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## Garmin 010-00864-01

# Garmin GPSMAP 78S User Manual

Model: 010-00864-01

## INTRODUCTION

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The Garmin GPSMAP 78S is a rugged, marine-grade GPS navigator and chartplotter designed for boaters and watersports enthusiasts. This device features a 3-axis compass, barometric altimeter, high-sensitivity GPS receiver with HotFix™ satellite prediction, and a microSD™ card slot for expanded mapping capabilities. Its durable, IPX7 waterproof design ensures reliable performance even when submerged, and it is buoyant, allowing it to float if dropped in water.

This manual provides essential information for setting up, operating, and maintaining your GPSMAP 78S device, ensuring you can effectively utilize its full range of features for navigation and outdoor activities.

## SETUP

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### 1. Package Contents

Verify that your package contains the following items:

- Garmin GPSMAP 78S Handheld Device
- Wrist Lanyard
- USB Cable
- Quick Start Manual
- 2 AA Batteries (pre-installed or included)


### 2. Battery Installation

The GPSMAP 78S operates on two AA batteries. For optimal performance, use quality alkaline or NiMH rechargeable batteries.

1. Locate the battery compartment cover on the back of the device.
2. Rotate the D-ring counter-clockwise to unlock the cover.
3. Carefully remove the cover.
4. Insert two AA batteries, observing the polarity markings (+ and -) inside the compartment.
5. Replace the battery cover and rotate the D-ring clockwise to secure it. Ensure the seal is properly seated to maintain waterproofing.

### 3. Initial Power-On and Satellite Acquisition

To power on your device for the first time:

1. Press and hold the **Power** button (  ) located on the front panel until the screen illuminates.
2. For initial satellite acquisition, take the device outdoors to an open area with a clear view of the sky.
3. The device will automatically begin searching for GPS satellites. This process may take several minutes for the first fix (HotFix™ satellite prediction assists in faster acquisition on subsequent uses).
4. Once a GPS signal is acquired, your current position will be displayed on the map screen.

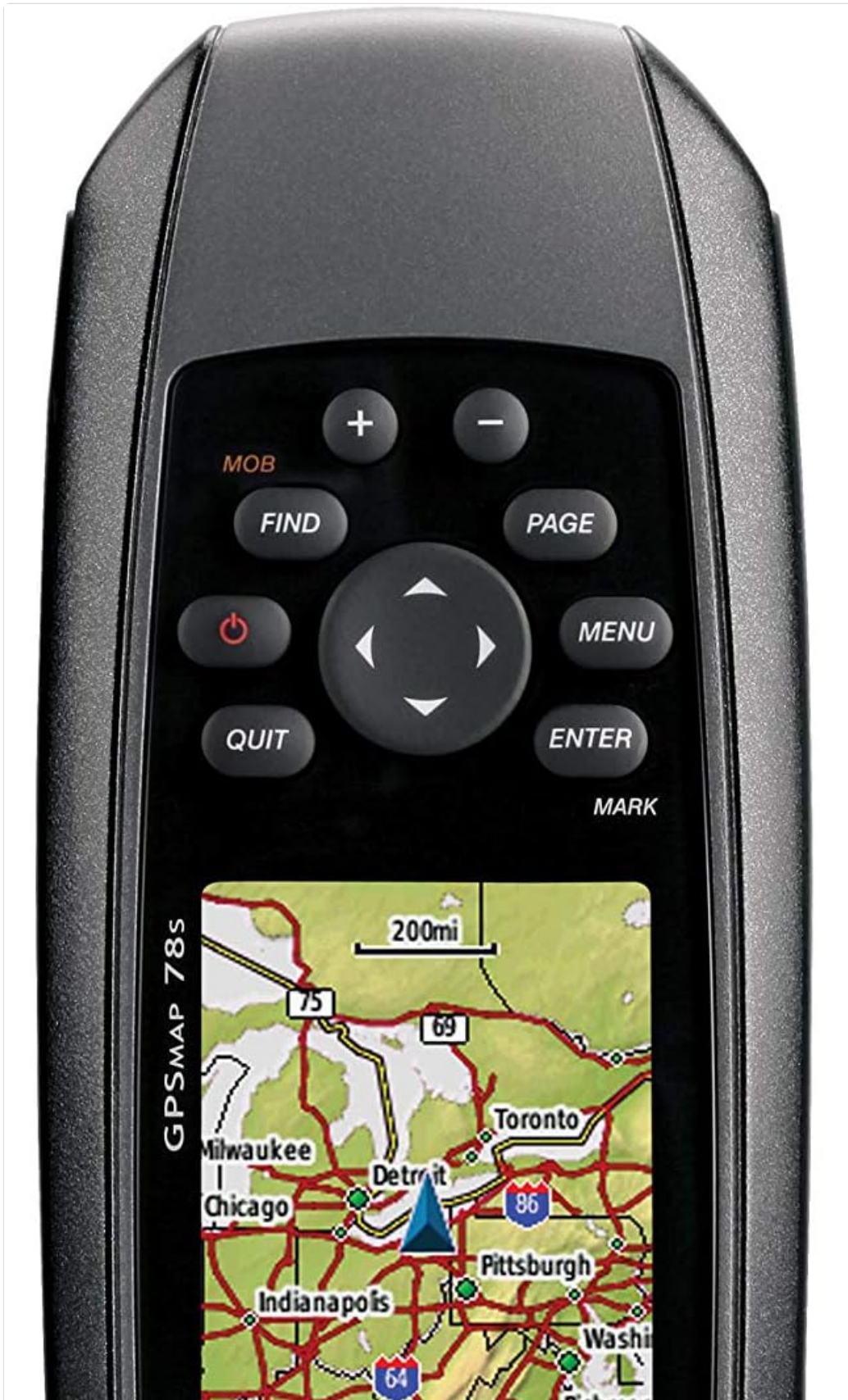




Figure 1: Front view of the Garmin GPSMAP 78S, illustrating the button layout and display.

## 4. Installing a microSD™ Card (Optional)

The GPSMAP 78S features a microSD™ card slot for loading additional maps (e.g., BlueChart® g2, City Navigator NT®) or BirdsEye™ Satellite Imagery. The card slot is located inside the waterproof battery compartment.

1. Ensure the device is powered off.
2. Open the battery compartment cover as described in "Battery Installation".
3. Locate the microSD card slot.
4. Insert the microSD card with the gold contacts facing down until it clicks into place.
5. Replace the battery cover, ensuring a secure seal.

## OPERATING THE DEVICE

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### 1. Key Functions and Navigation

The GPSMAP 78S features a button-operated interface. Familiarize yourself with the main buttons:

- **Power:** Turns the device on/off; short press for backlight options.
- **Zoom In/Out (+/-):** Adjusts map zoom level.
- **FIND:** Accesses search functions for waypoints, geocaches, tracks, etc.
- **PAGE:** Cycles through main pages (Map, Compass, Trip Computer, Marine, etc.).
- **MENU:** Opens the menu for the current page; double-press for main menu.
- **QUIT:** Cancels an action or returns to the previous page.
- **ENTER:** Selects an option or confirms an action.
- **MARK:** Creates a new waypoint at your current location.
- **MOB (Man Overboard):** Immediately marks your current location and initiates navigation back to it.
- **Directional Pad:** Navigates menus, pans the map, and moves the cursor.

### 2. Using the Compass and Altimeter

The GPSMAP 78S includes a 3-axis tilt-compensated electronic compass and a barometric altimeter.

- **Compass:** The 3-axis compass provides accurate heading information even when standing still or holding the device at an angle. To view the compass, press **PAGE** until the Compass page appears.
- **Barometric Altimeter:** This feature tracks changes in pressure to pinpoint precise altitude and can plot barometric pressure over time, aiding in monitoring weather conditions. The altimeter data is typically displayed on the Trip Computer page or

can be accessed via specific menu options.



Figure 2: The GPSMAP 78S showing navigation data including a digital compass.

### 3. Map Features and Navigation

The device comes with a built-in worldwide basemap. Additional detailed maps can be loaded via the microSD card slot.

- **Viewing Maps:** Press **PAGE** to cycle to the Map page. Use the Directional Pad to pan the map and the **+/-** buttons to zoom in or out.
- **Adding Maps:** Compatible maps include BlueChart® g2 for marine use, City Navigator NT® for turn-by-turn road navigation, and BirdsEye™ Satellite Imagery (subscription required). Custom Maps can also be created and loaded.
- **Creating Routes and Tracks:** The device allows you to create and follow routes, record tracks of your journeys, and save waypoints for important locations. These functions are typically accessed through the Main Menu.

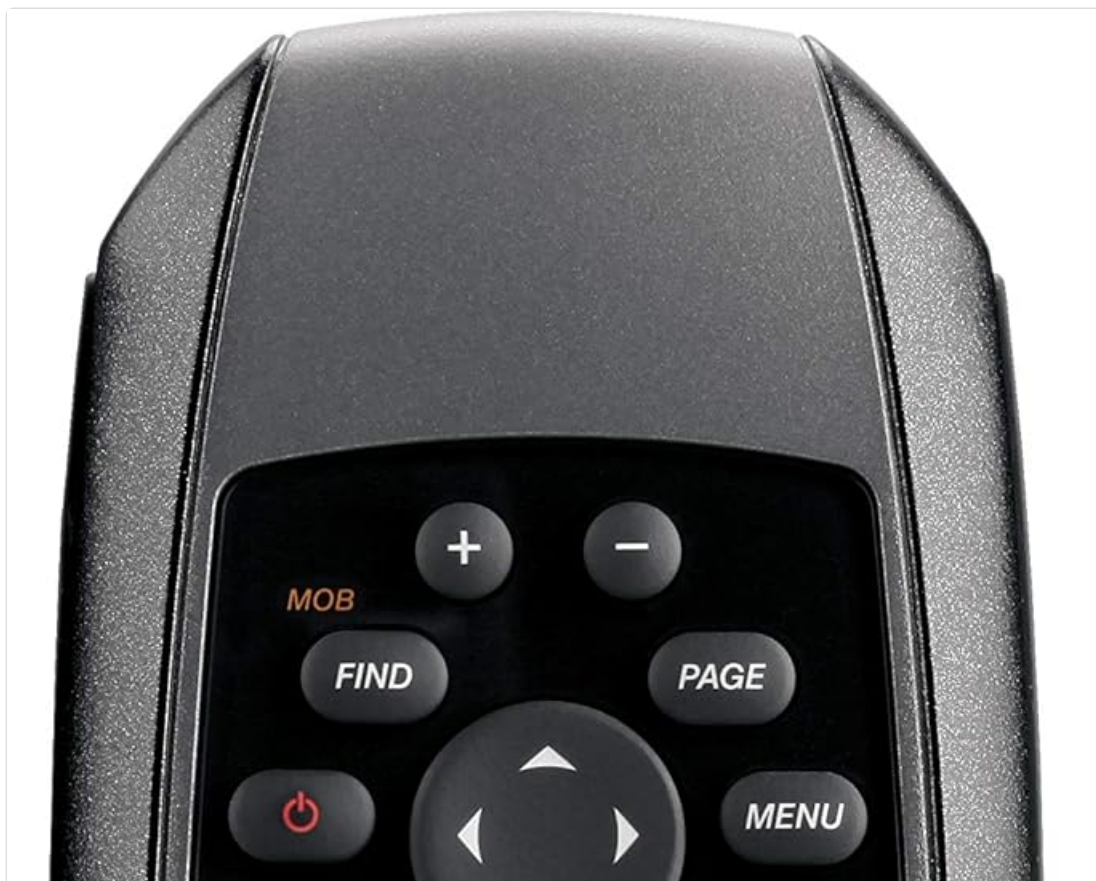




Figure 3: The GPSMAP 78S displaying a detailed map, useful for route planning and navigation.





Figure 4: The GPSMAP 78S showing marine-specific data, such as depth and tide charts, essential for boating.

#### 4. Wireless Sharing

The GPSMAP 78S supports wireless sharing of waypoints, tracks, routes, and geocaches with other compatible Garmin devices. To share data, navigate to the desired item (e.g., a waypoint), select it, and choose the "Send" option from the menu. Follow the on-screen prompts to complete the transfer.

## 5. Geocaching

The device supports geocaching GPX files, allowing you to download geocaches directly to your unit. This eliminates the need for manual coordinate entry and paper printouts. The GPSMAP 78S stores and displays key information such as location, terrain, difficulty, hints, and descriptions. Upload GPX files to your unit via a USB connection to a computer.

## 6. Garmin Connect™ Integration

Connect your GPSMAP 78S to a computer via USB to upload your activities (tracks, routes, waypoints) to Garmin Connect™. This online platform allows you to analyze your activities, view them on a map using Google™ Earth, and share your experiences. Visit [connect.garmin.com](https://connect.garmin.com) to get started.

# MAINTENANCE

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## 1. Cleaning the Device

Regular cleaning helps maintain the device's performance and appearance.

- Wipe the screen and exterior with a soft, lint-free cloth.
- For stubborn dirt, use a mild soap solution and a damp cloth, then rinse thoroughly with fresh water.
- Avoid abrasive cleaners or solvents that could damage the device's surfaces.
- Ensure the battery compartment and USB port seals are free of debris before closing to maintain waterproofing.

## 2. Battery Care and Storage

- Remove batteries if the device will not be used for an extended period to prevent leakage.
- Store the device in a cool, dry place, away from direct sunlight and extreme temperatures.
- If using rechargeable NiMH batteries, follow the manufacturer's guidelines for charging and maintenance.

## 3. Waterproofing

The GPSMAP 78S is rated IPX7, meaning it can withstand accidental immersion in 1 meter of water for up to 30 minutes. To maintain this rating, ensure:

- The battery cover is securely closed and the D-ring is fully rotated.
- The USB port cover is firmly sealed.
- Avoid prolonged submersion or high-pressure water jets.

# TROUBLESHOOTING

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Problem	Possible Cause / Solution
Device will not power on.	<p>Check battery polarity and ensure batteries are fresh or fully charged.</p> <p>Ensure battery compartment cover is securely closed.</p> <p>Try a different set of AA batteries.</p>
Cannot acquire GPS signal.	<p>Ensure you are in an open area with a clear view of the sky.</p> <p>Move away from tall buildings, dense foliage, or other obstructions.</p> <p>Allow sufficient time for initial satellite acquisition (up to several minutes).</p> <p>Check that GPS is enabled in the system settings.</p>
Screen is dim or unreadable.	<p>Adjust the backlight settings (short press the <b>Power</b> button).</p> <p>Ensure batteries have sufficient charge.</p>
Device is not recognized by computer.	<p>Ensure the USB cable is securely connected to both the device and the computer.</p> <p>Try a different USB port or cable.</p> <p>Ensure Garmin drivers are installed on your computer (if required).</p> <p>Restart both the device and the computer.</p>

For further assistance, refer to the comprehensive online manual available on the Garmin support website or contact Garmin Customer Support.

## SPECIFICATIONS

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Feature	Detail
Model Number	010-00864-01
Display Type	2.6-inch TFT LCD, 65K colors
Display Size	1.43" x 2.15" (3.6 x 5.5 cm); 2.6" diag (6.6 cm)
Resolution	160 x 240 pixels
Dimensions (WxHxD)	2.6" x 6.0" x 1.2" (6.6 x 15.2 x 3.0 cm)
Weight	7.7 oz (218.3 g) with batteries
Water Rating	IPX7 (submersible to 1 meter for 30 minutes)
Floats	Yes
Battery Type	2 AA batteries (NiMH or Lithium recommended)
Battery Life	Up to 20 hours
Internal Memory	1.7 GB (for user data)
Interface	USB
High-Sensitivity Receiver	Yes
Basemap	Worldwide shaded relief basemap
Ability to add maps	Yes (microSD™ card slot)
Electronic Compass	Yes (3-axis, tilt-compensated)
Barometric Altimeter	Yes
Geocaching-friendly	Yes (Paperless)
Photo Navigation	Yes
Garmin Connect™ compatible	Yes

## WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

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### 1. Product Warranty

Garmin products are warranted to be free from defects in materials or workmanship for one year from the date of purchase. Within this period, Garmin will, at its sole option, repair or replace any components that fail in normal use. Such repairs or replacement will be made at no charge to the customer for parts or labor, provided that the customer shall be responsible for any transportation cost. This warranty does not apply to: (i) cosmetic damage, such as scratches, nicks and dents; (ii) consumable parts, such as batteries, unless product damage has occurred due to a defect in materials or workmanship; (iii) damage caused by accident, abuse, misuse, water, flood, fire, or other acts of nature or external causes; (iv) damage caused by service performed by anyone who is not an authorized service provider of Garmin; or (v) damage to a product that has been modified or altered without the written permission of Garmin.

For full warranty terms and conditions, please visit the official Garmin website.

### 2. Customer Support

For technical support, product registration, software updates, or to access the full owner's manual, please visit the Garmin Support Center:

[support.garmin.com](https://support.garmin.com)

You may also find helpful resources and frequently asked questions on the Garmin website.