kamilsss655 /
uv-k5-firmware-custom

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80 - Tips & Tricks and Known Issues

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What if Spectrum Scan Freezes

This is caused by a strong signal. The only way to fix this is to lower your gain settings in spectrum (*while antenna is disconnected*).

- *Disconnect the antenna* and check if the freezing will stop.
- Press `M` twice
- Then reduce the LNA$ and/or LNA parameter.
- *Connect the antenna* again and see if the value can be slightly higher.

What if AM reception is distorted/overloaded

- lower the gain in spectrum. Just like with Spectrum scan freeze?

Detect the tail tone of other radio with `CTCSS` scanner

- the `CTCSS` scanner can be used to detect the tail tone other radios are using (it might take a while and take multiple transmissions as the tail transmission is very short)
  - once found set the `SqTone` to found value and enjoy no squelch sound 😄
- `SqTone` sets the squelch tail tone used for RX/TX when no DCS/CTCSS is used to make radio compatible with more expensive radios
  - default value is `55Hz` - compatible with other Quansheng and Baofeng radios
- when CTCSS is used `180* phase shift` tail is enabled for RX/TX to be compatible with more expensive radios

> ⓘ Note
>
> *Tail tones below 65Hz are not reliably detected by the CTCSS scanner - likely by the design of the chip and to be fair these are not standard CTCSS tones. they work perfectly when used as SqTone or TxCTCSS/RxCTCSS though*

Menu - Recommended settings

Numbering of menu-items is based on *release 20.5*

- 1 `Step` - step of the frequency. Set this to **12.50** kHz

- 2 `Bandw` - bandwidth. Set this to **12.50** kHz

- 14 `Demodu` - demodulator mode. Put it on **FM**

- 22 `F1Shrt` - side button 1 short press function. Put it on **MONITOR**

- 23 `F1Long` - side button 1 long press function. Put it on **LONG SPECTRUM**

- 24 `F2Shrt` - side button 2 short press function. Put it on **SPECTRUM**

- 25 `F2Long` - side button 2 long press function. Put it on **SPECTRUM**

- 26 `M Long` - menu button long press function. Put it on **SWITCH VFO**

- 30 `Mic` - microphone sensitivity. Set it **+15.1**dB

- 31 `CHDISP` - Channel display style (name + frequency or number). Set this to Name + Freq

- 32 `POmMsg` - power on message. Set this to **Message**

- 33 `BatTxt` - Additional battery value. Set this to **Voltage**

- 34 `BackkLt` - Backlight duration. Set this to **2 minutes**

- 46 `RXMode` - Set it to **Main TX Dual RX** - always transmits on the primary channel (marked ►), listens to both.

And as an option in the [hidden menu](#)

- 60 `BATCAL` - Battery calibration. Measure the battery voltage with a voltmeter (on the metal loops on the back of the radio) and adjust the value in the menu accordingly.

```
For my radios this value was 1889 to 1950 and 1896 -> 2021.
```

- 61 `Battyp` - battery type. The UVK5 (8) is 1600 mAh and the UV5R-Plus often 2200 mAh.

Suggest to use an external antenna

Use and SMA-female to BNC-female connector/adapter

- so you can easily connect the external antenna cable to the radio

- extra option is to extend that to PL256 with is adapter

Converter cable

An other suggestion is this converter cable

Chirp incompatibility

> ⓘ **Note**
>
> This project does NOT work with actual version CHIRP
>
> There is a [cause](#) and reason for the Chirp-mismatch
>
> **But that's not up to this project**

There are 2 workarounds

- Temporarily use different firmware on your radio that matches the Chirp and adjust your channels
- [Use an earlier version of Chirp PY driver in Developer mode](#)

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https://github.com/kamilsss655/uv-k5-firmware-custom.wiki.git
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