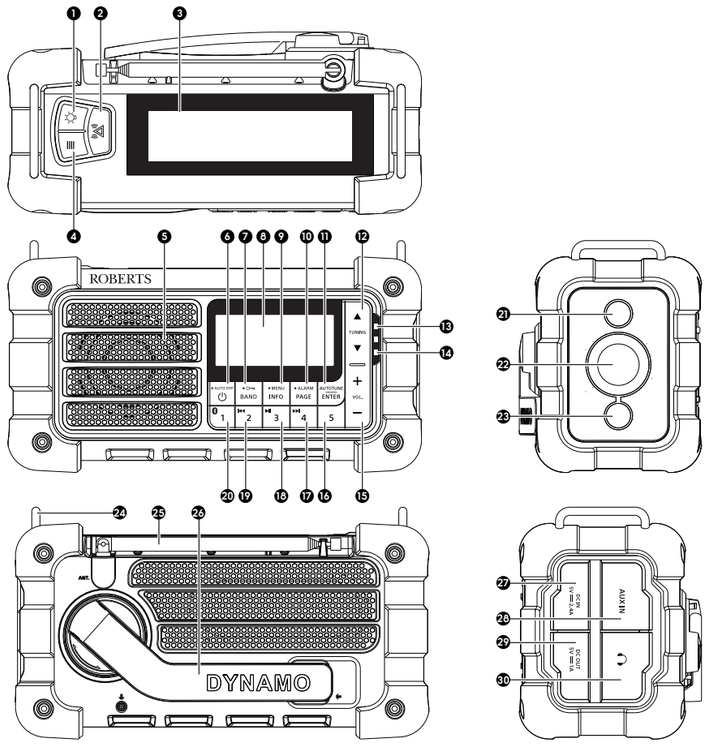
What is in the Box?

Radio | Hand Strap | USB A to USB C type cable | quick start guide | safety/warranty leaflet

Features

- DAB+/FM digital radio
- Bluetooth audio streaming from smartphone, tablet or laptop
- Built-in rechargeable battery (charged via Hand Crank Dynamo/Solar/USB)
- 1 minute of winding the hand crank dynamo provides up to 7 minutes of listening time
- Built-in flashlight (with 'SOS' Morse Code sequence option)
- Emergency siren
- IP55 dust/water protection
- 40 radio station presets (20x DAB and 20x FM) with 5 dedicated preset buttons
- Alarm with snooze function
- Adjustable sleep timer
- Low Battery/charge LED indicators
- Key-lock feature
- 3.5mm Stereo headphone out and 3.5mm auxillary input
- USB charging of smartphone, tablet or similar devices

Controls & Display



Main Unit

1 LED Flashlight/Emergency light button
2 Emergency signal button
3 Solar panel
4 Illumination mode button
5 Speaker
6 Power/Auto off button
7 Band/Lock button
8 LCD display
9 Info/Menu button
10 Page/Alarm button
11 Enter/Autotune button
12 Tuning up/down button
13 Bluetooth LED indicator
14 Charging LED indicator
15 Volume up/down button
16 Preset 5 button
17 Preset 4/Next track/Fast forward button
18 Preset 3/Play/Pause button
19 Preset 2/Previous track/Rewind button
20 Preset 1/Bluetooth pairing button
21 Low beam (red)
22 High beam (white)
23 Low beam (white)
24 Hand strap anchor point
25 Telescopic antenna
26 Dynamo power hand crank
27 DC IN socket (USB Type-C, 5V 2.4A)
28 Auxiliary input socket
29 DC OUT socket (USB Type-A, 5V 1A)
30 3.5mm headphones socket

1. Getting Started

Powering the Radio

The SolarDAB 99 uses a built-in 2,600mAh Lithium-ion battery, which can be charged by connecting a USB power source via the DC IN USB port, by using the hand crank or the solar panel.
Before first use, it is recommended to fully charge the battery using DC IN USB port and a USB power source. A full USB charge takes about 3 hours. The battery icon disappears when charging is complete. Reduced power, distortion, stuttering audio, or a flashing empty battery icon indicate the battery needs recharging. When fully charged, the radio provides up to 20 hours of play time.

Charging the Battery Using the DC IN Socket

Follow these steps to charge the battery using the radio's DC IN socket:
1. Connect the type-C end of the supplied USB charging cable to the DC IN socket on the right side of the radio.
2. Connect the other end of the USB charging cable to a USB Type-A port (for example of a PC, USB charger or powerbank).

Note:
It is recommended to use a USB power source supplying 5V/2.4A to prevent battery failure and to make sure the radio's DC OUT socket can also be used while charging the battery.

Charging the Battery Using the Hand Crank

Follow these steps to charge the battery using the hand crank at the back of the radio:
1. Before using the hand crank, make sure the telescopic antenna is retracted and placed back in its rest.
2. Take the hand crank from its rest position.
3. Rotate the hand crank clockwise or counterclockwise at approx. 100 rotations per minute. The Charging LED indicator next to the radio's display will light up green while the battery is being charged.
4. After you have finished charging the radio using the hand crank, place the hand crank back in its rest position.

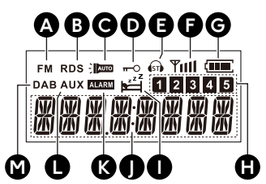
Note:
Under normal listening conditions, each minute of charging using the hand crank adds approx. 5~7minutes of listening time.

Charging the Battery Using the Solar Panel

The radio does not need to be switched on for the solar panel to work.
To charge the internal battery using solar power, place the radio so the solar panel receives direct sunlight. More direct sunlight increases charging efficiency.
Note:
The solar panel performs best in unobstructed, overhead sunlight. In poor light conditions it may be ineffective and should not be relied on as the main power source. It is intended as a supplementary source that can provide up to 100% of the radio's energy needs only in strong natural sunlight. The panel will not charge under artificial light.
DO NOT attempt to charge the battery using any sun-lamp or artificial heat/light source; this can permanently damage the radio and its casing and will void your warranty.

Turning the Radio On/Off

After the radio has been supplied with power, press and hold the **Power button** to turn it on. It will start in the last used mode. Press the **Power button** again to turn it off.
Note:
When running on battery power and turned off, only the LED Flashlight/Emergency Light button, Emergency Signal button, and Power button remain active. When connected to a USB power source, you can still enable/disable the alarm by pressing and holding the Alarm button, and access the menu by pressing and holding the Menu button.



LED Display

A FM indicator
B RDS indicator
C Emergency light indicator
D Lock indicator
E FM stereo indicator
F Signal strength indicator
G Battery indicator
H Preset indicator
I Sleep indicator
J Time and radio frequency
K Alarm indicator
L Aux indicator
M DAB indicator

Using the LED Flashlight

The SolarDAB 99 has three built-in lights that function as an LED flashlight. Press the **LED Flashlight button** repeatedly to cycle through the three lights or turn the flashlight off. The flashlight can be used whether the radio is on or off. After selecting a light, press the **Illumination Mode button** repeatedly to choose a mode: High, Low, SOS (Morse code: three short flashes, three long flashes, three short flashes), or blinking.

Using the Emergency Signal Feature

The SolarDAB 99 also features an emergency siren and light that can be used to draw attention in case of emergency. The emergency signal can always be activated, regardless of whether the radio is turned on or off. To active the emergency signal, simply press the **Emergency signal button**. The red low beam light and the white high beam light will now alternately flash and an alarm sound increasing in volume will be played from the radio's speaker.

Using the Key Lock Feature

The key lock feature can be used to prevent unintentional operation of the radio and will disable all buttons except for the LED Flashlight and Emergency signal buttons.
In order to activate the key lock, simply press and hold the **Lock button** until the Lock indicator appears on the radio's display. To disable the key lock, press and hold the **Lock button** again until the Lock indicator disappears from the display.

Using the Sleep Timer

The sleep timer allows you to automatically turn off the radio after a preset time has elapsed. It can be set from 15 to 120 minutes by pressing and holding the **Power button** and releasing it when the desired sleep time is shown on the display.
When the sleep timer is active, the Sleep indicator will be shown on the radio's display. To turn off the sleep timer, either press and hold the **Power button** until the [OFF] option appears on the display or turn off the radio and then turn it on again.

The Radio Menu

The radio menu can be opened when the radio is turned on or off and it can be opened from any mode. The menu consists of a number of default items and some items that are specific to the mode in which the menu is opened (if applicable).

To open the radio menu, press and hold the **Menu button.** Then press the **Tuning up/down button** to select an item or a value in the menus and press the **Enter button** to confirm your choice, or press the **Menu button** to go back one step in the menu or close the menu (if no higher level items are available).

The list below gives an overview of the default items that can be selected from the menu in all of the radio modes. In some of the radio modes, the menu also features additional items specific to the selected mode. These items will be listed in the chapter belonging to that specific mode later in this manual.

[LOUDNESS]: Select this item to enable/disable the radio's loudness feature.
[ALARM]: Select this item to configure the radio's alarm. After setting an alarm time, the alarm source, alarm frequency and alarm volume can also be selected. The available options for the alarm source are [DAB], [FM], and [BUZ], while the available options for the alarm frequency are [ONCE], [DAILY], [WEEKDAYS], and [WEEKENDS].
[TIME]: Select this item to go to the time submenu featuring the following items:
- [UPDATE]: Select this item to configure the source for automatically updating the time. Select [FM] to update the time when tuning into an FM station with RDS data, select [DAB] to update the time when tuning into a DAB station, or select [NONE] to disable automatic updating of the radio's time.
- [TIME SET]: Select this item to manually set the radio's time and date.
- [12/24 HOUR]: Select this item to select the 12 or 24 hour format.

Note:
If the radio is turned off while using battery power, the time set will not be saved in order to save battery life. As a result, the alarm is disabled as well.
[PWR SAVE]: The POWER SAVE option appears only when the radio is not connected to a USB power supply. On battery power, you can enable or disable the DC OUT socket using this setting. Disabling the socket (factory default) improves battery life. When connected to USB, the DC OUT socket is always on, but works only when the radio is off. To power another device on battery, disable PWR SAVE and turn the radio off.
[LIGHT]: Select this item to go to the light submenu featuring the following items:
- [BACKLIGHT]: Select this item to configure the timeout for the radio's backlight. The available options are [OFF], [10 SECS], [20 SECS] and [30 SECS].
- [EMERGENCY]: Select this item to enable/disable the radio's automatic emergency light feature. This feature automatically activates the white high beam LED when the radio is disconnected from a USB power source. Repeatedly press the LED Flashlight button to turn off the flashlight.

[LANGUAGE]: This item is not available when opening the menu from the radio's Standby mode.
Select this item to configure the language in which the radio menus are displayed.
[RESET]: Select this item to reset the radio to the default settings. Please note that selecting this item and subsequently selecting [Yes] will reset the radio to its factory settings and all information stored on the radio will be deleted. This includes all settings and stored preset stations.
[SW VER]: Select this item to view the radio's software version.

continued overleaf...

2. Listening to DAB Radio

Tuning into DAB Stations

To tune into DAB stations:
1. Press and hold **Power** to turn on the radio.
2. Press **Band** repeatedly to select DAB mode.
3. On first use, the radio will automatically run a full scan and save all available stations. New stations will be added to the list which is stored in the radio during the scanning process,
4. When scanning finishes, it will tune to the first station in the list.
5. Use **Tuning Up/Down** to browse stations, then press Enter to select one.

Note:
Before selecting the DAB mode and tuning into stations, fully extend the telescopic antenna and position it upright.

DAB Radio Menu

In the DAB radio mode, the radio's menu features five additional items specific to this mode:
[SCAN]: Select this option to perform a full scan and store all DAB radio stations that were found in the station list.
[PRUNE]: Select this to delete all unavailable stations from the station list.
[MANUAL TUNE]: Select this option to manually tune into a DAB channel/ frequency.
[DRC]: Dynamic Range Control (also known as DRC) can make quieter sounds easier to hear when your radio is used in a noisy environment by reducing the dynamic range of the audio signal. Select this item to configure the DRC level, the available options are:
- [0]: DRC is switched off. Broadcast DRC will be ignored. This is the default setting.
- [1/2]: DRC level is set to 1/2 that sent by broadcaster.
- [1]: DRC is set as sent by broadcaster.

[STATION ORDER]: Select this item to configure the order of the station list. Select [NAME] to order stations by name, select [ENSEMBLE] to sort the station list by DAB multiplex, or select [ACTIVE] to sort the station list by active/inactive stations.

Storing Preset DAB Stations

The SolarDAB 99 features 4 preset pages with 5 DAB preset slots each (20 total). To save a DAB station:
1. Turn on the radio.
2. Select the DAB mode by repeatedly pressing the **Band button** and tune to the desired station.
3. Press **Page** repeatedly to choose a preset page.
4. Press and hold a **Preset button (1–5)** until "SAVED" appears. The corresponding preset indicator will appear on the radio's display.
5. Repeat as needed. Presets cannot be deleted but can be overwritten by saving a new station to the same slot.

Showing DAB Information on the Display

When listening to a DAB radio station, repeatedly press the Info button to cycle through the following information on the radio's display:
Text | Program Type | Program Name | Time | Date | Frequency | Bit rate | Audio Codec | Signal Strength | DL Plus text (Some stations may provide other programme related information for the display in addition to the regular text. If none is available, a message "no info" is displayed.)

Recalling Preset DAB Stations

To recall a preset DAB station follow these steps:
1. Turn on the radio.
2. Select the DAB radio mode by repeatedly pressing the **Band button**.
3. Repeatedly press the **Page button** to select the desired preset page.
4. Press the button of the desired preset station **(1-5)**.

3. Listening to FM Radio

Tuning into FM Stations

To tune into FM stations:
1. Press and hold **Power** to turn on the radio.
2. Press **Band** repeatedly to select FM mode.
3. Press **Tuning Up/Down**, then press **Autotune** to scan for the next station with a higher or lower frequency respectively. Your radio will stop scanning when it finds a station of sufficient strength. The radio stops when it finds a strong signal and displays the frequency and signal strength. If available, the RDS indicator will also appear and after a few seconds will show the station name.
4. Use **Tuning Up/Down** to fine-tune in 0.05 MHz steps if needed.
5. Repeat steps 3 and 4 to tune additional stations.

Note:
Before selecting the FM mode and tuning into stations, fully extend the telescopic antenna and position it upright.

FM Radio Menu

In the FM radio mode, the radio menu features two additional items specific to this mode:
[SCAN SETTING]: Select this item to configure the radio's autotune feature. Select [LOCAL] to only have the autotune feature scan for local, strong signals, or select [DISTANT] to have the autotune feature scan for distant, weaker signals as well.
[AUDIO SETTING]: Select this item to configure playback in the FM mode. Select [MONO] to force mono playback, or select [Auto] to allow stereo playback if available. Forcing mono playback can help reducing hiss from weak FM signals.

Storing Preset FM Stations

The SolarDAB 99 features 4 preset pages containing 5 preset stations for FM radio (for a total of 20 presets).
To store an FM station as a preset FM station, follow these steps:
1. Turn on the radio by pressing and holding the **Power button**.
2. Select the FM radio mode by repeatedly pressing the **Band button** and tune into the required FM station as previously described.
3. Repeatedly press the **Page button** to select the desired preset page.
4. Press and hold the desired **Preset button (1-5)** until the radio's display shows the message "SAVED". The station is now saved as a preset and the corresponding preset indicator will appear on the radio's display.
5. Repeat this procedure as needed for the remaining presets. Preset stations cannot be deleted, but they can be overwritten by storing a new station on an already used preset.

Recalling Preset FM Stations

To recall a preset FM station follow these steps:
1. Turn on the radio by pressing and holding the **Power button**.
2. Select the FM radio mode by repeatedly pressing the **Band button**.
3. Repeatedly press the **Page button** to select the desired preset page.
4. Press the button of the desired preset station **(1-5)**.

4. Listening Via Bluetooth

In order to stream Bluetooth music to your radio, you need to pair your Bluetooth device with your SolarDAB 99. Pairing creates a 'bond' so two devices can recognize each other.

Pairing your Bluetooth Device for the First Time

1. Turn on the radio by pressing and holding the **Power button**.
2. Repeatedly press the **Band button** to select the Bluetooth mode. The radio's display will show the message "PAIRING" and the Bluetooth LED indicator will blink blue to indicate that the radio is available for Bluetooth pairing.
3. Activate Bluetooth on your Bluetooth device (refer to the manual of the Bluetooth device if you are unsure about how to active Bluetooth).
4. Go to the Bluetooth list on your Bluetooth device and select the device named "SolarDAB 99".
   Note: On some Bluetooth devices with Bluetooth version 2.1 or earlier, you might be requested to enter a pass code. If this is the case, enter the pass code "0000".
5. After the devices have paired and connected, a confirmation tone will be played on the radio and the radio's display will show the name of the connected Bluetooth device. You can now play music on your Bluetooth device and stream the music through the radio's speaker.

Notes:
- For first-time pairing, both Bluetooth devices must search for the radio. If one device pairs first, the other will not see the radio in its device list.
- If your Bluetooth device moves out of range, the connection will temporarily drop. The radio will reconnect automatically when the device returns to range. No other device can pair during this disconnection period.
- If "SolarDAB 99" appears in your device list but won't connect, delete it from the list and pair again following the earlier instructions.
- The effective Bluetooth range is about 10 meters (30 feet). Obstacles may reduce this distance.
- Bluetooth performance varies by device. Check your device's Bluetooth specifications, as some features may not be supported.
- On some phones, calls, messages, or other non-audio actions can mute or temporarily disconnect Bluetooth audio. This behaviour is device-dependent and not a fault of the SolarDAB 99.

Audio Playback in Bluetooth Mode

When you have successfully connected your radio with the chosen Bluetooth device you can start to play your music using the controls on your connected Bluetooth device.
1. The volume of Bluetooth playback can be controlled both on your Bluetooth device and on the radio using the **Volume up/down button**.
2. Playback can also be controlled both using the controls on your Bluetooth device and the controls on the radio. Press the radio's P**lay/Pause button** to start/pause playback, press the **Next track** or **Previous track button** to select the desired track, and press and hold the **Next track** or **Previous track button** to fast forward or rewind within a track (release the button when the desired point within the track is reached).

Note:
Not all player applications or devices may respond to all of these controls.

Playback from a Previously Paired Bluetooth Device

The SolarDAB 99 can memorize up to 8 sets of paired Bluetooth devices. Once the memory goes over 8, the earliest device with which the radio was paired will be overwritten in the radio's memory.
If your Bluetooth source device has previously paired with the SolarDAB 99 previously, the radio will still remember your Bluetooth device and attempt to reconnect with the device that was last connected. If the last connected Bluetooth device is not available, the radio will try to connect to the second last Bluetooth device.

Disconnecting your Bluetooth Device

Press and hold the **Bluetooth pairing button** to disconnect the radio from your Bluetooth device. You can also press the **Band button** to select any mode other than Bluetooth mode or turn off Bluetooth on your Bluetooth source device to disable the connection.
If you disconnect from the Bluetooth device in the Bluetooth mode, a confirmation tone will be played and the radio's Bluetooth LED indicator will flash blue to indicate that the radio is available again for pairing.

5. Listening Via Headphone & Aux In Socket

Listening Via the Headphone Socket

The SolarDAB 99 has a 3.5 mm Headphones socket on the right side. Plug in any standard 3.5 mm headphones to use them an - the radio will automatically disable the internal speaker.
We recommend lowering the volume before connecting headphones and increasing it gradually, to avoid loud sounds and damaging your hearing.

Note:
Prolonged listening at high volumes can cause hearing loss. Avoid extended use at loud volume levels.

Listening Via the Aux Input Socket

You can play audio from an external device through the SolarDAB 99 speaker:
1. Connect the external device (e.g. iPod, MP3 player or CD player) to the Aux In socket using a 3.5mm audio cable (not supplied).
2. Turn on both the radio and the external device.
3. Press **Band** repeatedly to select Aux In mode.
4. The device's audio will play through the radio. Adjust volume first on the external device, then fine-tune using the radio's Volume controls.

ROBERTS

SolarDAB 99

DAB+ / FM Bluetooth Multi-Powered Portable Radio



Please read this guide and the safety/ warranty leaflet before use

Specifications

Headphone socket:	3.5mm dia. , Stereo, 32ohm impedance
Auxillary Socket:	3.5mm dia. , Stereo Input
Aerial System:	DAB/FM External aerial
Bluetooth standards:	A2DP, AVRCP, Bluetooth codecs supported SBC & AAC.

Bluetooth BLE EIRP POWER (MAX.) 3.21dBm
Bluetooth EDR EIRP POWER (MAX.) 3.28dBm

Frequency coverage: FM 87.5 - 108MHz, DAB 174.928 - 239.200MHz
Bluetooth 5.0 frequencies 2.402 - 2.480GHz

Rechargeable Battery: (20hrs play time from fully charged battery)	Built-in Lithium-ion 3.65V / 2600mAh
Dynamo:	Charging to built in battery
Solar panel:	Charging to built in battery
Mains operation:	DC Power Input (5V / 2.4A) USB C Type cable

~ This symbol indicates AC voltage. ⎓ This symbol indicates DC voltage.

ErP - Standby Power
The device has a power standby mode with a power consumption of less than 0.8W. After 15 min of inactivity in Bluetooth or Aux modes, the device will switch to standby mode.

Please handle with care. Avoid all contact with any abrasive material, chemical substances or cleaning solutions. Your radio may be wiped with a clean lightly damp cloth. **Please ensure that the product is unplugged from the mains socket outlet before attempting this procedure.**

Designed & Engineered in the UK

Roberts Radio Ltd, Roberts House, Hanworth Lane, Chertsey, KT16 9JX, UK

Glen Dimplex Europe Ltd, Airport Road, Cloghram, Co. Dublin, K67 VE08, Ireland

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ROBERTS RADIO LIMITED
www.robertsradio.com

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