

# YOUR NEW SATNAV CHECKLIST

As technology continues to develop, many of the following actions will no doubt become automatic and be seamlessly carried out in the background without you needing to do anything. Notwithstanding this, some, such as applying screen protectors, are physical tasks. Others, such as checking the stated accuracy need your input. Understanding how your unit configures itself will help you troubleshoot when something goes awry.

Even if you have already been using your unit for some time, this section is a good 'Back to Basics' to ensure that you have missed nothing in its set-up, even small omissions, such as the incorrect map datum, can severely impair the correct functioning of your unit.

All manufacturers provide some sort of a quick start guide to get you up and running; take time to go through it with your unit. The 20 mins it will take you to run through this checklist will save you hours of frustration in the future! This is a general checklist for all handheld satnavs; if your unit does not have the function referred to or this step has already been configured skip it and move on to the next.

## Protect

	Action	x
1	Remove the thin film of plastic protecting the screen and replace with either a screen protector to guard against scratches or buy a case for it.	
2	Attach the paracord lanyard 0.75–1 m (30–40 in) in length, even if it comes supplied with a karabiner. The lanyard needs to be long enough so you can hold your receiver with your arm outstretched, and short enough not to hit the ground if dropped.	

## Prepare

	Action	x
3	<p>Open battery cover and check that polarity is clearly marked. You need to be able to see this in poor light levels or weather. If it is not (most units are not) affix self-adhesive colour stickers over the '+' signs.</p> 	

4	Select which type of battery you are going to use ( <b>Batteries section</b> ).	
5	Insert batteries that have a full charge observing correct polarity.	
6	Turn the unit on.	
7	Select the language and go to Setup.	
8	Set the correct battery type – this is very important to get the maximum life from your batteries.	
9	Enter contact details, key in 'If found please call' and give your mobile telephone number only not your home address. On some satnav you can enter these details into a file, usually called 'startup.txt', which you access when the unit is connected to your computer.	
10	Enable SBAS (such as WAAS/EGNOS) if not already enabled	
11	Select Position Format.	
12	Select Map Datum. On many devices this is automatic when you set up the position format (see <b>11</b> ).	
13	Select measurement units – choose between metric or imperial: opt for the same units as the maps you will be using.	
14	Set heading to degrees.	
15	Set the clock display: MR & SAR select '24 Hrs'	
16	Change backlight to lowest level comfortable to use – this is the biggest potential drain on your batteries.	
17	Turn off key stroke beeps.	
18	Set up map.	
19	Orient map to Track Up this is the same as orienting a printed map (see p. 93). If it is set to 'North Up' you will view the map display as you would if holding a printed map upright.	
20	Select either road routing or off-road depending upon environment.	
21	Make a note of your grid reference either from a map, from Google Earth or another digital mapping application. Make sure you use the same map datum!	

## Position

	Action	x
24	Acquire full satellite signal by going outside where you have a clear 360° view of the sky, or as near as possible, free from trees and large buildings. This can take up to 5 mins.	
25	The unit will either give your position in lat/long (usual default) or use your local grid system. Compare this reading with the one you recorded from your map/ Google Earth. As long as they are close to this reading this is fine at this stage.	

26	Calibrate the compass, if it has one. Do not stand near objects which interfere with magnetic fields such as cars, overhead power lines and buildings.	
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## Connectivity

	Action	x
27	If your unit came with a computer disc insert it and follow the onscreen instructions.	
28	Alternatively connect your unit to your computer either via the cable supplied or wirelessly.	
29	Go to manufacturer's website and find Support/Downloads (sometimes tabbed as Software).	
30	Follow the online instructions to update your firmware/software.	

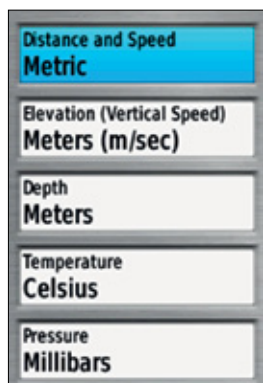
Checklist available as PDF at [micronavigation.com](http://micronavigation.com).



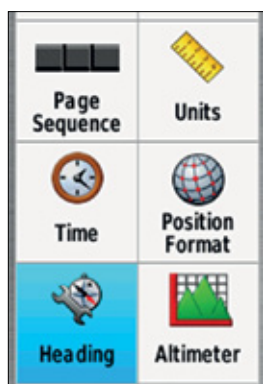
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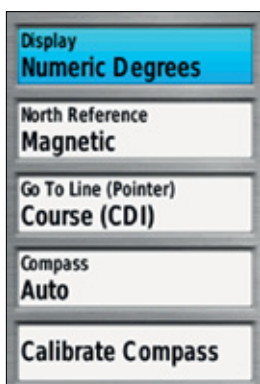
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