

An Overview of the Dual Band Plus Radio



We recently introduced the Dual Band Plus (DBP) radio to business, institutional, and governmental users as one of the first personal 2-way radios approved by the FCC for operation on both VHF and UHF frequencies.

Radios with VHF/UHF capability have been available for Amateur use for a number of years. These radios do not meet the specification standards for non-hobbyist use although some dealers and users have chosen to ignore the FCC rules. That is a topic for another day. For now, our subject is to more fully explain what the DBP will and will not do. Let's start with what it WILL do!

The DBP can operate on any frequency in the 136-174 MHz AND the 400-470 MHz band. It can be programmed on standard channels with 25 kHz or 12.5 kHz narrow band channels in 5 kHz steps (More about this in a moment). Power is programmable from 2 to 5 watts on VHF or 2 to 4 watts on UHF. The low power 2 watt setting is required when the radio is operated on unlicensed MURS channels in the VHF band or on licensed channels with a 2 watt limitation. (See www.mursradios.com for additional information). The DBP cannot be operated on FRS channels which limits power to a half watt. FRS radios also cannot be connected to an external antenna. (See www.info4u.us/dbp.pdf for full specifications).

The wide frequency capability allows the DBP to be operated on Amateur, Marine, and Weather channels as well as military, industrial, institutional, and public safety channels. The DBP is a flexible and affordable interoperable solution to any user requiring the capability to operate on both VHF and UHF radio frequencies with a single device.

The DBP can not be programmed in 2.5 kHz steps which may be required for some narrow band channels. We don't know of any dual band capable radio that will meet this requirement anywhere near the price range of the DBP. If you need 2.5 kHz programming steps, we can recommend other alternatives to the DBP. The DBP does not have a MIL-SPEC or IP (Intrusion protection) rating and it is not available in an Intrinsically Safe version. This is not to say that it does not meet the typical requirements. What we are saying is that the DBP was not initially designed to meet the needs of high spec buyers and the company does not feel the cost of testing for these standards is warranted. This helps keep the cost of the radio as low as possible without any sacrifice of quality or performance. We can say that we have experienced only two malfunctions this far. One was damage in transit and the other was a broken antenna caused by abuse.

We are aware of the fact that there are advertised prices for similar products that are less than our price. We make no apology for our price or any comment on what you may or may not receive from other vendors. We simply state that our price includes shipping, programming on up to 16 channels, a free user programming manual, and a one year warranty. On the subject of pricing, an additional comment may be in order.

We will program up to 16 channels at no charge following the exact programming information you provide to us. We do not include researching frequencies, reading existing radios, calling your radio shop or doing anything else except exactly what you tell us to do in writing. You can order on line at:

www.s287847904.e-shop.info/shop/category_18/Dual-Band-Radios.html?shop_param=cid%3D%26.

You will note that we offer a Windows PC programming kit including cable and software for \$49. This kit is recommended only for experienced radio programmers. A step by step programming manual adds \$49. Our price does not include phone support. Phone support is available by calling 205.854.2611. The charge is \$98 per hour subject to a half hour (\$49) minimum. The DBP is a great little radio. It's not for everyone, but hopefully, it's just right for YOU! We look forward to being of service!

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