

DMR RADIOS COMPARED

Radio	True DMR	Dual band	Available in	Waterproof	Receiver type	Rough User price DB		Recommended/comments
<u>TYT MD-380 / Retevis RT3</u>	Yes	No	VHF or UHF	No	Superhet	90.00	Yes	<u>Yes. Good quality body and good performance. Superhet receiver is good. Promiscuous mode and many more enhancements available in unofficial firmware. Only real issue is tones/beeps volume can't be changed.</u>
<u>TYT MD-390</u>	Yes	No	VHF or UHF	Yes	Superhet	125.00	Yes	Yes. Same as MD-380 but waterproof.
Baofeng DM-5R	No	Yes	VHF + UHF	No	Direct conversion	50.00	No	No. Does not talk to other DMR radios (uses a different vocoder), and only works on simplex mode.
Baofeng DM-5R Plus	No	Yes	VHF + UHF	No	Direct conversion	70.00	No	No. Does not work on repeaters properly. Will talk to other DMR radios fine on simplex though.
<u>Ailunce HD1</u>	Yes	Yes	VHF + UHF	Yes	Direct conversion	190.00	Yes	<u>Yes. Good if you need a radio with VFO mode and dual band. This radio is good because it allows full front panel programming and a proper "VFO mode". Also has promiscuous mode.</u>
<u>TYT MD-2017 / Retevis RT82</u>	Yes	Yes	VHF + UHF	Yes	Direct conversion	220.00	Yes	Yes. Trackball is disliked by users. Now has TyToolz firmware (like on the MD-380) which adds features like adhoc talkgroup changing.
<u>Radioddity GD-77</u>	Yes	Yes	VHF + UHF	No	Direct conversion	87.00	Yes	No. One of the cheaper dual band DMR radios but buggy and not great quality. Still a better choice than the RD-5R though.
Radioddity GD-55/ TYT MD-398	No	No	VHF or UHF	Yes	Direct conversion	-	No	No. Does not work on repeaters properly. No longer sold.

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Radioddity GD-55 Plus	Yes	No	UHF	Yes	Direct conversion	115.00	No	No. Users complain that firmware is too buggy. Development seems to have stopped. Shows the importance of not buying a radio that still has bugs - they may never be fixed!
Kirisun DP-770	Yes	No	UHF	Yes	Superhet	300.00	No	No. Expensive compared to other Chinese radios and no promiscuous mode.
<u>BFDX CS580</u>	Yes	No	VHF or UHF	Splash	Direct conversion	130.00	No	Yes. Gets excellent reviews. Colour code and timeslot promiscuous mode as well.
AnyTone AT-D868UV	Yes	Yes	VHF + UHF	Splash	Direct conversion	175.00	Yes	Yes, generally good reviews.
AnyTone AT-D878UV	Yes	Yes	VHF + UHF	Splash	Direct conversion	210.00	Yes	Yes. Good reviews, but expensive for a direct conversion radio. As of April 2019 this is probably the best dual band DMR radio.
<u>BTECH DMR-6X2</u>	Yes	Yes	VHF + UHF	Splash	Direct conversion	170.00	Yes	<u>Yes. Like the AnyTone AT-D868UV but with a few additional features. See comparison of models here.</u>
Connect systems CS750/CS751 (VHF)	Yes	No	VHF or UHF	No	Superhet	240.00	No	Monitor feature is good – basically a colour code and timeslot promiscuous mode, but there are newer radios out there with more features and cheaper. Generally good reviews.
Wouxun KG-D901	Yes	No	VHF or UHF	Yes	?	150.00	No	No. Reviews complain that the radio only has 32 channels. Not many reviews and there isn't much of a user community. Meant to be more channels with firmware update but Wouxun says you have to send the radio back to be upgraded. Not worth the hassle and cost.
<u>Baofeng RD-5R</u>	Yes	Yes	VHF + UHF	No	Direct conversion	75.00	No	No. A total mess. Full of bugs.

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Zastone Mini9+	No	No	UHF	No	Probably direct conversion	50.00	No	Will not work on repeaters but for simplex use it seems good. Very small, limited display and simplex only. Not legal for use on licence free channels.
<u>Radioddity GD-77S</u>	Yes	Yes	VHF + UHF	No	Direct conversion	77.00	No	No screen. Not sure why an amateur would buy this. Maybe good for blind users. For commercial use it would be better to buy a radio with a superhet receiver. Not legal for use on the licence free frequencies it is programmed to by default.
Alinco DJ-MD40	Yes	No	UHF	Splash	Superhet	135.00	No	I couldn't find any reviews of this. Alinco is a good brand so quality would be expected here, but there are cheaper radios available with many more features (MD-380 and MD-390) so I don't really see why anyone would buy this.
TYT MD-UV380 / Retevis RT3S	Yes	Yes	VHF + UHF	No	Direct conversion	130.00	Yes	No. Not to be confused with the MD-380. This radio is dual band but has a direct conversion receiver. It's not a bad radio overall, and has group and private call promiscuous modes as well as user DB, but there are cheaper ones out there with similar specs. Also has some poor design, like all tones are way too loud and volume can't be changed, adhoc talkgroup change doesn't stick after you use push the PTT once.
TYT MD-UV390	Yes	Yes	VHF + UHF	Yes	Direct conversion	175.00	Yes	See TYT MD-UV380 above. This radio is practically the same but waterproof.

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Alinco DJ-MD5	Yes	Yes	VHF + UHF	No	Direct conversion	170.00	Yes	Yes. Has good reviews but still no superheterodyne receiver. Very disappointing for a supposedly "good" Japanese brand to come out with a direct conversion receiver radio.