

Magellan Meridian Gold

Magellan Meridian Gold Water Resistant Hiking GPS Instruction Manual

INTRODUCTION

This manual provides essential information for the setup, operation, maintenance, and troubleshooting of your Magellan Meridian Gold Water Resistant Hiking GPS unit. Please read these instructions carefully to ensure proper use and to maximize the performance and longevity of your device.

The Magellan Meridian Gold is a 12-channel GPS unit designed for outdoor navigation, featuring a 16 MB base map with built-in detail for U.S. cities, interstate highways, major roads, parks, waterways, and airports. Its rugged design and water-resistant capabilities make it suitable for various outdoor activities, including hiking.

SETUP

1. Battery Installation

The Meridian Gold GPS unit operates on AA batteries. To install or replace batteries:

1. Locate the battery compartment cover on the back of the unit.
2. Slide the latch to unlock and remove the cover.
3. Insert the AA batteries, ensuring correct polarity (+ and -) as indicated inside the compartment.
4. Replace the cover and slide the latch to secure it firmly. Ensure the cover is properly sealed to maintain water resistance.



Image: The open battery compartment of the Magellan Meridian Gold GPS unit, showing the spring contacts for AA batteries and a label indicating the model and serial number. This view also shows the slot for the Secure Digital memory card.

2. Secure Digital (SD) Memory Card Installation

The unit features a Secure Digital memory-card slot for expanded storage of maps and data.

1. With the battery cover removed, locate the SD card slot, typically above the battery bays.
2. Gently insert the SD card into the slot until it clicks into place.
3. To eject, push the card inward slightly until it springs out.

3. Initial Power On

After installing batteries, press and hold the power button (usually located on the front or side of the unit) until the screen illuminates. The unit will perform a self-test and then proceed to acquire GPS satellite signals.

OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

1. GPS Signal Acquisition

For accurate positioning, ensure the unit has a clear, unobstructed view of the sky. Initial signal acquisition may take several minutes. Once acquired, the unit will display your current position, speed, and other navigation data.

2. Basic Navigation

The Meridian Gold provides various navigation features:

- **Waypoints:** Mark and save specific locations.
- **Routes:** Plan a sequence of waypoints to follow.
- **Tracks:** Record your path of travel.
- **Go To:** Navigate directly to a saved waypoint.

Utilize the directional pad and menu buttons to navigate through the on-screen interface. The oversized gray-scale screen with backlight ensures readability in various lighting conditions.

3. Data Transfer (Serial PC Interface)

The unit includes a serial PC interface for connecting to a computer. This allows for uploading and downloading waypoints, routes, tracks, and map data using compatible Magellan software (sold separately).



Image: The serial PC interface cable for the Magellan Meridian Gold GPS, featuring a DB9 connector for computer connection and a cigarette lighter adapter for power, allowing data transfer and charging.

4. Advanced Features

The Meridian Gold can display various navigational data points, including:

- **Bearing:** The direction to a destination.
- **CTS (Course to Steer):** The recommended course to maintain.
- **ETE (Estimated Time Enroute):** Predicted time to reach a destination.
- **Elevation:** Current altitude.
- **Heading:** Your current direction of travel.
- **NorthFinder:** A digital compass feature.
- **Speed:** Current velocity.

- **Time/Date:** Current time and date.
- **VMG (Velocity Made Good):** Speed towards a destination.
- **XTE (Cross Track Error):** Distance off your intended course.

MAINTENANCE

1. Cleaning

To clean the unit, use a soft, damp cloth. Avoid abrasive cleaners or solvents, which can damage the screen or casing.

2. Storage

When not in use for extended periods, remove the batteries to prevent leakage. Store the unit in a cool, dry place away from direct sunlight and extreme temperatures.

3. Water Resistance

The Magellan Meridian Gold is designed to be water-resistant. To maintain this feature, ensure that the battery compartment cover and any port covers are securely closed and sealed before exposure to moisture. While it can withstand splashes and light rain, it is not intended for submersion.



Image: Front view of the Magellan Meridian Gold Water Resistant Hiking GPS unit, showcasing its rugged design and screen.

TROUBLESHOOTING

- **Unit Not Powering On:** Check that the AA batteries are correctly installed and have sufficient charge. Replace with fresh batteries if necessary.
- **Screen Blank/Unresponsive:** Try removing and reinserting the batteries to perform a hard reset.
- **GPS Signal Acquisition Issues:** Ensure the unit has a clear view of the sky, away from tall buildings,

dense foliage, or strong electromagnetic interference. Move to an open area if signals are weak.

- **Data Transfer Problems:** Verify that the serial PC interface cable is securely connected to both the GPS unit and the computer. Ensure the correct drivers and Magellan software are installed and configured properly on your computer.
- **Inaccurate Readings:** Allow the unit sufficient time to acquire a stable GPS signal. Ensure the unit's firmware is up to date if updates are available from Magellan.

SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Detail
Model Name	Meridian Gold
Screen Size	2.2 Inches
Display Type	LCD, Gray-scale with backlight
Connectivity Technology	Serial
Map Type	North America (16 MB base map)
Memory Storage Capacity	16 MB (expandable via Secure Digital card)
Battery Life	Approximately 13 Hours (with AA batteries)
Supported Satellite Navigation System	GPS (12-channel)
Special Features	Bearing, CTS, ETE, Elevation, Heading, NorthFinder, Speed, Time/date, VMG, XTE
Item Weight	1.1 Pounds
Model Number	980598-02

WARRANTY INFORMATION

The Magellan Meridian Gold GPS unit comes with a **one-year manufacturer's warranty** from the date of purchase. This warranty covers defects in materials and workmanship under normal use. Please retain your proof of purchase for warranty claims. For specific terms and conditions, refer to the warranty card included with your product or contact Magellan customer service.

SUPPORT

For further assistance, technical support, or to inquire about software updates and accessories, please visit the official Magellan website or contact their customer service department. Contact information can typically be found on the manufacturer's website or in the packaging materials.



Image: Back view of the Magellan Meridian Gold GPS unit, highlighting the secure battery compartment cover and the overall robust casing.

