Ham 107 – Alinco DJ-VX50 - Programming
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1. Alinco DJ-VX50 is an outstanding analog handi-talkie upgrade for about $100. Alinco is a major Japan leader.
   a. It is the easiest VHF/UHF HT to operate, with very simple keys & programming system.
   b. A complete repeater channel manually programs in about a minute. Seriously, top notch.

2. The top knobs are (1) volume with on/off and (2) detents to change options.
   a. Left side keys are <u>PTT</u> (push to talk), <u>Squelch</u> (hold to set), <u>Monitor</u> (breaks squelch).
   b. Monitor+turn-on to display frequencies.
   c. The dual-line screen's size, detail, brightness, ability to change color is very readable.
   d. The huge battery gives 24-hour or so run time.

3. [↑m/s] key flips Main active display line with Second sub standby line.
   a. Radio is dual receive. When the sub receives, the signal line gets a star at the begin.

4. [↓v/m] selects VFO (Variable Frequency Oscillator) or M (memory channel) on Main line.
   a. Memory mode changes channel by rotating detent knob. # shown at end of Second line.
   b. In VFO mode (no channel # shown) enter frequency from keypad.
   c. To manually program a channel, first switch to VFO, then enter the frequency.

5. Menu sequence of keys is [Function + 8set + ↑↓ + * + main knob + Func].
   a. [FUNC]:   function switch to second value of the key.
   b. [8 set]:   start Menu settings.
   c. [↑↓]:   scroll up or down to Menu number / process desired.
   d. [* mem/del]:   stop scroll, open submenu.
   e. [Detent knob]: rotate to see options.
   f. [FUNC]:   enter the value. After a short time, the Menu will escape.
   g. [ESC]:   escape from menu sooner.

6. Program example: 145.250 MHz, -0.600 offset, 141.3, 141.3, Ch 5, EverRep

Action	Display		Change	Result	Enter
a. [↓V/M]	*no ch # = VFO*		[keypad]	145.250	
b. [FUNC] [8 set] [↑↓]	*01 = R-CDC*	[*][*] *67.0*	[main knob]	(141.3)	[FUNC]
c. [FUNC] [8 set] [↑↓]	*02 = T-CDC*	[*][*] *67.0*	[main knob]	(141.3)	[FUNC]
d. [FUNC] [8 set] [↑↓]	*04 = W/N*		[main knob]	(wide)	[FUNC]
e. [FUNC] [8 set] [↑↓]	*09 = OFFSET*		[keypad]	000.600	[FUNC]
f. [FUNC] [4 +-]	*(+)*		[FUNC] [4+-]	(-)	
g. [FUNC] [* mem/del]	*MEM CH*		[main knob]	(05)	[FUNC]
h. [FUNC] [8 set] [↑↓]	*13 = CHNAME*		[main knob]	EverRe	[FUNC]

7. R-CDC means Receive Ctcss / Dcs Code (decode), while T-CDC means Transmit Ctcss / Dcs Code (encode).

8. [FUNC] keys select 1-FM, 2-aviation / weather, 3-VOX, 5-scan, 6-skip, 7-reverse freq, 9-hi/lo power, 0-DTMF.
   a. [8 set] has 20 menus including Step, Beep, Light, Color, Time-out, Squelch, Voice, Vox setup, Scan setup.

9. Alinco DJ-VX50 does not have a Chirp edition, yet.
   a. Download very simple, even easier to use than Chirp, software from www.remtronix.com.
   b. It cannot cut and paste multiple cells from Excel. So, it is a little clunky. It appears to be FoxPro Database files.

10. The computer app for the radio setup is very straightforward.
    a. Use the FTDI USB cable for an Icom 2730, 5100, and other radios. *BlueMax49ers* is an excellent brand.
    b. Radio off. Plug cable into USB. Plug into radio. Turn radio on.
    c. Start Alinco DJ-VX50T app.
    d. Communication > Port set to recommended.
    e. Program > Read from Radio. [OK]. Takes about 30 seconds for 200 channels. [Complete. OK]
    f. RX frequency must enter first. TX will duplicate when clicked, then change it. Decode (RCDC) tone dropdown. Encode (TCDC) tone in dropdown. Scan, delete channels not desired. Ch Name is 6 characters.
    g. Other options are BCL, TX power, Mute type.
    h. File > Save for posterity.
    i. Program > Write to Radio. [OK].

11. Alternatives: With Icom, you cannot go wrong, but it is expensive. With Yaesu, you spend too much time determining the untold number of key combos to program the radio. Well, Baofeng is what it is, inexpensive and cheap.

12. Life is good. Enjoy!