decided to get another car and found 5RM on Amazon and ordered a pair. It feels better in the hand, and more solid than the 5r series. I can't comment on wattage output on the bands, but it does transmit on any FM VFO frequency available to it. Fairly clean on 2m, not too bad on 70cm, but more spurs than a rodeo on 1.25m. Recieve is surprisingly good on all but the FM BCB. I wound up getting four more. The price was too good to pass up. July brought a reason to use them when Beryl hit Houston. Plugged MURS and FRS into them and passed them out to my neighbors (at 60, I'm the youngest by over 20 years). Power was out 13 days, but we kept in touch the whole time on MURS 1 using those admittedly cheap radios. Never heard anyone else on any of those frequencies the whole time. I'd love to have nice equipment. My budget dictates otherwise. Sure, I could have gotten a decent rig for what I paid for the six 5RMs, but how would that have been useful for my elderly neighbors during the hurricane? You don't like the performance of a certain rig? Don't buy it, tell folks straight up what you don't like about it, and then drop it. All the condescension and snark doesn't provide any information about the specific radio mentioned by the OP, nor does it encourage anyone trying to learn about something useful that they can afford. "CCRs bad." Scratched vinyl, and allt that... I just bought two Baofeng 5RMs and both are being sent back for a refund. The power level on both in VHF high setting is less half the dBm of my lowly Btech uv5x3 as shown on my calibrated Spectrum Analyzer when using the same antenna. To do a real world test I went out in my yard and, using the same Nagoya 771 antenna, I was not able to reach my local repeater (14 miles away) with the 5RMs but could easily reach it with my UV5X3. Additionally, the second harmonic on both 5RMs was only down about 10db from the primary frequency. Should be down at 40 dB per FCC specs. The 5RMs are probably illegal to operate if my Spectrum Analyzer readings are correct. Not surprised on the dirty harmonics. Many other reviews say the same on the 5rm's. While not acceptable at all, for the price, that along with my old r is pretty good on receive which is all I use it for. A few years ago, where could you get a relatively wide band receiver for the price? As I stated above, I have Icoms for transmitting. About the > who cares what the radio snobs say? Okay, I'll accept the fact that it may be "dirty" even spits harmonics around like a Bubba spits his chew, but if you are only going to use it to RECEIVE a few analog frequencies, what difference does that make? And yes, there are people like me who on occasion only scan 4 or 5 frequencies at a time for background noise while doing other things, so it looks like I'm going to buy yet another Cheap Chinese Radio". To those that don't like it.... I am tossing up between this and a UV-17 for some basic RX useage. I am tossing up between this and a UV-17 for some basic RX useage. Personally I would go with the 17R Plus..mainly because I own one☺I believe it is a bit bigger but both would be fine for basic receive. Personally I would go with the 17R Plus..mainly because I own one☺I believe it is a bit bigger but both would be fine for basic receive. It's currently $30.00 on Amazon and I noticed it has a bigger battery with USB charge capability for on-the-go use as well. Still, you have to use a key or screwdriver to remove the battery. I have just recently discovered this new model and don't have any desire to own one BUT I have been hearing a newer ham operator that is running a UV-5RM and every time he de keys, I hear the very much familiar MDC 1200 squawk. Initially I thought it was someone teasing the kid (but clearly it is him) is there some kind of aftermarket firmware or board level modification that makes the radio do this? Genuinely curious here. Home General Mobile Radio Service (GMRS) Equipment Reviews Baofeng AR-5RM Home General Mobile Radio Service (GMRS) Equipment Reviews Baofeng AR-5RM Im an old fart. 53 years old and I have been fascinated by 2 way radios since I was a little boy. So I have used all manner of comms gear over the years in all the services. I also worked 31 years as a professional Firefighter. I bought my 1st Baofeng Uv-5r around 2013 or so. I couldnt believe the price which was around $20 then I believe. The radio, compared to "bubble pack" radios of the time for personal comms was just amazing. The features and build quality and all that you could do with it "legalities aside" were just mind blowing. I bought a few more uv5r's and some bf888's. These things have been used HARD out in the weather, hot, cold, wet, muddy. Not a single one of them has failed. And the most mind blowing thing to me about it all is the batteries are the original ones and they still hold an amazing charge. They are lithium Ion batteries. These radios will sit for extended periods without being powered on, I try to charge them "occassionally" but sometimes thats 6 months. And they STILL JUST WORK GREAT!! I know they are not the "best" radios available, but they for sure are the "best value for money" of any radio I have ever owned and I have owned Motorolas, Kenwoods, Yeasus, Alincos, etc. So dont feel "ashamed" of owning a Baofeng, I still own many and just ordered 2 newer models within the last 2 days, they are amazing radios, the price also happens to be awesome, but even if they were 4 times the price they would be worth it. Just wanted to give a shout out to Baofeng and give a real world account of using them for well over a decade. And STILL buying them!! I have a UV-5r bought about 4 years ago. Came from Baofeng, so not a clone. I have the extended battery on mine and I agree about the battery. They might be OK for amater use, but they just barely come in under the wire with FCC spurious emissions. Chep Chinese junk, about all I use mine for is testing other radios on the bench. Battery has always been full and I have kerchunked a couple local ham repeaters. Not approved for FRS, but tried it there and does OK. Meanwhile, just sits on a shelf collecting dust. I agree with @Bootyhunter, it has it's place and it was my first radio also. I must have a good one as well. Although it's not my main HT, I used it recently to quickly call into my local Sunday morning 'net. Never had a complaint. As I gained more experience and upon recommendation from the experienced folks here on the forum, I bought a Yaesu FT-60 as use that as my main HT. The UV-5R is so small and light that I take along with me to work in my computer bag or if I'm going out for an errand or two. It's a handy little companion. I use it as a pseudo (albeit slow) scanner at times and have a lot of local police/fire/ems/repeaters programmed in. Because I drive about 40 miles to the office, I have those locale police/fire agencies programmed in and I can pick them up from my home with the stock antenna (probably about 30 air miles). Not bad. I have a UV-5r bought about 4 years ago. Came from Baofeng, so not a clone. I have the extended battery on mine and I agree about the battery. They might be OK for amater use, but they just barely come in under the wire with FCC spurious emissions. Chep Chinese junk, about all I use mine for is testing other radios on the bench. Battery has always been full and I have kerchunked a couple local ham repeaters. Not approved for FRS, but tried it there and does OK. Meanwhile, just sits on a shelf collecting dust. No, the cheap chinese junk, is the bubble pack radios advertising 35 miles but wont clearly transmit for a mile. These are built sturdy and can cover 2 miles easily on simplex. I am a general class ham, been a ham since 1995, like I said, these arent the best radios available, but they are great for what they are and the price is unbeatable, and Id venture to say they helped save 2m and 70cm ham radio as the airwaves were dead before these came out. These lowered the barrier to entry, which of course came with some negative effects but the positive outweigh the negative. How many hams only became so after buying a cheap baofeng and seeing what it was all about? I have a ham license but I use many different services in the radio spectrum. I like versatile equipment and rugged equipment. I have owned radios from "the big 3" that the antennas curled up on after less than a year, my 12 year old uv5r's antenna is straight as an arrow. The current btech and baofeng radios are much "cleaner" than the initial ones that came out. Still not perfect, but much better. I can only speak for my experience with reception, since I am not licensed to transmit. My Retevis, TYT, Baofeng and other "CCRs" as people call them, are capable or receiving things that my $600 scanners can't, especially at greater distances. With the addition of OpenGD77 firmware, they scan adequately for my needs. I have never timed them against my scanners, so I can't say that they "scan as fast as", but they seem pretty close. However, they can't receive P25, any type of trunking, NXDN, but I'm not expecting them to. If I were to drop my Retevis RT-3S and it broke into a million pieces or it was stolen, I would not lose sleep over it and would just buy another one. If it were to happen to my SDS100, however... When I get my amateur radio license, would I use it to transmit on a repeater...probably not before getting the blessing of the repeater owner, club or a licensed amateur radio operator that could test my radio prior to usage. More than likely, I would purchase a professional radio for that purpose. But then again, you would probably do that with any radio prior to transmitting. All that said, for the money, these radios provide a good value. I've had Baofengs for about seven years now, and the current quality is much better that the original UV-5Rs I've had. I have 10 of the 5RM HTs, and they've all worked well, especially for my neighborhood during Beryl. Years ago, I started with all Yaesu equipment on the ham bands. I had one of the first one-wire-clip MARS mod radios from China (I guess), the ADI brand monobanders. They soon introduced a dual-band HT. The HT worked for about three years before firing up its crack pipe; the monobanders did well for about a decade. The UV-5Rs seemed more novelty than anything else: "Oooh, I got me a freeband HT!" Out of curiosity, I ordered a 5RM after a UV-5R croaked. It was definitely better built, and better functioning. I kept on ordering them, for disaster prep, and they were well worth it during landfall and recovery. Mostly, I use the 5RM for rail scanning, and occasionally for extra VHF monitors during an event. I'm very happy with their performance and performance/price ratio. Scanning isn't so bad, just so long as you only scan about 20 channels. Takes a while to scan through the 98 AAR channels, but loading in just the local channels makes it worth having. Dual watch makes following a split channel easier, too. Like it or not, Chinese radios are getting better every day as a whole. There's dogs and there's gems; forums like this make the smell test easier to run (most times.) I didn't think I could enjoy a radio more than my Xiegu G90, but the Radtel RT-860 and RT-880 are a blast. I get a lot of the dislike and anger towards CCRs. The older ones had dirt that Ajax couldn't remove from their signals. That, and the fact that any jake-legged goober with a spare Jackson can get on-air and cause real problems inside and outside the ham bands. I'm just glad I've been able to scratch my radio itch lately, and CCRs let me scratch more for less scratch. Nothing at all wrong with using one of the decent CCR's if they are the appropriate tool for the job. For some hams, budget is the challenge and if a $20 radio gets them on the air, then that's a good thing. Hopefully it leads to growth of the hobby. The old ones were junk, and sounded awful on properly built radio systems. They had no business being that bad. That, and the fact that any jake-legged goober with a spare Jackson can get on-air and cause real problems inside and outside the ham bands. These radios are tools, and powerful tools at that. Put in the hands of someone who doesn't know how to properly/legally use them is an issue. These radios are tools, and powerful tools at that. Put in the hands of someone who doesn't know how to properly/legally use them is an issue. Absolutely. And it's easy to overlook how much power it really is in your hand at such low prices. Especially with the newer tri-band and multi-band rigs. Absolutely. And it's easy to overlook how much power it really is in your hand at such low prices. Especially with the newer tri-band and multi-band rigs. And those unknowing souls assume that since they bought it on Amazon, it must be totally legal. I wish that, at minimum, they shipped blank/unprogrammed and not with pre-loaded channels that any random person can just use out of the box. At least put MURS or FRS in it instead of federal and MilAir frequencies. These radios are tools, and powerful tools at that. Put in the hands of someone who doesn't know how to properly/legally use them is an issue. Or uses them for malicious purposes. See: jamming of NYPD comms during the protests back in 2020. Nothing at all wrong with using one of the decent CCR's if they are the appropriate tool for the job. For some hams, budget is the challenge and if a $20 radio gets them on the air, then that's a good thing. Hopefully it leads to growth of the hobby. The old ones were junk, and sounded awful on properly built radio systems. They had no business being that bad. These radios are tools, and powerful tools at that. Put in the hands of someone who doesn't know how to properly/legally use them is an issue. Its funny, I use the one I bought 12 years ago on local repeaters and when someone asks what radio Im using I say the ayaesu ft60R and they go on and on about how great it sounds. I made the mistake 1 time of actually saying it was a UV5r and the snobs were saying it sounded awful etc. Now the same ones brag on how great it sounds. Its all in their heads, lol radio racists. I sure have gotten the use from mine, thats why I started the thread. As with all things there are bad actors. Thats life. Its all in their heads, lol radio racists. Yeah, there are brand loyalists and radio snobs out there. I had someone try a couple of UV-5R's on one of my systems. They sounded bad, but before I get labeled as a radio snob, I did put them on a calibrated service monitor. of the 4 I randomly pulled, only one was working within reasonable specs. The other 3 were not. The negative reviews they received were accurate. I trust quality has improved with the newer models. I have no issue if someone wants to use these as scanners or amateur radios. The cost of accessing the hobby can absolutely be a barrier for some. Having an inexpensive radio available on the market isn't a bad thing, as long as the transmitters meet specs. Yup, different tools for different jobs. That being said, I'm fortunate to live in an area that is still 90% analog, so for the few police, sheriff, fire or aircraft frequencies I monitor, the 5RM I use locally for portable "scanning" is much better suited than my SDS100. Why? First the SDS's battery craps out hours before the 5RM's and it's smaller and lighter weight to carry around on my belt. I might add the SDS100's speaker leaves much to be desired for a radio in that price point and I don't see it being any better than the cheaper 5RM's. I also like the dual band monitoring with the 5RM when I just want to hang on two frequencies. Now, one can get an entire 5RM, battery, antenna and charging station as a combined package for less than one single SDS100 battery! So, no, no radio snobbery here (anymore) because, if you don't require individual lockouts, or 500 channels it's a pretty good deal compared to the lowest priced Uniden Bearcat scanner. Yes, they're inexpensive, but they definitely get the job done. I was genuinely surprised by their reception—even with the stock antennas, they outperformed my high-end Uniden scanners equipped with advanced antennas. The reception and transmission are excellent; I used them in various mountainous areas without missing a signal. I've bought multiple units from different brands and passed them on to friends and family to help them get started. Many have already applied for their licenses. These radios offer a great, affordable entry point into HAM and GMRS. I went out over the weekend and compared receive only. DMR 154.000Mhz Radio 1 Kenwood NX-5200 Radio 2 Baofeng DM32 Kenwood NX-5200 receive signals where the DM32 did not 10 miles setting on dash not moving parked. Analog 146.700 Radio 1 Kenwood NX-5200 Radio 2 Baofeng DM32 The Kenwood NX-5200 won again TX and RX from 10 miles setting on the dash not moving parked. Wow, we're all shocked that a $1100+ Kenwood beats a $100 Baofeng. It was not a complaint it was to let others know that the $100 radio does not compare to a commerical radio in the field. We have seen people come here wanting to put the $100 radios in the Public Service Sector. I am retired now but still have my personal NX-5200 and NX-5300 from my years of Public Service. The Baofeng DM32 is just a toy to play with for me. About my NX radios I got both for cost and shipping so I got them at good prices. Well, seeing that this thread is about Baofengs and not Kenwoods, in the budget and entry level transceiver forum, and is titled "My thoughts on Baofeng radios" and not, "What radios are better than Baofengs?", your comments are off-topic and irrelevant in this thread. Perhaps you'd care to start a thread for comparing Baofengs to other radios. That's not the discussion here. I went out over the weekend and compared receive only. DMR 154.000Mhz Radio 1 Kenwood NX-5200 Radio 2 Baofeng DM32 Kenwood NX-5200 receive signals where the DM32 did not 10 miles setting on dash not moving parked. Analog 146.700 Radio 1 Kenwood NX-5200 Radio 2 Baofeng DM32 The Kenwood NX-5200 won again TX and RX from 10 miles setting on the dash not moving parked. I would have liked to have seen a reception comparison of your DM32, TRX1 & SDS100. That would be interesting, especially at a distance. I used my RT-3S and TRX1 for a similar comparison and the RT-3S smoked the TRX1. Page 2 I will test RX only this weekend using SDS100 TRX-1 DM32 seeing as other users have compared scanners to Baofeng in this very thread. Ditto. I'm not on a good income (past poor decisions) and it's CCR's or nothing and others here are right-they beat the hell out of every scanner I have. I have the RT-880 and it's one of the most fun and versatile radios I have. And it's loud and I don't have to crank it full volume when I'm in the truck. And the newer ones aren't chintzy junk contrary to what those suffering from CCRDD say. (Cheap Chinese Radio Derangement Disorder) 😂 Im an old fart. 53 years old and I have been fascinated by 2 way radios since I was a little boy. So I have used all manner of comms gear over the years in all the services. I also worked 31 years as a professional Firefighter. I bought my 1st Baofeng Uv-5r around 2013 or so. I couldnt believe the price which was around $20 then I believe. The radio, compared to "bubble pack" radios of the time for personal comms was just amazing. The features and build quality and all that you could do with it "legalities aside" were just mind blowing. I bought a few more uv5r's and some bf888's. These things have been used HARD out in the weather, hot, cold, wet, muddy. Not a single one of them has failed. And the most mind blowing thing to me about it all is the batteries are the original ones and they still hold an amazing charge. They are lithium Ion batteries. These radios will sit for extended periods without being powered on, I try to charge them "occassionally" but sometimes thats 6 months. And they STILL JUST WORK GREAT!! I know they are not the "best" radios available, but they for sure are the "best value for money" of any radio I have ever owned and I have owned Motorolas, Kenwoods, Yeasus, Alincos, etc. So dont feel "ashamed" of owning a Baofeng, I still own many and just ordered 2 newer models within the last 2 days, they are amazing radios, the price also happens to be awesome, but even if they were 4 times the price they would be worth it. Just wanted to give a shout out to Baofeng and give a real world account of using them for well over a decade. And STILL buying them!! I just was sent a uv32dm model to post to TikTok for one of the company's I sell for on there and to be honest 60$ for a vhf/uhf gps dmr and of course fm radio and am aircraft sure surprised me programmed a few talk groups in it and was up and running in 20 min. The 888s make a really good Allstate node. And a pi4 board fits into a small case My EDC HT is a Baofeng AR-5RM. It does a legit 10 watts on 2 meters and 6-7 watts on 70cm and 1.25m. If I'm not at home, I use it to check into my club's nets and for general chat on the repeaters, and I've never gotten a bad signal report. No, it doesn't do DMR or have all the bells and whistles of more expensive radios, but it allows me to communicate clearly at a distance, which is what any radio really does at the end of the day. TBH, if all you need/want is an analog radio for simplex and local repeater use, I don't know why you'd spend more money to get the same result. Yep. Reliability. I can get parts for them. It's not adding to the landfill when it breaks. They can actually be aligned. Maybe for some. Not for me. Because I don't give a rip what someone else thinks of what radios I'm using, and neither should you. If a Baofeng works for your needs, then use it and don't pay any attention to anyone else's opinion. Personally, I've used them, and dealt with them at work. I'm not impressed and not afraid to say so. Perfect radios for hobby use. Just to answer the questions my TRX-1 and SDS100 both have better range using the same receive triband antenna connected to my stridesberg than the Baofeng DM32 both Analog and DMR. Just remember you ask for the test and I did use a Baofeng $89 radio. Just a side note I tested a Radtel RT4D and the Baofeng DM32 and the RT4D had better range RX and TX on stock antennas and the RTD4 had better range on a Larsen 1/4 wave VHF antenna Analog or DMR did not matter. I have both Analog and DMR Ham repeaters near me to test on. Last edited: May 31, 2025 Just to answer the questions my TRX-1 and SDS100 both have better range using the same receive triband antenna connected to my stridesberg than the Baofeng DM32 both Analog and DMR. Just remember you ask for the test and I did use a Baofeng $89 radio. Just a side note I tested a Radtel RT4D and the Baofeng DM32 and the RT4D had better range RX and TX on stock antennas and the RTD4 had better range on a Larsen 1/4 wave VHF antenna Analog or DMR did not matter. I have both Analog and DMR Ham repeaters near me to test on. Thanks for performing the tests! I appreciate it. In my situation, I was about 15 miles from home and trying to receive our county's analog channels. My Retevis RT-3S received better than my TRX-1. I didn't have my SDS100 with me, so I couldn't compare that to the others. I do have the OpenGD77 firmware loaded into the RT-3S. Out of curiosity, have you tried the Russian firmware in your DM32? What's holding me back from purchasing the DM32, is the inability to program above the 470 MHz range, which is what our county uses (500-512 MHz). I've heard that with using the Russian firmware, you can do that, although the CPS will not allow to enter the frequencies. The workaround, is doing a csv import. I've been watching this thread: Thanks again, Rich (Retired FF/EMT) I am running the stock firmware in the TRX-1 SDS100 DM32 and the RT4D Yep. Reliability. I can get parts for them. It's not adding to the landfill when it breaks. They can actually be aligned. Maybe for some. Not for me. Because I don't give a rip what someone else thinks of what radios I'm using, and neither should you. If a Baofeng works for your needs, then use it and don't pay any attention to anyone else's opinion. Personally, I've used them, and dealt with them at work. I'm not impressed and not afraid to say so. Perfect radios for hobby use. Eh, I don't use mine to transmit, only listen to analog public service locally and it does a good job for that. In fact it sounds slightly better than the speaker in my SDS100. But no, I'm not a radio snob, the 5RM I use for local stuff came with a drop in charger, battery and naturally antenna... all for LESS than the cost of one single SDS100 battery. Oh, while the battery on the SDS100 craps out after about six hours, which is a pain in the azz, the 5RM battery has lasted so long (over 18 hours so far), that I've never had it go dead before I was able to recharge it. "Quality" is a subjective term. If a radio does everything you expect of it and doesn't fail, by definition it's a good radio for that purpose. Not everyone's purpose is the same as mine, and a Baofeng may not suit that purpose, but for my purpose, the Baofeng is a "quality" radio. If it craps out on me, I may change my mind. Yep. Reliability. I can get parts for them. It's not adding to the landfill when it breaks. They can actually be aligned. Reliability is certainly a consideration, but I've used my 5RM for the better part of a year and it still works as well as the day I got it. I don't work my radio as hard as a commercial or public safety user does, and if I did, I certainly might feel differently, but as you say, I'm a "hobby" user. I wouldn't bet my life on a Baofeng radio any more than I'd bet it on a Keltec pistol, but I have a Keltec pistol, and I shoot it quite a lot just for pleasure. My radio is just for fun, and I don't need the radio equivalent of a Wilson CQB pistol just for playing around. Just to answer the questions my TRX-1 and SDS100 both have better range using the same receive triband antenna connected to my stridesberg than the Baofeng DM32 both Analog and DMR. Just remember you ask for the test and I did use a Baofeng $89 radio. Just a side note I tested a Radtel RT4D and the Baofeng DM32 and the RT4D had better range RX and TX on stock antennas and the RTD4 had better range on a Larsen 1/4 wave VHF antenna Analog or DMR did not matter. I have both Analog and DMR Ham repeaters near me to test on. Testing can be informative and it's good to know your results. However, in my situation, receive and transmit range are limited mostly by terrain, not by the characteristics of the individual radio. I hardly get much more distance from the 50 watt AnyTone and 6 dB gain antenna in my truck than I get with a Baofeng 5RM and 771 antenna in my hand. Under other circumstances, I might consider it worth spending more money on an HT, but it's unlikely I'd accomplish anything with it that I don't already get with the inexpensive Baofeng. "Horses for courses" as we say in another of my hobbies. can some one please tell me how to get it to scan the channels i program in ? These do not have a scan key . Look in your model's manual then. dont get on repeater or talk group n say im using a baofeng. they will boo you off the air no matter how good it sounds. why dunno.some are great some are crap. but i bought a new 2980 yaesu that worked 3 weeks. it was replaced but it slipped under a quality check. no carbon paste under the finals. brand price dont matter, built by man you will get bad 1 now n then. on brite side a baofeng gets stolen your not out $200+. they helped low income hams get started so hey use em if you got em dont get on repeater or talk group n say im using a baofeng. they will boo you off the air no matter how good it sounds. why dunno.some are great some are crap. but i bought a new 2980 yaesu that worked 3 weeks. it was replaced but it slipped under a quality check. no carbon paste under the finals. brand price dont matter, built by man you will get bad 1 now n then. on brite side a baofeng gets stolen your not out $200+. they helped low income hams get started so hey use em if you got em dont get on Baofengs at least part of the time, and so far, I've never heard anyone shamed for using one. I have been told that's not the case everywhere. I do find that the audio reception quality isn't as crystal-clear as on some of the more expensive HTs, but for me, the difference isn't enough to matter much. Certainly not enough to spend 10x as much money for it. I have a pair of BF-F8HPs that I bought in 2022 and they just keep on keeping on, but as I commented previously, I don't work my radios all that hard. Radio is just a hobby for me, and if my radio craps out, at worst, I'll be inconvenienced and annoyed. I don't know it from personal experience, but I suspect that if I put a hard 8 hours on a radio 5 days a week, I'd find that some of the more expensive radios would last longer. It would be kinda interesting to give a Baofeng to someone who works it hard and find out how well it holds up. We all assume they aren't suitable for professional use, but I don't personally know anyone who's tested that assumption. I have heard/read that you can tell the difference between a CCR and a more expensive radio pretty consistently on simplex, but I haven't seen that tested. If true, that would be a strong argument for spending more money on a radio for professional use, IMO. I've had Baofengs for about seven years now, and the current quality is much better that the original UV-5Rs I've had. I have 10 of the 5RM HTs, and they've all worked well, especially for my neighborhood during Beryl. Years ago, I started with all Yaesu equipment on the ham bands. I had one of the first one-wire-clip MARS mod radios from China (I guess), the ADI brand monobanders. They soon introduced a dual-band HT. The HT worked for about three years before firing up its crack pipe; the monobanders did well for about a decade. The UV-5Rs seemed more novelty than anything else: "Oooh, I got me a freeband HT!" Out of curiosity, I ordered a 5RM after a UV-5R croaked. It was definitely better built, and better functioning. I kept on ordering them, for disaster prep, and they were well worth it during landfall and recovery. Mostly, I use the 5RM for rail scanning, and occasionally for extra VHF monitors during an event. I'm very happy with their performance and performance/price ratio. Scanning isn't so bad, just so long as you only scan about 20 channels. Takes a while to scan through the 98 AAR channels, but loading in just the local channels makes it worth having. Dual watch makes following a split channel easier, too. Like it or not, Chinese radios are getting better every day as a whole. There's dogs and there's gems; forums like this make the smell test easier to run (most times.) I didn't think I could enjoy a radio more than my Xiegu G90, but the Radtel RT-860 and RT-880 are a blast. I get a lot of the dislike and anger towards CCRs. The older ones had dirt that Ajax couldn't remove from their signals. That, and the fact that any jake-legged goober with a spare Jackson can get on-air

from that of other countries. It is a complicated topic, but it should be noted that a company name is often not a very good indication as to exactly who/where a Chinese item was manufactured. This complicates a conclusion about how good a manufacturer is. But more important to me, the Chinese seem better from adding features than stagnant western manufacturers. Page 4 Does it do what I want it to do? Does it meet FCC specifications? Those are the only criteria that matter, IMO. Agreed, now then, have you checked your radios on something recognized as a calibrated piece of equipment to see if they meet FCC specifications? If you have then that's a great attitude! If not, then I have no answer. Your equipment may very well be totally in spec, and work flawlessly comparing it to anything else, then again it may not. The great thing is, that's on you, not me, and me listening to someone with an out of spec radio is not against the rules. I'll talk to you on your Baofeng all day long as long as I can understand you and aren't all muffled. (and believe me I've heard all brands do that) It matters to me you're on the air, and exercising your privileges and help keeping the bands alive. Again I don't have a horse in this race. Like you, I run the radios I want to in the bands I want to, and all is well. In fact, we give newly licensed hams (usually Junior high kids) a Baofeng when they pass the test as a first radio in our club. Yes, we've checked them, yes they're within specs. The last thing we'd want to do is give a newly licensed ham a radio that doesn't meet the specs it needs to. It's been said it helps stop the barrier to entry into the hobby. I can totally agree with this. So much so, at least 5 hams that had one in my town, were ready to leave the hobby due to not understand how HT's work and their limitations. However after loaning them (a couple at a time I didn't have 5 radios, antennas, and power supplies to loan out) a more acceptable radio for our location, guess what...they're still here. Saved the money and got on the air and are happily hamming away. I realize people in other areas have better luck. Fortunately the club I belong to has multiple repeaters right in the town the kids live in (I don't live there) and they get their feet wet with them. Several have gone on to become hams that have greatly contributed to our club even as junior high kids. (hey kids are smart). . Last edited: Oct 23, 2025 But more important to me, the Chinese seem better from adding features than stagnant western manufacturers. That's a good point. I think there's different ways to look at that: Chinese radio manufacturers making inexpensive radios for hobbyists/consumers: "We can add features, even complex features, but have zero obligation to provide customer support beyond PDF document or ~maybe~ updating a website. Chance are, well rely on someone else to develop useable programming software. Firmware patches are not guaranteed. We may stop supporting the feature and/or product at any time." -----Essentially a marketing choice that results in more sales but limited/zero costs. = more profit. Western radio manufacturers making higher cost radios for hobbyists/consumers/commercial users: "We have a reputation and a brand name to protect. We could add complex features, but we need to provide customer support/tech support to non-technical users, provide firmware updates, and continue the product line for the foreseeable future. If we don't, our name is now Mud." ----Essentially a high cost marketing choice that requires tech support staff, firmware updates, lots of customer support and long term product lifespans. Benefit is customer loyalty and return customers. = more profit. On the customer side, the attitudes pretty much match. CCR users don't expect much and don't complain if the product/feature is not fully baked/supported. Big 3 users will throw an absolute $h!t fit if the radio doesn't have 20 years of tech support, parts availability and firmware updates. Different products, different customers, same hobby. And the two sides will fight to the death over it. Some of us like to sit back and watch with a bucket of pop corn.... I'm aware that's a problem, just like the people that use them on other bands without a license or type acceptance. I'm also aware of people using other brands of ham radios on FRS/GMRS, and public service. I'm also aware of at least one individual using a Motorola and interfered with the local police force. Maybe people are the problem. Yep hams "should" know... They do. They don't care. The only thing that matters, is that they are $20 or $30 and they are not 'out' anything when they do their make believe boating or hiking trips and 'lose' or 'drop' the radio. But it's the end users not any particular brand itself that is the problem. Spot on sir. They do. They don't care. The only thing that matters, is that they are $20 or $30 and they are not 'out' anything when they do their make believe boating or hiking trips and 'lose' or 'drop' the radio. Trying to remember the last time I "lost" a radio. Nope, never, I take better care of my equipment. That's a good point. I think there's different ways to look at that: Chinese radio manufacturers making inexpensive radios for hobbyists/consumers: "We can add features, even complex features, but have zero obligation to provide customer support beyond PDF document or ~maybe~ updating a website. Chance are, well rely on someone else to develop useable programming software. Firmware patches are not guaranteed. We may stop supporting the feature and/or product at any time." -----Essentially a marketing choice that results in more sales but limited/zero costs. = more profit. Western radio manufacturers making higher cost radios for hobbyists/consumers/commercial users: "We have a reputation and a brand name to protect. We could add complex features, but we need to provide customer support/tech support to non-technical users, provide firmware updates, and continue the product line for the foreseeable future. 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I can tell you exactly why Motorola, Harris, Tait, Kenwood, EF Johnson, BK, Yaesu, Icom, Alinco, etc. wouldn't: FCC Type Acceptance. And, yes, I know, amateur radios do not require type acceptance on the transmitters. Amateur radios are required to meet Part 15 on the receivers, though. LMR, GMRS, MURS, FRS and other radio services do require type acceptance. The type acceptance rules say that any time a functional change to the radio is made, it must undergo lab testings and submission of the request to the FCC. Now we know that some Chinese companies don't care about the FCC rules, they've proven that. But Motorola and the others do, as do those of us that work in the industry. So, modified firmware that changed the function of the radio, like adding emission types, frequency coverage, receiver function, etc. would trigger the need for fresh lab testing and type acceptance request from the FCC. If a third party is modifying the firmware, as you stated, that creates a mess where the manufacturer has no control over what is done. Whoever is modifying firmware probably won't make the effort to get its type acceptance, and we know that most end users don't even consider this. So, cool idea, but it's not quite a flex, and absolutely why LMR radio firmware is locked down and there's usually something in the documents that specifically says not to mess with it. Agreed, now then, have you checked your radios on something recognized as a calibrated piece of equipment to see if they meet FCC specifications? I didn't do it myself, because I don't have the equipment, but a friend in my club did it for me. I did have to toss one radio, but I have four that are clean. Trying to remember the last time I "lost" a radio. Nope, never, I take better care of my equipment. I haven't "lost" one, but I did have one fall out of my pocket and a horse stepped on it. Don't break your arm patting yourself on the back. If you haven't had a radio lost or damaged, you lead a more sedentary life than a lot of us do. didn't do it myself, because I don't have the equipment, but a friend in my club did it for me. I did have to toss one radio, but I have four that are clean That's great that the club has the capabilities to do that. Ours does also. haven't "lost" one, but I did have one fall out of my pocket and a horse stepped on it I haven't lost one either but I've had plenty get damage of some kind along the way. I've also damaged myself in a couple of falls while carrying a radios and honestly it usually faired better than I did. Had a belt clip break while working about 35 feet up and ya that took a tumble. All of those radios are still working albeit they show signs of the events. A couple needed new antennas here and there. None of these were "CCR" radios. I take good care of my stuff too BUT I also use my stuff. Things happen in life. Again if you are happy with the radios and they do what you want, then enjoy them. Just as I don't do some of the digital ham stuff like FT8 and others never do CW there are radios enough for everyone to pick from. 73!! That's great that the club has the capabilities to do that. Ours does also. I haven't lost one either but I've had plenty get damage of some kind along the way. I've also damaged myself in a couple of falls while carrying a radios and honestly it usually faired better than I did. Had a belt clip break while working about 35 feet up and ya that took a tumble. All of those radios are still working albeit they show signs of the events. A couple needed new antennas here and there. None of these were "CCR" radios. I take good care of my stuff too BUT I also use my stuff. Things happen in life. Again if you are happy with the radios and they do what you want, then enjoy them. Just as I don't do some of the digital ham stuff like FT8 and others never do CW there are radios enough for everyone to pick from. 73!! The CCR the horse stepped on was a goner, but it wasn't expensive enough to cause me any grief. If I had several destroyed, I might opt for something more rugged. Although, if it falls out of a boat in the middle of a lake, it doesn't matter what brand it is. Fortunately, I haven't had any reason to use a radio on a boat up to now. I haven't "lost" one, but I did have one fall out of my pocket and a horse stepped on it. Don't break your arm patting yourself on the back. If you haven't had a radio lost or damaged, you lead a more sedentary life than a lot of us do. Well, you don't know me, so you have no idea what kind of life I lead. It's absolutely not sedentary. I'm actually quite active. I've carried radio while on my dirt bike. I've carried radio at work while climbing towers. I'm frequently in remote areas working on some of our sites, including a few radio sites I camp at and one that takes a 2 hour hike or helicopter ride. I'm not someone sitting at home. I do this stuff for a living and have about 550 radios I'm responsible for. No reason to get personal, we're having a civil discussion about radios and no one is insulting anyone else. We have different life experiences, different jobs and different lifestyles. That's kind of normal in society. Radios get lost, that happens. Just hasn't happened to me, and having a radio that I can lose and not worry about isn't one of the options. Although, if it falls out of a boat in the middle of a lake, it doesn't matter what brand it is. Fortunately, I haven't had any reason to use a radio on a boat up to now. True!!! In the Mid 80s I had occasion to carry radios in two maritime situations. One was security for a private lake subdivision and the other as a Deputy Sheriff on both the Mississippi and Illinois rivers. Fortunately I never lost one in those situations. I can tell you exactly why Motorola, Harris, Tait, Kenwood, EF Johnson, BK, Yaesu, Icom, Alinco, etc. wouldn't: FCC Type Acceptance. And, yes, I know, amateur radios do not require type acceptance on the transmitters. Amateur radios are required to meet Part 15 on the receivers, though. LMR, GMRS, MURS, FRS and other radio services do require type acceptance. ... (Referring to open firmware) I think it is more that those companies want to make profit from new models, upgrades, or new features. I should have noted the updated firmware does not change the basic modulation etc. of the radios but things related to thing like adding a built-in spectrum analyzer etc. (Referring to open firmware) I think it is more that those companies want to make profit from new models, upgrades, or new features. Yeah, of course they do. But there's also the aspect that no one in their right mind would mess with the firmware in a public safety radio, the liability it just too risky. There's also pretty tight security requirements when it comes to encryption and FIPS certification. Easily hackable firmware, especially when modern high tier LMR radios often have bluetooth, WiFi and LTE capability, would risk something getting owned and encryption keys or unencrypted audio leaked. The FIPS requirements are pretty stringent and companies like Motorola, Harris, etc. -need- that certification because their core customer base needs it. For hobby/ham use, that's a different story. Big difference in the market for the Baofeng and a Harris. I should have noted the updated firmware does not change the basic modulation etc. of the radios but things related to thing like adding a built-in spectrum analyzer etc. I think the FCC might look at it a bit differently with the type acceptance requirements. I know the hobby oriented radios have had some neat stuff done with 3rd party firmware and it's cool to see the intersection of two separate hobbies making something like this. They do. They don't care. The only thing that matters, is that they are $20 or $30 and they are not 'out' anything when they do their make believe boating or hiking trips and 'lose' or 'drop' the radio. As opposed to buying something better that will survive being dropped. Somehow that concept never enters into their thought process. Well-built gear used daily by industry will absolutely survive anything a ham can throw at it. Well-built gear used daily by industry will absolutely survive anything a ham can throw at it. I have no doubt of it, but industry and public safety have large amounts of money and/or lives at stake. In a year, I've had one radio destroyed by a horse. I got a more secure pouch and that probably won't happen again. It would take at least a decade at this rate to justify the cost of a commercial radio and by then, I likely would have decided I wanted the radio to do something different. I reiterate my assertion that claiming CCRs are junk because they aren't suitable for industrial or public safety use is silly at best. A professional lumberjack wouldn't use my electric chainsaw either, but it works just fine for me. You are correct but I have always said buy the correct tool for the job. When I was active in the Fire Service before I retired we would have Firefighters show up from other departments with CCR and we would have them leave the radios in their pumper or POV and put them with one of our members so they would have radio contact. Well, you don't know me, so you have no idea what kind of life I lead. It's absolutely not sedentary. I'm actually quite active. I've carried radio while on my dirt bike. I've carried radio at work while climbing towers. I'm frequently in remote areas working on some of our sites, including a few radio sites I camp at and one that takes a 2 hour hike or helicopter ride. I'm not someone sitting at home. I do this stuff for a living and have about 550 radios I'm responsible for. No reason to get personal, we're having a civil discussion about radios and no one is insulting anyone else. We have different life experiences, different jobs and different lifestyles. That's kind of normal in society. Radios get lost, that happens. Just hasn't happened to me, and having a radio that I can lose and not worry about isn't one of the options. Hey, you're the one who opened with a jab at people who have lost or damaged their radios. So you're a professional radio-carrier. I'd expect a higher degree of attention to the radio than the rest of us. You've probably invested hundreds just in the gear to carry the radio. I'm a professional stethoscope-carrier. My stethoscope cost $400 and I've never lost one, even in the Alaska outback, but I know lots of volunteer rescue folks who have. Mine has a tracking device on it. Theirs cost about $25 but won't even begin to provide the information I can get with mine. Having one I can lose and not worry about isn't one of the options. The stethoscope in your emergency first aid kit would be a POS compared to mine, but the stethoscope isn't a crucial part of your job. In my non-professional life, a radio is often handy, but I'm a lot more concerned with whether the saddle fits right than whether my radio fell on the ground. Faced with a choice between getting a $300 radio and $150 of gear to secure it or having the ground seat of a saddle removed and reshaped so it doesn't hurt the horse, I'll get the $30 radio and have the saddle modified. Let's cut the personal jabs. One warning and no need to reply to this post. You are correct but I have always said buy the correct tool for the job. When I was active in the Fire Service before I retired we would have Firefighters show up from other departments with CCR and we would have them leave the radios in their pumper or POV and put them with one of our members so they would have radio contact. When lives were at stake (which they often were in my earlier careers), the communication equipment was always top-tier, but I never had to buy it myself. If I joined the local volunteer search-and-rescue team (unlikely but not impossible at my age and state of disability), I'd pony up for a Tait or something similar. Fortunately, I could afford it. But I'm not going to spend the bucks for a Tait or a Motorola so I can ask my buddy where he left the hoof pick. It just annoys me a bit that so many professionals sneer at hobbyists for using hobby-quality gear. Hey, you're the one who opened with a jab at people who have lost or damaged their radios. Sorry if it came across as a personal jab at anyone on this page. It wasn't. It was a statement that I'd never lost a radio. Maybe the value I place on the radio is different than others. Based on cost, I tend to pay close attention to it. Maybe today is the day my streak of luck is broken. Two different thoughts here: Less expensive radio: If it gets lost, no biggy. If it gets damaged, no problem. Easy/inexpensive to replace. More expensive radio: I do my best to not lose it as it costs more to replace. It's unlikely to get damaged in even the most extreme cases. Neither is wrong, just two different attitudes. I've said several times, and I think many keep missing it: These radios absolutely have their place in the amateur radio hobby, and can be the right solution for some users. There is a wide spectrum of radio equipment, and we all choose radios off that spectrum based on needs, budget and personal preference. There is not one choice that fits everyone. Each option has its pros and cons. The discussion here has been mostly around what those pros and cons are. Some of us have more experience with the spectrum of options that are out there. That's not necessarily anyone being snobbish, that's just people with more exposure sharing their experiences with others. Some of us are fortunate in our hobby/career that we've had the opportunity to put our hands on a wider range of equipment than others. DM32 DM-32 256 bit Encryption Channel Setting. After setting up the 256 bit Encryption details, I tried to use Encryption in a channel setting. When I checked the box for Encryption and entered the Encryption ID, as soon as I left that channel... it reverted to Blank. SOLUTION - Export the Channel Info to a CSV file and manually put in your Encryption ID info. Import that Channel CVS back into the CPS and it will stay. CPS 1.28 Firmware DM32.01.01.040 The bug will surely be fixed in future updates. On the other hand you are aware that it is not a real AES256 that you have? it looks like AES256, it tastes like AES256 but it's not AES256 and it's decryptable in a few minutes if you intercept about thirty conversations of a few seconds. On the other hand, your Anytone 878 contains the real AES256 and it is able to communicate with the fake AES256 of your Baofeng. The bug will surely be fixed in future updates. On the other hand you are aware that it is not a real AES256 that you have? it looks like AES256, it tastes like AES256 but it's not AES256 and it's decryptable in a few minutes if you intercept about thirty conversations of a few seconds. If it is not real AES256, what is it really? If it is not real AES256, what is it really? It isn't "fake AES", don't feed the trolls. The DM32 using AES works just fine with a Motorola XPR7550 and a Hytera PD682. If that isn't real AES, I don't know what is. It's just a Chinese backdoor like in a lot of Chinese radios. The AES256 DMRA standard defined by Motorola indicates that the encryption is in OFB mode with a 32-bit initialization vector : IV (the famous MI present in the PI Header). This MI is bound to change with each transmission, this is the case of Motorola, Hytera and even Anytone (but only since a fairly recent update). At Baofeng the IV (MI) is always the same, it never changes., do the test with an SDR RTL key and capture the images with dsd-fme or DSD+ (test done on a Baofeng DR-1802U) and the whole Baofeng series is probably the same. You'll see that the MI of the Pi Header is always the same. This is also the case in other Chinese radio stations. You would have thought it was just a bug, but this is very unlikely because every new Chinese radio that offers AES256 always has the same "bug" (backdoor). If the IV is always the same, you no longer have the security of AES256 at all. For each key you have a flow that always encrypts the same, it is then a simple Vigenere cipher with a key as long as the message. Since silence frames are repeated regularly in any conversation because you leave silences between words, with about thirty conversations you get the encryption stream (which is always the same in all conversations with the same AES256 key). You can then decrypt everything without even knowing the AES256 key. Of course, some people here will tell me: it's not possible, it's AES256 so it's reliable. Instead of calling me a troll: 1-Check if the MI of the Pi Header is still the same in your Chinese radio 2-If this is the case, ask ChatGPT about the security of such a system (AES 256 in OFB mode with initialization vector always the same) and you will see that it will confirm what I am telling you. The advantage of this backdoor is that it remains compatible with Motorola or Hytera radios. Motorola radio or Hytera receives the MI of Chinese radio and decrypts the conversation. Motorola or Hytera firmware does not send any alerts if the MI is still the same because it is not provided for in the DMRA standard. So you get the impression that it's as reliable as a Motorola or Hytera radio, but that's not the case at all. In 2020 someone had already found the backdoor at Anytone: Also, noticed something interesting. Try enabling AES on the Anytone radio, and analyse the full Tx traffic in DSD+ (use the -v4 option). Message ID (MI) seems to be a constant "12345678" no matter what key or channel settings, which if I read this correctly means the IV is constant. Yes, DMR's MI is a measly 32 bits of IV, but keeping it constant for all transmissions seems like a possible issue (known plaintext attacks?). Do correct me if I am mistaken. Note: Don't ask me to prove what I'm saying with a program or example because it's illegal. Check it out for yourself and ask ChatGPT if you don't believe me. Take out your rtl sdr key and do the test yourself! It's just a Chinese backdoor like in a lot of Chinese radios. The AES256 DMRA standard defined by Motorola indicates that the encryption is in OFB mode with a 32-bit initialization vector : IV (the famous MI present in the PI Header). This MI is bound to change with each transmission, this is the case of Motorola, Hytera and even Anytone (but only since a fairly recent update). At Baofeng the IV (MI) is always the same, it never changes., do the test with an SDR RTL key and capture the images with dsd-fme or DSD+ (test done on a Baofeng DR-1802U) and the whole Baofeng series is probably the same. You'll see that the MI of the Pi Header is always the same. This is also the case in other Chinese radio stations. You would have thought it was just a bug, but this is very unlikely because every new Chinese radio that offers AES256 always has the same "bug" (backdoor). 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The advantage of this backdoor is that it remains compatible with Motorola or Hytera radios. Motorola radio or Hytera receives the MI of Chinese radio and decrypts the conversation. Motorola or Hytera firmware does not send any alerts if the MI is still the same because it is not provided for in the DMRA standard. So you get the impression that it's as reliable as a Motorola or Hytera radio, but that's not the case at all. In 2020 someone had already found the backdoor at Anytone: Note: Don't ask me to prove what I'm saying with a program or example because it's illegal. Check it out for yourself and ask ChatGPT if you don't believe me. Take out your rtl sdr key and do the test yourself! The DM-32 with an AES256 key does not use the same MI/IV like you stated as shown with DSD-FME. The MI changes constantly during a call. Your test is not performed correctly, you need to display the PI HEADER. There is only ONE Pi Header per transmission. Use: and look for the PI header: PI H- in the log.txt file What you show is the LFSR which is generated from the Pi Header. Slot 1 DMR PI H- ALG ID: 0x24 KEY ID: 0x0A MI: 0x12345678 Your test is not performed correctly, you need to display the PI HEADER. There is only ONE Pi Header per transmission. Use: and look for the PI header: PI H- in the log.txt file What you show is the LFSR which is generated from the Pi Header. PI H- MI still looks randomized to me. Then subsequent PI C- MI are seemingly random after the first one. PI H- MI still looks randomized to me. Then subsequent PI C- MI are seemingly random after the first one. View attachment 181471View attachment 181472 Ok, there is no backdoor with fixed PI Header in your DM32. Can you give the firmware number? If other people are doing the same tests, we may be able to check if it's a backdoor, or if the firmware of all Chinese radios was produced by a single manufacturer and the same bug was copied everywhere. Because someone posted in another topic that the Radtel RT-4D has the backdoor and I myself saw a fixed Pi Header in a DM32 model that I was shown. Can you do some more tests because visually the PI Header doesn't really look random. Have the Chinese introduced another backdoor that is less visible than fixed MI? In both of your tests I see identical parts: 70E55B70 70x55x70 5AF70AF5 5AFxxAF5 Could you do a dozen tests to see if these identical parts are repeated? The Pi Header should be completely random and not have these kinds of identical parts. My DM-32 is on firmware version DM32.01.02.046. Attached is log.txt from DSD-FME of 12 calls, PI.txt is the output from grep of "PI" , It looks like only the first PI C- part contains the PI H- MI and all subsequent ones are different for the rest of the call. I did this with an RTLSDR, with no antenna to prevent overloading. This is the same case with a DM-32 on firmware version DM32.01.01.040 (stock firmware). My DM-32 is on firmware version DM32.01.02.046. Attached is log.txt from DSD-FME of 12 calls, PI.txt is the output from grep of "PI" , It looks like only the first PI C- part contains the PI H- MI and all subsequent ones are different for the rest of the call. I did this with an RTLSDR, with no antenna to prevent overloading. This is the same case with a DM-32 on firmware version DM32.01.01.040 (stock firmware). Your DM32 has no backdoor problems, the MI are very different, random and are 32 bits long. Would it be possible for you to test whether the SMS sent from an encrypted channel are encrypted or are not encrypted. Example of unencrypted 'AAAA' SMS (hexa 0x41 for the letter A): View attachment 181764 No more follow ups? Shoot.... Do you still maintain your original position that the DM32 does NOT have a randomized PI header? Just getting started on researching all this lol Would it be possible for you to test whether the SMS sent from an encrypted channel are encrypted or are not encrypted. Example of unencrypted 'AAAA' SMS (hexa 0x41 for the letter A): View attachment 181764 SMS is not encrypted when sent on a channel with encryption on. Sending DMR APRS or location as a SMS are also not encrypted. Yes I maintain it, the MI was always the same. Unfortunately I didn't think to note the firmware version. and the friend I had done the tests with, sent the DM32 back to where he had bought it and sent an email of complaint to Baofeng. It is possible that some radios had the problem and that it was corrected later. Another friend told me that the baofeng DR-1802U also had this MI problem that doesn't change. He also sent it back to the supplier. But here, I didn't see the MI repaired myself. To have a follow-up, people who have AES256 radios would have to do the MI test and post their results here. SMS is not encrypted when sent on a channel with encryption on. Sending DMR APRS or location as a SMS are also not encrypted. OK. For information, the MD UV380/390 encrypts SMS but still uses 16-bit MI instead of 32-bit. The Radtel RT-4D does not encrypt SMS. There's something else to consider: if it was really a backdoor in the DM32, Baofeng maybe it's just hidden. MI seem random but how many are there in total? I can generate 500 completely random MI and use them and after 500 it goes back to the first MI (whereas in Motorola DMRA mode, there should be 4294967296 different MI before the first one repeats). It would then be necessary to record the MI produced in the DM32 and check if any MI already produced are repeated at the after a while. And is it that when you turn off the DM32 and turn it back on, the first MI generated is always the same? if we change the date and the hour, minute, second is it still generating the same MI ? P.S. - The latest firmware for the DM32 is v39 as best I can tell. You may want to run the latest one as there were some bugfixes that were relevant to encryption stuff - your message above said that you are running v32. Page 2 The bug will surely be fixed in future updates. On the other hand you are aware that it is not a real AES256 that you have? it looks like AES256, it tastes like AES256 but it's not AES256 and it's decryptable in a few minutes if you intercept about thirty conversations of a few seconds. This is false. DM32 DM-32 256 bit Encryption Channel Setting. After setting up the 256 bit Encryption details, I tried to use Encryption in a channel setting. When I checked the box for Encryption and entered the Encryption ID, as soon as I left that channel... it reverted to Blank. SOLUTION - Export the Channel Info to a CSV file and manually put in your Encryption ID info. Import that Channel CVS back into the CPS and it will stay. CPS 1.28 Firmware DM32.01.01.040 Thank you so much, this was the answer, but let me expand some more for others Who might be as dumb as me. IT WILL BE LONG LOL First I have the same CPS and firmware as the original poster (N0OVC) and I was able to TX between my anytone 878+ and the Baofeng DM-32 using AES 256 encryption. In the DM-32 CPS first on the left side of the CPS click the tab DIGIT then digital encrypt systems. Now double click where it says digital encrypt 1 and a box will pop up. under type" use the drop down menu and choose AES 256, just leave the encryption number as 1. now in the bottom box click with your mouse and erase the one zero. now copy and paste using your code in this box, an example E9EC44E8859573EEA8FFDA2330D0AF98CB6562AAF7219322B7D8030F6A565D66 Using your mouse only (DO NOT USE THE SHORTCUT CTRL-V) that's what drove me crazy- er. Now on the left side menu click on channel and your channels menu will pop up. Choose the channel your going to use and double click on it. I wont go into detail here as i'm advising on the encryption Look on the right side of this open channel box and click in the small box that say's encryption. Just below that will be another drop down menu, choose encrypt 1 underneath that will be another drop down menu, choose the DMR ID you want to TX with. now click ok and exit that box. Now look towards the middle of your screen slightly to the right for the export button and click on that. Now a "save as" box will pop up, just name it encrypt and save it to your desktop for Convenience. Now using excel or whatever spreadsheet program you have open the file. look for the channel or channels your going to use the encryption on and scroll to the right and look for the second column that says encryption (YEA Theres two) (on my excel it was the AA column) double click in that box and type Encrypt 1 now look a few columns to the right DMR ID (on my excel it was column AF) and make sure it has your radio name like the rest in the same column, if not type it in. Now in excel just click save and then you must exit that program. go back to your Baofeng CPS and make sure your in the channel view if not click from the left menu. Look to the middle menu which says IMPORT and click on that and a box will pop up, navigate to where you saved that Excel (*csv) file and then click OPEN on that box. It should say import successful, click ok now click top left menu file and SAVE your codeplug NOW click WRITE to radio. and you should be home free. Thanks again N0oVC for guiding me in the right direction Ok, there is no backdoor with fixed PI Header in your DM32. Can you give the firmware number? If other people are doing the same tests, we may be able to check if it's a backdoor, or if the firmware of all Chinese radios was produced by a single manufacturer and the same bug was copied everywhere. Did you all ever shake out the firmware version on this? I've only been able to look at Baofeng_DM_32UV_Firmware_046_20250327.zip I was able to confirm DM-32UV Firmware "046" seemingly does not exhibit the behavior through disassembly. So does anyone have firmware that is pre .46 they can give me, so we can chase down where it was confirmed to occur? Someone have v39 or v32 zip files? Did you all ever shake out the firmware version on this? I've only been able to look at Baofeng_DM_32UV_Firmware_046_20250327.zip I was able to confirm DM-32UV Firmware "046" seemingly does not exhibit the behavior through disassembly. So does anyone have firmware that is pre .46 they can give me, so we can chase down where it was confirmed to occur? Someone have v39 or v32 zip files? Unfortunately I didn't think to note the firmware version. and the friend I had done the tests with, sent the DM32 back to where he had bought it and sent an email of complaint to Baofeng. I did find 039... still working on 032. Updated findings here: Sorry for the cross posting. I'm now also looking for UV32.01.01.029 firmware bundle zip or rar as well as the previously mentioned DM32.01.01.032 I picked up the Baofeng DM32 and tried using the CPS. I programmed a test channel on DMR...when I tried programming in several more, it wouldn't program. It's acting like the COM port is incorrect (I received a "communication failed" prompt). Has anyone had this issue, and if so, what was the fix? Also, I'd like to do a master reset; however, when I entered the code, the entire menu was in Chinese. Has this happened to anyone? Thanks in advance. Last edited: Apr 11, 2025 Also, I'd like to do a master reset; however, when I entered the code, the entire menu was in Chinese. Has this happened to anyone? Thanks in advance. That is a Chinese radio, the original settings included the language the workers understood, Chinese. You now have to change the language setting in the radio, just as you need to change any other settings you wish to be customized. That is a Chinese radio, the original settings included the language the workers understood, Chinese. You now have to change the language setting in the radio, just as you need to change any other settings you wish to be customized. and I suppose I need the CPS to do that... I did check via the menu and it's already set to English. and I suppose I need the CPS to do that... I'm not sure about that radio, but most can change settings, including language using keypad. I'm not sure about that radio, but most can change settings, including language using keypad. ok, I did this already. Not sure how to get around this one. Thank you for your help, though. I do appreciate it! Not sure how to get around this one. If you're needing to reset the radio to factory settings, there is no "code" required. Here are the instructions from the manual. Take notice of the last sentence. 8.3 Resetting the Radio (1) First turn off the radio power. (2) Then press and hold the [SK1] and [SK2] keys simultaneously and turn on the power. (3) The radio will start up and show a dialog box on the display, “Are you sure restoring factory settings?” -Press the key to exit the reset and restart the radio. -Press the key to continue the reset and show on the display: “Initialize radio .....”. NOTE: Resetting the radio can only be performed if the “Allow Reset” option is checked through CPS programming. Same issue. Tried several cables including the Boafeng on several different PC's. constant "communications failed" Can't reset because as mentioned you can't reset unless the box is checked in the CPS. so I found a solution, I'm boxing it up and sending it back. Does Anyone else think that the Baofeng UV32/DM32 looks like an APX 6000/8000 minus the top screen? Yes, they replicated quite correctly the general form factor (of the /\/\ radios), but the resemblance stops right there... they still are ~100$ Baofeng radios, with niceties yes, but not in the class of the /\/\ radios ! I would say so... its like the ham geek APX 8000 and similar radios Does anyone think the PMMN4158 And bmh 79 look alike: Still waiting to see if anyone has done testing for spurious emissions. ever the ptt's are both green and the tan one make it look like a grill off of a srx 2200 I'll bet the big /\/\ is getting some yuks and giggles ! I bet even though I only own 3 UV5R's Does anyone know the password for the CPS? If anyone has any interest in this radio, Andreas (UK) has some great videos about it, other radios and even Whistler TRX-1 and TRX-2s: The latest CPS (1.28) and manual can be found here in the DM series: According to Roger & Colin (OpenGD77), it will not be available for this radio. Well, I was able to answer my own question (I guess akin to talking to myself)(Yeah, I'm getting old): The passwords work, but you have to enter them each time that you want access the option under "Tool(T)". Also, I believe that v1.28 corrects the initial bugs/issues listed below. All credit to "John Beck Jr.": DM32 Bugs & Info CPS DMR Radio Setup v1.24 EN Works on DM32 Cable Type USB-SERIAL CH340 BAOFENG USB Programming Cable CH340 Chip Compatible You may need to open Facebook on Windows Computer to get download ---------- Software Used: DM32 CPS Version : V.1.24 Device Info Firmware UV32.01.01.029 CPS Ver: "Blank" Embedded Info:/"Model Info" Password: 374612 Adjust Mode:/"Test Mode" Password: 66660501 Online Test Password: 66660501 DM32 Firmware Bugs/Issues Programing Dupmed From Radio: EXCEPT CH-01 "ZONE 1" "This is the worst bug seen" Programing DMR Contacts Issue: DMR CONTACTS UPLOADED NOT MATCHING Larger Codeplugs More Errors Programing / Battery Issues If Battery is 3 Bars or Lower The Programing is not as in Codeplug Programed to Radio I have both radios, the UV and DM. Couldn't resist. IMO the UV32 works great. DM32 has issues with scanlists and intermittent poor squelch sensitivity..Haven't programmed dmr yet. As a glorified scanner with great analog sensitivity the UV can't be beat. Build quality is good and they got rid of the damned flashlight, finally. IDGAF with transmit, 99.9/10% of use is receive only and I'm rural so I don't sweat the front end either. YMMV. When you get a chance, could you please see if you can program in RX frequencies above 470 Mhz? In our area, police and fire/ems use 506-508 MHz, analog with CTCSS. I program as RX only. I tried to enter frequencies above 470 into the CPS, but it reverted right back to 400. I went into the Embedded Information area using the password, made sure that Frequency Mode was set to USA FCC, but there were only read or write buttons, no ok button. I'm guessing that it's not working because I do not have a radio attached to read and write to, but I wanted to confirm it. I don't want to purchase the radio, if it will not suit my needs. Thanks in advance for your help. Rich I got my UV-32 the other day, and it's a fun radio. I'm using both Chirp and the Baofeng SW for the programming and it's very simple. I'm using it pretty much as a Aviation scanner. I do have a question about Zone/Banks. I've named the banks and have it set to display the frequency usage name. The name shows up for the frequency, but it just shows Zone instead of the Bank name. Anyone figure out a way to change it? Still, it's not a deal breaker since I only paid $40 for it on AliExpress. Just wish it had the top display, but beggars can't be choosy! I would start here: Andreas, M0FXB has a number of UV-32 videos on his channel. Page 2 The Australian APX holster fits the DM32 perfectly too! TrooperBruceMichaels said: I got my UV-32 the other day, and it's a fun radio. I'm using both Chirp and the Baofeng SW for the programming and it's very simple. I'm using it pretty much as a Aviation scanner. I do have a question about Zone/Banks. I've named the banks and have it set to display the frequency usage name. The name shows up for the frequency, but it just shows Zone instead of the Bank name. Anyone figure out a way to change it? Still, it's not a deal breaker since I only paid $40 for it on AliExpress. Just wish it had the top display, but beggars can't be choosy! Andreas, M0FXB in his videos of the UV32, that it may Not be receiving Airband on AM but in fact FM. Have you noticed if it has AM modulation on Airband ? When you get a chance, could you please see if you can program in RX frequencies above 470 Mhz? In our area, police and fire/ems use 506-508 MHz, analog with CTCSS. I program as RX only. I tried to enter frequencies above 470 into the CPS, but it reverted right back to 400. I went into the Embedded Information area using the password, made sure that Frequency Mode was set to USA FCC, but there were only read or write buttons, no ok button. I'm guessing that it's not working because I do not have a radio attached to read and write to, but I wanted to confirm it. I don't want to purchase the radio, if it will not suit my needs. Thanks in advance for your help. Rich I tried, in the software, to increase the receive limits above 470MHz. I couldn't get it to work. I opened up the Tool/Embedded Information menu. The password is 374612. A screen pops up that allows you to adjust frequency ranges, among other things. I changed the ranges and clicked the "write" button. The window indicated that the write was successful, but nothing changed in the radio. Thanks for your help. I did the same thing, but didn't have a radio to test it on. I guess that I won't be buying that one. It works well on my Radioddity GD-77, Retevis RT-3S & Baofeng RD-5R. I like to have the extended frequency range, so that I don't have to carry around multiple radios. Also, the reception in these radios is far better than any scanner that I own. I was hoping that the DM-32UV would be the same. Sorry, I just wanted to confirm whether it was the UV-32 or the DM-32? I gave it a try on the UV-32 and it took 490 and 512 and uploaded to the radio. I used CHIRP. For some reason, the B'feng SW stopped reading the radio. Andreas, M0FXB in his videos of the UV32, that it may Not be receiving Airband on AM but in fact FM. Have you noticed if it has AM modulation on Airband ? I am getting aviation in AM but only up to 135.995 - after that it says it's not AM. CHIRP won't work on the DM-32, only the UV-32. TrooperBruceMichaels said: I got my UV-32 the other day, and it's a fun radio. I'm using both Chirp and the Baofeng SW for the programming and it's very simple. I'm using it pretty much as an Aviation scanner. I do have a question about Zone/Banks. I've named the banks and have it set to display the frequency usage name. The name shows up for the frequency, but it just shows Zone instead of the Bank name. Anyone figure out a way to change it? Still, it's not a deal breaker since I only paid $40 for it on AliExpress. Just wish it had the top display, but beggars can't be choosy! I just ordered one and I’m happy to hear it will work with CHIRP, although I hear to access all the frequency banks you must use the original CPS. I searched for a programming cable and no one lists the UV-32 for compatibility. Can you tell me or provide a link to what cable you are using with the UV-32 and CHIRP please? Many thanks! Joe I just ordered one and I’m happy to hear it will work with CHIRP,

humble opinion it means LOST . no wonder shipping cost so much and many trucking firms are going broke. its lot farther to missouri from cali than utah to colorado to missouri. reckon they need a good old Rand McN ally with a lesson on reading a map set a route to travel? in last few years ive never seen freight sent way to hell out of route. when i was truckin wide n far if id routed that bad id be looking for new employement (There was a 3rd step to reset the radio which isn't working for me. I sent email to Baofeng support so we'll see what they say.) Did you check "Allow Reset" under "Optional Features"? I performed the upgrade and the reset worked fine for me. Good update here also, 047 was on radio when it delivered Tuesday, updated to 048. Except for switching COM to USB in the directions (which I remembered seeing in a Youtube video), all is working good. Did you check "Allow Reset" under "Optional Features"? I performed the upgrade and the reset worked fine for me. Yes I did select it. I don't think I uploaded the change to the radio however, as the doc didn't say was necessary. Yes I did select it. I don't think I uploaded the change to the radio however, as the doc didn't say was necessary. Mine was already checked, but I would assume you'd have to upload the change first. And yes, the document didn't specify that. Mine was already checked, but I would assume you'd have to upload the change first. And yes, the document didn't specify that. Yep no worries. I forgot I did update my codeplug. The key combo works now since the reset flag was set. Maybe I'm doing something wrong, but my backlight stays on constantly when I'm scanning. Is this normal? This is on a DM32UV BTW. As does mine Kevin my back light stays on all the time scanning or not. As does mine Kevin my back light stays on all the time scanning or not. If it stays on when not scanning it's probably set to "Always On". Mine functions as expected when not scanning (times out after x seconds). I have not had much spare time to play with all options I just bought it to play with. I just bought it to play with. As did I. I got an Amazon gift card for my birthday so it didn't really cost me anything. So far I'm impressed with it, especially for the $60 price it was at the time. Better than the RT-4D and RT-6d on DMR my RT-950 Pro is working good for me on 2 meter and 70cm. As has been discussed in many forums, the DM-32 will not receive beyond 470 MHz using official firmware. Reportedly, there is a hacked firmware version that will allow reception up into the 500 area. As has been discussed in many forums, the DM-32 will not receive beyond 470 MHz using official firmware. Reportedly, there is a hacked firmware version that will allow reception up into the 500 area. That's why I asked. I haven't even been able to confirm if even the hacked firmware will allow it. Maybe a newer firmware version? Misprint of wishful thinking? Not sure. I also never saw a light green or military green version before. I'm going to contact them. I will reply with what they say... That's why I asked. I haven't even been able to confirm if even the hacked firmware will allow it. Here's a recent quote from a DM-32 forum on Facebook: "I am currently running a modified version of firmware 1.46 to be able to receive above 470 MHz ("DM32.01.02.046_mod_220-520MHz_avia_23-136.bin" from the files section). I am using CPS V1.45." Also, there was another post that showed a recent Baofeng ad for the DM-32 in numerous new colors. The Australian APX holster fits the DM32 perfectly too! TrooperBruceMichaels said: I got my UV-32 the other day, and it's a fun radio. I'm using both Chirp and the Baofeng SW for the programming and it's very simple. I'm using it pretty much as a Aviation scanner. I do have a question about Zone/Banks. I've named the banks and have it set to display the frequency usage name. The name shows up for the frequency, but it just shows Zone instead of the Bank name. Anyone figure out a way to change it? Still, it's not a deal breaker since I only paid $40 for it on AliExpress. Just wish it had the top display, but beggars can't be choosy! Andreas, M0FXB in his videos of the UV32, that it may Not be receiving Airband on AM but in fact FM. Have you noticed if it has AM modulation on Airband ? When you get a chance, could you please see if you can program in RX frequencies above 470 Mhz? In our area, police and fire/ems use 506-508 MHz, analog with CTCSS. I program as RX only. I tried to enter frequencies above 470 into the CPS, but it reverted right back to 400. I went into the Embedded Information area using the password, made sure that Frequency Mode was set to USA FCC, but there were only read or write buttons, no ok button. I'm guessing that it's not working because I do not have a radio attached to read and write to, but I wanted to confirm it. I don't want to purchase the radio, if it will not suit my needs. Thanks in advance for your help. Rich I tried, in the software, to increase the receive limits above 470MHz. I couldn't get it to work. I opened up the Tool/Embedded Information menu. The password is 374612. A screen pops up that allows you to adjust frequency ranges, among other things. I changed the ranges and clicked the "write" button. The window indicated that the write was successful, but nothing changed in the radio. Thanks for your help. I did the same thing, but didn't have a radio to test it on. I guess that I won't be buying that one. It works well on my Radioddity GD-77, Retevis RT-3S & Baofeng RD-5R. I like to have the extended frequency range, so that I don't have to carry around multiple radios. Also, the reception in these radios is far better than any scanner that I own. I was hoping that the DM-32UV would be the same. Sorry, I just wanted to confirm whether it was the UV-32 or the DM-32? I gave it a try on the UV-32 and it took 490 and 512 and uploaded to the radio. I used CHIRP. For some reason, the B'feng SW stopped reading the radio. Andreas, M0FXB in his videos of the UV32, that it may Not be receiving Airband on AM but in fact FM. Have you noticed if it has AM modulation on Airband ? I am getting aviation in AM but only up to 135.995 - after that it says it's not AM. CHIRP won't work on the DM-32, only the UV-32. TrooperBruceMichaels said: I got my UV-32 the other day, and it's a fun radio. I'm using both Chirp and the Baofeng SW for the programming and it's very simple. I'm using it pretty much as an Aviation scanner. I do have a question about Zone/Banks. I've named the banks and have it set to display the frequency usage name. The name shows up for the frequency, but it just shows Zone instead of the Bank name. Anyone figure out a way to change it? Still, it's not a deal breaker since I only paid $40 for it on AliExpress. Just wish it had the top display, but beggars can't be choosy! I just ordered one and I'm happy to hear it will work with CHIRP, although I hear to access all the frequency banks you must use the original CPS. I searched for a programming cable and no one lists the UV-32 for compatibility. Can you tell me or provide a link to what cable you are using with the UV-32 and CHIRP please? Many thanks! Joe I just ordered one and I'm happy to hear it will work with CHIRP, although I hear to access all the frequency banks you must use the original CPS. I searched for a programming cable and no one lists the UV-32 for compatibility. Can you tell me or provide a link to what cable you are using with the UV-32 and CHIRP please? Many thanks! Joe You don't HAVE to use the CPS to access the banks, just to name them. The Banks are every 100 channels (1-100, 101-200, 201-300 and so one up to 901-1000). Even though you name the bank, the screen on the UV-32 will show Bank #. Just wish there was a way to change it to show the bank name. One other thing I would like is to find a way to lock out a specific channel in a scan list without having to delete it. Scan rate is about 2-4 channels per second and I believe it will hold on channel for about 2 seconds. I've got the Baofeng programming cable that I used on other radios. Works great. Baofeng Programming Cable - Amazon I've also ordered a remote mic (Retevis) to uses with my earphone. Retevis Speaker Mic - Amazon Last edited: Mar 14, 2025 Anyone figure out how to send SMS text through NA7Q (Michael Phelps) gateway using the DM-UV32? The Australian APX holster fits the DM32 perfectly too! I have the Baofeng UV-32 and ordered the US version of the APX 8000 plastic hard case and it does not fit. Would you please provide a link to the Australian holder that fits the DM32 (same as the UV-32)? more info here , cps and firmware I picked up a DM-32 and UV-32 to keep around for monitoring rather than talking (I have Harris and Kenwood radios for that at work) ... while I have found the UV-32 easy to set up for scanning, I can't seem to figure out how to get the Scan Bank to scan. I push the button I set up for scanning, and it switches to the Scan Bank I have selected ... or at least it says it is now scanning that bank, as that is the text that appears below the channel, not the name of the zone I was in before selecting scan ... but the channel continues to show as the channel from the zone I was already in and doesn't show any scanning occurring. After an hour of trying this, only the channel selected in the zone (not the scan bank) receives. Suggestions? I tried, in the software, to increase the receive limits above 470MHz. I couldn't get it to work. I opened up the Tool/Embedded Information menu. The password is 374612. A screen pops up that allows you to adjust frequency ranges, among other things. I changed the ranges and clicked the "write" button. The window indicated that the write was successful, but nothing changed in the radio. I'm still a bit of a noob to configuring DMR radios and learning the ropes. I bought a DM32 specifically because of the airband and 480MHz and to try to keep up with some digital tech. Being able to monitor the local CTAF while using UHF CB 477MHz FM is a really big selling point for hang glider pilots. Being able to TX Airband would be a killer sales point to as sport pilots are being forced to carry VHF and make calls. There is also a good linked repeater amateur network in my area which is also really handy for ham pilots when they are on the ground and European pilots often use VHF FM for their ground chatter. It really needs that 480MHz enabled. I also have a bit of curiosity in seeing how well DMR will work with UHF CB. I've had a couple of goes at configuring the DM32 with the default Baofeng software but it won't even set >470MHz RX on my radio. It's early days and I haven't tried any special password protected configurations yet. (Just learning about them now). I would love to think this is just a firmware upgrade to fix it. My Radio appears to have v40 in it. I'll try the embedded menu and probably sift through the firmware binary to see if I can reverse engineer anything out of it and hopefully not brick the radio. Keep in mind it's a Ham talkie, Not a commercial or a Navcom radio. And UHF Cb as it used to be called is Not on 477 mhz. unless you're Not in the US , Now known as GMRS does Not use Dmr. Only Analog FM. At least if you brick it, you didn't blow a wad of cash on it. Page 2 I put my hands on a Motorola APX PMLN7732A holster, with the DM32/UV32 this weekend. While the DM32/UV32 will fit into the holster, the radio pops out of the bottom of the holster, as the "wings" on the side of the radio do not match that of the APX6000/APX8000. The radio will stay in the holster until there is any downward force, such as bumping it with your elbow, or jumping off a curb, at which point it pops out of the bottom and slams into the ground. Has anyone tried to make a case on a 3D printer? I put my hands on a Motorola APX PMLN7732A holster, with the DM32/UV32 this weekend. While the DM32/UV32 will fit into the holster, the radio pops out of the bottom of the holster, as the "wings" on the side of the radio do not match that of the APX6000/APX8000. The radio will stay in the holster until there is any downward force, such as bumping it with your elbow, or jumping off a curb, at which point it pops out of the bottom and slams into the ground. I have the Motorola PMLN7901A holster. It fits the DM-32 with no modifications. This is with the speaker facing out, which is the way a real APX is supposed to go in the holster. A lot of people seem to want to put the radio in the holster with the screen facing out, and it will never fit that way, unless maybe if you were to hack the holster up with a Dremel. I'd love to have Motorola build a radio that looks really weird, like maybe a square one or something, then we can wait and see how long it take for China to steel it and make a copy. I am in Australia and have recently purchased the Baofeng DM-32 radio but the bandwidth limitations posed a problem as our CB band is in the 477Mhz range. I recently found this Russian site that has a firmware .bin file that was able to allow an expansion of the usable bandwidth 23-136Mhz and 220-520Mhz. The new Firmware is dm32.01.02.46 which expands the frequencies. I have updated my two radios and it seems to work vey well with even allowing the 27Mhz AM band programming (but not tested) although the 477Mhz has been tested and works well although you loose the startup picture but I changed this to show Voltage instead. The existing CPS does not allow you to change the bandwidth in the program outside the listed 136-174Mhz 400-470Mhz but if you export to csv file and then update the frequencies and import the csv file back to the radio it all works fine and then the CPS will reflect the changes when you Read to and from radio. Link to the site for the .bin file is Просмотр сообщений - Koshak As far as I can see this is a great radio for the price with a lot more to offer I suspect. I have the hacked firmware that's supposed to allow 220 to 520MHz. I can confirm that it will transmit and receive in the 220 MHz ham band, but I have not yet measured the transmit power, and the receive sensitivity seem to be poor. It will now receive in the 470-471 range, which before it stopped at 470.000. Keep in mind it's a Ham talkie, Not a commercial or a Navcom radio. And UHF Cb as it used to be called is Not on 477 mhz. unless you're Not in the US , Now known as GMRS does Not use Dmr. Only Analog FM. At least if you brick it, you didn't blow a wad of cash on it. Generally everybody is well aware that the radios are 100% ham radios and nothing else. Of course there are one or two "special" people who don't understand this. UHF CB is (or was) the name used to describe our local AUS/NZ services and the US versions I've always referred to as FRS/GRMS. And other places in the world with more specific descriptions. Here yes UHF CB is analogue. There have been a few people running P25 simplex on it for ****s and giggles. There's no reason why DMR also can't become popular, it's more just the management or things like IDs and groups etc. Not something I'm really familiar with yet. We have a very high density of morons on UHF CB channels and you can of course imagine all the ways it could go wrong, or right. Then there is reality: UV5R radios are already very popular and the UHF CB community has supported programming of the radios very well for noobs and for the most part they get used on our 80 channels with very few problems. Most people are aware of the legalities which aren't enforced and were only ever in place to make the use of the service fool proof. Now days the type approval that acheived this is more of a protection for the big companies like Icom to charge $450 for a radio which a $50 Baofeng can also do. Yes we're well aware of Icom's quality, but the compliance no longer protects the service, it protects those who can afford to pay. For me personally, being able to use my ham radio for UHF CB and meet the standard in every other way is ideal. One radio does both. In the sports flying community we can have european and japanese pilots using 2m as their chatter frequency. When they come to Australia they continue to use 2m illegally. They could buy a $400 UHF CB for the short time they are here, but if they have a baofeng, it's pretty easy and much better for everybody if they just programmed in a UHF CB channel. Everybody is a winner. But things are changing in the sports flying community. Locally we all use UHF CB. We talk, air to air and air to ground and often there can be over 200 people across several channels. There is a push to get this "air traffic" into the air band. Of course having done this 30 years ago might have been desired but costs... Worse still is that there isn't any real need for these slow moving sport aircraft to make calls. It doesn't hurt when it's just one on a CTAF, but radio channels become more congested than their sky. Carrying another radio is more weight and more things to physically go wrong. Monitoring the airband so they can hear the fast moving traffic while being able to talk UHF CB to each other over a very short distance in the air is the goal. You can also see that being able to TX airband would be handy, but it's really not that big a deal. They're trying to avoid air traffic and not make unnecessary calls. And at the end of the day, you don't want idiots to have easy access to airband even though that is kind of already the case. The legit demand for it is there and if the chinese decide to make it happen, already having a plan to manage it will help prevent problems while facilitating good spectrum use. For me 477MHz TX and Airband Rx is good enough. Having that in my ham radio makes it all even better. Airband TX is a feature I'd legitimately use in a similar way to 477MHz. And digtal modulation gives me something to consider that might have unforeseen benefits. Generally everybody is well aware that the radios are 100% ham radios and nothing else. Of course there are one or two "special" people who don't understand this. UHF CB is (or was) the name used to describe our local AUS/NZ services and the US versions I've always referred to as FRS/GRMS. And other places in the world with more specific descriptions. Polite snip... In the US, the old UHF-T Band (470-512 MHz) is used by some municipalities for public safety communications. The advantage for someone that wants to listen in that range, is the ability to not have to carry multiple radios. The other advantage, is that the reception of my, as some people call them, CCRs, is much better than my Whistler and Uniden scanners. We were about 20 miles from home the other day shopping and I was able to listen to a fire channel from home with my Retevis RT-3S with a Smiley BNC antenna, that I could not hear with my Whistler TRX-1, using a mag mount, rooftop antenna. Swapped antennas with the same result. With the OpenGD77 CPS & firmware, the radio scans just as fast as my scanners. Since I am no longer an active FF/EMT, I am not licensed to talk on these channels, so all of my radios are programmed to receive only. I can't vouch for how they transmit in this frequency range. The disadvantage, is that radios like the RT-3S are not capable of P25 700-800 MHz trunking, so in theory, if I want to listen to that, I have to carry a second radio. In the car, I have multiple radios anyway. Baofengs web site has a new picture tool program to upload images as start up pics on the DM32. Instructions are straight forward. Also in the main CPS software under Option Feature change the power on/off - power on interface to "Power On Picture". Done on YouTube, and extremely low SE. Baofeng finally has a decent radio for an CCR! From the videos I've seen, the UV-32 {analog} Doesn't pass spurious emissions test on vhf at all, but apparently the DM-32 does. I have the hacked firmware that's supposed to allow 220 to 520MHz. I can confirm that it will transmit and receive in the 220 MHz ham band, but I have not yet measured the transmit power, and the receive sensitivity seem to be poor. It will now receive in the 470-471 range, which before it stopped at 470.000. This image has been floating around and I'm pretty sure it's nothing special. You can easily expand the allowed ranges within the CPS application. I am in Australia and have recently purchased the Baofeng DM-32 radio but the bandwidth limitations posed a problem as our CB band is in the 477Mhz range. I recently found this Russian site that has a firmware .bin file that was able to allow an expansion of the usable bandwidth 23-136Mhz and 220-520Mhz. The new Firmware is dm32.01.02.46 which expands the frequencies. I have updated my two radios and it seems to work vey well with even allowing the 27Mhz AM band programming (but not tested) although the 477Mhz has been tested and works well although you loose the startup picture but I changed this to show Voltage instead. The existing CPS does not allow you to change the bandwidth in the program outside the listed 136-174Mhz 400-470Mhz but if you export to csv file and then update the frequencies and import the csv file back to the radio it all works fine and then the CPS will reflect the changes when you Read to and from radio. Link to the site for the .bin file is Просмотр сообщений - Koshak As far as I can see this is a great radio for the price with a lot more to offer I suspect. Be careful with this mod. I could not get it break squelch on 220 mhz repeaters. It also has one heck of harmonic on 70 cm looks like exactly twice the 1.25 frequency. This image has been floating around and I'm pretty sure it's nothing special. You can easily expand the allowed ranges within the CPS application. I will amend what I said in post #49. I have since found it WILL NOT transmit or receive in the 220MHz ham band. Yes, it will display the frequencies, but it transmits at exactly twice the displayed frequency. My testing shows that it will not receive between 174 and about 350 MHz, where it begins to receive again. It can also receive above 470 MHz. Some have reported that it operates at 27 MHz CB band, but I have not tested this. Baofeng released a new version of the CPS -- 1.41. It gives a false positive on MS Defender when installing the application. Looks like they fixed at least a couple of my reported issues. Firmware version is unchanged. Page 3 Baofeng released a new version of the CPS -- 1.41. It gives a false positive on MS Defender when installing the application. Looks like they fixed at least a couple of my reported issues. Firmware version is unchanged. 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Windows does not detect anything until I plug my radio in and turn it on. It appears as Digital Radio in USB mode - see my screen shot Here is what I have done so far: 1. The cable came with the radio and when I plug it in, it recognizes something. I don't think it is a bad cable. 2. If I use my BTECH cable for my other radios (that one has a chipset - and I didn't try to use it with my DM-1701) - UV-5R and my BF-F8HP - can connect and program so my USB port seems to be working. 3. I connect my DM-1701 with the supplied cable, Windows recognizes it as above. 4. I run the CPS Software, but it does not recognize the radio. Perhaps there is a configuration to look at a particular port like CHIRP. I'm kind of stuck - any help would be welcomed. Thanks - Glen I'll need to break open my laptop top tomorrow morning and find my solution. The manufacturer's firmware works exclusively in DFU mode. Try to install the defuse-3.0.6 windows driver (the latest one from ST doesn't work). I have a 1701 that I use all the time with windows 11…I use both original software and OpenGD77. Unfortunately am not able to check until next week so advise if you get this working..if not I will analyze and let you know how I installed. CHIP adapters? I have the cable that came in the box. I know it's connecting to my computer as I see it appear in the Device Manager when I connect. So, I don't think it's a bad cable. What we call a CHIP adapter cable is a cable with two audio plugs on one end and a USB assembly on the other with an internal chipset. DM-1701 cable is just wires and connectors, there is no chip inside, Not so, the adapter cable has a USB-to-serial chip. The latest chip is mfg by FTDI Well fudge....I grabbed my two cables and stuck in laptop bag but forgot my Baofeng radios. Will try tomorrow. But let me try from memory what I experienced. 1) the the latest CHIP app. 2) Use Device Mgr to find the serial port number the USB Is using, and select that in the CHIP pulldown menu. 3) If there are multiple Baofeng models to choose, try them all. The manufacturer's firmware works exclusively in DFU mode. Try to install the defuse-3.0.6 windows driver (the latest one from ST doesn't work). Hey - I appreciate the response. Thanks. If you could elaborate on this a little more. Can you provide a link where I can get the correct one? I did a fast search and found many results. I don't really know what I am looking for. JustnWHT, I hate to disagree, but I just updated the firmware on my 1701 using the cable that came with it and there is definitely no chip in it…if there is it would have to be miniscule, ☹and originally when I bought the radio I asked Radioddity and they told me it was straight through cable with the chip in the radio. Not sure why the poster is having a problem since mine connected day one with no new driver needed…maybe I was just lucky Also,if we are talking about CHIRP for programming it does not support the 1701 since it is DMR Okay - it's clear that I am not a Windows Weenie. However, I figured it out. I haven't used Windows in so long. 1. Plug my DM-1701 in - recognizes it as a Digital Radio 2. I manually removed this driver from the Device Manager 3. I downloaded the DFuse drivers - 4. I manually installed the Win10 driver from the Device Manager 5. I plugged in my radio, powered it up and ran the CPS Software 6. Now I can connect to/read from my radio. I'm not going to bother complaining that this was so hard, if I would have stopped and thought about it, I probably would have fixed it sooner. So, done - thanks everyone for all of your suggestions! Glen - KC1RTD Glen…Great…happy you got it fixed…! Yes I forgot about the opengd77 drivers! Its a very small circuit board using the PC001 or FTDI UART chip. Its a very small circuit board using the PC001 or FTDI UART chip. Will you stop making false claims ? There is no USB to TTL chip inside the DM-1701 cable (like many other radios, GD-77/DM-1801/RT3S/MD-UV380/MD-2017,...), period. The DR-1701 has a converter, but that's a different radio inside (despite it uses the same enclosure as the DM-1701). Page 2 That it was a DR-1801 was revealed late in the thread. /edited for mistyped correction DR-1701 Last edited: Jun 15, 2024 Nope, there is no DR-1801 mention, anywhere. It's a common problem we have on the OpenGD77 forum, as Windows installs/updates the wrong driver, and that breaks the DFU mode for such radios (we need it for the firmware update process, not the codeplug reading/writing, as it's done using the serial com (ACM)). Last edited: Jun 15, 2024 Neither. Another random reference ? Correct. I have never seen a dr-1701 and my dm-1701 cable does not look like the picture. Also in the description of the pc001 it states"Compatible Model (Note: It does not work with most DMR radio!!)." JustinWHT…No problem. We all get confused on some things☹ just wanted to make sure everything was clear…thanks! You may need a different cable with a new chipset, Windows 11 would not recognize my old cable to connect to my UV-5R. I believe the new chipset is FTDI but verify if you order a new cable. Old cable had PL-2303 chipset. ^^^^^ That is what I also discovered. You need a cable with the FTDI chip for Windows 11 support. It seems, from what I've read, there is a sea of programming cables with counterfeit chips and Windows 11 can detect them and refuse to work with them. Counterfeiters have met the challenge by providing older driver versions with their bootleg chip but Windows 11 updater will catch this and reinstall the current version (of course they don't mention this in their Amazon product listing). It is aggravating because even the legitimate programming cable I bought from BTECH years ago is now flagged by Win11 as counterfeit. I simply paid the $22 for the BTECH cable and away I went. Okay - it's clear that I am not a Windows Weenie. However, I figured it out. I haven't used Windows in so long. 1. Plug my DM-1701 in - recognizes it as a Digital Radio 2. I manually removed this driver from the Device Manager 3. I downloaded the DFuse drivers - 4. I manually installed the Win10 driver from the Device Manager 5. I plugged in my radio, powered it up and ran the CPS Software 6. Now I can connect to/read from my radio. I'm not going to bother complaining that this was so hard, if I would have stopped and thought about it, I probably would have fixed it sooner. So, done - thanks everyone for all of your suggestions! Glen - KC1RTD Confirming you used the Win10 driver in Win11? I tried that and it won't install. I will add that I'm running W11 in Parallels on a Mac M2, so I'm sure that has a lot to do with my trouble. Trying to work though it with no success, so far. Background: I am very happy with my bargain basement DMR HTs, the Radioddity RD-5R and its clone, the updated Baofeng DM-5R II. I even found an OpenGD77 enthusiast to upgrade the RAM chip in both from 1 MB to 16 MB and now I can download the worldwide Digital ID database into both: thank you Charlie (He even through in a pi-star and programmed it into OpenGD77 for me in return for my giving him a RD-5R I found on eBay). I want to help other Hams get into DMR inexpensively, but neither of these HTs are available any more (too bad, as having the UV-5R format, they share all my other accessories, including my high capacity batteries). So the next logical choice is the Baofeng DM-1701, which I just picked up from AliExpress for $50 all in. I want to get comfortable with it, before I start to recommend it or even gift it to others. My first step is to always download the existing codeplug and firmware, so I downloaded the Baofeng software to do just that. Unfortunately I ran into Windows 11 problems, so I am working with another computer and Windows 10 works fine. Once I now install OpenGD77 firmware, I would like to go back and solve the Windows 11 problem, so that I have this software all centralized on the same computer. Is there an update to the solution to this problem here? I owned a 1701, not a bad radio, dmr on local public service was fine but no real dmr ham in my area so I sold. I had no trouble programming with OpenGD77 on win11 but I did some tweaking but frankly sorry I do not remember what but it was simple. Maybe someone else has an idea. For the price the 1701 is a great value.

- yinukuna
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- homenotu
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