

WHAT LOGGING PROGRAM TO USE by Chuck KI7DG

Ask 10 hams what logging program they use and you will get 10 different answers each one willing to sell you on why his is the best. I'm using ACLog by Scott N3FJP. Go to Eham reviews and you will see an endless list of logging programs based on that persons experience. This can be a little misleading depending on the level of computer experience of the person doing the review. One must take the negative reviews with a grain of salt. Example one negative review on a popular logging program the reviewer gave it a very low rating just because it did not contain a feature he liked that was include in another logging program. Consider those comments that deal with how easy the set up and ease of operation.

What I am attempting to do is to give you information to make an informed decision. I have taken the the top 5 programs from Club Log and Eham reviews. Of course one may choose to use the online logging programs such as QRZ, LoTW, Eqsl and Club Log. But these do not offer many of the features in the logging programs you can have on your computer such as contest logging, awards tracking, and Cabrillo files to name a few. A common feature of logging programs is Radio control, Contest logging, the ability to do ADIF files and Cabrillo Files, a necessity when contesting and up loading files to the sponsoring organization. The ability to create ADIF files allows you to move your log from one logging program to another logging program or to back up your log on a memory stick.

So lets see what the Ham community **world wide** is using and commenting on:

Club log tracked the logging program of the DX'ers who have achieved 200 or more DX contacts.

Logger32	40%
HRD	22%
DXKeeper	22%
N3FJP ACLog	8%
UR5EQF_LOG	8%

Club Log also tracked the logs of those who have made the Honor Roll

Logger32	54%
DXKeeper	27%
DXBase	7%
HRD	6%
LOGic	5%

Club Log also tracked the logs of everyone who uploaded a ADIF file

DXKeeper	13.77%
HRD	10.72%
Logger32	9.5%
RUMLogn6	6.17%
N3FJP ACLog	4.73%

Taking the reviews from Eham the following 5 received the most reviews.

HDR**	356	4.4
N3FJP ALog	181	4.8
DXLab by AA6YQ	140	4.8
MacLoggerDX	126	4.8
N1MMLogger	83	4.7

**Ham Radio Deluxe was originally free and the rights were sold and the company that now owns the rights to HRD went commercial in 2013 and charged for the program. Many of the reviews include both the free and commercial versions.

Here is a list of the logging programs mentioned along with the web site and price.

ALog by N3FJP \$25 <http://www.n3fjp.com/>

DXKeeper32 Free <http://www.dxlabsuite.com>

DXBase \$99 <http://www.dxbase.com>

DXLab by AA6YQ Free <http://www.dxlabsuite.com>

Ham Radio Deluxe \$100 <http://www.ham-radio-deluxe.com/>

Logger32 Free <http://www.logger32.net/>

LOGic8 \$129 <http://www.hosenose.com>

MacLoggerDX \$95 <http://www.dogparksoftware.com/MacLoggerDX.html>

N1MM Logger Free <http://www.N1MM.com>

RUMLogging Gratis <http://www.dl2rum.de/rumsoft/RUMLog.html>

UR5EQF_LOG Free <http://ur5eqf.com/>

The four internet logging programs mentioned are also listed with their address

Club Log: <https://secure.clublog.org/index.php>

LoTW: <http://www.arrl.org/logbook-of-the-world>

QRZ: <http://www.qrz.com/>

Eqsl: <http://www.eqsl.cc/qslcard/Index.cfm>