



## Alignment mode for the VX-5R

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Enter by holding band+txpo+0 while powering up. VFOa must have valid ham frequency. First, make a note of the settings for your radio. Someday you might need these values to backup your radio. This process is not necessary to do, but it's nice to have a backup of these settings if something drastically goes wrong with your VX-5R Backing up your radios data with EVE or ADMS does NOT save these values, so they have to be done manually. This alignment mode also allows for adjusting the different power level stages and squelch settings. Here are mine:

Name	HF	VHF	UHF	Set	Manually
HIS SQL	0	0	0	Yes	
THIS SQL	78	82	82	No	
TIGH SQL	34	36	38	No	
S1 LEVELN		100	90	82	No
S9 LEVELN	202	192	184	No	
S1 LEVELW	36	44	32	No	
S9 LEVELW		158	170	164	No
HI POWER		151	163	171	Yes
L3 POWER	97	107	117	Yes	
L2 POWER	55	60	68	Yes	
L1 POWER	25	28	31	Yes	

Pressing band changes among bands without need to reenter alignment mode. VX-5 MR toggles set/display mode, dial changes settings on modes marked YES above. Others will measure incoming signal and set to that value. No way to directly enter (or restore) values, as the adjustments have to be different for each radio, to compensate differences in components, antenna, etc. If you accidentally enter one of these modes, don't panic, just make sure you do not exit the alignment mode with the HM/RV key. Again, DO NOT exit with HM/RV. No, better yet, just turn the radio off before your panic fools you into remembering that you must press the HM/RV key to escape. I tried to find a key to press that would exit the set mode of TIGH SQL without turning the radio off, and voila' what did I press in the sequence? HM/RV! (good news is that there are ways to restore it without an rf generator, keep reading).

Exiting by power off cancel changes

Exiting by HM/RV saves changes and exits alignment mode To adjust the power levels, enter set mode (MR in vx-5) and use the dial to set a value. Better yet, if you have a power meter (remember, that cheap one that says '2m power meter' might fry the power meter at 440MHz), press PTT and set the dial while transmitting, very convenient.

To set the S1 level, tune into a weak frequency that you would like to see as S1, then enter and exit the set mode (MR to enter, MR to exit, HM to save).

To set the S9 level, tune into a strong signal that you would like to see as S9, then enter and exit the set mode (MR to enter, MR to exit, HM to save) These 'auto' modes are nice, as they double as an uncalibrated, tuned field strength meter. You can numerically compare the signal of two different radios (or antennas) by observing the readings for each one. Just remember to exit by powering off, never that other key... In the vx-5 the readings seem to go from 14 to 100, lower for stronger signals. In the ft-50, from 0 (actually 40 or so without an antenna, noise...) to 255.

To restore or change the auto settings, connect it to an HP RF generator, attenuator... What? Would you rather get a new car? OK, use your local repeater during ragchews as a signal source, proceed just as setting s-levels, above.

Another way, more controllable is to use one YAESU in the power set mode (=continuously adjustable power output=power rf generator mode) and place it at a reasonable distance so you can force exactly the reading you want in the radio being set.

I like to set L1power to 0, and assign that power level to some memory channels to absolutely prevent inadvertent transmission on them.

Last comment: CLONE data does NOT include these settings (reasonably). I don't know, yet, if they can be uploaded to the radio. It might be possible, but most likely not.

Thanks to Jose R. Camara for this information!

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