

USER'S GUIDE



PH-200
pH / TEMP METER



CONTENTS

Overview.....	1
Contact Information.....	1
Specifications.....	1
Housing and Screen Description.....	2
Taking Measurements.....	3
Calibration.....	4
Care, Maintenance & Techniques.....	5
Warranty.....	7

OVERVIEW

Thank you for purchasing HM Digital's PH-200 Meter. The PH-200 is an advanced, micro-processor-based handheld, watertight pH meter with superior accuracy. It can be used for testing the acidity or alkaline levels of almost any liquid, in a wide variety of applications, provided the liquid contains less than 50% alcohol. It also measure temperature in both Celsius and Fahrenheit. The meter incorporates automatic temperature compensation (ATC) to accommodate for discrepancies in temperature that would naturally occur. Though the meter is factory calibrated, it also features digital calibration for easy and precise calibration that will yield better results.

CONTACT INFORMATION

If you have any problems or questions regarding your meter, please contact HM Digital, Inc.

HM Digital, Inc.
5819 Uplander Way
Culver City, CA 90230

info@hmdigital.com
www.hmdigital.com
1-800-383-2777

SPECIFICATIONS

pH Range: 0.00 – 14.0 pH

Temperature Range: 0-80 °C; 32-176 °F

Resolution:

pH: 0.01 pH

Temperature: .1 °C/F

Accuracy: +/- 0.02 pH

Temperature Compensation: Automatic (ATC) to 25 °C

Calibration: Auto-ranging to 4, 7 or 10 pH with fine tune digital calibration by push button.

Auto Shut-Off: After 5 minutes

Probe: Glass sensor and glass reference tube (single junction)

Safe Operating Temperature: 0-80 °C; 32-176 °F (measuring in extreme temperatures is not recommended)

Display: LCD panel

Housing: Waterproof (submersible); floats

Power source: 3 x 1.5V button cell batteries (included), model 357A

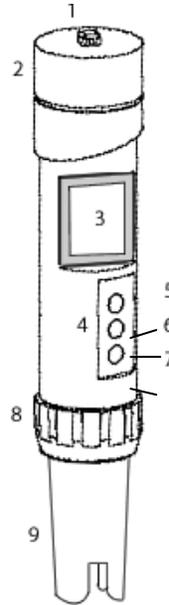
Dimensions: 18.5 x 3.4 x 3.4 cm (7.3 x 1.3 x 1.3 inches)

Weight: 95 grams (3.35 ounces)

HOUSING AND SCREEN DESCRIPTION

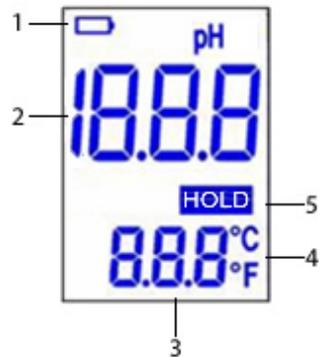
Housing

1. Lanyard hook
2. Battery compartment
3. LCD display
4. Button panel
5. Power button
6. Calibration mode, temperature mode, calibration-up button
7. Hold, calibration-down button
8. Sensor gasket ring
9. Detachable sensor (electrode)



LCD Display

1. Low battery indicator
2. pH measurement
3. Temperature measurement
4. Celsius/Fahrenheit mode
5. Hold mode

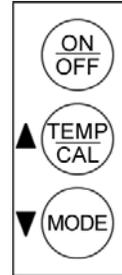


TAKING MEASUREMENTS

The PH-200 can take measurements of pH levels and temperature.

pH Measurements

1. Remove the cap.
2. Press the 'ON/OFF' button. The display will become active.
3. Dip the meter into the water sample, liquid or solution to be tested.
4. Lightly swirl the meter to ensure the removal of trapped air bubbles or electric charges. **Do not tap it against the glass.**
5. The meter will display a reading almost immediately. Keep the meter in the liquid until the reading stabilizes (approx. 30 seconds) for an accurate reading. **NOTE – It is a normal function of pH for the reading to fluctuate and not fully stabilize.**
6. To view the reading out of the liquid, quickly press the 'HOLD/MODE' button while the meter is in the liquid. This will hold the reading on the screen. Quickly pressing the 'HOLD/MODE' button again will release it.
7. Press the 'ON/OFF' button to turn the meter off.
8. Shake any excess water off the meter and rinse with distilled or de-ionized water. Put the cap back on.



Temperature Measurements

The temperature reading is always displayed on the LCD panel during measurement mode, and is shown simultaneously for pH readings. It is not shown when the meter is in calibration mode. The default temperature reading for the meter is in Celsius.

1. Remove the cap.
2. Press the 'ON/OFF' button. The display will become active.
3. The temperature reading is always displayed on the LCD panel (except in calibration mode), and is shown simultaneously for pH readings.
4. The default mode for temperature is Celsius. To change the temp mode, quickly press the 'TEMP/CAL' button to switch from Celsius to Fahrenheit or vice-versa.
5. Dip the meter into the water sample or solution to be measured.
6. The temperature reading will change immediately (unless the solution is at room temp). For very hot or cold liquids, the reading may take slightly longer to stabilize.
7. Press the 'ON/OFF' button to turn the meter off.
8. Shake any excess water off the meter and rinse with distilled or de-ionized water. Put the cap back on.

NOTE – Because of the sensitivity of the pH sensor and reference tube, it is not recommended to use your meter as a thermometer in very hot or very cold liquids.

Switching Temperature Modes:

The default temperature reading for the meter is in Celsius. To change the temperature mode, quickly press the 'TEMP/CAL' button to switch from Celsius to Fahrenheit or from Fahrenheit to Celsius.

CALIBRATION

Your PH-200 meter has been factory-calibrated to a 7.00 pH buffer solution. While this is suitable for most applications, it may be necessary to recalibrate the meter for more accurate results. Additionally, it should be noted that pH buffer solutions may vary amongst manufacturers. For best results, the PH-200 should be recalibrated to a pH buffer solution that suits your specific needs.

The PH-200 features 3-point auto-ranging calibration with digital fine tuning. The meter can be calibrated to pH buffer solutions of 4, 7 or 10 pH. To recalibrate the meter:

1. Turn the meter on by pressing the 'ON/OFF' button. Note that the reading will fluctuate when the meter is not submerged in a liquid. It will begin to stabilize once it is in a pH buffer solution.
2. Dip the meter into a pH buffer solution of 4, 7 or 10 pH. Lightly stir the meter for approximately 30 seconds. The reading will change during this time and may continue to change slightly after 30 seconds. This is normal.
3. Press and hold the 'TEMP/CAL' button. The temperature display will change to a 'CAL' image.
4. The meter will automatically adjust to a reading within a range of the solution the meter is in.
5. Change the reading so that it matches the calibration solution. For example, if your calibration solution is 4 pH, decrease or increase the reading until it reads '4.00'. To increase the reading, press the 'UP' button (TEMP/CAL). To decrease the reading, press the 'DOWN' button (HOLD).
 - If the calibration reading reaches the minimum or maximum level within the range (approx. +/- .5 pH), the screen will display the 'minimum calibration reached' icon or 'maximum calibration reached' icon, respectively. Note that this occurs only within the range of the sample the meter is currently in. When 'CAL' does not flash, it means calibration is in the middle of the range.
6. To set the calibration, press and hold the 'TEMP/CAL' button until the screen reverts back to the measurement mode.
7. Your meter is now re-calibrated.



 min. calibration reached

 max. calibration reached

NOTE – The sensor is very sensitive. It is normal for the reading to change by .01 or .02.

CARE, MAINTENANCE & TECHNIQUES

As with all pH meters, the PH-200 requires proper maintenance to ensure a healthy lifespan for the meter.

General techniques:

1. Do not store the unit in high temperature or direct sunlight.
2. Never touch the sensor! Skin oils may adversely affect the reading. If you do touch the sensor, clean immediately with distilled water or a pH 7 buffer solution (see cleaning instructions).
3. Always immediately replace the cap when the meter is not in use. The PH-200 cap contains a small wetted sponge to ensure that the gel within the glass sensor does not dry up. *NOTE – A tightened cap will ensure a longer lifespan for your sensor!*
4. Using the PH-200 in high temperature liquid, such as hot coffee, will shorten the lifespan of the sensor. If testing in hot liquid is essential, be sure to not keep the meter in the hot liquid very long. (Room temperature coffee will not adversely affect the sensor.)
5. After repeated usage in high TDS liquids, it is advised to clean the sensor to prevent residue build-up.
6. If testing two samples over a wide range (e.g., pH 3 and pH 10), make sure to rinse the sensor in distilled water or a pH 7 buffer solution between and after tests.
7. For optimum performance, it is best to use the meter at least once per month.

For best measurement accuracy:

1. Though it is not necessary, the PH-200 will be more accurate if calibrated before each use. This is the case with all digital pH meters.
2. Clean with distilled water or a pH 7 buffer solution after each use, even if checking the same sample.
3. If an air bubble is lodged in the sensor, dip the meter in distilled water and stir. Remove the meter and shake excess water off.
4. If the sensor is scratched, it must be replaced.
5. If the readings seem to slow down and continue to get slower, or the meter seems to have become unresponsive or sluggish, you may need to change the batteries or replace the sensor. Lifespans of sensors are limited. Lifespans vary depending upon usage. It is normal for a sensor to wear out.

FOR ADVANCED USERS ONLY: If the meter is continuously used to check widely varying pH levels and is also continuously recalibrated at different levels, performance may be affected. If you find your meter is not be working at optimum performance, press and hold the 'TEMP/CAL' button. Once 'CAL' is flashing on the screen, press and hold both the 'TEMP/CAL' and 'HOLD' buttons at the same time for two seconds. This will reset the calibration. It is then necessary to recalibrate the meter (see the Calibration chapter for more information).

Changing the batteries:

When the meter displays a flashing battery symbol, your batteries are getting weak and should be replaced soon. To change the batteries:

1. Twist open the battery compartment on the top of the meter.
2. Remove the three batteries.
3. Insert new batteries in the direction as depicted inside the compartment. The meter uses 357A batteries.
4. Close the battery compartment. Make sure it is tightly closed to retain waterproofness.

*NOTE: Do not reverse the polarity of the batteries. This will **short circuit** the meter.*



Cleaning and sensor care:

1. Never touch the sensor!
2. To clean the unit, use a soft rag or towel. Wipe with water and a mild soap or rubbing alcohol.
3. To clean the sensor, rinse in distilled water or a pH 7 buffer solution. If cleaning with a pH 7 buffer solution, lightly dab (touch) the sensor on a soft tissue. Never rub the sensor with a tissue or anything else, as this may scratch the glass.
4. If it is found that the glass sensor is scratched, it needs to be replaced.
5. If the sensor is dried up (or the gel within it), you can attempt to re-moisten the sensor by keeping it in distilled water or a pH 7 solution for at least two hours. If the meter still does not function properly or accuracy is not at optimum performance, the sensor may be irreparably damaged and must be replaced.
6. For best results, clean the sensor after each use, especially with very low or very high pH liquids or liquids other than water.

Sensor Replacement:

If your sensor has been damaged, you can purchase a new one without having to purchase a new meter. To replace the sensor:

1. Remove the sensor gasket ring by twisting it counter-clockwise.
2. Gently pull the sensor off the unit.
3. Gently insert the new sensor into the unit. Be sure to align the grooves properly. Never force the sensor into the unit!
4. Make sure the rubber ring is properly positioned on the sensor.
5. Screw the gasket ring back onto the unit by twisting it clockwise. Tighten.

Sponge Care:

1. Never add distilled or tap water to the sponge, as mildew or mold may form.
2. Rewet with a 4 pH KCl solution.

WARRANTY

ONE YEAR LIMITED WARRANTY

The PH-200, manufactured by HM Digital, Inc. ("the Company") is warranted to the purchaser against defective materials and workmanship for one (1) year from the date of purchase.

What is covered: Repair parts and labor, or replacement at the Company's option. Transportation charges for repaired or new product to be returned to the purchaser.

What is not covered: Transportation charges for the defective product to be sent to the Company. Any consequential damages, incidental damages, or incidental expenses, including damages to property. This includes damages from abuse or improper maintenance such as tampering, wear and tear, water damage, or any other physical damage. The Company's products are not waterproof and should not be fully submerged in water. Products with any evidence of such damage will not be repaired or replaced. See additional note below. (NOTE - The PH-200 is watertight and completely submersible. Please ensure that the battery compartment and probe gasket ring are firmly tightened before submersing in water. The warranty does not cover water damage to the PH-200 due to parts not securely closed.)

How to obtain warranty performance: Attach to the product your name, address, description of problem, phone number, and proof of date of purchase, package and return to:

HM Digital, Inc.
5819 Uplander Way
Culver City, CA 90230
U.S.A.

Implied Warranties: Any implied warranties, including implied warranties of merchantability and fitness for a particular purpose, are limited in duration to five years from date of purchase. Some states do not allow limitations on how long an implied warranty lasts, so the above limitation may not apply to you. To the extent any provision of this warranty is prohibited by federal and state law and cannot be preempted, it shall not be applicable. This warranty gives you specific legal rights, and you may also have other rights, which vary from state to state.

NOTE: Warranties are product-specific. Third-party products and products deemed by HM Digital as "accessories" are not covered under warranty. Third-party products include, but are not limited to, batteries and fittings. Accessories include, but are not limited to, precipitator rods, fuses, lanyards and product cases.

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