MINELAB SDC 2300

MINELAB SDC 2300 Gold Metal Detector Instruction Manual

Model: SDC 2300

1. Introduction

The MINELAB SDC 2300 is a high-performance, mid-range gold detector specifically designed for locating elusive sub-gram gold nuggets in various environments, both on land and underwater. This compact and robust device features easy-to-use controls and requires no assembly, making it ready for immediate use in challenging conditions.
Key features include:

- **Compact Design:** Folds to a small, portable size (8.5” x 15.7”) for easy transport.
- **Waterproof Capability:** Fully submersible up to 10 feet (3 meters), ideal for riverbeds and shorelines.
- **Rugged Construction:** Military-grade, one-piece design built to withstand tough conditions.
- **MPF Technology:** Multi Period Fast technology for clear, sharp detection of very small gold.

Image 1.1: The MINELAB SDC 2300 Gold Metal Detector in its compact, folded state, ready for transport.

2. Setup

2.1 Unpacking and Initial Inspection

Carefully remove all components from the packaging. Verify that all items listed in your product bundle are present. The SDC 2300 is designed for immediate use with no assembly required. Inspect the detector for any visible damage that may have occurred during shipping.

2.2 Battery Installation

The SDC 2300 requires four (4) C-cell batteries, which are included with the device. To install or replace batteries:

1. Locate the battery compartment, typically on the main control unit.
2. Open the battery compartment cover. Ensure the seal is clean and free of debris.
3. Insert the four C-cell batteries, observing the correct polarity (+/-) as indicated inside the compartment.
4. Securely close the battery compartment cover, ensuring a tight seal to maintain waterproof integrity.

2.3 Powering On/Off

To power on the SDC 2300, locate the power button or switch on the control panel and press/toggle it. The device will typically perform a brief self-test. To power off, press/toggle the power button again. Always ensure the device is powered

off when not in use to conserve battery life.

Image 2.1: The MINELAB SDC 2300 Gold Metal Detector in its operational, unfolded configuration, showing the control panel.

3. Operating Instructions

3.1 Basic Operation

The SDC 2300 is designed with user-friendly controls. Once powered on, the detector is ready for use. Sweep the search coil slowly and steadily over the ground, keeping it as close to the surface as possible. Listen for changes in the audio tone, which indicate the presence of metal.

3.2 MPF Technology

The SDC 2300 utilizes Multi Period Fast (MPF) technology. This advanced Pulse Induction system rapidly switches between Transmit (Tx) and Receive (Rx) detector signals. This rapid switching minimizes residual transmit signals during the receive cycle, allowing for clear and sharp detection of even very small gold particles that might be missed by other detectors.

3.3 Waterproof Use

The SDC 2300 is fully submersible up to 10 feet (3 meters). This allows for effective gold prospecting in wet environments such as riverbeds, creeks, and shorelines. Before submerging the detector, ensure all seals, especially the battery compartment, are securely closed and free from dirt or sand. After use in water, rinse the detector with fresh water and dry thoroughly.

3.4 Using the Pro Find 35 Pinpointer

The included Pro Find 35 Pinpointer is an essential tool for accurately locating targets once the SDC 2300 has indicated a find. After detecting a target with the main detector, use the pinpointer to narrow down the exact location within the excavated area. Refer to the Pro Find 35's separate instruction manual for detailed operation.

4. Maintenance

4.1 Cleaning the Detector

After each use, especially in dirty or wet conditions, clean your SDC 2300. Wipe down the entire unit with a damp cloth. For stubborn dirt, a mild soap solution can be used, followed by a rinse with fresh water. Ensure all components are thoroughly dried before storage. Do not use abrasive cleaners or solvents.

4.2 Battery Care and Replacement

Always remove batteries if the detector will not be used for an extended period to prevent leakage. Replace batteries when the low battery indicator appears or when performance degrades. Use only high-quality C-cell batteries. When replacing, ensure the battery compartment seal is clean and properly seated to maintain waterproof integrity.

4.3 Storage

Store the SDC 2300 in a cool, dry place away from direct sunlight and extreme temperatures. When storing for long periods, ensure batteries are removed. The compact, folded design allows for convenient storage in its carry bag or a backpack.

Image 4.1: The blue search coil cover, an important component for protecting the detector's coil during use and storage.

5. Troubleshooting

This section addresses common issues you might encounter with your SDC 2300 Gold Metal Detector.

5.1 No Power

- **Check Batteries:** Ensure C-cell batteries are correctly installed with proper polarity and are not depleted. Replace if necessary.
- **Battery Compartment:** Verify the battery compartment cover is securely closed.

5.2 False Signals or Erratic Behavior

- **Ground Balance:** Ensure the detector is properly ground balanced for the current soil conditions. Refer to the quick start guide for ground balancing procedures.
- **Interference:** Move away from sources of electromagnetic interference such as power lines, other electronic devices, or other metal detectors.
- **Sensitivity Setting:** If the sensitivity is set too high for the ground conditions, it can cause false signals. Try reducing the sensitivity.

5.3 Poor Detection Depth

- **Sweep Speed:** Ensure you are sweeping the coil slowly and steadily. Rapid sweeping can reduce detection depth.
- **Coil Height:** Keep the search coil as close to the ground as possible without dragging it excessively.
- **Ground Conditions:** Highly mineralized ground can reduce detection depth. Adjust ground balance or sensitivity as needed.
- **Battery Level:** Low battery power can affect performance. Ensure batteries are fully charged or replaced.

6. Specifications

Feature	Specification
Brand	MINELAB
Model	SDC 2300
Color	Blue
Batteries Required	4 C batteries (included)
Material	Metal
Power Source	Battery Powered
Item Weight	13.5 Pounds (6.12 kg)
Adjustable Length	Yes
International Protection Rating	IP67 (Fully submersible to 10 feet / 3 meters)
Operating Frequency	20 kHz
Recommended Uses	Gold/Mineral Prospecting, Metal Detection
Manufacturer	Minelab Metal Detectors
UPC	009068028384
Search Coil Size	15.7 Inches (400 mm)
Product Dimensions	22 x 10 x 5.5 inches (55.9 x 25.4 x 14 cm)

7. Warranty Information

For detailed information regarding the warranty coverage for your MINELAB SDC 2300 Gold Metal Detector, please refer to the official warranty card included with your product packaging or visit the MINELAB official website. Warranty terms and conditions may vary by region and purchase date.

8. Support and Contact

Should you require technical assistance, have questions about operation, or need to report an issue with your MINELAB SDC 2300, please contact MINELAB customer support. You can find contact information and additional resources on the official MINELAB website:
www.minelab.com
Please have your product model (SDC 2300) and serial number ready when contacting support.