

Becoming Familiar with the Garmin MAP76 Unit

Turning on the GPS unit: Press the red power button until the receiver turns on. The welcome page will appear while the unit conducts a self test. This will be followed by a warning page, which requires you to agree by pressing the page button. This will bring you to the Satellite Page. If you are inside, the receiver will not be able to receive sufficient satellite signals and will record an error. When inside, press the menu button, and select “simulation mode.” Setting the mode to simulator instructs the receiver not to attempt to acquire new satellite signals and to simulate satellite signals based on its last known location. This can be a convenient feature, but *always be sure to stop the simulator* when you move outside to collect data.

To turn the unit off, press the power button for two seconds.

Hints:

- Use the PAGE (moves forward) and QUIT (moves backward) buttons to move through the pages.
- Use the MENU button to select options available on your current page. Press the MENU button twice to select the Main Menu Page.
- Use the rocker button in the center to navigate within a page and to select options. User interaction is largely based on highlighting fields and then pressing ENTER to edit the highlighted field.
- Hold the unit **upright** and not flat when using satellite information.
- Move through the primary pages now (PAGE and QUIT) and look at the fields in each page while you read the page descriptions below.

The Satellite Page shows satellite positions and signal strength. Satellite positions are displayed on a sky map, i.e. a representation of the hemispheric view of the sky above the receiver. The outer circle represents the satellite horizon, which is normally 15° above the visual horizon. Signals received from below this horizon will not be processed. The inner circle represents a zenith of 45° above the horizon, and the center point represents the nadir, the point position directly overhead. North is oriented at the top of the page. Knowing satellite positions will allow you to visually determine the quality of the satellite geometry. The right side of this page contains signal strength bars that correspond to each satellite being used. The greater the strength of the signal, the better.

When the receiver is looking for a particular satellite, the corresponding signal strength bar will be blank or light grey and the sky view indicator will be highlighted (meaning the satellite is shaded or blocked). Once the receiver selects a satellite for use in calculating positions, a solid black signal strength bar will appear and the satellite number in the sky view will no longer be highlighted. As soon as four satellites with good geometry have been found, the status field will indicate 3D status. Each black bar at the right of the page corresponds to one satellite. You should have a minimum of four satellites for a “good” measurement.

Note: with every position measurement you make, check the satellite page to make sure you are in 3D mode. If you have fewer than four satellites, or if the satellite signals are weak, your locational accuracy and the data you collect may be unreliable.

The Map Page allows you to view your position, the path you have traveled, and nearby waypoints, as well as your speed and distance to the next waypoint. A triangle icon in the center of the screen represents your current position. You can use the ZOOM buttons to change the scale of the map. As you move, you will see a thin line – called a track log – appear along the path you have just covered. Names of stored waypoints and nearby cities are also shown on the map. You can also do such things as measuring the distance from you to a selected location on the map.

The Pointer Page allows you to navigate even when you cannot follow a straight-line course. The compass pointer indicates your current direction relative to your destination (the active waypoint). This compass ring does not act as a true compass. You must be moving for the pointer to update and indicate the direction toward your destination.

The Highway Page is most appropriate for navigation when you can follow a straight-line course to your destination. When you are moving, this page displays data to help navigate to the selected waypoint. The triangle represents your current location. To navigate, follow the road indicator. Turn to align the triangle with the white line in the middle of the road.

The Active Route/Goto Page shows waypoints that are currently being used for navigation. You can create a route by selecting a series of waypoints (use the MENU button). Use the rocker button to toggle right or left for additional information about your waypoints.

The Main Menu Page allows you to select settings and features that are not accessible from other pages. You can access this page by pushing the MENU button twice.