

Garmin RCT715

Garmin Varia RCT715 Bicycle Radar, Camera, and Tail Light User Manual

Model: RCT715

INTRODUCTION

The Garmin Varia RCT715 is a rearview radar system with an integrated camera and tail light designed to enhance cycling safety. This device continuously records your ride, detects approaching vehicles from behind, and provides visual and audible alerts. It also features a bright tail light to increase your visibility to motorists. The Varia RCT715 integrates with compatible Garmin bike computers and the Varia mobile application for comprehensive control and data management.

Important Notice: Some jurisdictions regulate or prohibit the use of the camera function of this device. It is your responsibility to understand and comply with applicable laws and privacy regulations in any jurisdiction where you intend to use the camera function.

WHAT'S IN THE BOX

Verify that all the following components are included in your package:

- Varia RCT715 device
- Seat post mount kit
- USB cable
- 16 GB SD card
- Documentation (this manual)



Image: The Varia RCT715 seat post mount kit, including various rubber shims and the mounting bracket.

SETUP

1. Charging the Device

Before initial use, fully charge the Varia RCT715. Connect the device to a USB power source using the provided USB cable. The charging indicator light will show the charging status.

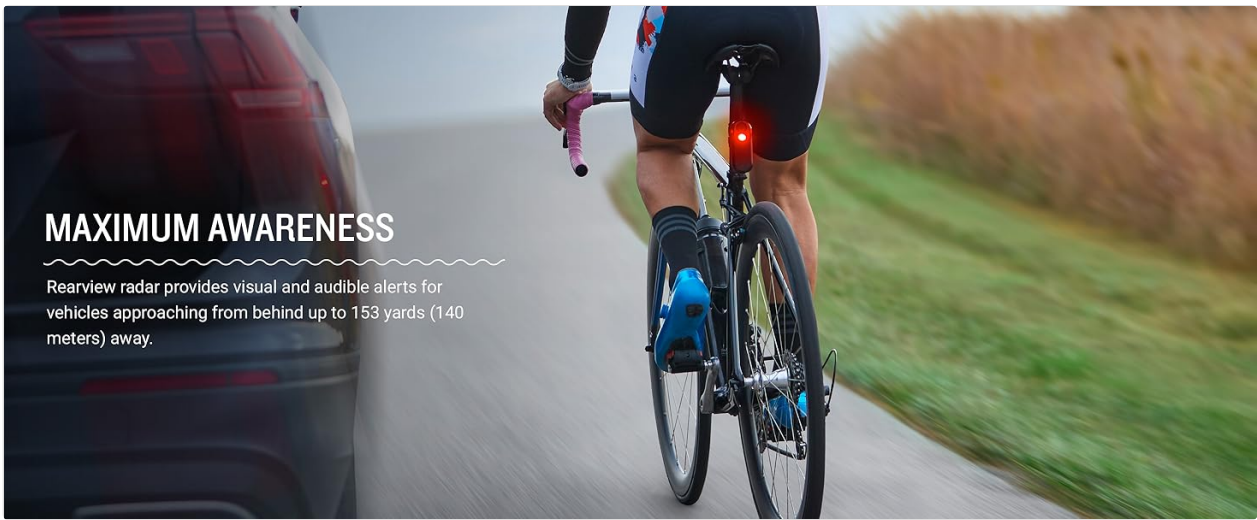
2. Installing the SD Card

The device comes with a pre-installed 16 GB SD card. Ensure it is properly seated before use. If replacing, use a compatible microSD card (Class 10 or higher recommended).

3. Mounting the Device

The Varia RCT715 is designed for secure attachment to your bicycle's seat post. Use the included seat post mount kit to ensure proper positioning and stability.

1. Select the appropriate rubber shims from the kit to match your seat post diameter (compatible with round seatposts from 27.0 mm to 31.6 mm).
2. Attach the mounting bracket to your seat post using the shims and rubber bands, ensuring a tight and secure fit.
3. Align the Varia RCT715 with the quarter-turn mount on the bracket and twist clockwise until it locks into place. Ensure the device is vertical and the camera lens faces directly backward.



MAXIMUM AWARENESS

Rearview radar provides visual and audible alerts for vehicles approaching from behind up to 153 yards (140 meters) away.

Image: A hand demonstrating the quarter-turn mounting process of the Varia RCT715 onto a bicycle seatpost.



QUARTER-TURN MOUNT

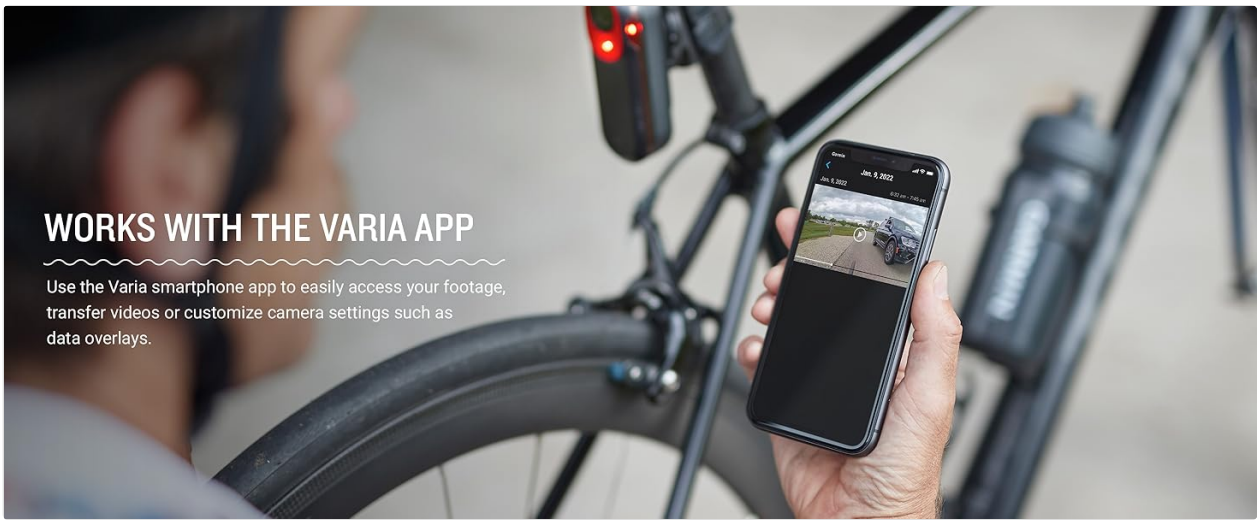
Varia RCT715 includes a secure mount for your seatpost that locks the radar into place.

Image: The Varia RCT715 device securely mounted on a bicycle's seatpost, illustrating its compact and vertical design.

4. Pairing with Compatible Devices

The Varia RCT715 can be paired with Garmin Edge bike computers, select Garmin wearables, or the Varia mobile app on your smartphone.

- **Garmin Edge/Wearables:** Follow the pairing instructions for your specific Garmin device to add a new sensor. The Varia RCT715 will appear as a radar and light sensor.
- **Varia Mobile App:** Download the Varia app from your smartphone's app store. Open the app and follow the on-screen instructions to pair your Varia RCT715 via Bluetooth.



WORKS WITH THE VARIA APP

Use the Varia smartphone app to easily access your footage, transfer videos or customize camera settings such as data overlays.

Image: A smartphone screen showing the Varia mobile application, used for viewing footage, transferring videos, and customizing camera settings.

OPERATING THE DEVICE

Power On/Off

- To power on, press and hold the power button until the lights illuminate.
- To power off, press and hold the power button until the lights turn off.

Radar Functionality

The rearview radar detects vehicles approaching from behind up to 153 yards (140 meters) away. Alerts are provided through your paired Garmin device or the Varia app.

- **Visual Alerts:** On compatible Garmin devices, a colored bar on the side of the screen indicates vehicle proximity and speed.
- **Audible Alerts:** Tones or vibrations notify you of approaching vehicles.

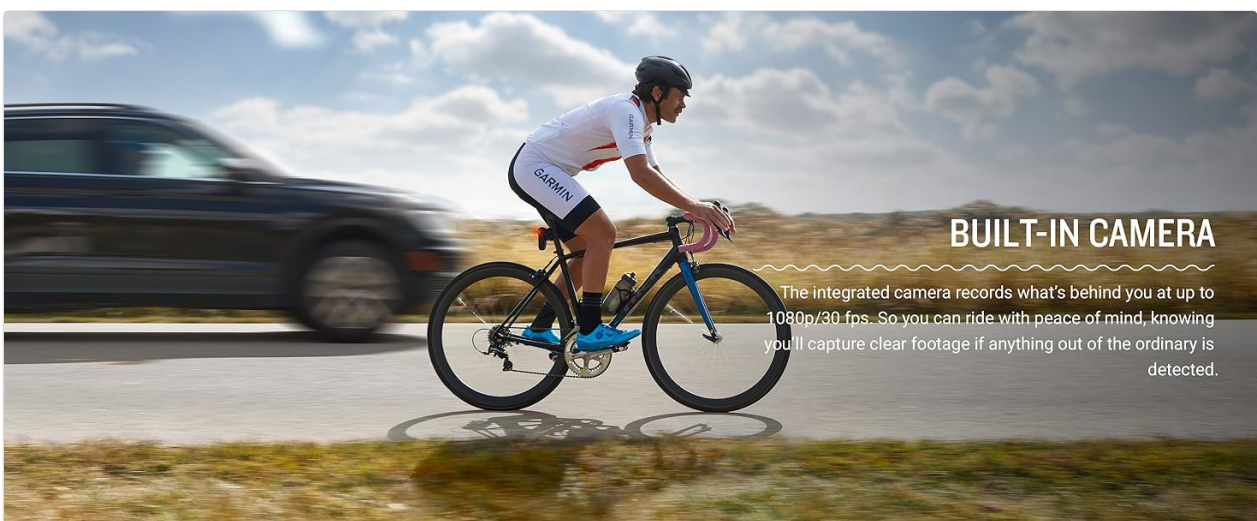


Image: A cyclist riding on a road, with a car approaching from behind, demonstrating the Varia RCT715's ability to detect vehicles.

Camera Functionality

The integrated camera continuously records video at 1080p (30 fps) or 720p (for extended battery life). It automatically saves footage before, during, and after incidents.

- **Automatic Incident Capture:** If an incident is detected (e.g., sudden braking or impact), the camera automatically saves the relevant video segment.
- **Manual Recording:** You can manually trigger video recording or take photos via the Varia app or a paired Garmin device.
- **Video Resolution:** Adjust video resolution settings (1080p or 720p) through the Varia app to manage file size and battery consumption.

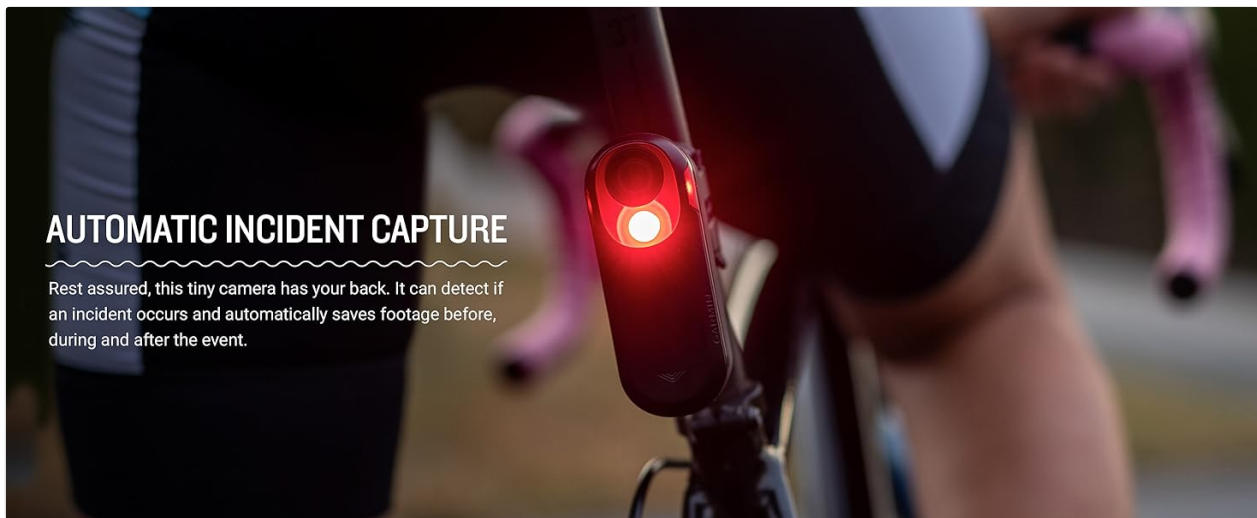


Image: A close-up view of the Varia RCT715 mounted on a bicycle, highlighting its tail light and camera, which automatically captures incidents.

Tail Light Modes

The bright tail light offers multiple modes to maximize visibility and battery life.

- **Always-on:** Constant illumination.
- **Lights and Radar Only:** Tail light and radar active, camera off.
- **Radar-activated:** Camera turns on when an approaching car is detected.
- **Day Flash:** High-visibility flashing mode for daytime use.
- **Night Flash:** Flashing mode optimized for nighttime visibility.

You can control these modes via the Varia app or a paired Garmin device.

Battery Life

Battery performance varies based on usage mode:

- Up to 4 hours with radar and tail light on solid high or night flash (1080p recording).
- Up to 5 hours on solid low (1080p recording).
- Up to 6 hours on day flash (1080p recording).

MAINTENANCE

Cleaning the Device

Regularly clean the Varia RCT715 to ensure optimal performance. Use a soft, damp cloth to wipe the device, especially the camera lens and radar sensor area. Avoid abrasive cleaners or solvents.

SD Card Management

The included 16 GB SD card provides storage for recorded footage. Periodically transfer important videos to a computer or cloud storage and format the SD card to maintain performance. Formatting can be done via the Varia app or by removing the card and formatting it on a computer.

Firmware Updates

Garmin periodically releases firmware updates to improve device functionality and performance. Connect your Varia RCT715 to the Varia app or Garmin Express on your computer to check for and install available updates.

TROUBLESHOOTING

- **Device not powering on:** Ensure the device is fully charged. If the issue persists, try a different USB cable or power adapter.
- **Radar not detecting vehicles:** Ensure the device is mounted correctly and unobstructed. Check for firmware updates. Verify pairing with your Garmin device or Varia app.
- **Camera not recording:** Check if the SD card is properly inserted and has sufficient free space. Ensure the camera is enabled in the Varia app settings.
- **Connectivity issues:** Ensure Bluetooth is enabled on your smartphone or Garmin device. Try unpairing and re-pairing the Varia RCT715.
- **Poor video quality:** Ensure the camera lens is clean. Check the video resolution settings in the Varia app.

SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Detail
Product Dimensions	1.7 x 4.2 x 1.3 inches
Item Weight	5.2 ounces
Model Number	010-02474-00
Batteries	1 Lithium Ion battery (included)
Connectivity Technologies	Bluetooth, Wi-Fi
Special Features	Built-in Camera, Automatic Incident Capture, Rearview Radar, Superior Visibility Tail Light, Compact Design
Video Capture Resolution	1080p, 720p
Mounting Type	Seat Post Mount
Control Method	App, Garmin Edge, Garmin Wearables
Compatible Seatpost Diameter	27.0 mm to 31.6 mm (round)

WARRANTY INFORMATION

Garmin products are typically covered by a one-year limited warranty from the date of purchase, covering defects in materials or workmanship. For specific warranty terms and conditions, please refer to the warranty documentation included with your product or visit the official Garmin website.

SUPPORT

For additional assistance, detailed FAQs, or to contact customer support, please visit the official Garmin support website. You can also refer to the comprehensive user manual available online:

[Garmin Varia RCT715 Official User Manual \(PDF\)](#)