

A photograph showing a person's hands holding a handheld radio over a document on a desk. The person is wearing a yellow shirt and a black wristwatch. The document has a grid pattern. The background is a wooden desk and a grey wall. A green bar is at the top of the slide, and a blue tab is on the right side.

# Handheld Field Programming or Taming the Wily Wouxun

Andrew Cornwall KF7CCC

# Should I Bother?

- I can just use software to program my radio
- I can clone someone else's radio
- I always use the same frequencies
  
- It's not just your radio



# Why Is Programming So Hard?

- Hardware is mostly fixed when software written
- Software developers implement lots of features
- User interface (UI) tests are expensive, time consuming, involve further software changes
- Result: feature-rich radio with stupid UI



# Did I just lie to you?

- Yes (somewhat)
- Field programming the basics isn't hard (for almost any modern radio)
  - including Chinese radios
- Practice it to get good at it!



# How to Program (almost) Any Radio

- Decide on memory to write (preparation)
- Switch to VFO mode
- Enter RX frequency
- Specify offset + direction (or TX frequency)
- Set tone(s)
- Turn tones on (PL, DCS, T-SQL)
- Write to memory
- Switch to memory mode



# Tricks

- Menu vs Buttons
- Delete vs Overwrite
- Press vs Hold
- Key then other key



# Traps

- Quick menu timeouts (Chinese radios)
- Hold while turning on (Icom)
- Weird modes – WIRES, ARTS (Yaesu)
- Passwords
- “Channel Only Mode”
- Swap volume and channel
- Automatic Repeater Shift
- Frequency step



# Keep With Your Radio

- Radio manual
  - PDF on phone
  - Yes, but...
- Mini manual (Nifty, etc.)
- Quick reference card (commercial/handmade)
- Reference book?



# Practice Programming Your Handheld!



Andrew Cornwall KF7CCC