



Logging Contacts

A BRIEF OVERVIEW

Disclaimer/Participation

- This is an overview, not a detailed explanation of using each program.
Three free, three pay programs.
- Information is from each logging program's website and online reviews.
- There is lots of information on the Internet to help make a decision.
- There is no perfect logging program.
- Thumbs based on reviews and experience.
- Time later to share your logging program experiences.

Why Bother Logging?

- Logging is now optional, but it is good radio practice.
- Log everything?
 - Probably not frequent repeater contacts.
- If you don't, others may avoid your CQs.
- Legal
 - Prove non-interference.
- Operational
 - Confirm contacts for QSL cards and contests.
- Personal
 - Your radio history reminds you of the people and places you've talked to.

Paper Logs

Benefits

- Easier in some operating, such as portable and mobile.
- Lighter to carry than a laptop.
- Less to connect up.

Drawbacks

- Awkward.
- Mistake prone. You may hear things wrong.
- Inefficient for contests.



Free Logging Software

- N1MM Logger +
<https://n1mmwp.hamdocs.com>
- Logger32
<https://www.logger32.net>
- Log4OM
<https://www.log4om.com>

N1MM+ Logger

<https://n1mmwp.hamdocs.com>

FREE

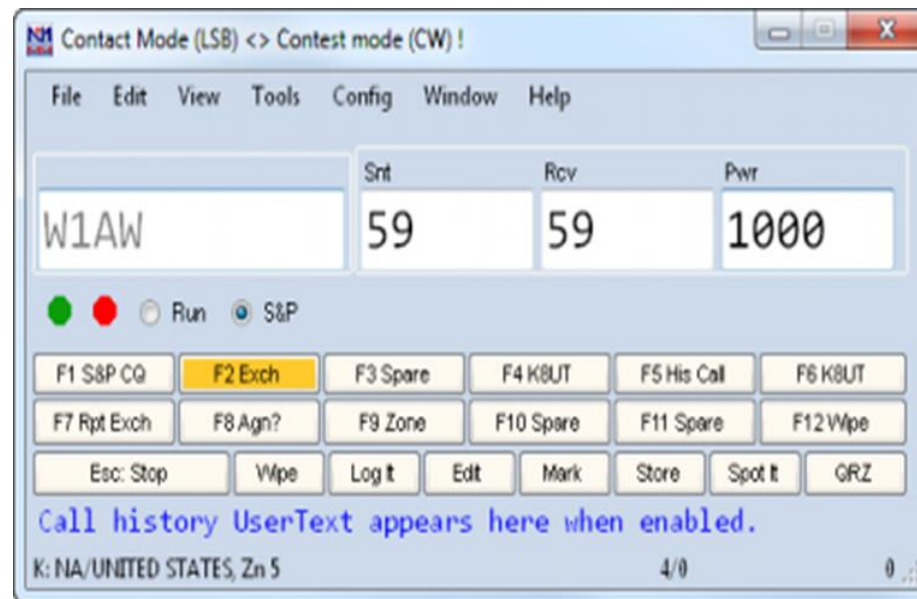
Features

- Primarily for contesting
- Major and some minor HF contests
- Includes VHF and up contesting
- Transverter support up to 10, 24, 47, 76, 142 and 241 GHz
- Supports major and most smaller RTTY and Digital contests
- Rotor control
- Directions and documentation are clear
- Download video available



N1MM Radios Supported

- Alinco
- Elecraft
- FlexRadio
- Icom
- Kenwood
- Orion
- TenTec
- Yaesu



N1MM Computer Stuff

Supported Operating Systems

- Windows 10 – preferred
- Windows 8.1

PC Requirements

- Minimum of a single-core 1.6 GHz processor
- No minimum memory was recommended; “the more memory you have, the more smoothly Windows multitasking works.”

N1MM Reviews on eham:

- Not for day-to-day logging
- Steep learning curve
- Great software
- Too complicated
- Good for contesting
- Swiss Army knife of logging software
- Is a contest logging program
- Use in concert with a good general-purpose logger



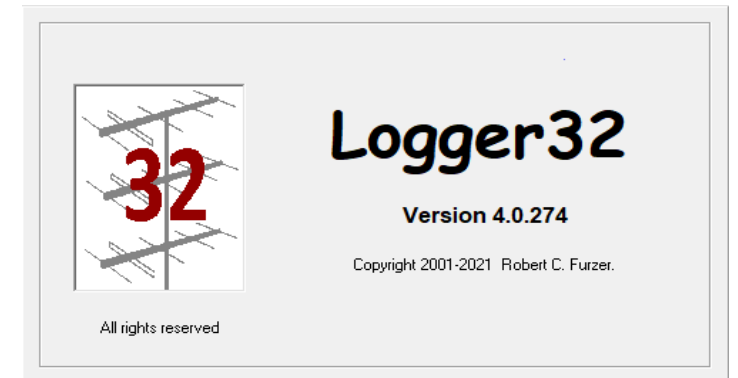
Logger32

<https://www.logger32.net>

FREE

Features

- General purpose amateur radio logbook
- Highly user-configurable
- Easy-to-understand instructions throughout
- Documentation includes many pictures and screenshots
- Forums and Messaging
- Lots of configuration settings and options
- Huge online PDF manual – 884 pages



Logger32 Radios Supported

- Elecraft
- Flex6000 series
- Icom
- Kenwood
- Pegasus
- Ten-Tec
- Yaesu

Operator : ZL2IFB

Freq 14025.00 Mode CW Band 20m

Call W0ABC W NA 04

Sent [] USA - Iowa

Rcvd [] SOTA [] ?

Name [] FOC [] IOTA [] ?

QTH [] ...

State IA ? via [] ?

Logger32 Computer Stuff

Supported Operating Systems

- Windows 8.1, 10 and 11
- Earlier versions of Logger32 may work on older Windows operating systems, but with no further development.

PC Requirements

- The program, attendant files, logbook of 100K contacts and databases need approximately 250 Mb.

Logger32 Reviews on eham

- Because it is so feature rich and very customizable, it does take time to set up
- Excellent help file and helpful on-line user group
- Well-thought-out software
- Not a computer system resource hog
- The GroupIO is extremely active and helpful
- When it is set up the way you want, it is very robust and stable



Log4OM

<https://www.log4om.com/>

FREE

Features

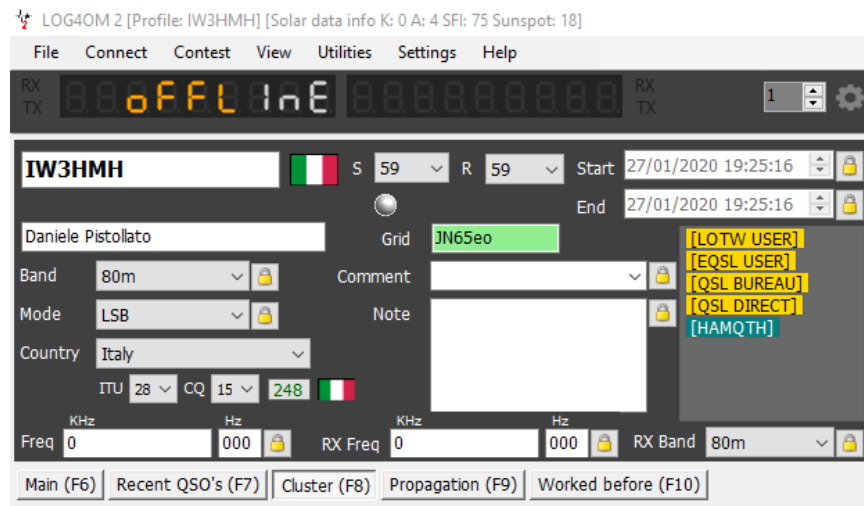
- You don't need to be an old man to use it.
- Support is provided through onsite forums
- PDF manual
- Designed to be easy to understand and adapt to the individual.
- Rotor Control
- Band mapping of cluster spots
- Propagation analysis through VOACAP (Voice of America Coverage Analysis Program)
- Integrates with N1MM, PSTRotator, QARTest, WSJT-x, JTDX, JTAAlert and FLDigi



Log4OM2

Log4OM Radios Supported

- Alinco
- AR
- Elecraft
- Flex
- Icom
- Kenwood
- SunSDR
- Ten-Tec
- Yaesu



Log4OM Computer Stuff

Supported Operating Systems

- Windows 7 and above
- Runs on Linux machines using the “Wine” Windows emulator or Mac OS X machines using “Parallels” emulation software or using “Boot Camp”

PC Requirements

- Unclear

Log4OM Reviews on eham

- Excellent product
- Fantastic logbook from an excellent team
- Complicated process to add an award
- Like operating a radio with knobs and buttons
- No fighting with menus all the time
- Not perfect, but no logging program is



N3FJP

<https://www.n3fjp.com>

Pay

\$29.99 one time to \$49.99 one time

Features

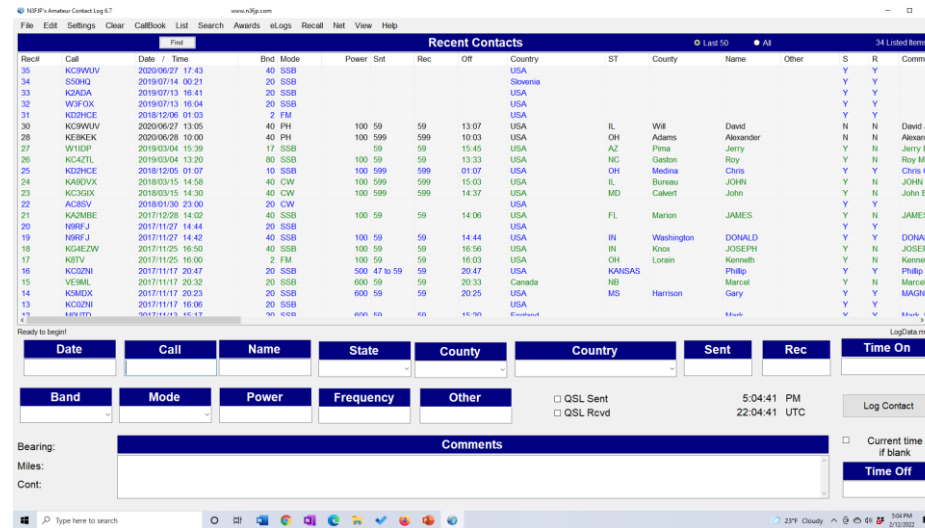
- Easy to use
- User interface is customizable
- Easily manage your log and LoTW
- Fully networkable. Field Day
- Easy-to-understand documentation
- Detailed help pages
- Amateur exam study
- CW teacher



N3FJP Radios Supported

Interfaces with most:

- Elecraft
- Flex
- Icom
- Kenwood
- Ten-Tec
- Yaesu



N3FJP Computer Stuff

Supported Operating Systems

- Windows 7 through Windows 11
- Mac, running Parallels, versions 9.0 and later

PC Requirements

- No specific requirements listed
- “Scott’s programs are pretty frugal on your computer’s resources”
- Some users have over 100K Qs with no problem.

N3FJP Reviews on eham

- Solid and fast
- Scott keeps it up-to-date
- ALWAYS FREE after you pay the first time for it
- Lightning-fast support
- Interface is easy to use and understand.
- ACL worked fine straight out of the box
- Simpler than DX Keeper, but not as much as I'd hoped
- Efficient, reliable automated LoTW and Clublog functionality
- Latest version of AC Log is deceptively simple to setup and use



Ham Radio Deluxe

<https://www.hamradiodeluxe.com/>

Pay

New users \$99.95/year
Renewal of maintenance and support \$49.95/year

Features

- General purpose and DX logger
- One-click LOTW upload/download
- Look up DX location via Google Earth
- Able to record rig audio for playback
- Print labels for QSL cards
- Solar weather via WWV and WCY
- Rotor control
- Satellite Tracking



HAM RADIO DELUXE SOFTWARE
The Radio Amateur's Best Asset

Ham Radio Deluxe Radios Supported

- Alinco
- DZ Company's Sienna
- Elecraft
- FlexRadio
- ICOM
- JRC's NRD-535
- Kenwood
- Perseus
- Ten-Tec
- Yaesu

Ham Radio Deluxe Computer Stuff

Supported Operating Systems

- Windows 8.1, 10, 11

PC requirements, depending on version of Windows

- 1 GHz or faster processor for all versions
- 1– 4 GB RAM
- 16 – 64 GB storage

Ham Radio Deluxe Reviews on eham

- Unstable. User admits may be the fault of his PC or Windows install
- Plays nice with the radios reviewer used
- Really great support
- Program is dynamic and flexible, requires plenty of support
- The logbook is painfully slow and buggy
- A little overkill for what user uses it for
- Like to see the software get a face lift and additional features
- Easy to use and more features getting added all the time



QRZ

<https://www.qrz.com>

PAY

\$35.95/year – 995.00/life

Features

- Need a subscription to QRZ to have a logbook on it
- Various subscription levels
 - XML - Allows callsign lookups. Ads. \$35.95/year
 - Premium - XML with no ads. \$45.95/year
 - Platinum - Premium with more benefits, such as free license renewals. \$79.95/year
 - Lifetime Platinum Subscription. Platinum Level membership for both you and your amateur-licensed spouse, for life. \$995.00.
- Logbook stored in the cloud, not on your computer. Access it anywhere.

QRZ

Starting a Logbook

- Current QRZ Logbook is version 3.0
- Access Logbook by hovering over your call sign and scrolling down to My Logbook
- If you don't have a logbook on QRZ, the first time you click on My Logbook, you will be able to set one up.
- The form will be populated with most information. You will need to enter the start date. Enter the CQ and ITU zones. These can be found online.

QRZ Logbook Reviews

- None on eham
- Some discussion of which logging software to use on QRZ Forums
- No search function on QRZ site
- Use Internet searches. Logbook 3.0 documentation found this way.
<https://www.qrz.com/docs/logbook30/lotw-export>



Logbook of the World LoTW

- LoTW is an electronic confirmation (QSL) system. NOT a logging platform.
<http://www.arrl.org/logbook-of-the-world>
- Membership in ARRL not needed to use it
- Membership needed for some awards
- Some logging applications can directly upload your QSOs to LoTW
- Contact the developer or support organization for help, not LoTW

Free Logging Programs and LoTW

- N1MM+ No direct connection to LoTW.
- Logger32 N2AMG's Place L32LogSync
<https://www.n2amg.com/software/l32-logsync/>
- Log4OM Automatic upload of QSOs. Page 108 of online manual

Pay Logging Programs and LoTW

- N3FJP Direct connection to LoTW
<https://www.n3fjp.com/lotwhelp.html>
- Ham Radio Deluxe
Information in the User Guide, Logbook entries. Click on “See all 35 Articles”. Scroll down to the one about LoTW.
- QRZ
<https://www.qrz.com/docs/logbook30/lotw-export>

A Few YouTube Videos

Dave Casler, KE0OG Ask Dave 18: Amateur Station Logging

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QAYfL9hIfiU&t=12s>

Dave Casler: Logging and QSLing for the Radio Amateur

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e-LnD-nXcfM>

Two Chicks and a Radio Ria, N2RJ; Dixie DX "Cat", W4DXY

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=in4eg0HLqTl>.

Ham Radio Crash Course Josh Nass, KI6NAZ

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5eo15jU7a3o>

Questions and Comments