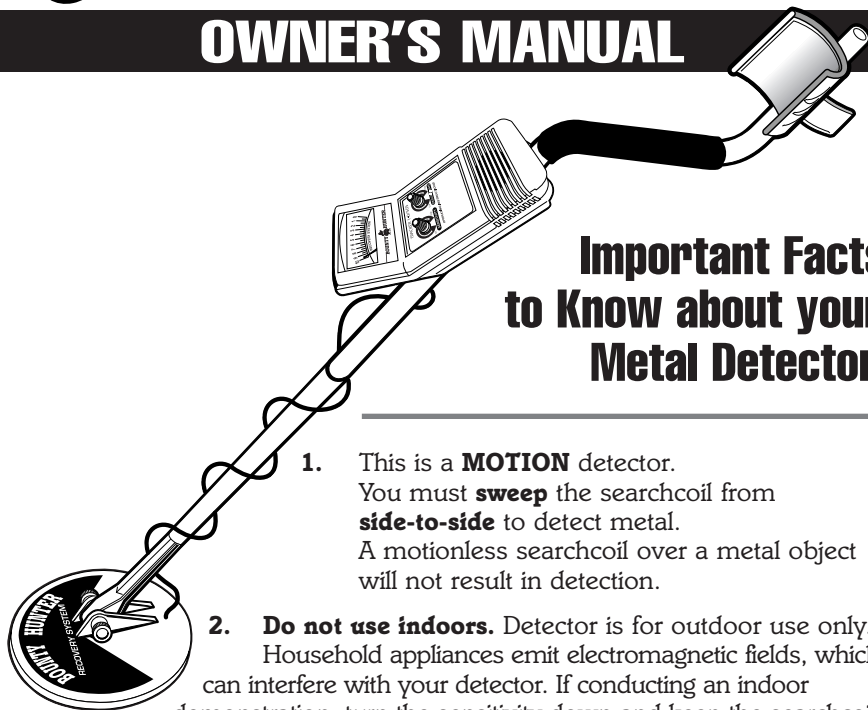


Tracker I

M E T A L
D E T E C T O R

OWNER'S MANUAL



Important Facts to Know about your Metal Detector.

1. This is a **MOTION** detector. You must **sweep** the searchcoil from **side-to-side** to detect metal. A motionless searchcoil over a metal object will not result in detection.
2. **Do not use indoors.** Detector is for outdoor use only. Household appliances emit electromagnetic fields, which can interfere with your detector. If conducting an indoor demonstration, turn the sensitivity down and keep the searchcoil away from appliances such as microwaves, computers and televisions. If your detector beeps erratically, turn off appliances and lights.

Do not test by placing coins on the floor. Most floors contain metal.

Keep the searchcoil away from floors, walls, and tables, which can contain metal.
3. Use 9-volt **ALKALINE** batteries only. Do not use Heavy Duty batteries. Do not use ordinary Zinc-Carbon batteries.
4. **Adjust sensitivity to a low level** in the event of false signals. Always begin use at reduced sensitivity. Increase to full sensitivity after you are familiar with the detector's operation.

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TERMINOLOGY

The following terms are used throughout the manual, and are standard terminology among detectorists.

ELIMINATION

Reference to a metal being "eliminated" means that the detector will not emit a tone when a specified object passes through the coil's detection field.

DISCRIMINATION

When the detector emits different tones for different types of metals, and when the detector "eliminates" certain metals, we refer to this as the detector "discriminating" among different types of metals. Discrimination is a fixed-start-point elimination system.

RELIC

A relic is an object of interest by reason of its age or its association with the past. Many relics are made of iron, but can also be made of bronze or precious metals.

IRON

Iron is a common, low-grade metal that is often an undesirable target in certain metal detecting applications. Examples of undesirable iron objects are old cans, pipes, bolts, and nails.

Sometimes, the desired target is made of iron. Property markers, for instance, contain iron. Valuable relics can also be composed of iron; cannon balls, old armaments, and parts of old structures and vehicles can also be composed of iron.

FERROUS

Metals which are made of, or contain, iron.

PINPOINTING

Pinpointing is the process of finding the exact location of a buried object. Long-buried metals can appear exactly like the surrounding earth, and can therefore be very hard to isolate.

PULL-TABS

Discarded pull-tabs from beverage containers are the most bothersome trash items for treasure hunters. They come in many different shapes and sizes. We have incorporated special features into the detector to let you eliminate, or be alerted to the presence of, the most common types. Since there are many different types, some cannot be 100% differentiated from other types of metals. For example, newer pull-tabs can possess the same magnetic signature as a nickel.

GROUND BALANCE

Ground Balancing is the ability of the detector to ignore, or "see through," the earth's naturally occurring minerals, and only sound a tone when a metal object is detected.

WATERPROOF

The search coil can be submerged in water. The control housing must stay dry.

COINSHOOTING

Finding buried coins is the most popular metal detecting application. The most valuable are very old; take care in unearthing them to avoid damage.

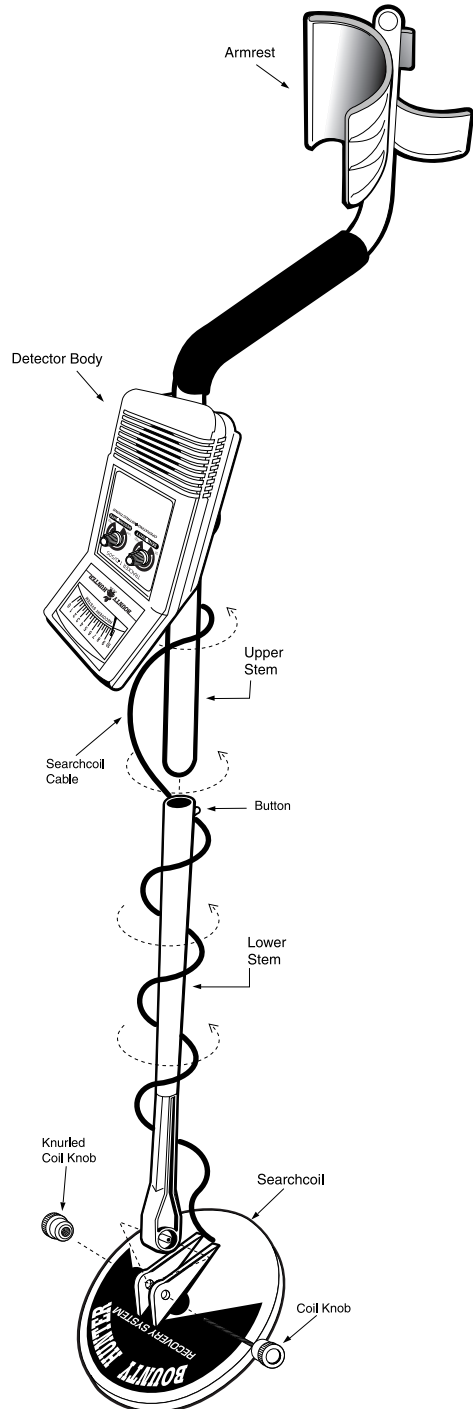
CACHE

Pronounced "cash". A cache is a buried or hidden valuable stored inside a case, strong box, or bag.

ASSEMBLY

No tools are required. Follow these steps:

- 1 Unpack your detector and find the following parts:
 - Detector body, attached to S-rod handle and search coil.
 - Lower stem (short metal tube with plastic extension and silver button).
 - (2) Coil knobs. One with a shaft attached, one without.
- 2 Depress the button on the lower stem and push the lower stem into the upper stem.
- 3 Wind the search coil cable around the two-piece stem.
- 4 Leave some slack in the cable as you reach the end of the lower stem.
- 5 Attach the coil to the stem using the coil knobs.
- 6 Install two (2) 9-volt **ALKALINE** batteries (not included). There are two battery doors on the back of the detector body.



QUICK START DEMONSTRATION

Here is a quick way to demonstrate the basic features of your TRACKER I.

Supplies Needed

- a. A small nail
- b. A small piece of foil
- c. A quarter
- d. A nickel
- e. A dime
- f. A penny

Position your Tracker I

Keep the detector away from metal objects.

Have a friend hold the detector while you pass the objects over the search coil. Or, hang the detector over the edge of a chair or table, away from walls, floors and other metal objects.

Remove your jewelry and watch (they also contain metal)

Demonstrate It!

- a. Click the power on, and turn the Sensitivity Knob to the 2:00 or 3:00 position.
- b. Click the right knob (Discriminate) off. 100% to the left.
- c. Sweep all of the objects back and forth over the search coil.

NOTICE the SINGLE TONE

- d. Sweep the nail back and forth over the search coil. While sweeping, click the Discriminate Control (right knob) on. Turn the Discriminate Control until the nail is no longer detected.

You have “discriminated out” the nail.

- e. Now pass the nickel with the Discriminate control in the 1:00 or 2:00 position.

NOTICE the LOW TONE.

- f. Pass the Quarter.

NOTICE the HIGH TONE.

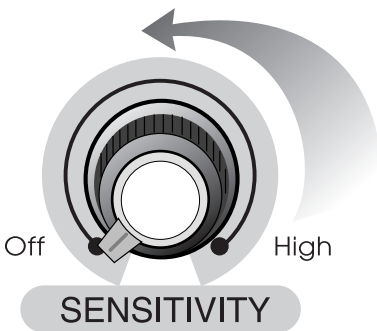
- g. Pass all of the objects, while moving the Discriminate Control to differing positions.

NOTICE the DIFFERENT TONES, or NO TONE at all.



OPERATION

The Tracker I is a MOTION metal detector; the search coil must be in motion over the targeted object in order for the machine to detect the object and emit a tone. Motion is required in order for the detector to automatically GROUND BALANCE. All soil and sand is different, containing varying amounts of naturally occurring minerals. As you sweep the search coil over the ground, your metal detector is constantly READING and AVERAGING the ground's mineralization, in order to differentiate between the naturally occurring ground minerals and a metal target.



Adjust the SENSITIVITY

After powering the unit on, turn the left knob, SENSITIVITY, 100% clockwise. If the detector chatters or emits erratic sounds, reduce the sensitivity by turning the knob to the left. The detector will work well at the 2:00 or 3:00 position.

This adjustment is necessary due to electromagnetic interference.

Household appliances, lighting fixtures, outdoor power lines (overhead and buried) all emit electromagnetic fields. Electromagnetic energy also occurs naturally in the environment. Your metal detector creates its own magnetic field; so you need to adjust your SENSITIVITY to compensate for any interference.

USING HEADPHONES

Using headphones (not supplied) with your metal detector makes it easier to identify subtle changes in the threshold levels for better detection results, and also reduces drain on the batteries. Connecting headphones temporarily disconnects the detector's internal speaker.

Your detector accepts a 1/4-inch headphone plug which connects to the headphone jack located on the front panel.

Do not wear headphones while operating your detector near high-traffic areas.

OPERATION

Select the MODE OF OPERATION

The Tracker I has two operating modes, ALL METAL and DISCRIMINATION.

ALL METAL

To enter the ALL METAL mode, click the right knob (Discriminate) off, 100% counterclockwise. In the full counterclockwise position, you will detect all types of metal.

In the ALL METAL mode, your detector will emit only one tone, regardless of the type of metal detected. It will detect low-grade metals like iron (a nail) or aluminum (foil). It will also detect more valuable items like silver, copper, and gold.

APPLICATIONS:

Use the ALL METAL mode for household applications, such as finding property markers or lost objects like keys or machine parts.

ALL METAL is also useful for gold prospecting. Be aware that you need to search in an area where gold has been found in the past.





ALL METAL is also preferred for relic hunting. Many relics are made of iron. You must be in the ALL METAL mode to detect iron.

Maximum depth detection is achieved in the ALL METAL mode.

DISCRIMINATION

Click the Discriminate Control (right Knob) on to enter the DISCRIMINATION mode.

Discrimination is the elimination of certain metals from detection, and the classification of targeted metals using audio feedback. See chart below.

| TONE MODE AUDIO RESPONSES | | | |
|--|---|--|---|
| | ----- | ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ v v v v v | ----- |
| NO RESPONSE  Iron & Steel | LOW TONE  Gold & Nickel | BROKEN TONE  Old & New Pull Tabs | HIGH TONE  Copper, Silver & Brass |

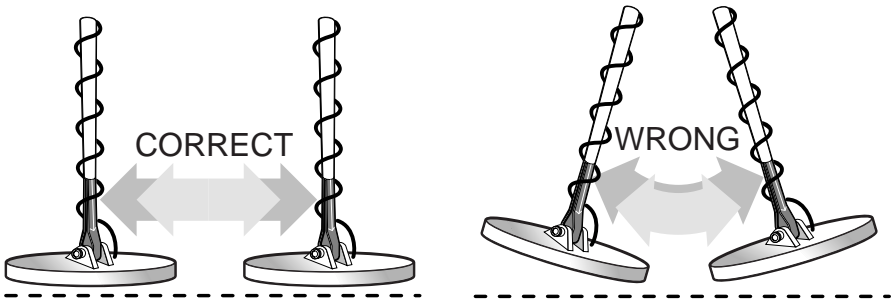
As the chart illustrates, iron and steel will be discriminated out, inducing no audio response. Nickels and gold items will induce a low tone. Silver, copper, and brass will induce a high tone. Many pull-tabs (but not all) will induce a "broken" tone. To achieve the broken tone, set the discriminate control at the approximate center position, about 12:00.

Depth of detection is slightly reduced in the DISCRIMINATION mode.

IN THE FIELD TECHNIQUES

SWEEP TECHNIQUE

Sweep the search coil in a slow, consistent, side-to-side motion. The detector's circuitry is constantly calculating the ground's mineralization. A steady, consistent coil speed is required for the detector to make an accurate calculation. Keep the search coil about one inch above the ground. Keep the coil even with the ground. Do not raise the coil at the ends of your sweep.

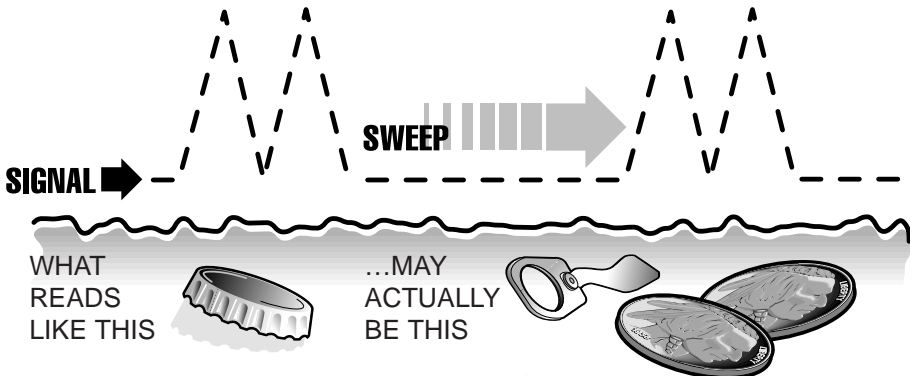


TONE RESPONSE

Only dig up targets that induce repeatable tones. Each time you pass the search coil over a possible target, you should hear the same tone. If the tone does not repeat on each pass, varies in tone, or varies in location, then the target is usually not of value.

Inconsistent tones can be evidence of high oxidation (rusted metal) or irregularly shaped trash items.

Note, however, that multiple tones may be evidence of multiple targets. If you cannot pinpoint the location of a very strong signal, lift the coil higher off of the ground until a weaker, but more precise signal is heard. For very weak signals, try moving the coil in short, rapid sweeps, closer to the ground.

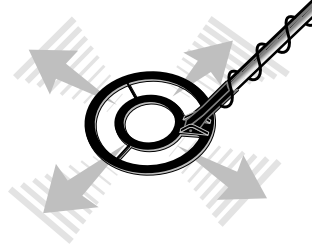


IN THE FIELD TECHNIQUES

PINPOINTING

Accurate pinpointing takes practice and is best accomplished by “X-ing” the suspected target area.

- 1 Once a buried target is identified by a good tone response, continue sweeping the coil over the target in a narrowing side-to-side pattern.
- 2 Take visual note of the place on the ground where the “beep” occurs as you move the coil slowly from side to side.
- 3 Stop the coil directly over this spot on the ground.
- 4 Now move the coil straight forward and straight back towards you a couple of times.
- 5 Again make visual note of the spot on the ground at which the “beep” occurs.
- 6 If needed, “X” the target at different angles to “zero in” on the exact spot on the ground at which the “beep” occurs.



TROUBLESHOOTING

The following troubleshooting steps may assist you in case you're having problems with your Detector.

YOUR DETECTOR IS EMITTING ERRATIC SIGNALS WHEN YOU'RE IN THE FIELD.

Your **SENSITIVITY** may be set too high. Try reducing the **SENSITIVITY** slightly until the false signals stop.

Remember to swing your coil slowly. Some inconsistent signals will occur on highly rusted metals. If the signal does not repeat after successive passes of the coil over the same area, then the target is usually not worthwhile.

Natural and man-made electromagnetic fields can cause interference.

YOUR DETECTOR IS NOT STABLE AND HAS A PULSING, DISTORTED TONE INSTEAD OF A CLEAR TONE.

This can occur if you're operating near another detector or near power lines that can interfere with the detector's operating frequency.

YOUR DETECTOR IS EMITTING A CONSTANT LOUD TONE OR CONSTANT REPEATING TONES

This usually occurs when the batteries are low. Try replacing your batteries with two new alkaline batteries.

KEEP 2 DETECTORS AT LEAST 20ft APART

If 2 detectors are in close proximity, interference between the two may cause your detector to emit erratic signals.

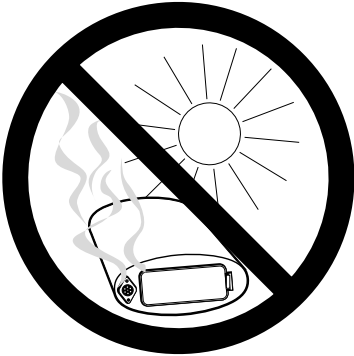
CARE AND MAINTENANCE

Your Tracker I Metal Detector is an example of superior design and craftsmanship. The following suggestions will help you care for your metal detector so that you can enjoy it for years.



Handle the metal detector gently and carefully. Dropping it can damage electronic components.

Use and store the metal detector only in normal temperature environments. Temperature extremes can shorten the life of electronic devices and distort or melt plastic parts.



Wipe the metal detector with a damp cloth occasionally to keep it looking new. Do not use harsh chemicals, cleaning solvents, or strong detergents to clean the metal detector.

The coil is waterproof and may be submerged into either fresh or salt water. Be careful to prevent water from entering the control housing. After using the coil in salt water, rinse it with fresh water to prevent corrosion of the metal parts.



METAL DETECTING APPLICATIONS

COIN SHOOTING

Searching for coins is the most popular metal detecting application. We receive testimonials every day from BOUNTY HUNTER users finding very old coins — many times from the 1800's or earlier — in old school yards, parks, and even their own back yards.

To adjust your detector for coin shooting, you want to click on the ALL METAL control knob to about the 1:00 position. Find an older pull tab, and adjust the discrimination control to the point where you hear a broken, in-between, sound. At this setting, you have eliminated all iron objects, and will be aware of the presence of pull tabs, as they usually induce this broken tone.

Long-buried coins can often be detected deeper than newer coins. As an old coin oxidizes, it creates a magnetic halo in the soil, effectively increasing the size of its magnetic signature, and its detectability.

JEWELRY HUNTING

Keep the discrimination control at the 11:00 setting for jewelry hunting. Many gold rings will register similar to pull-tabs. Beware that you will dig up many pull tabs in the search for gold rings. Both pull-tabs and gold rings can induce a low tone. Keep the discrimination control at the lower, 11:00, setting so that you do not eliminate small gold rings from detection.

Some gold rings can induce a double beep whereas most pull-tabs will not. To achieve the double beep, move the coil very slowly over the buried target at differing angles. You can sometimes achieve a double beep as the search coil passes over two sides of the ring.

Necklaces can be very difficult to detect. Silver rings will induce a high tone. Highly oxidized trash items can also induce high tones.

RELIC HUNTING

A relic is a historical object, sometimes of great value. Relics are often made of iron or bronze. Therefore, keep your discrimination control turned off, in the 100% counterclockwise position. In this ALL METAL mode, you will detect all types of metal, including trash items. You must limit your relic-hunting activity to areas where you have a reasonable suspicion of finding an ancient object. Visit the local library to learn of historical events which occurred in the area. Remember to always obtain permission before searching property which is not your own.

CACHE HUNTING

A cache, pronounced "cash", is a hidden store of valuables. Years ago, many people stashed valuables in cans, bags, and metal chests. They often buried them or hid them in the walls or floors of their homes. Search old homes or camp sites to locate caches. Caches are very rare and hard to find. Cache hunting requires the ALL METAL mode; so keep the discrimination control turned off.

HOUSEHOLD APPLICATIONS

Lost keys or machine parts, underground pipes, and property markers can all be located using the ALL METAL mode. Keep the discrimination control in the off position.

TREASURE HUNTER'S CODE OF ETHICS:

1. Respect the rights and property of others.
2. Observe all laws, whether national, state or local.
3. Never destroy historical or archaeological treasures.
4. Leave the land and vegetation as it was. Fill in the holes.
5. All treasure hunters may be judged by the example you set. Always obtain permission before searching any site. Be extremely careful while probing, picking up, or discarding trash items. And ALWAYS COVER YOUR HOLES!

FIRST TEXAS PRODUCTS, LP 5-YEAR LIMITED WARRANTY

Bounty Hunter Metal Detectors are warranted against defects in workmanship or materials under normal use for five years from date of purchase to the original user. Liability in all events is limited to the purchase price paid. Liability under this Warranty is limited to replacing or repairing, at our option, any Bounty Hunter Detector returned, shipping cost prepaid, to First Texas Products, LP. Damage due to neglect, accidental damage or misuse of this product is not covered by this warranty.

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