

Draper 43618

Draper 43618 Moisture Meter User Manual

Instructions for Measuring Water Content in Wood, Concrete, and Plaster

1. INTRODUCTION

This manual provides comprehensive instructions for the safe and effective operation of your Draper 43618 Moisture Meter. This device is designed to accurately measure the moisture content in various materials, including wood, concrete, and plaster. Please read this manual thoroughly before first use and retain it for future reference.

2. SAFETY INFORMATION

Observe the following safety precautions to prevent injury and damage to the device:

- **Sharp Probes:** The meter is equipped with sharp measurement probes. Handle with care to avoid physical injury. Keep the protective cap on when not in use.
- **Electrical Safety:** Do not use the meter on live electrical circuits or materials that may contain live wiring. This can cause electric shock and damage the device.
- **Battery Handling:** Ensure correct battery polarity when installing. Remove batteries if the device will not be used for an extended period to prevent leakage. Dispose of used batteries responsibly.
- **Environmental Conditions:** Do not expose the meter to extreme temperatures, high humidity, or direct sunlight. Avoid dropping the device.
- **Intended Use:** Use the meter only for its intended purpose of measuring moisture content in specified materials. Do not attempt to modify the device.

3. PRODUCT OVERVIEW

Familiarize yourself with the components of your Draper 43618 Moisture Meter:

- **Measurement Probes:** Two sharp pins located at the top of the meter, used to penetrate the material for moisture detection.
- **LCD Display:** Digital screen showing moisture percentage readings.
- **"SET ON" Button:** Used to power the device on/off and potentially to select measurement modes or

hold readings.

- **Protective Cap:** Covers the measurement probes when the meter is not in use.
- **Wrist Strap:** For secure handling during use.



Figure 1: Draper 43618 Moisture Meter with its protective cap removed, revealing the sharp measurement probes and the digital LCD display. The "SET ON" button is visible on the right side of the device.

4. SETUP

4.1 Battery Installation

The Draper 43618 Moisture Meter requires one LR44 battery (included). To install or replace the battery:

1. Locate the battery compartment cover, typically on the back or side of the unit.
2. Open the compartment cover. This may require a small screwdriver or simply sliding a latch.
3. Insert the LR44 battery, ensuring the correct polarity (+/-) as indicated inside the compartment.
4. Close the battery compartment cover securely.

After battery installation, the meter is ready for use.

5. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

Follow these steps to take accurate moisture measurements:

1. **Remove Protective Cap:** Carefully remove the blue protective cap from the measurement probes.
2. **Power On:** Press the "SET ON" button to turn on the meter. The LCD display will illuminate and show a reading, often "0.0%" or a similar initial value.
3. **Select Material (if applicable):** While the product description indicates use for wood, concrete, and plaster, this model typically provides a universal reading. If your specific unit has material selection modes, refer to the on-screen indicators or additional markings near the "SET ON" button to cycle through them. For this model, it's generally a direct reading.
4. **Take Measurement:** Firmly press the two measurement probes into the material you wish to test. Ensure both probes penetrate the surface to obtain an accurate reading.
5. **Read Display:** The moisture content percentage will be displayed on the LCD screen. Hold the meter steady until the reading stabilizes.
6. **Power Off:** After use, press and hold the "SET ON" button to turn off the meter. Replace the protective cap over the probes.



Figure 2: A hand demonstrating the use of the Draper 43618 Moisture Meter by pressing its sharp probes into a wooden

beam to measure moisture content. The digital display shows a reading of "3.8%".



Figure 3: The Draper 43618 Moisture Meter being used to measure moisture on a light-colored wooden surface. The meter is held firmly, ensuring the probes are inserted into the material, and the display shows a reading of "7.2%".

5.1 Interpreting Readings

Moisture content readings vary significantly depending on the material and its intended use. Consult relevant industry standards or guidelines for acceptable moisture levels for your specific application (e.g., woodworking, construction). Generally:

- **Wood:** Typical acceptable moisture content for interior wood applications ranges from 6% to 12%. Higher readings may indicate drying issues or potential for warping/mold.
- **Concrete/Plaster:** Acceptable moisture levels are generally lower, often below 5% for flooring or painting applications. High readings can indicate curing problems or water ingress.

6. MAINTENANCE

6.1 Cleaning

After each use, especially when measuring damp materials, clean the measurement probes with a dry cloth to remove any residue. Do not use abrasive cleaners or solvents. Ensure the probes are dry before replacing the protective cap.

6.2 Storage

Store the Draper 43618 Moisture Meter in a cool, dry place, away from direct sunlight and extreme temperatures. Always replace the protective cap over the probes to prevent damage and ensure safety. Remove batteries if storing for extended periods.

7. TROUBLESHOOTING

- **Meter does not turn on:**
 - Check if the battery is installed correctly with the correct polarity.
 - Replace the LR44 battery with a new one.
- **Inaccurate or inconsistent readings:**
 - Ensure the probes are clean and free of debris.
 - Make sure both probes are fully inserted into the material.
 - Test on a known dry material to verify basic functionality.
 - Ensure the material being tested is not excessively wet, which could exceed the meter's measurement range.
- **Display shows "LO" or "HI":**
 - "LO" may indicate a very low moisture content or a poor connection.
 - "HI" may indicate moisture content beyond the meter's maximum measurable range.

8. SPECIFICATIONS

Model Number	43618
Brand	Draper
Power Source	1 x LR44 Battery (included)
Product Dimensions	18.5 x 12.5 x 2.8 cm
Item Weight	0.07 Kilograms (70 g)
Colour	Black
UPC	604310061302




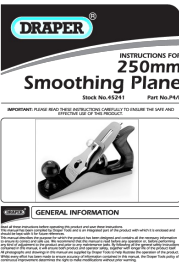


9. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

Draper products are manufactured to high standards and undergo rigorous quality control. This product is covered by the manufacturer's standard warranty against defects in materials and workmanship. For specific warranty terms, duration, and to obtain technical support or service, please refer to the warranty card included with your purchase or visit the official Draper Tools website. Please retain your proof of purchase for warranty claims.

For further assistance, contact Draper customer service through their official channels.

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