

CHIRP PROGRAMMING QUICK REFERENCE

For Baofeng UV-5R and compatible radios · hamradiolicense.pages.dev

STEP-BY-STEP: PROGRAMMING A REPEATER

1

Download CHIRP

Free at chirpmyradio.com — Windows, Mac, and Linux versions available.

If the stable release does not recognize your radio, try CHIRP Daily.

2

Install Cable Driver

Plug in programming cable (without radio). Open Device Manager (Windows).

Look under Ports (COM & LPT) for "USB Serial Port (COM X)".

If missing: PL2303 driver from prolific.com.tw or CH340 from wch.cn

3

Connect Radio

Turn radio OFF. Insert 2.5mm plug into top speaker jack, 3.5mm into side mic jack.

Connect USB to computer. Turn radio ON (volume ~50%). Open CHIRP.

4

Download from Radio First

Radio → Download From Radio. Select your COM port.

Select Baofeng as vendor, UV-5R as model. Click OK.

Always download before writing — saves your existing config.

5

Enter Repeater

Click an empty row. Fill in the fields shown in the table below.

6

Upload to Radio

Radio → Upload To Radio. Same COM port and model as download.

Disconnect cable and restart radio. Scroll through channels to verify.

CHIRP CHANNEL FIELDS — WHAT TO ENTER

Field	What to Enter	Example (2m repeater)
Loc	Channel number	1
Name	Short label (6 chars max on UV-5R)	W3XYZ
Frequency	Repeater OUTPUT frequency (what you listen on)	147.195
Duplex	+ or – (offset direction) [None for simplex]	+
Offset	0.600 for 2m, 5.000 for 70cm	0.600
Tone Mode	Tone (transmit tone to open repeater)	Tone
CTCSS	Tone frequency from RepeaterBook.com (Hz)	100.0
Mode	FM for standard voice repeaters	FM

COMMON ERRORS AND FIXES

"Could not open serial port"

Cable driver not installed or another app using the port. Unplug, replug, restart CHIRP.

CHIRP hangs during download

Wrong model selected or counterfeit cable chip. Try UV-5RA or UV-5X3 model variants.

"Radio did not respond"

Radio not fully on, volume too low, or cable plug loose. Press 2.5mm plug firmly into top jack.

Repeater does not respond

Wrong CTCSS tone, wrong offset direction, or repeater offline. Verify all three on RepeaterBook.com.

Driver shows as "Unknown Device"

Wrong driver for your cable chip. Check chip markings: PL2303 or CH340. Download matching driver.