

**NOTE:** This equipment has been tested and found to comply with the limits for a Class B digital device, pursuant to part 15 of the FCC Rules. These limits are designed to provide reasonable protection against harmful interference in a residential installation. This equipment generates uses and can radiate radio frequency energy and, if not installed and used in accordance with the instructions, may cause harmful interference to radio communications. However, there is no guarantee that interference will not occur in a particular installation. If this equipment does cause harmful interference to radio or television reception, which can be determined by turning the equipment off and on, the user is encouraged to try to correct the interference by one or more of the following measures:

- Reorient or relocate the receiving antenna.
- Increase the separation between the equipment and receiver.
- Connect the equipment into an outlet on a circuit different from that to which the receiver is connected.
- Consult the dealer or an experienced radio/TV technician for help

Changes or modifications not expressly approved by the party responsible for compliance could void the user's authority to operate the equipment. This device complies with Part 15 of the FCC Rules. Operation is subject to the following two conditions:

- (1) this device may not cause harmful interference, and
- (2) this device must accept any interference received, including interference that may cause undesired operation.

**WARNING : MODIFICATION OF THIS DEVICE TO RECEIVE CELLULAR RADIOTELEPHONE SERVICE SIGNALS IS PROHIBITED UNDER FCC RULES AND FEDERAL LAW.**

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**THANK YOU FOR YOUR PURCHASE OF THE BF-F8HP. THIS DUAL BAND RADIO WILL DELIVER YOU SECURE INSTANT RELIABLE COMMUNICATION.**

**PLEASE READ THIS MANUAL CAREFULLY BEFORE USE**

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## Part I. Getting started

*Part one covers the basic setup and use of your hand-held two-way transceiver.*

CHAPTER 1 INITIAL SETUP

CHAPTER 2 GETTING TO KNOW YOUR RADIO

CHAPTER 3 BASIC USE

# Chapter 1. - Initial setup

## Safety Information

The following safety precautions should always be observed during operation, service and repair of this equipment.

- Qualified technicians shall service this equipment only.
- Do not modify the radio for any reason.
- Use only BAOFENG supplied or approved batteries and chargers.
- Do not use any portable radio that has a damaged antenna. If a damaged antenna comes into contact with your skin, a minor burn can result.
- Turn off your radio prior to entering any area with explosive and flammable materials.
- Do not charge your battery in a location with explosive and flammable materials.
- To avoid electromagnetic interference and/or compatibility conflicts, turn off your radio in any area where posted notices instruct you to do so.
- Turn off your radio before boarding an aircraft; any use of a radio must be in accordance with airline regulations or crew instructions.
- Turn off your radio before entering a blasting area.
- For vehicles with an air bag, do not place a radio in the area over an air bag or in the air bag deployment area.

- Do not expose the radio to direct sunlight over a long time, nor place it close to heating source.
- When transmitting with a portable radio, hold the radio in a vertical position with the microphone 3 to 4 centimeters away from your lips. Keep antenna at least 2.5 centimeters away from your body when transmitting.



*If you wear a radio on your body, ensure the radio and its antenna are at least 2.5 centimeters away from your body when transmitting.*

## Features and Functions

- Dual-band handheld transceiver
- High Capacity Lithium-Ion battery
- 50 CTCSS tones and 105 DCS codes.
- Alarm function.
- High, mid, and low power, selectable.
- Function beep on the keyboard.
- Frequency step, selectable between 2.5K | 5.0K | 6.25K | 10.0K | 12.5K | 20.0K | 25.0K | 50.0K
- Battery saving function
- Scan mode
- Built in CTCSS/DCS tones
- PC programmable.
- Crossband reception.
- ANI
- DTMF encoder.
- Broadcast FM radio receiver 65-108 MHz
- VOX (voice activated transmit).
- Up to 128 named memory channels.
- Display illumination programmable via keypad.
- Dual watch / Dual reception.
- Programmable repeater offset.
- Transmission time-out timer.
- Busy channel lock out
- LED flashlight.
- Ten (10) levels of Squelch adjustment.
- End of transmission tone, aka "Roger Beep".
- Keypad lock

## What's in the box

This transceiver comes shipped with the following items in the box:

- Radio body
- Lithium-Ion battery pack
- Antenna
- Desk charger (With wall-wart)
- Optional belt clip
- Optional wrist-strap



## Assembly

Before the radio is ready for use we need to attach the antenna and battery pack, as well as charge the battery.

### Antenna

This transceiver is fitted with a Male SMA connector. To mount your antenna (Female SMA connector), align the two connectors and turn clockwise until it stops.



- Do not over-tighten your antenna to avoid damage to the connectors.
- When installing the antenna, don't grip it by the top. Grip by the base and turn.
- If you use an external antenna, make sure the *SWR* is about 1.5:1 or lower to avoid damage to the transceiver.
- Do not hold the antenna with your hand or wrap the outside of it to avoid bad operation of the transceiver.
- Never transmit without an antenna.

### Belt clip

At the back of the radio there are two parallel screws mounted above the battery, remove these and thread them through the holes on the belt clip as you screw them back into the radio body.



*Do not use any form of glue to fix the screws on the battery clip.  
The solvents in the glue may cause damage to the battery casing.*



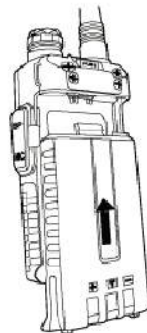
### Battery

Before attaching or removing the battery make sure your radio is turned off by turning the power/volume knob all the way counter-clockwise.

### Installation

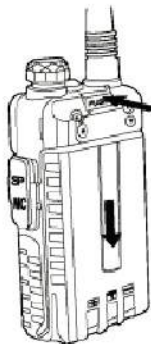
Make sure the battery is aligned in parallel with the radio body with the lower edge of the battery about 1-2cm below the edge of the radio.

Once aligned with the guide-rails, slide the battery upward until you hear a click as the battery locks in place.



### Removal

To remove the battery, press the battery release above the battery pack (see Figure 2.1, “BaoFeng BF-F8HP, overview”), as you slide the battery downward.



## Charging and battery maintenance

### Charging



*Battery should be fully charged before initial use. Optimum battery efficiency will be achieved after the three full battery charge and discharge cycles.*

Follow these steps to hook up and use the charger:

1. Plug the DC connector of the power adaptor into the charger base.
2. Plug the AC connector of the power adaptor into a main AC wall outlet.
3. Place the radio in the charging slot on the charger.
4. Make sure the radio is making contact with the charger. When the red LED comes on steady, your radio is charging.
5. The radio is fully charged once the charger's green status LED goes steady. Please remove the radio at that time to avoid over-charging your battery.

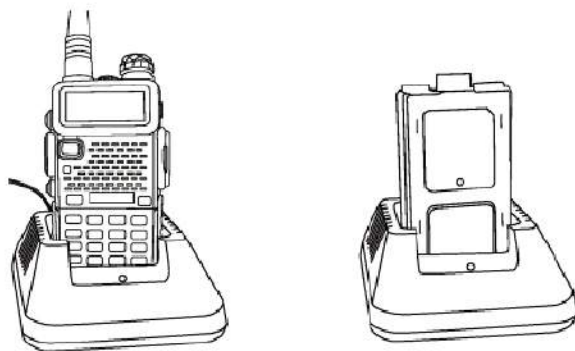


Table 1.1. Charger LED codes

| Red LED  | Green LED | Status                            |
|----------|-----------|-----------------------------------|
| Flashing | Steady    | <b>Standby</b> (charger empty)    |
| Steady   | Off       | <b>Error</b> (charger with radio) |
| Off      | Steady    | Charging                          |
|          |           | Charge complete.                  |



*The charger and battery are fitted with matching notches so that you can charge your battery on its own! Practical if you have two batteries. That way you can charge one battery while still using your radio.*

*Radio should be turned OFF during charge cycle*

## Battery Maintenance

The battery for your radio comes uncharged from the factory; please let it charge for at least four to five hours before you start using your radio.



- *Use only batteries approved by the original manufacturer.*
- *Never attempt to disassemble your battery pack.*
- *Do not expose your batteries to fire or intense heat*
- *Dispose of batteries in accordance with local recycling regulations. Batteries do not belong in your trashcan!*

## Prolonging the life of your battery

- Only charge batteries in normal room temperatures.
- When charging a battery attached to the radio, turn the radio off for a faster charge.
- Do not unplug the power to the charger or remove the battery and/or radio before it's finished charging.

- Never charge a wet battery.
- Batteries wear out over time. If you notice a considerably shorter operating time with your radio, please consider purchasing a new battery.
- Battery performance will be reduced in temperatures below freezing. When working in cold environments, keep a spare battery on you. Preferably inside your jacket or in a similar location in order to keep the battery warm.
- Dust can interfere with the contacts on the battery. If necessary wipe the contacts with a clean cloth to ensure proper contact with radio and charger.



*If your battery has become wet, remove it from the radio, wipe it dry with a towel and put it in a plastic bag with a handful of dry rice. Tie the bag up and let it sit over night.*

*The rice will absorb any remaining moisture in the battery.*

*This method is only effective against minor splashes (light rain for instance). A soaked radio may very well be beyond repair.*

## Storage

Partially charge your battery before long-term storage in order to prevent damage from over-discharge. While lead acid must always be kept at full charge during storage, this radio uses a lithium-based battery and should be stored at around a 40 percent charge. This level minimizes age-related capacity loss while keeping the battery in operating condition and allowing self-

discharge.

To avoid severe capacity degradation of your battery while in long-term storage, please cycle the battery at least every six (6) months.

Store your batteries in a cool and dry place, never above normal room temperatures.

## Chapter 2. - Getting to know your radio

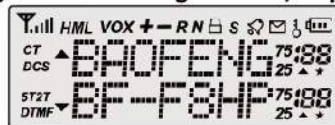
Figure 2.1. BaoFeng BF-F8HP, overview



1. Antenna, see the section called "Assembly" for details.
2. Power / Volume knob, usage discussed in the section called "Power and volume".
3. Two-line LCD
4. Call key
5. PTT key, usage discussed in the section called "Making a call".
6. Monitor key
7. Keypad
8. Speaker and microphone
9. Accessory jack
10. VFO/MR mode key
11. Status LED
12. A / B select key
13. Battery pack; see the section called "Charging and battery maintenance" for details.
14. Battery contacts
15. Battery release latch
16. Lanyard loop
17. LED flashlight - See the section called "Side key 2 - MONI (Monitor and Flashlight)" for more information.

## The main display

Figure 2.2. BaoFeng BF-F8HP, display



The transceiver is fitted with a seven character by two line dot matrix alphanumeric LCD, with auxiliary icons for miscellaneous features.

Table 2.1. LCD icon summary

| Icon   | Description                                 | Icon | Description                                                           |
|--------|---------------------------------------------|------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 188    | Memory channel                              | R    | Reverse function enabled                                              |
| 25, 75 | Least significant modifiers.                | N    | Narrowband enabled                                                    |
| CT     | CTCSS enabled                               |      | Battery level indicator                                               |
| DCS    | DCS enabled                                 |      | Keypad lock enabled                                                   |
| +, -   | Frequency shift direction if enabled in VFO |      | Transmit power level indicator<br>According to Power (High, Mid, Low) |
| +-     | Frequency shift direction if enabled in MR  |      | Indicates active band or channel                                      |
| S      | Dual watch enabled                          |      | Squelch Open/ Close Indicator                                         |
| VOX    | VOX enabled                                 |      |                                                                       |



Even though it is a seven character by two-line display, channel memories are only configurable to six character names.

## Battery Level Indicator

When the battery level indicator reads the battery is depleted. At this point the radio will start beeping periodically as well as flash the backlight of the display and when voice prompts are enabled, a "Low Voltage" announcement will be heard, indicating that you need to change your battery or put your radio in the charger.

## Status LED

The status LED has a very simple and traditional design. When you receive a signal it turns green, when you transmit it turns red, and it's off in standby.

## Side key 1 - CALL (Broadcast FM and Alarm)

Press momentarily to start the broadcast FM receiver. Another momentary press turns the broadcast FM receiver off. If a signal is received on the active frequency or channel while you are listening to the broadcast FM, the receiver will open squelch to that frequency (as if scanning) and remain there until the signal goes away; it will then switch back to broadcast FM.

Press and hold to activate the alarm function. Press (a short press) again to turn it off.

## Side key 2 - MONI (Monitor and Flashlight)

Press **MONI** momentarily to turn on the LED flashlight. Another momentary press will flash the LED. Another momentary press turns the flashlight off.

Press and hold **MONI** to monitor the signal. This will open up the squelch so you can listen to the unfiltered signal.

## VFO / MR - mode key

Pressing **VFO/MR** switches between Frequency (VFO) Mode and Memory (MR) mode. Memory mode is sometimes also referred to as Channel mode.

To save frequencies to channel memory you must be in Frequency (VFO) mode.

## A / B select key

The **A/B** key switches between A (upper) and B (lower) displays. The frequency or channel on the selected display becomes the active listening and transmit frequency or channel.

To save frequencies to channel memory you must be on the A display.

When listening to broadcast FM, the **A/B** key switches between 65-75 MHz and 76-108 MHz

bands.

## Numeric keypad

The BaoFeng BF-F8HP hand-held transceiver comes standard with a full numeric keypad.

Figure 2.3. BaoFeng BF-F8HP, keypad



The numeric keys have their secondary function printed on them (in reality it's rather menu short-cuts, more on that in Chapter 4, *Working the menu system*).

The **\*SCAN** and **#r** keys on the other hand have actual secondary functions, scan and keypad lock respectively.

## Pound # Key

In channel mode, **#r** also acts as a transmit power shift key. While in channel mode, momentarily press **#r** to change between High, Mid, and Low transmit power. Do note that this does not alter the transmit power stored to memory for that channel; it only affects the current session. Switching to another channel or another operating mode (including broadcast FM) will reset transmit power to what's stored in channel memory.

## Keypad Lock

The BaoFeng BF-F8HP features a keypad lock that locks out all keys except for the three side keys.

To enable or disable the keypad lock, press and hold the  key for about two seconds.

You can also enable so that the radio automatically locks the keypad after ten seconds from the menu, see Chapter 4, *Working the menu system*

## Star \* Key

A short momentary press of the key enables the reverse function (see Chapter 11 Repeaters).

When listening to broadcast FM a momentary press will start the scanning. Scanning in broadcast FM will stop as soon as an active station is found, regardless of scanner resume method.

To enable the scanner, press and hold the  key for about two seconds. See Chapter 5, *Scanning* for details.

## Menu and function keys

The  key, used to enter the menu and confirm menu options.

The  and  keys are used to navigate through the menu as well as select channels and step up or down in frequency (depending on operating mode).

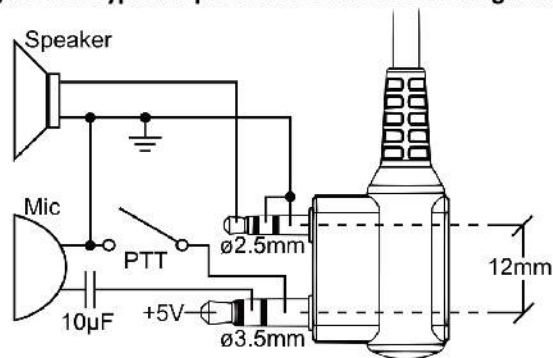
The  key is used to exit menus and cancel menu options.

For a more in-depth explanation on how to work the menu see Chapter 4, *Working the menu system*.

## Accessory jack

The accessory jack on the BaoFeng BF-F8HP is a Kenwood compatible two (2)-pin design.

Figure 2.4. Typical 2 pin Kenwood headset configuration.



- To attach accessories such as headsets, speaker-mics or programming cables, align the connectors and push in fully.
- The fit isn't always perfect on cheap or clone cables and connectors and may require a bit of force to wiggle them in completely.
- Make sure the radio is off before attaching any accessories.

## Chapter 3. - Basic Use

### Power and volume

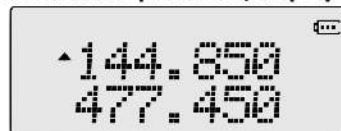
Before we turn the power on, make sure you have attached the battery and antenna as described in Chapter 1, *Initial setup*.

#### Turning the unit on

To turn the unit on, simply rotate the volume/power knob clockwise until you hear a "click". If your radio powers on correctly there should be an audible double beep after about one second and the display will show a message or flash the LCD depending on settings for about one second (see "38 PONMSG - Power On Message" in Appendix B, Menu definitions). Then it will display a frequency or channel. If the Voice prompt is enabled, the voice will announce "frequency mode" or "channel mode".



Figure 3.1. First power-on, display



*You can get additional information about your radio when you turn it on by holding down miscellaneous keys as you turn it on.*



Holding down the **[3SAVE]** key while turning on the radio provides you with the firmware version.

## Turning the unit off

Turn the volume/power knob counter-clock wise all the way until you hear a "click". The unit is now off.

## Adjusting the volume

To turn up the volume, turn the volume/power knob clock-wise.

To turn the volume down, turn the volume/power knob counter-clock-wise. Be careful not to turn it too far, as you may inadvertently turn your radio off.



*By using the monitor function, enabled from the **[MONI]** key below the PTT, you can more easily adjust your volume by adjusting it to the un-squelched static.*

## Making a call

Press and hold the PTT button on the side of the radio body to transmit. While transmitting, speak approximately 3-5cm from the microphone. When you release the PTT your transceiver will go back to receive mode.

## Channel selection

There are two modes of operation: Frequency (VFO) mode, and Channel or Memory (MR) mode.

For everyday use, Channel (MR) mode is going to be a whole lot more practical than Frequency (VFO) mode. However, Frequency (VFO) mode is very handy for experimentation out in the field. Frequency (VFO) mode is also used for programming channels into memory. For details on how to program your transceiver see Chapter 10, *Programming*.

Ultimately which mode you end up using will depend entirely on your use case.

## Frequency (VFO) mode

In Frequency (VFO) mode you can navigate up and down the band by using the  and  keys. Each press will increment or decrement your frequency according to the frequency step you've set your transceiver to. For details on how to set the frequency step on your transceiver see Chapter 4, *Working the menu system* and the section called "1 STEP - Frequency Step" in Appendix B, *Menu definitions*.

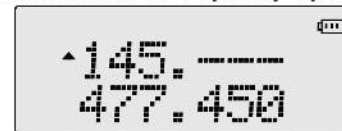
You can also input frequencies directly on your numeric keypad with kilohertz accuracy. However, the radio will floor to the nearest frequency that corresponds to your frequency step, in other words, when you input frequencies with greater than 1kHz resolution (such as 145.6875 MHz in the example below), always round your input up.

The following example assumes the use of a 12.5kHz frequency step.

### Example 3.1. Entering the frequency 145.6875 MHz on display A

1. Use the  key to switch to Frequency (VFO) mode
2. Press  until the  appears next to the upper display (display A).
3. Enter    on the numeric keypad, it should look something like this:

Figure 3.2. Half-entered frequency input.



4. Now, for the final four digits. Note that you can only enter three decimals on the keypad, if you type 687 it wont work. So how do you get the fourth and final digit 5 in there? By rounding 145.6875 up to 145.6880 MHz, an alternative is entering 145.675, and then pressing the  key once to move it up to 145.6875.

Enter    on the numeric keypad, if all went well the display should look something like this:

Figure 3.3. Successful frequency input





*Just because you can program in a channel does not mean you're automatically authorized to use that frequency.*

*Transmitting on frequencies you're not authorized to operate on is illegal, and in most jurisdictions a serious offence. If you get caught transmitting without a license you can and will get fined, and in worst case sent to jail.*

*However, it is legal in most jurisdictions to listen. Contact your local regulatory body for further information on what laws, rules and regulations apply to your area.*

## Channel (MR) mode

The use of Channel (MR) mode is dependent on actually having programmed in some channels to use. To find out more on how to program channels see Chapter 10, *Programming*.

Once you have channels programmed and ready, you can use the  and  keys to navigate between channels



*If you have channels programmed with Transmit power set to Low, you can use the  key to momentarily switch over to mid or high power if you're having trouble getting through.*

## Part II. Advanced topics

*Part two covers the more advanced topics, such as setup of repeater offset and programming via computer link.*

### CHAPTER 4 WORKING THE MENU SYSTEM

#### CHAPTER 5 SCANNING

#### CHAPTER 6 DUAL WATCH

#### CHAPTER 7 DTMF

#### CHAPTER 8 SELECTIVE CALLING

#### CHAPTER 9 CUSTOMIZATION

#### CHAPTER 10 PROGRAMMING

## Chapter 4. - Working the menu system

For a complete reference on available menu items and parameters, see Appendix B, Menu definitions.



*If your radio is set to Memory (MR) mode, the following menu items will not take any effect: STEP, TXP, W/N, CTCSS, DCS, S-CODE, PTT-ID, BCL, SFT-D, OFFSET, MEM-CH, BAND*

### Basic use

#### Procedure 4.1. Using the menu with arrow keys

1. Press the **MENU** key to enter the menu.
2. Use the **▲** and **▼** keys to navigate between menu items.
3. Once you find the desired menu item, press **MENU** again to select that menu item.
4. Use the **▲** and **▼** keys to select the desired parameter.
5. When you've selected the parameter you want to set for a given menu item;
  - a. To confirm your selection, press **MENU** and it will save your setting and bring you back to the main menu.
  - b. To cancel your changes, press **EXIT** and it will reset that menu item and bring

you out of the menu entirely.

6. To exit out of the menu at any time, press the **EXIT** key.

### Using short-cuts

As you may have noticed if you looked at Appendix B, *Menu definitions*, every menu item has a numerical value associated with it. These numbers can be used for direct access of any given menu item.

The menu is also organized in such a way that the ten most common functions are on top, and as can be seen in Figure 2.3, "BaoFeng BF-F8HP, keypad", these are also printed on the keypad so you don't have to remember them all.

The parameters also have a number associated with them, see Appendix B, *Menu definitions* for details.

#### Procedure 4.2. Using the menu with short-cuts

1. Press the **MENU** key to enter the menu.
2. Use the numerical keypad to enter the number of the menu item.
3. To enter the menu item, press the **MENU** key.
4. For entering the desired parameter you have two options:
  - a. Use the arrow keys as we did in the previous section; or
  - b. Use the numerical keypad to enter the numerical short-cut code.

5. And just as in the previous section;
  - a. To confirm your selection, press **MENU** and it will save your setting and bring you back to the main menu.
  - b. To cancel your changes, press **EXIT** and it will reset that menu item and bring you out of the menu entirely.
6. To exit out of the menu at any time, press the **EXIT** key.
7. All further examples and procedures in this manual will use the numerical menu short-cuts.

## Chapter 5. - Scanning

The BaoFeng BF-F8HP features a built in scanner for the VHF and UHF bands. When in Frequency (VFO) mode it will scan in steps according to your set frequency step. In Channel (MR) mode it will scan your channels. At approximately three frequencies per second, it's not the fastest scanner in the world, but it is nonetheless a useful feature to have at times.

Dual Watch is inhibited while scanning

To enable the scanner, press and hold the **\*SCA** key for about two seconds. Press any key to exit scanning mode.

### Scanning modes

The scanner is configurable to one of three ways of operation: Time, carrier or search, each of which is explained in further details in their respective section below.

#### Procedure 5.1. Setting scanner mode

1. Press the **MENU** key to enter the menu.
2. Enter **1STEP 8BEEP** on your numeric keypad to come to scanner mode.
3. Press the **MENU** key to select.

4. Use the  and  keys to select scanning mode.
5. Press the  key to confirm and save.
6. Press the  key to exit the menu.

## Time operation

In Time Operation (TO) mode, the scanner stops when it detects a signal, and after a factory pre-set time out, it resumes scanning.

## Carrier operation

In Carrier Operation (CO) mode, the scanner stops when it detects a signal, and after a factory preset time with no signal it resumes scanning.

## Search operation

In Search Operation (SE) mode, the scanner stops when it detects a signal. To resume scanning you must press and hold the  key again.

# Tone Scanning

## Scanning for CTCSS and DCS Tones/Codes

*Scanning for a CTCSS tone or DCS code can be done while Frequency Mode (VFO) or*

*Channel Mode (MR) is selected. Only when VFO mode is selected, can the detected tone/code be saved to menu 11/10.*



*CTCSS tone and DCS code scanning mode can be accessed with or without a signal being present. The scanning process itself only occurs while a signal is being received.*

*Not all repeaters requiring a CTCSS tone or DCS code for access will transmit one back. In that case, the transmitter of a station that can access the repeater would need to be scanned. In other words: this would be done by listening to stations on the repeater's input frequency.*

## Scanning for CTCSS Tone

1. Press the  key to enter the menu.
2. Enter   on your numeric keypad to come to Menu 11: R-CTCS
3. Press the  key to select.
4. Press the  to begin CTCSS scanning

A flashing "CT" will be in the left status display to indicate the radio is in CTCSS scanning mode. In this mode, whenever the radio is receiving an RF signal on the selected MR channel or VFO frequency, the lower display will cycle through the CTCSS tones as they are being tested. Once the frequency of the received CTCSS tone is determined, the "CT" indicator will stop flashing.

Press the **MENU** key to save the scanned tone into memory (VFO Mode Only) then press the **EXIT** key to exit the menu.



*Don't forget to set VFO menu 11 back to OFF when the CTCSS tone is no longer required.*

### Scanning for a DCS tone

1. Press the **MENU** key to enter the menu.
2. Enter **1STEP 0SQL** on your numeric keypad to come to Menu 10: R-DCS
3. Press the **MENU** key to select.
4. Press the **★SCAN** to begin DCS scanning

A flashing "DCS" will be in the left status display to indicate the radio is in DCS scanning mode. In this mode, whenever the radio is receiving an RF signal on the selected MR channel or VFO frequency, the lower display will cycle through the DCS codes as they are being tested. Once the bits of the received DCS code are determined, the "DCS" indicator will stop flashing.

Press the **MENU** key to save the scanned tone into memory (VFO Mode Only) then press the **EXIT** key to exit the menu.



*Don't forget to set VFO menu 10 back to OFF when the DCS tone is no longer required.*

## Chapter 6. - Dual Watch

In certain situations, the ability to monitor two channels at once can be a valuable asset. This can be achieved in one of two ways. You can either have one receiver in your radio and flip-flop between two frequencies at a fixed interval (known as Dual Watch), or you can equip a radio with two receivers (known as Dual Receive or Dual VFO). The former method is cheaper to implement and far more common than the latter.

The BaoFeng BF-F8HP features Dual Watch functionality (single receiver) with the ability to lock the transmit frequency to one of the two channels it monitors.

### Procedure 6.1. Enabling or disabling Dual Watch mode

1. Press the **MENU** key to enter the menu.
2. Enter **7TOR** on the numeric keypad to get to Dual Watch.
3. Press **MENU** to select.
4. Use the **▲** and **▼** keys to enable or disable.
5. Press the **MENU** key to confirm.
6. Press the **EXIT** key to exit the menu.

Due to the way the BaoFeng BF-F8HP is constructed, whenever one of the A or B Frequencies

(VFO/MR) goes active, it will default to transmit on that channel. This behavior can be inconvenient, especially if when monitoring a frequency you should not transmit on. There is a menu option available to lock the transmitter to one of the A or B channels.

#### Procedure 6.2. Locking the Dual Watch transmit channel

1. Press the **[MENU]** key to enter the menu.
2. Enter **[3SAVE] [4VOX]** on the numeric keypad to get to TDR-AB.
3. Press **[MENU]** to select.
4. Use the **[▲]** and **[▼]** keys to select A (upper) or B (lower) display.
5. Press the **[MENU]** key to confirm.
6. Press the **[EXIT]** key to exit the menu.

*If you want to momentarily override the lock without having to setting the menu option to OFF, you can do so by pressing the **[A/B]** key an instant before pressing the PTT.*



*Another option is to disable menu **[7TDR]** (TDR) to override the lock. Then re-enable TDR when you want the lock resumed..*

## Chapter 7. - DTMF

DTMF is an in-band signaling method using dual sinusoidal signals for any given code. Originally developed for telephony systems, it has proved a very versatile tool in many other areas.

In two-way radio systems, DTMF is most commonly used for automation systems and remote control. A common example would be in amateur radio repeaters where some repeaters are activated by sending out a DTMF sequence (usually a simple single-digit sequence).

**Table 7.1. DTMF frequencies and corresponding codes**

|        | 1209 Hz | 1336 Hz | 1477 Hz | 1633 Hz |
|--------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 697 Hz | 1       | 2       | 3       | A       |
| 770 Hz | 4       | 5       | 6       | B       |
| 852 Hz | 7       | 8       | 9       | C       |
| 941 Hz | *       | 0       | #       | D       |

The BaoFeng BF-F8HP has a full implementation of DTMF, including the A, B, C and D codes.

The numerical keys, as well as the **[\*SCAN]**, and **[#PQ]**, keys correspond to the matching DTMF codes as

you would expect. The A, B, C and D codes are located in the , ,  and  keys respectively (†).

To send DTMF codes, press the key(s) corresponding to the message you want to send while holding down the PTT key.



*If you have the keypad lock enabled on your radio, you can still send DTMF tones the regular way without having to unlock your radio.*

## Chapter 8. - Selective calling

Some times when you're working with larger groups of people using the same channel, things can get very crowded, very fast. To minimize this problem, several methods of blocking out unwanted transmissions on your frequency have developed. In general, there are two forms of selective calling in two-way radio systems: Group calling, and individual calling.

Group calling, as the name suggest, is a one-to-many form of communication. Every radio in your working group is configured the same way and any radio will make contact with every other radio in the group.

Individual calling, some times also known as paging, is a one-to-one form of communication. Every radio is programmed with a unique ID code. And only by sending out a matching code can you get that radio to open up to your transmissions.

The BaoFeng BF-F8HP features three different ways of group calling:

- CTCSS
- DCS
- Tone-burst (1750Hz)

The BaoFeng BF-F8HP does not feature any form of individual calling.

*Using these features does NOT mean that others won't be able to listen in on your transmissions.*



*They only provide a method to filter out unwanted incoming transmissions. Any communications made while using these features will still be heard by anyone not employing filtering options of their own.*

*Also, you cannot change the CTCSS or DCS settings while in memory (MR) mode.*

CTCSS and 1750Hz tone-burst are also popular methods among amateur radio operators to open up repeaters.

## CTCSS

CTCSS is set with menus 11 R-CTCS and 13 T-CTCS.

For a complete list of available CTCSS codes and corresponding sub-tone frequencies, see Table C.2, "CTCSS Frequencies" in Appendix C, *Technical specifications*.

### Procedure 8.1. CTCSS setup how-to

1. Press the **MENU** key to enter the menu.
2. Enter **1STEP** **1STEP** on the numeric keypad to get to receiver CTCSS.
3. Press **MENU** to select.
4. Enter desired CTCSS sub-tone frequency in hertz on the numeric keypad.
5. Press **MENU** to confirm and save.
6. Enter **1STEP** **3SAVE** on the numeric keypad to go to transmitter CTCSS.
7. Press **MENU** to select.
8. Enter desired CTCSS sub-tone frequency in hertz on the numeric keypad. Make sure it's the same frequency as that you entered for receiver CTCSS.
9. Press **MENU** to confirm and save.
10. Press **EXIT** to exit the menu system.

To turn CTCSS off, follow the same procedure but set it to off with the **0SQL** key instead of selecting a CTCSS sub-tone frequency.

For more information see the section called "11 R-CTCS - Receiver CTCSS" and the section called "13 T-CTCS - Transmitter CTCSS" in Appendix B, Menu definitions.

## DCS

DCS is set with menus 10 R-DCS and 12 T-DCS.

For a complete list of available DCS codes, see Table C.1, “DCS Codes” in Appendix C, *Technical specifications*.

### Procedure 8.2. DCS setup how-to

1. Press the **MENU** key to enter the menu.
2. Enter **1STEP 0SQL** on the numeric keypad to get to receiver DCS.
3. Press **MENU** to select.
4. Enter desired DCS code on the numeric keypad.
5. Press **MENU** to confirm and save.
6. Enter **1STEP 2TXP** on the numeric keypad to go to transmitter DCS.
7. Press **MENU** to select.
8. Enter desired DCS code on the numeric keypad. Make sure it's the same code as that you entered for receiver DCS.
9. Press **MENU** to confirm and save.
10. Press **EXIT** to exit the menu system.

To turn DCS off, follow the same procedure but set it to off with the **0SQL** key instead of

selecting a DCS code.

For more information see the section called “10 R-DCS - Receiver DCS” and the section called “12 T-DCS - Transmitter DCS” in Appendix B, *Menu definitions*.

## 1750Hz Tone-burst

To send out a 1750Hz tone-burst; press the **A/B** key while holding down the PTT. No further configuration required using this feature.



*If you have the keypad lock enabled on your radio, you can still send a 1750Hz tone the regular way without having to unlock your radio.*

## Chapter 9. - Customization

The BaoFeng BF-F8HP allows for customization of both the power-on message (via computer link only), and the backlight color during the three states of the transceiver (Transmit, Receive and Standby).

### Display

The LCD on the BaoFeng BF-F8HP is backlit by multi-color LEDs, the color of which can be pre-set from the menu system into a variety of colors.

To change the colors, follow these steps:

#### Procedure 9.1. Changing backlight color

1. Press the **MENU** key to enter the menu.
2. Enter one of the following on your numeric keypad:
  - a. **2TXP 9TOT** to change the standby color.
  - b. **3SAVE 0SQL** to change the receive color.
  - c. **3SAVE 1STEP** to change the transmit color.
3. Press **MENU** key to select.

4. Use the **▲** and **▼** keys to pick the desired color.
5. Press **MENU** to confirm and save.
6. Press **EXIT** to exit the menu.

To change the time the backlight stays on for your LCD, follow these steps:

#### Procedure 9.2. Setting backlight time-out

1. Press the **MENU** key to enter the menu.
2. Enter **6ABR** on your numeric keypad to come to backlight time out.
3. Press **MENU** key to select.
4. Use the **▲** and **▼** keys to pick the desired color.
5. Press **MENU** to confirm and save.
6. Press **EXIT** to exit the menu.

For details see the section called “29 WT-LED - Display backlight color, Standby” and onward in Appendix B, *Menu definitions*.

### Power-on message

The power-on message can only be set via computer link, see the section called “Computer programming” for details on how to set up a link with your computer.

The following instructions assume that you've already established a link using the BaoFeng software from a computer running Windows, and that the BaoFeng software is already installed and running.

#### Procedure 9.3. Setting the power-on-message

1. Click **other** in the menu bar; a dialogue box titled "Other" should have popped up.
2. In the box titled "Power On Message", there are two text fields representing the two lines on your LCD. Enter the desired text in the fields.
3. Click **Write** to write your changes to the radio.

*Even though the software has eight (8) character wide text fields for the power-on message, be aware that the display on the BF-F8HP can only display a maximum of seven (7) characters.*



*Make sure that menu item 38 is set to MSG, otherwise your message won't be displayed. See Chapter 4 Working the menu system for details on how to navigate the menu.*

*Some times it takes the BaoFeng software more than one try to connect to your radio. If you see a dialogue box popping up stating that you have a connection failure, close the dialogue box and click read or write again.*

## Chapter 10. - Programming

Memory channels are an easy way to store commonly used frequencies so that they can easily be retrieved at a later date.

The BaoFeng BF-F8HP features 128 memory channels that each can hold: Receive and transmit frequencies, transmit power, group signaling information, bandwidth, ANI/ PTT-ID settings and a six character alphanumeric identifier or channel name <sup>1</sup>.

### Manual programming

Manual programming is somewhat difficult until you get used to it, especially when programming in duplex channels. Note that the ANI and S-CODE IDs can only be set from a computer. When programming channels it is important to remember that you can only save memory channels when working on the upper display in VFO mode.

To create a new channel, start by switching your radio to Frequency (VFO) mode using the  key. When in Frequency (VFO) mode, select your desired receive frequency using the numerical keypad. After that, use the menu system to configure the finer details of the channel you're wanting to program to memory, such as transmit power, bandwidth, CTCSS or DCS and

more.

For more information on how to use the menu system see Chapter 4, *Working the menu system* and Appendix B, *Menu definitions*. Information regarding how to set up CTCSS and DCS can be found in Chapter 8, *Selective calling*.



*On manual programming you cannot overwrite an existing channel. You must first delete the channel before updating or replacing it*

## Simplex channels

The following steps assume that you're in Frequency (VFO) mode and that you've entered the desired frequency to store to memory.

1. Press the **[MENU]** key to enter the menu.
2. Enter **[2TXP]** **[7TDR]** on the numerical keypad to get to MEM-CH.
3. Press **[MENU]** to select.
4. Use the **[▲]** and **[▼]** keys to select an empty memory channel, or enter it directly on the numerical keypad.
5. Press the **[MENU]** key to confirm.
6. Press the **[EXIT]** key to exit the menu.

Switch to Channel (MR) mode with the **[VFO/MR]** key to test your new channel. If you would like to name your channel you will need to do that from a computer. More on that in the section called "Computer programming".

## Duplex channels

The following assumes you've set up a duplex channel in VFO mode on the upper display, as described in Chapter 11, *Repeaters*, and that you're still in VFO mode.

1. Save as you would a regular simplex channel, as described in the previous section.
2. Press the **[\*SCAN]** key momentary to get into reverse mode.
3. Save that again to the same memory channel just as in step one (1).

Switch to Channel (MR) mode with the **[VFO/MR]** key to test your new channel. If you would like to name your channel you will need to do that from a computer. More on that in the section called "Computer programming".

## Computer programming

The Radio kit does not include a programming cable. To attain a PC cable please visit <http://baofengtech.com/FTDI-cable>

Download programming software at <http://BaoFengTech.com> and find helpful guides at

<http://miklor.com> for more information on using the software

## Radio to radio cloning

The BaoFeng BF-F8HP is capable of cloning between radios, meaning if you have one radio set up just the way you like it (the reference or "master" radio) and want another radio configured in exactly the same way (the "slave" radio), you just hook a cable between them and copy the information over.

Cloning require radios to be running the same firmware for an optimal experience

### Procedure 10.2. Cloning radios

1. Attach your cloning cable into the accessory port on both radios
2. Turn on the slave radio, (the radio you want to *clone to*).
3. Turn on the master radio, (the radio you want to *clone from*) while holding down the **(MONI)** key.
4. The master will show COPING in the display, and if makes a successful connection to the slave it will start flashing red to indicate it's transmitting data. The slave will at that same time flash green to indicate it's receiving data.
5. When LEDs turn off, the radios will restart and the cloning operation is completed.

## Part III. How-to and setup guides.

*Part three covers is a collection of how-to documents to help you set up your radio for specific working environments.*

### CHAPTER 11 REPEATERS

### CHAPTER 12 AUTOMATIC NUMBER IDENTIFICATION

### CHAPTER 13 APPLICATION SPECIFIC SETUP

## Chapter 11. - Repeaters

A radio repeater is an automated transceiver in a fixed location. Usually mounted high up on hilltops or on tall buildings, but sometimes they operate within buildings for internal use. A repeater takes one signal and relays it, usually after amplifying it by orders of magnitude. This can be very handy, as this enables you to use a small low powered hand- held two-way transceiver such as the BaoFeng BF-F8HP to reach great distances.

Whether you're a commercial (business or government) user or an amateur radio operator, chances are you'll be dealing with a repeater system sooner or later. To find out what settings to use to use your local repeater, ask your employer or someone at your local amateur radio organization for details.

A common type of repeater is the duplex repeater. In a duplex repeater system, the repeater transmits and receives simultaneously, but on different frequencies. To utilize this type of repeater, your radio has to be capable of transmitting and receiving on different frequencies on the same memory channel. How you use this kind of repeater is by setting the receive frequency of your radio to the output frequency of the repeater, and the transmit frequency of your radio to the input frequency of the repeater. Often times, the transmit frequency to use isn't explicitly stated, but rather an offset relative your receive frequency is specified. This is

conveniently enough also how the BaoFeng BF-F8HP natively handles repeater setup in VFO, by specifying offset rather than transmit frequency.

*This might cause confusion because many expect this to be true globally when it isn't. SFT-D and OFFSET only function in VFO mode.*



*MR mode uses and stores the RX frequency and the TX frequency only. SFT-D and OFFSET don't have to be set or they can even be set completely wrong and a working repeater channel can be created.*

*It is convenient to use SFT-D and OFFSET with 'reverse' mode to determine the TX frequency to be stored in a channel, but they are otherwise unused for MR mode.*

The following instructions assume that you know what transmit and receive frequencies your repeater employs, and that you're authorized to use it.

### Procedure 11.1. Repeater setup

1. Set the radio to Frequency (VFO) mode with the  key.
2. Enter the repeater's output (your receiving) frequency by either using the  and  keys, or by entering it directly on the numerical keypad.

3. Press the **[MENU]** key to enter the menu.
4. Enter **[2TXP] [5WN]** on the numeric keypad to get to frequency offset.
5. Press **[MENU]** key to select.
6. Use the **[▲]** and **[▼]** keys and the numerical keypad to enter the specified frequency offset. See the section called "26 OFFSET - Frequency shift amount" for details.
7. Press **[MENU]** to confirm and save.
8. Enter **[2TXP] [6ABR]** on the numeric keypad to get to offset direction.
9. Use the **[▲]** and **[▼]** keys to select +(positive) or -(negative) offset.
10. Press **[MENU]** to confirm and save.
11. Optional:
  - a. Save to memory, see the section called "Manual programming" for details.
  - b. Set up CTCSS; see the section called "CTCSS" for details.
12. Press **[EXIT]** to exit the menu.

If everything went well, you should be able to make a test call through the repeater. If you're experiencing problems making a connection to the repeater, check your settings and/or go through the procedure again.

Certain Amateur Radio repeaters (especially in Europe) use a 1750Hz tone burst to open up the repeater. To see how this is done with the BaoFeng BF-F8HP, see the section called "1750Hz Tone-burst".

If you're still unable to make a connection, contact the person in charge of the radio system with your employer or your local amateur radio club, as the case may be.



*If you for some reason want to listen to the repeater's input frequency instead, press **[\*SCAN]** momentarily and you'll reverse your transmit and receive frequencies.*

*This is indicated in the LCD on the radio with an R in the top row, next to the + and - for the offset direction.*

## Chapter 12. - Application Specific Setup

### Commercial Radio Setup

PLMR users in the United States are mandated to move to 12.5 kHz narrowband communication in the 150-174 MHz VHF and 421-512MHz UHF bands by January 1, 2013.

Follow these instructions to set your radio to Narrowband mode:



*This section is only true for VFO mode.*

*WN is settable on a per channel basis and has to be set prior to storing a channel.*

*Once a channel has been programmed, the channel must be deleted and reprogrammed to change the WN setting.*

1. Press the **[VFO/MR]** key to enter frequency mode.
2. Press the **[MENU]** key to enter the menu.
3. Enter **[5WN]** on the numerical keypad.
4. Press **[MENU]** to select.
5. Use the **[▲]** and **[▼]** keys to select between Wide and Narrow ("Nar").
6. Press **[MENU]** to confirm and save
7. Press **[EXIT]** to exit the menu.

If your employer has a dispatch system that requires your radio to identify via ANI, please see Chapter 12, *Automatic Number Identification* for detailed instructions on how to set that up on your radio.

To find out what other channels and features needed, please contact your employer.

### Amateur Radio Setup

In contrast with Commercial radio operators, who often need very specific requirements to be compatible with a very specific radio implementation, Amateur radio operators tend to need the broadest possible settings in order to be compatible with as many systems as possible. This basically implies turning all the fancy features that you typically might need for a commercial setup off.

In a typical Amateur radio setup the following settings would be recommended:

- Set bandwidth to Wide (menu item 5).
- Turn DCS and CTCSS off (menu items 10 through 13).
- Turn ANI, DTMFST, S-CODE, PTT-ID off and PTT-LT to 0ms (menu items 15 through 17 and 19 through 20).
- Turn off Squelch Tail Elimination (STE) features (menu items 35 through 37).

- Turn roger beep (ROGER) off (menu item 39).

For further information see Appendix B, *Menu definitions* and Chapter 4, *Working the menu system*.

## FRS, GMRS, MURS, PMR446



*You may be tempted to use FRS, GMRS, MURS (in the USA) or PMR446 (in Europe) frequencies. Do note however that there are restrictions on these bands that make this transceiver illegal for use.*

## Appendix A. - Troubleshooting

| Symptom                                                 | Possible Cause                                                          | Solution                                                                                                                    |
|---------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| The radio doesn't start.                                | The battery is too low.<br>The battery isn't correctly installed.       | Change or recharge the battery.<br>Remove the battery and reinstall it.                                                     |
| The battery dies quickly                                | The battery is dead.<br>The battery isn't fully charged.                | Purchase a new battery.<br>Recharge the battery.                                                                            |
| The LED indicates reception, but the speaker is silent. | Volume is too low.<br>CTCSS or DCS enabled                              | Turn up the volume.<br>Change your CTCSS or DCS to match those you're trying to communicate with.<br>Turn CTCSS or DCS off. |
| Others can't hear my transmission.                      | Their CTCSS or DCS settings don't match yours.<br>You're too far apart. | Change your CTCSS or DCS settings to match your peers.<br>Move in closer.                                                   |
| The radio transmits without touching the PTT.           | The VOX is enabled.<br>VOX sensitivity is too high.                     | Turn VOX off.<br>Turn down VOX sensitivity.                                                                                 |

## Appendix B. - Menu definitions

See Chapter 4, *Working the menu system* for more info about using the menu-system.

| Menu | Name<br>(Full Name)   | Settings                                                                            | Description                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|------|-----------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 0    | SQL - Squelch Level   | [0 - 9]<br>Setting the squelch to 0 will open up the squelch entirely.              | - Squelch silences the receiver when there is no signal.<br>- Sensitivity can be varied from .1 to .3 mV on UHF<br>Sensitivity can be varied from .1 to .2 mV on VHF                                                                                                        |
| 1    | STEP - Frequency Step | 2.5K[0]   5.0K[1]   6.25K[2]   10.0K[3]   12.5K[4]   20.0K[5]   25.0K[6]   50.0K[7] | Selects the amount of frequency change in VFO/Frequency mode when scanning or pressing the  or  keys. |
| 2    | TXP - Transmit Power  | HIGH [0]   MID [1]   LOW [2]                                                        | Selects between HIGH, MID, and LOW transmitter power when in VFO/Frequency mode. Use the minimum transmitter power necessary to carry out the desired communications.                                                                                                       |

|   |                                   |                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|---|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 3 | SAVE - Battery Save               | OFF [0]   1   2   3   4                          | Selects the ratio of sleep cycles to awake cycles (1:1, 2:1, 3:1, 4:1). The higher the number the longer the battery lasts. The higher number increases the RX sleep cycle, but you may miss the first few syllables before the RX opens. |
| 4 | VOX - Voice Operated TX           | OFF [0]   1   2   3   4   5   6   7   8   9   10 | When enabled it is not necessary to push the [PTT] button on the transceiver. Adjust the gain level to an appropriate sensitivity to allow smooth transmission.                                                                           |
| 5 | WN - Wideband / Narrowband        | WIDE [0]   NARR [1]                              | Wideband (25 kHz bandwidth) or narrowband (12.5 kHz bandwidth).                                                                                                                                                                           |
| 6 | 6 ABR - Display Illumination Time | OFF [0]   1   2   3   4   5   6   7   8   9   10 | Time-out for the LCD backlight. (seconds)                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| 7 | TDR - Dual Watch, Dual Reception  | OFF [0]   ON [1]                                 | Monitor [A] and [B] at the same time. The display with the most recent activity ([A] or [B]) becomes the selected display.                                                                                                                |
| 8 | BEEP - Keypad Beep                | OFF [0]   ON [1]                                 | Allows audible confirmation of a key press                                                                                                                                                                                                |

|    |                                         |                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|----|-----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 9  | TOT -<br>Transmission<br>Time-out-Timer | 15[0] - 600[39] in 15 second steps<br>(TIMEOUT-15)/15=[n] | This feature provides a safety switch that limits transmission time to a programmed value. This will promote battery conservation by not allowing you to make excessively long transmissions, and in the event of a stuck PTT switch it can prevent interference to other users as well as battery depletion. |
| 10 | R-DCS - Receiver<br>DCS                 | OFF [0]   see DCS Table in<br>Appendix C                  | Mutes the speaker of the transceiver in the absence of a specific low-level digital signal. If the station you are listening to does not transmit this specific signal, you will not hear anything.                                                                                                           |
| 11 | R-CTCS - Receiver<br>CTCSS              | OFF [0]   see CTCSS Table in<br>Appendix C                | Mutes the speaker of the transceiver in the absence of a specific and continuous sub-audible signal. If the station you are listening to does not transmit this specific and continuous signal, you will not hear anything.                                                                                   |
| 12 | T-DCS -<br>Transmitter DCS              | OFF [0]   see DCS Table in<br>Appendix C                  | Transmits a specific low-level digital signal to unlock the squelch of a distant receiver (usually a repeater).                                                                                                                                                                                               |

|    |                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                               |
|----|-------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 13 | T-CTCS -<br>Transmitter CTCSS                   | OFF [0]   see CTCSS Table in<br>Appendix C                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Transmits a specific and continuous sub-audible signal to unlock the squelch of a distant receiver (usually a repeater).                                      |
| 14 | VOICE - Voice<br>Prompt                         | OFF [0]   ENG [1]   CHI [2]                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Allows audible voice confirmation of a key press                                                                                                              |
| 15 | ANI-ID -<br>Automatic<br>Number ID              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Displays the ANI code that has been set by software. This menu cannot be used to change it. The ANI-ID is sent when the alarm is activated and menu 32 = CODE |
| 16 | DTMFST – DTMF-<br>Side Tone of<br>transmit code | OFF [0]: No DTMF Side Tones are<br>heard<br>DT-ST [1]: Side Tones are heard<br>only from manually keyed DTMF<br>codes<br>ANI-ST [2]: Side Tones are heard<br>only from automatically keyed<br>DTMF codes<br>DT+ANI [3]: All DTMF Side Tones<br>are heard | Determines when DTMF Side Tones can be heard from the transceiver speaker.                                                                                    |

|    |                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                      |
|----|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 17 | S-CODE - Signal Code             | 1[0]   2[1]   3[2]   4[3]   5[4]   6[5]   7[6]   8[9]   9[8]   10[9]   11[10]   12[11]   13[12]   14[13]   15[14]                                                                                                  | Selects 1 of 15 DTMF codes. The DTMF codes are programmed with software and are up to 5 digits each. |
| 18 | SC-REV - Scanner Resume Method   | TO [0]: Time Operation - scanning will resume after a fixed time has passed<br>CO [1]: Carrier Operation - scanning will resume after the signal disappears<br>SE [2]: Search Operation - scanning will not resume | Scanning Resume Method                                                                               |
| 19 | PTT-ID - When to send the PTT-ID | OFF [0]: No ID is sent<br>BOT [1]: The selected S-CODE is sent at the beginning<br>EOT [2]: The selected S-CODE is sent at the ending<br>BOTH [3]: The selected S-CODE is sent at the beginning and ending         | When to Send PTT-ID<br>Codes are sent during either the beginning or ending of a transmission.       |

|    |                                    |                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|----|------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 20 | PTT-LT - Signal code sending delay | 0 - 50ms                                                                                                               | PTT-ID Delay (milliseconds)                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 21 | MDF-A - Channel Mode A Display     | CH [0]: Displays the channel number<br>NAME [1]: Displays the channel name.<br>FREQ [2]: Displays programmed Frequency | [A] MR/Channel Mode Display Format<br>Note: Names must be entered using software.                                                                                                            |
| 22 | MDF-B - Channel Mode B Display     | CH [0]: Displays the channel number<br>NAME [1]: Displays the channel name.<br>FREQ [2]: Displays programmed Frequency | [B] MR/Channel Mode Display Format<br>Note: Names must be entered using software.                                                                                                            |
| 23 | BCL - Busy Channel Lock-out        | OFF [0]   ON [1]                                                                                                       | Disables the [PTT] button on a channel that is already in use. The transceiver will sound a beep tone and will not transmit if the [PTT] button is pressed when a channel is already in use. |

|    |                                   |                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                               |
|----|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 24 | AUTOLK – Automatic Keypad Lock    | OFF [0]   ON [1]                                                                                                                            | When ON, the keypad will be locked if not used in 8 seconds. Pressing the [#]O key for 2 seconds will unlock the keypad.                                      |
| 25 | SFT-D - Frequency Shift Direction | OFF [0]: TX = RX (simplex)<br>+ [1]: TX will be shifted higher in frequency than RX<br>- [2]: TX will be shifted lower in frequency than RX | Enables access of repeaters in VFO/Frequency Mode                                                                                                             |
| 26 | OFFSET - Frequency shift amount   | 00.000 - 69.990 in 10 kHz steps                                                                                                             | Specifies the difference between the TX and RX frequencies                                                                                                    |
| 27 | MEM-CH - Store a Memory Channel   | 000 - 127                                                                                                                                   | This menu is used to either create new or modify existing channels (0 through 127) so that they can be accessed from MR/Channel Mode.                         |
| 28 | DEL-CH - Delete a memory channel  | 000 - 127                                                                                                                                   | This menu is used to delete the programmed information from the specified channel (0 through 127) so that it can either be programmed again or be left empty. |

|    |                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|----|------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 29 | WT-LED - Display backlight color, Standby            | OFF [0]   BLUE [1]   ORANGE [2]   PURPLE [3]                                                                                                                                                   | Default: PURPLE                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 30 | RX-LED - Display backlight color-Receive             | OFF [0]   BLUE [1]   ORANGE [2]   PURPLE [3]                                                                                                                                                   | Default: BLUE                                                                                                                                                                      |
| 31 | TX-LED - Display backlight color-Transmit            | OFF [0]   BLUE [1]   ORANGE [2]   PURPLE [3]                                                                                                                                                   | Default: ORANGE                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 32 | AL-MOD - Alarm Mode                                  | SITE [0]: Sounds alarm through your radio speaker only<br>TONE [1]: Transmits a cycling tone over-the-air<br>CODE [2]: Transmits '119' (911 in reverse?) followed by the ANI code over-the-air | SITE: Sounds alarm through your radio speaker only<br>TONE: Transmits a cycling tone over-the-air<br>CODE: Transmits '119' (911 in reverse?) followed by the ANI code over-the-air |
| 33 | BAND - Band Selection                                | VHF [0]   UHF [1]                                                                                                                                                                              | In VFO/Frequency mode, sets [A] or [B] to the VHF or UHF band.                                                                                                                     |
| 34 | TDR-AB - Transmit selection while in Dual Watch mode | OFF [0]   A [1]   B [2]                                                                                                                                                                        | When enabled, priority is returned to selected display once the signal in the other display disappears.                                                                            |

|    |                                             |                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|----|---------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 35 | STE - Squelch Tail Elimination              | OFF [0]   ON [1]                                                                                 | This function is used eliminate squelch tail noise between BaoFeng handhelds that are communicating directly (no repeater). Reception of a 55 Hz or 134.4 Hz tone burst mutes the audio long enough to prevent hearing any squelch tail noise. |
| 36 | RP-STE - Squelch Tail Elimination           | OFF [0]   1 - 10                                                                                 | This function is used eliminate squelch tail noise when communicating through a repeater.                                                                                                                                                      |
| 37 | RPT-RL - Delay the squelch tail of repeater | OFF [0]   1 - 10                                                                                 | Delay the Tail Tone of Repeater (X100 milliseconds)                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 38 | PONMSG - Power On Message                   | FULL [0]: Performs an LCD screen test at power-on<br>MSG [1]: Displays a 2-line power-on message | Controls the behavior of the display when the transceiver is turned on.                                                                                                                                                                        |
| 39 | ROGER - Roger Beep                          | OFF [0]   ON [1]                                                                                 | Sends an end-of-transmission tone to indicate to other stations that the transmission has ended.                                                                                                                                               |
| 40 | RESET - Restore defaults                    | VFO [0]   ALL [1]                                                                                | Resets the radio to factory defaults, with some exceptions.                                                                                                                                                                                    |

## Appendix C. - Technical specifications

### General

#### General specifications

| Specification         | Value                                                                                |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Frequency Range (MHz) | 65-108 (Rx only)<br>136-174 & 400-520MHz (Rx only)<br>144-148 & 420-450MHz (Rx /Tx ) |
| Memory channels       | 128                                                                                  |
| Frequency stability   | 2.5ppm                                                                               |
| Frequency step (kHz)  | 2.5K/5.0K/6.25K/10.0K/12.5K/20.0K/25.0K/50.0K                                        |
| Antenna impedance     | 50 Ohm                                                                               |
| Operating temperature | -20°C to +60°C                                                                       |
| Supply voltage        | 7.4                                                                                  |
| Consumption           | ≤ 75mA (standby)<br>380mA (reception)<br>≤ 1.4A (transmission)                       |
| Mode of operation     | Simplex or semi-duplex                                                               |
| Duty cycle            | 03 / 03 / 54 min. (Rx / Tx / Standby)                                                |
| Dimensions (mm)       | 58 x 110 x 32                                                                        |
| Weight (g)            | 214                                                                                  |

## Transmitter

### Transmitter specifications

| Specification           | Value                       |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| RF power (W)            | 7 (UHF high)                |
|                         | 8 (VHF high)                |
|                         | 4 (UHF mid)                 |
|                         | 4 (VHF mid)                 |
|                         | 1 (UHF low)                 |
|                         | 1 (VHF low)                 |
| Type of modulation      | FM                          |
| Emission class          | 16K#F3E (wideband)          |
|                         | 11K#F3E (narrowband)        |
| Maximum deviation (kHz) | $\leq \pm 5.0$ (wideband)   |
|                         | $\leq \pm 2.5$ (narrowband) |
| Spurious emissions (dB) | <-60dB                      |

## Receiver

### Receiver specifications

| Specification                | Value                               |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Receiver sensitivity         | 0.2 $\mu$ V (at 12dB <i>SINAD</i> ) |
| Intermodulation              | 60dB                                |
| Audio Output                 | 1000mW                              |
| Adjacent channel selectivity | 65/60dB                             |

DCS table

Table C.1. DCS Codes

| Number | Code  | Number | Code  | Number | Code  | Number | Code  |
|--------|-------|--------|-------|--------|-------|--------|-------|
| 001    | D023N | 002    | D025N | 003    | D026N | 004    | D031N |
| 005    | D032N | 006    | D036N | 007    | D043N | 008    | D047N |
| 009    | D051N | 010    | D053N | 011    | D054N | 012    | D065N |
| 013    | D071N | 014    | D072N | 015    | D073N | 016    | D074N |
| 017    | D114N | 018    | D115N | 019    | D116N | 020    | D122N |
| 021    | D125N | 022    | D131N | 023    | D132N | 024    | D134N |
| 025    | D143N | 026    | D145N | 027    | D152N | 028    | D155N |
| 029    | D156N | 030    | D162N | 031    | D165N | 032    | D172N |
| 033    | D174N | 034    | D205N | 035    | D212N | 036    | D223N |
| 037    | D225N | 038    | D226N | 039    | D243N | 040    | D244N |
| 041    | D245N | 042    | D246N | 043    | D251N | 044    | D252N |
| 045    | D255N | 046    | D261N | 047    | D263N | 048    | D265N |
| 049    | D266N | 050    | D271N | 051    | D274N | 052    | D306N |
| 053    | D311N | 054    | D315N | 055    | D325N | 056    | D331N |
| 057    | D332N | 058    | D343N | 059    | D346N | 060    | D351N |
| 061    | D356N | 062    | D364N | 063    | D365N | 064    | D371N |
| 065    | D411N | 066    | D412N | 067    | D413N | 068    | D423N |
| 069    | D431N | 070    | D432N | 071    | D445N | 072    | D446N |

| Number | Code  | Number | Code  | Number | Code  | Number | Code  |
|--------|-------|--------|-------|--------|-------|--------|-------|
| 073    | D452N | 074    | D454N | 075    | D455N | 076    | D462N |
| 077    | D464N | 078    | D465N | 079    | D466N | 080    | D503N |
| 081    | D506N | 082    | D516N | 083    | D523N | 084    | D526N |
| 085    | D532N | 086    | D546N | 087    | D565N | 088    | D606N |
| 089    | D612N | 090    | D624N | 091    | D627N | 092    | D631N |
| 091    | D627N | 092    | D631N | 093    | D632N | 094    | D645N |
| 094    | D645N | 095    | D654N | 096    | D662N | 094    | D645N |
| 097    | D664N | 098    | D703N | 099    | D718N | 100    | D723N |
| 101    | D731N | 102    | D732N | 103    | D734N | 104    | D743N |
| 105    | D754N | 106    | D023I | 107    | D025I | 108    | D026I |

|             |       |            |       |            |       |            |       |
|-------------|-------|------------|-------|------------|-------|------------|-------|
| <b>109</b>  | D031I | <b>110</b> | D032I | <b>111</b> | D036I | <b>112</b> | D043I |
| <b>113</b>  | D047I | <b>114</b> | D051I | <b>115</b> | D053I | <b>116</b> | D054I |
| <b>117</b>  | D065I | <b>118</b> | D071I | <b>119</b> | D072I | <b>120</b> | D073I |
| <b>121</b>  | D074I | <b>122</b> | D114I | <b>123</b> | D115I | <b>124</b> | D116I |
| <b>125</b>  | D122I | <b>126</b> | D125I | <b>127</b> | D131I | <b>128</b> | D132I |
| <b>129</b>  | D134I | <b>130</b> | D143I | <b>131</b> | D145I | <b>132</b> | D152I |
| <b>133</b>  | D155I | <b>134</b> | D156I | <b>135</b> | D162I | <b>136</b> | D165I |
| <b>*137</b> | D172I | D174I      | D205I | D212I      | D223I | D225I      | D226I |
| D243I       | D244I | D245I      | D246I | D251I      | D252I | D255I      | D261I |
| D263I       | D266I | D271I      | D274I | D306I      | D311I | D315I      | D325I |
| D331I       | D332I | D343I      | D346I | D351I      | D356I | D364I      | D365I |
| D371I       | D411I | D412I      | D413I | D423I      | D431I | D432I      | D445I |
| D446I       | D452I | D454I      | D455I | D462I      | D464I | D465I      | D466I |
| D503I       | D506I | D516I      | D523I | D526I      | D532I | D546I      | D565I |
| D606I       | D612I | D624I      | D627I | D631I      | D632I | D645I      | D654I |
| D662I       | D664I | D703I      | D712I | D723I      | D731I | D732I      | D734I |
| D743I       | D754I |            |       |            |       |            |       |



*\*After DCS Number Shortcut 137, in order to navigate through the subsequent codes manually key in shortcut 137 and then use the arrow keys to navigate to the DCS tone required*

## CTCSS table

Table C.2. CTCSS Frequencies

| Number | Frequency | Number | Frequency | Number | Frequency | Number | Frequency |
|--------|-----------|--------|-----------|--------|-----------|--------|-----------|
| 01     | 67.0      | 02     | 69.3      | 03     | 71.9      | 04     | 74.4      |
| 05     | 77.0      | 06     | 79.7      | 07     | 82.5      | 08     | 85.4      |
| 09     | 88.5      | 10     | 91.5      | 11     | 94.8      | 12     | 97.4      |
| 13     | 100.0     | 14     | 103.5     | 15     | 107.2     | 16     | 110.9     |
| 17     | 114.8     | 18     | 118.8     | 19     | 123       | 20     | 127.3     |
| 21     | 131.8     | 22     | 136.5     | 23     | 141.3     | 24     | 146.2     |
| 25     | 151.4     | 26     | 156.7     | 27     | 159.8     | 28     | 162.2     |
| 29     | 165.5     | 30     | 167.9     | 31     | 171.3     | 32     | 173.8     |
| 33     | 177.8     | 34     | 179.9     | 35     | 183.5     | 36     | 186.2     |
| 37     | 189.9     | 38     | 192.8     | 39     | 196.6     | 40     | 199.5     |
| 41     | 203.5     | 42     | 206.5     | 43     | 210.7     | 44     | 218.1     |
| 45     | 225.7     | 46     | 229.1     | 47     | 233.6     | 48     | 241.8     |
| 49     | 250.3     | 50     | 254.1     |        |           |        |           |

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# BF-F8**HP**

“The Most Powerful One Yet”

## USER MANUAL

VHF / UHF Dual Band Handheld Radio

Selectable 8-Watt Output  
Narrow and Wide Band Coverage  
VFO and Channel Modes  
CTCSS / DCS Tone Codes  
DTMF Encoder  
FM Radio and Built In Flashlight  
ANI Code  
Emergency Tone Burst

