

uniden[®]
Beancat[®]

BC 55XLT
10-Band, 10-Channel
Programmable Scanner

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OPERATING GUIDE

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About Scanning

The BC 55XLT

Scanning is easy and fun with the BC 55XLT 10-Band, 10-Channel Programmable Scanner. You will be able to monitor broadcasts such as:

- Police and fire department (including rescue and paramedics)
- NOAA weather frequencies
- Business/industrial radio
- Motion picture and press relay
- Utility
- Land transportation frequencies such as trucking firms, buses, taxis, tow trucks, and railroads
- Marine and amateur (ham radio) bands
- And many more in the 29-54 MHz, 137-174 MHz, and 406-512 MHz ranges.

Before you can use the BC 55XLT, you must program a frequency into each of the channels you want to use, up to 10 channels. Programming the scanner channels is like setting the push buttons on a radio.

Before you can program these channels you must know the local frequencies you will be able to receive. You can purchase regional and local directories for your area from your local Uniden Bearcat dealer, Uniden America Corporation (order form enclosed), or your local electronics store.

Unlike radio transmissions, frequencies do not broadcast continuously. The scanner automatically samples programmed frequencies at the rate of about 10 channels per second until it locates an active frequency. It remains on that frequency until the transmission stops for more than three seconds. The scanning cycle then resumes until another transmission is located. See page 7 for information on programming the scanner.

Where to Obtain More Information

The Bearcat Radio Club and other similar hobby clubs have publications, information on computer bulletin boards, and contests for the radio enthusiast. See the enclosed pamphlets for more information. Additional information is also available through your local library.

NOTICE



The installation, possession, or use of a scanning radio in a motor vehicle may be prohibited, regulated, or require a permit in certain states, cities, and/or local jurisdictions. Your local law enforcement officials should be able to provide you with information regarding the laws of your community.

Unpacking

Carefully remove all units from the display box. If there is any visible damage, **DO NOT** operate the equipment. Notify your dealer or shipping carrier immediately.

Keep the box, packing materials, and all printed materials. Use the box and packing to transport the BC 55XLT if needed.

The following parts should be included in this box:

- BC 55XLT 10-band, 10-channel programmable scanner
- Belt clip
- Flexible antenna
- Battery holder
- Operating guide (read carefully and save)
- Product registration card

Notes

- Complete and mail your product registration card immediately.
- Read this guide thoroughly before operating the scanner.

Optional Accessories

- | | |
|--|--|
| AD-100U
Battery
Charger | Charges the nickel-cadmium batteries. |
| PS-001
Vehicle
Power Cord | Plugs into vehicle cigarette lighter socket to power your BC 55XLT. |
| VC 001
Carrying
Case | Leather-like carrying case holds your BC 55XLT safely on your belt. Controls are accessible and the unit can be removed and returned easily. |

These optional accessories as well as frequency directories are available for your BC 55XLT at your local Uniden dealer or from the Uniden Parts and Service Division: (317)842-2483, 8:00 am to 5:00 pm EST, Monday through Friday.

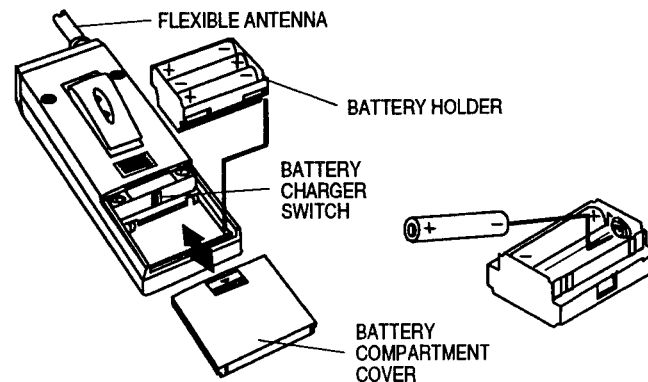
WARNING!



Uniden **DOES NOT** represent this unit to be waterproof. To reduce the risk of fire or electrical shock, **DO NOT** expose this unit to rain or moisture.

Installing the Batteries

You can use standard non-rechargeable batteries or the rechargeable nickel-cadmium battery (not included) available from Uniden or your local electronics dealer. Read the following instructions carefully before operating your scanner.



Standard Non-Recharge- able Batteries

1. Open the battery compartment by pressing on the battery door where indicated and slide off.
2. Remove the battery holder.
3. Install 5 AA alkaline (non-rechargeable) batteries in the battery holder. Make sure the + and - terminals are properly installed.
4. Set the battery charger switch to the REG. ALK. BATT. position.
5. Replace the battery holder to the scanner.
6. Replace the battery compartment door and slide into place.



INSIDE BATTERY COMPARTMENT

WARNING

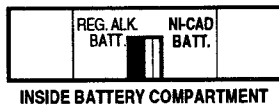
- **DO NOT ATTEMPT TO RECHARGE NON-RECHARGEABLE BATTERIES!** Before attempting to recharge batteries, check the type of batteries installed. Recharge only the nickel-cadmium rechargeable batteries designed for this unit.
- Use only the AD-100U AC adapter or the PS-001 cigarette lighter power cord. Any other AC adapter or external power cord may create overheating or circuitry damage.

Rechargeable Batteries

Use AA nickel-cadmium batteries.

Installing the Batteries (Refer to illustration on page 3)

1. Open the battery compartment by pressing on the battery door where indicated and slide off.
2. Remove the battery holder.
3. Install 5 AA nickel-cadmium batteries in the battery holder. Make sure the + and - terminals are properly installed.
4. Set the battery charger switch in the NI-CAD BATT. position.
5. Place the battery holder in the scanner.
6. Replace the battery compartment door and slide into place.



Charging the Battery

1. Plug the AD-100U into the EXT/PWR jack on the side of the scanner.
2. Plug the AD-100U into a standard AC outlet.
3. Leave the adapter connected for 10 to 18 hours to fully charge the nickel-cadmium batteries.

Note

- You can operate the scanner during recharging.

Installing the Antenna

1. Insert the connector end of the flexible antenna into the receptacle on top of the unit.
2. Push and turn clockwise to tighten. To remove, push and turn counter-clockwise.

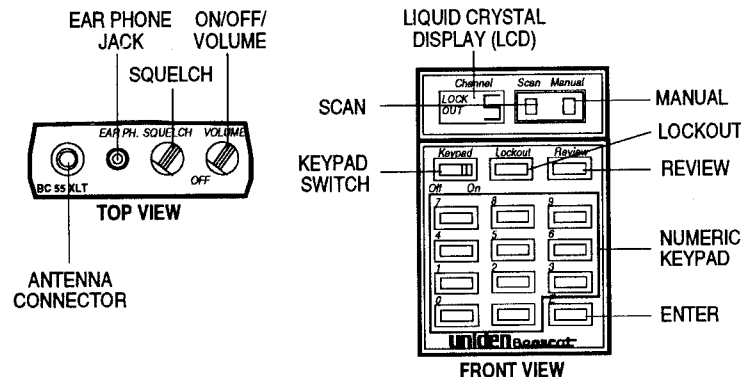
Note

- An external antenna (not included) may be helpful in fringe areas. This may require an adapter (not included) or other type of mating plug for proper connection.

Installing the Belt Clip

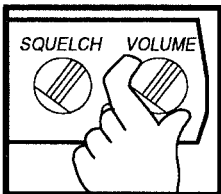
The belt clip holds the BC 55XLT securely to your belt for hands-free movement. Using a Phillips screwdriver, attach the belt clip to the scanner with the hardware provided.

Controls and Functions



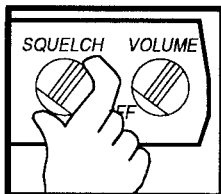
- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Antenna Connector | Install the custom flexible antenna to this BNC connector. |
| Earphone Jack | Connect optional earphones for private listening. When an earphone is connected, the main speaker is disconnected. |
| Squelch | Adjust to eliminate the annoying "rushing" sound heard when no transmission is being received. |
| On/Off/Volume | Turn clockwise to turn the scanner on and increase the volume. Turn counter-clockwise to decrease the volume or turn the scanner off. |
| Liquid Crystal Display (LCD) | Displays the current channel or it's frequency when reviewed. Displays "E" when a programming error is made and "LOCK OUT" when certain channels are locked out of the scanning process. |
| Scan | Press to start scanning channels. (<i>SQUELCH</i> must be adjusted for scanning.) |
| Manual | Press to stop scanning. Press to step to the next channel. Also, use for direct channel access. |
| Lockout | Press to prevent scanning of selected channels. |
| Review | Press to review the frequency of the current channel. |
| E (Enter) | Use to store a frequency into each channel. |
| Numeric Keypad | Use to program a frequency into each channel for scanning. Also, use for direct channel access with Manual key. |
| Keypad Switch | Slide the switch right to allow access to the numeric keypad or slide the switch left to disable the numeric keypad. |

On/Off/Volume



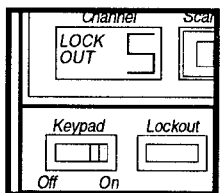
Turn clockwise to turn the scanner on and increase the volume. Turn counter-clockwise to decrease the volume or turn the scanner off.

Squelch

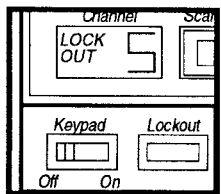


Adjust to eliminate the annoying "rushing" sound heard when no transmission is being received. To set the threshold for scanning, turn *SQUELCH* all the way right until the rushing sound is continuous. Then turn *SQUELCH* to the left just until the "rushing" sound is eliminated.

Keypad Switch



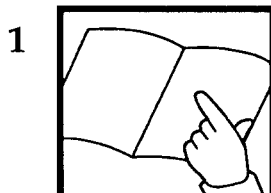
To enable programming on the numeric keypad, make sure the Keypad Switch is switched to the *ON* position.



Push the switch to the *OFF* position to disable the keypad preventing accidental key entry.

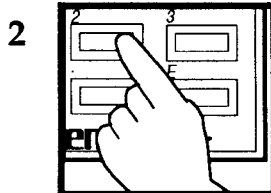
Programming Frequencies

Before you can use your BC 55XLT, you must follow these steps to program the channels. You may program only one frequency per channel.



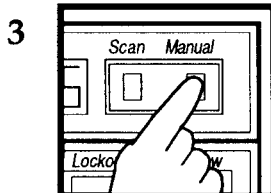
1 Select a frequency from your regional or local directory (purchased separately).

Example: Program 420.150 MHz into Channel 2.

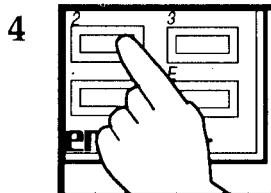


2 Press **Manual** to stop scanning.

Press the channel number **2** on the numeric keypad.

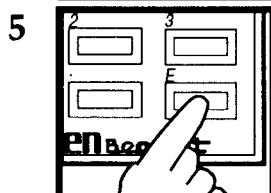


3 Press **Manual**.



4 Input the frequency numbers, including the decimal point using the numeric keypad.

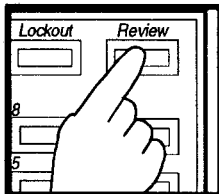
The decimal point (**.**) appears as a dash (—) on the channel display.



5 Press **E** to complete the entry.

Programming Frequencies Cont.

6



Check your entry by pressing **Review**.

If you enter a frequency that is not an exact step within the range (Example: 151.056 instead of 151.055), the nearest correct frequency will automatically be stored and displayed when you press **Review**.

Repeat Steps 1 through 6 to program additional frequencies in the other channels.

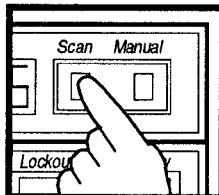
Note

- An "E" will appear in the channel display if an error is made during programming or the frequency is not within the range.

Scanning

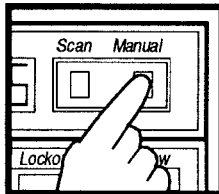
Follow these steps to scan the programmed channels on your scanner.

1



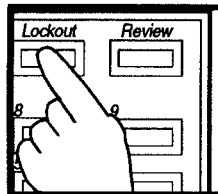
Press **Scan** to start scanning.

2



Press **Manual** to stop scanning.

Locking Out a Channel



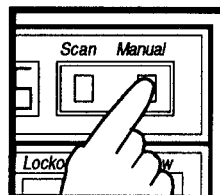
You can lock out a channel so it is not scanned. You do not erase the frequency from the channel when you lock it out.

Example: You want to lock out Channel 2 because it stops on transmissions you don't want to hear.

Press **Lockout** when it stops on Channel 2. "LOCK OUT" appears next to the channel LCD to show that the channel is now locked out.

Unlocking a Channel

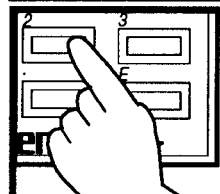
1



Example: Unlock (reactivate) Channel 2.

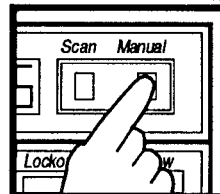
Press **Manual** to stop scanning.

2



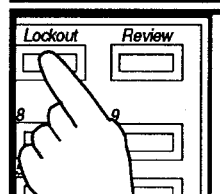
Press the channel number (**2**) on the numeric keypad.

3



Press **Manual**.

4



Press **Lockout**.

"LOCK OUT" no longer appears next to the channel LCD to show that the channel is now unlocked.

If you press **Lockout** again, the channel will be locked out.

Helpful Hints

General Use

- Turn the scanner off before removing batteries.
- Write down the programmed frequencies before power is interrupted in case of memory loss.
- Observe the low battery alert and immediately replace or recharge the batteries to avoid losing channel memory.
- The memory backup retains your frequency programming for 30 minutes without the battery.
- If memory is lost, simply reprogram each channel. Memory loss will be indicated by unfamiliar frequencies in each channel.
- Always press **firmly** on the center of the keypad buttons.
- Always press **E** after programming a frequency to store it in channel memory.
- Press **Review** after programming a frequency to ensure the correct number was entered.

Location

- If strong interference or electrical noise is received, relocate the scanner or its antenna away from the source of the noise.
- Do not use the scanner in high-moisture environments such as the kitchen or bathroom.
- Avoid placing the unit in direct sunlight or near heating elements or vents.
- Extremes in temperature or humidity will permanently damage the liquid crystal display (LCD).

Birdies

- All radios are subject to receiving undesired signals or birdies. If your scanner stops during scan mode and no sound is heard, it may be receiving a birdie. Birdies are internally-generated signals inherent in the electronics of the receiver. Press **Scan** to resume.

Cleaning

- Disconnect the power to the unit before cleaning.
- Clean the outside of the scanner with a mild detergent. Do not use abrasive cleaners or solvents. Be careful not to scratch the LCD window.
- Do not use excessive amounts of water.

Repairs

- Do not attempt any repair. The scanner contains no serviceable parts. Contact the Uniden Parts and Service Division or take it to a qualified repair technician.
- When shipping the scanner, remove the antenna, turn off the power, and place it with the unit in the original packing material for safe shipment.

Troubleshooting

If your BC 55XLT is not performing properly, try the steps listed below.

Unit will not turn on/no power

1. Check to make sure the batteries are properly installed.
2. Check to see if the batteries are dead.
3. Check to see if the scanner is turned on.

Improper reception

1. Check antenna connection
2. Reposition scanner
3. Check for proper frequencies
4. Check to see if the batteries are dead.

"E" appears in the display

1. Indicates error. Check frequency and re-enter correct one.

Beep tone sounds every 15 to 30 seconds

1. Batteries are low and need replacement.

Keypad won't work/can't program

1. Make sure the keypad switch is in the *ON* position.

If you still cannot get satisfactory results and you wish to receive product information or return the unit for service, please call or write the Uniden Parts and Service Division at:

Uniden America Corporation
Parts and Service Division
8707 North By Northeast Boulevard,
P.O. Box 501368
Indianapolis, IN 46250
(317) 842-2483 Monday through Friday, 8:00 am to 5:00 pm EST

Features, specifications, and availability of optional accessories are all subject to change without notice.

Size	7" (H) x 2 5/8" (W) x 1 3/8" (D)		
Weight	10.5 oz.		
Power Requirements	+7.5V DC 5 AA batteries (not included) or 6.0V DC 5-AA Rechargeable nickel-cadmium batteries (not included) or AC adapter AD-100U (not included)		
Audio Output (nominal)	260 mW		
Antenna Impedance	50 ohms		
Channels of Operation	10 channels		
Scan Rate	10 channels per second		
Delay Time	3 seconds		
Frequency Coverage	10 Meter Amateur Band	29 - 29.7	MHz
	VHF Low Band	29.7 - 50	MHz
	6 Meter Amateur Band	50 - 54	MHz
	Military Land Mobile	137 - 144	MHz
	2 Meter Amateur Band	144 - 148	MHz
	VHF High Band	148 - 174	MHz
	Federal Government Land Mobile	406 - 420	MHz
	70-cm Amateur Band	420 - 450	MHz
	UHF Standard Band	450 - 470	MHz
	UHF "T" Band	470 - 512	MHz
Sensitivity (nominal)	0.3 μ V 29-54 MHz 0.7 μ V 137-174 MHz, 406 - 512 MHz (20 dB Signal-to-Noise Ratio at \pm 3 KHz Deviation)		
Selectivity (nominal)	\pm 10 KHz, -6 dB \pm 17 KHz, -50 dB		
Current Drain	50 mA (squelched) 110 mA (full volume unsquelched)		
Certified in accordance with FCC Rules and Regulations Part 15 as of date of manufacture.			

Features, specifications, and availability of optional accessories are all subject to change without notice.

One Year Limited Warranty

WARRANTOR: UNIDEN AMERICA CORPORATION ("UNIDEN")

ELEMENTS OF WARRANTY: UNIDEN warrants, for one year, UNIDEN Scanners (hereinafter referred to as the Product) to be free from defects in materials and craftsmanship with only the limitations or exclusions set out below.

WARRANTY DURATION: This warranty shall terminate and be of no further effect one (1) year after the date of the original purchase of the Product or at the time the Product is (A) damaged or not maintained as reasonable or necessary, (B) modified, (C) improperly installed, (D) repaired by someone other than warrantor for a defect or malfunction covered by this warranty, (E) used in a manner or purpose for which the Product was not intended, or (F) sold by the original purchaser.

STATEMENT OF REMEDY: In the event that the Product does not conform to this warranty at any time while this warranty is in effect, warrantor will repair the defect and return it to you without charge for parts, service, or any other cost (except shipping and handling) incurred by warrantor or its authorized service centers in connection with the performance of this warranty. **THE ONE YEAR LIMITED WARRANTY SET FORTH ABOVE IS THE SOLE AND ENTIRE WARRANTY PERTAINING TO THE PRODUCT AND IS IN LIEU OF AND EXCLUDES ALL OTHER WARRANTIES OF ANY NATURE WHATSOEVER, WHETHER EXPRESS, IMPLIED, OR ARISING BY OPERATION OF LAW, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO ANY IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. THIS WARRANTY DOES NOT COVER OR PROVIDE FOR THE REIMBURSEMENT OR PAYMENT OF INCIDENTAL OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES.** Some states do not allow this exclusion or limitation of incidental or consequential damages so the above limitation or exclusion may not apply to you.

LEGAL REMEDIES: This warranty gives you specific legal rights, and you may also have other rights which vary from state to state. This warranty is void outside of the United States of America.

Uniden Parts and Service Division: If, after following the instructions in this operating guide in the Troubleshooting section, you are certain that the Product is defective, pack the Product carefully (preferably in its original packaging) and include a note describing the defect that has caused you to return it. The Product (with evidence of original purchase) should be shipped or delivered (by UPS or insured parcel post), freight prepaid, to warrantor at:

Uniden America Corporation
Parts and Service Division
8707 North By Northeast Boulevard, P.O. Box 501368
Indianapolis, IN 46250
(317) 842-2483 Monday through Friday, 8:00 am to 5:00 pm EST

PAT. UNDER ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING U.S. PATENT NUMBERS:

3,883,808	3,961,261	3,962,644	3,974,450	3,974,452
3,987,400	3,996,521	3,996,522	4,000,468	4,027,251
4,057,760	4,092,594	4,100,497	4,114,103	4,123,715
4,153,877	4,156,193	4,157,505	4,179,662	4,219,821
4,270,217	4,398,304	4,409,688	4,455,679	4,461,036
4,521,915	4,627,100	4,888,815	4,932,074	4,947,456
5,014,348	DES 253,173	DES 272,737	RE 31,523	

OTHER U.S. AND FOREIGN PATENTS PENDING