

GARMIN®

SPY™ POLE

Owner's
Manual

Table of Contents

Important Safety Information.....	3	Replacing the Batteries in the Spy Foot Control.....	19
Turning the Spy Pole On or Off.....	4	Using Advanced Spy Pole Features.....	20
Adjusting the Depth of the Spy Pole.....	5	Stowing and Deploying Considerations.....	21
Pairing a Spy Foot Control.....	6	Stowing or Deploying the Spy Pole on a Trolling Motor.....	21
Pairing a Spy Gesture Remote.....	7	Stowing and Deploying the Spy Pole on a Gunnel Mount.....	21
Pairing a Spy Heading Sensor.....	8	Setting the Spy Pole Automatic Park Settings.....	21
Pairing With a Garmin® Trolling Motor.....	9	Specifications.....	22
Connecting to a Garmin® Chartplotter.....	10	Spy Pole Specifications.....	22
Updating the Spy Pole Software.....	11	Spy Gesture Remote Specifications....	22
Spy Heading Sensor Calibration.....	12	Spy Foot Control Specifications.....	22
Performing Menu-Based Calibration... 12		Spy Heading Sensor Specifications....	22
Adjusting the Fine Heading Alignment.....	12	Status LEDs.....	24
Controlling the Device with the Spy Foot Control.....	13	Button Combinations.....	25
Controlling the Device with the Spy Gesture Remote.....	14		
Controlling the Device with a Chartplotter.....	15		
Programming the Spy Foot Control Buttons.....	16		
Programming the Spy Gesture Remote Buttons.....	17		
Replacing the Battery in the Gesture Remote.....	18		

Important Safety Information



WARNING

See the *Important Safety and Product Information* guide in the product box for product warnings and other important information.



Turning the Spy Pole On or Off

The Spy pole turns on automatically after power is supplied, but you can also turn the device on and off manually. You can enable or disable the automatic power on features from a connected Garmin® chartplotter.

- 1 Ensure the power cable is connected to the Spy pole and to the power supply, and the locking ring is fully tightened.
The red LED turns on and then, after several seconds, turns green to indicate that the Spy pole is on and ready.
- 2 Press  on the Spy pole until the LED turns off.
The Spy pole is off.
- 3 To turn the Spy pole on again, press and hold  until the LED turns back on.

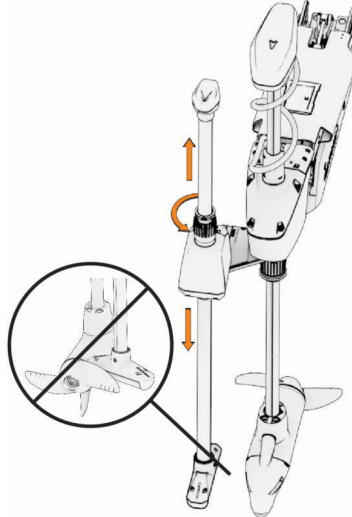
Adjusting the Depth of the Spy Pole

You can change the depth of the Spy pole after it has been installed. The device can slide up or down, depending on where you have installed the depth ring along the pole.

NOTICE

If you installed the Spy pole on a trolling motor, you must set the depth-indicator ring at a point that prevents the spy pole from being lowered deep enough to contact the propeller of the trolling motor. If the trolling motor propeller contacts the Spy pole, it can damage the Spy pole, any attachments on the pole, and the propeller.


- 1 Loosen the depth adjustment collar.
- 2 Slide the pole up or down through the Spy pole housing to the preferred depth.



- 3 Tighten the depth adjustment collar to set the preferred depth.


Pairing a Spy Foot Control

The Spy pole can pair with one foot control at a time. The Spy pole is already paired with the included foot control, but you can also initiate pairing manually if needed.

- 1 Turn on the Spy pole.
- 2 Press  on the Spy pole three times.
The LED turns solid blue, indicating that the device is pairing.
- 3 On the foot control, press the top two programmable buttons simultaneously three times.
The LED on the foot control flashes blue, indicating that the device is pairing.
- 4 Wait for the two devices to pair.
The LED on the Spy pole turns green again and the LED on the foot control flashes green after the devices are paired successfully.

Pairing a Spy Gesture Remote

The Spy pole can pair with up to five gesture remotes. The Spy pole is already paired with the included remote, but you can also initiate pairing manually if needed.


- 1 Turn on the Spy pole.
- 2 Press  on the Spy pole three times.
The LED turns solid blue, indicating that the device is pairing.
- 3 On the remote, press the left and right buttons simultaneously three times.
The LED on the remote flashes blue, indicating that the device is pairing.
- 4 Wait for the remote to pair with the Spy pole.
The LED on the Spy pole turns green again and the LED on the remote flashes green after the devices are paired successfully.



Pairing a Spy Heading Sensor



A Spy pole can pair to one Spy heading sensor at a time. The Spy pole is already paired with the included sensor, but you can also initiate pairing manually if needed. If you have multiple Spy poles, a single Spy heading sensor can connect to up to 4 Spy poles.

If you already have a reliable NMEA 2000® heading sensor connected to a Garmin® chartplotter, you do not need to install the Spy heading sensor. The advanced control modes for the Spy pole will work as intended with your existing heading sensor.

- 1 Turn on the Spy pole.
- 2 Press  on the Spy pole three times.
The LED turns solid blue, indicating that the device is pairing.
- 3 On the heading sensor, press the button three times.
The LED on the heading sensor turns solid blue, indicating that the device is pairing.
- 4 Wait for the heading sensor to pair with the Spy pole.
The LED on the Spy pole turns green again and the LED on the heading sensor flashes green after the devices are paired successfully.

Pairing With a Garmin® Trolling Motor

The Spy pole can pair with one Garmin Force® trolling motor at a time. A trolling motor can only pair to one Spy pole at a time.

- 1 Turn on the Spy pole.
- 2 Press  on the Spy pole three times.
The LED turns solid blue, indicating that the device is pairing.
- 3 On the trolling motor, press  three times.
The pairing LED on the trolling motor turns blue, indicating that the device is pairing.
- 4 Wait for the trolling motor to pair with the Spy pole.
The LED on the Spy pole and trolling motor turn green again after the devices are paired successfully.




Connecting to a Garmin® Chartplotter

The Spy pole can connect with one compatible Garmin chartplotter at a time. After connecting the Spy pole with a chartplotter, you can control it using any other chartplotter connected to the same Garmin BlueNet™ or Garmin Marine Network.


Up to four Spy poles can connect to one Garmin Marine Network at any one time.

Go to www.garmin.com for a list of compatible chartplotters.

- 1 Turn on the Spy pole.
- 2 Press  on the Spy pole three times.
The LED turns solid blue, indicating that the device is connecting.
- 3 On the chartplotter, select **Home > Settings > Communications > Wireless Devices > Spy™ Pole Mount > Start**.
- 4 Wait for the chartplotter to connect to the Spy pole.
The LED on the Spy pole turns green again after the devices are connected successfully.

Updating the Spy Pole Software

If the Spy pole is connected to a compatible chartplotter, it is updated automatically whenever you update the software on the chartplotter. You can also manually update the Spy Pole using the ActiveCaptain® app.

- 1 Turn off the Spy pole.
- 2 Hold  until the status LED turns yellow.
- 3 Connect your mobile device to the dedicated Wi-Fi® network on the Spy pole.
The dedicated network name starts with "SPY" and contains a series of numbers unique to the device.
- 4 Open the ActiveCaptain app on your mobile device.
- 5 Disconnect the mobile device from the Spy pole network and connect it to the internet.
- 6 From the ActiveCaptain app, select **My Marine Devices > Download**.
NOTE: The option to download an update is shown only if a software update is available for your device.
The ActiveCaptain app downloads the update to your mobile device.
- 7 Turn on all Spy pole peripherals to ensure they are also updated.
- 8 Reconnect your mobile device to the Spy pole network.
The update is transferred to the Spy pole. This could take up to 30 minutes to complete.
The status LED on the Spy pole flashes purple to indicate that the software is updating.
If the transfer finishes but the status LED on the Spy pole does not start flashing, you should turn off the Spy pole and turn it back on to complete the update.



Spy Heading Sensor Calibration

When you connect the Spy pole with a paired heading sensor to a compatible Garmin® chartplotter, the Spy Pole Setup Wizard will prompt you for calibration during setup. Otherwise, you can perform menu-based calibration through the Spy Pole toolbar on your chartplotter (*Performing Menu-Based Calibration, page 12*). Go to www.garmin.com for a list of compatible chartplotters.

NOTICE

After installation is complete, you must calibrate the Spy heading sensor, as it does not provide heading data until it is calibrated.

Performing Menu-Based Calibration

The heading sensor comes paired to your Spy pole. Before you can perform menu-based calibration, the Spy pole must be connected to a compatible Garmin® chartplotter (*Connecting to a Garmin® Chartplotter, page 10*). You can calibrate your heading sensor from the menu of a compatible Garmin chartplotter.

- 1 From the home screen of your chartplotter, select **Toolbars > Spy™ Pole**.
- 2 Select a location for the Spy pole toolbar.
- 3 Open the Spy pole toolbar.
- 4 Select **Menu > Installation > Calibrate > Spy™ Heading Sensor**.
The calibration wizard opens.
- 5 Select **Begin**.
- 6 Follow the on-screen instructions until the compass calibration is complete, taking care to keep the boat as steady and level as possible.
The boat should not list during calibration.
If possible, you can turn the vessel in place by engaging two engines in opposite directions.
If the heading performance is unacceptable after calibration, you may need to relocate the sensor and calibrate the compass again. Refer to the Spy pole installation instructions for further details.
- 7 Select **Auto Heading Alignment**.
Auto Heading Alignment is available only if there is a GPS source present on the Garmin BlueNet™ network or Garmin Marine Network. If a GPS source is not connected, you must perform the Fine Heading Alignment instead (*Adjusting the Fine Heading Alignment, page 12*).
- 8 Select **Begin**.
- 9 Follow the on-screen instructions until the alignment is complete.

Adjusting the Fine Heading Alignment

If you do not have a GPS source present on the Garmin BlueNet™ network or Garmin® Marine Network, the Auto Heading Alignment option is not available as part of menu-based calibration. You must adjust the Fine Heading Alignment instead.

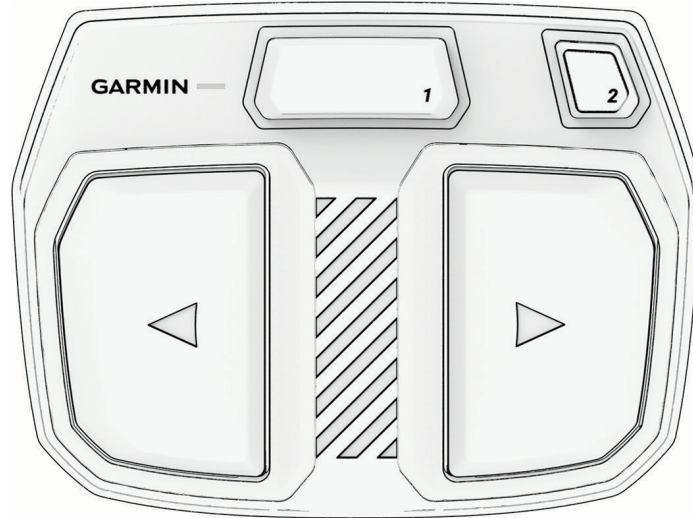
You can adjust the Fine Heading Alignment in conjunction with Auto Heading Alignment to fine-tune the heading output (optional).

- 1 Start the Spy heading sensor calibration, and skip directly to **Fine Heading Alignment**.
- 2 Using a landmark or a known good compass, determine the heading of your boat.
- 3 Adjust the heading until it matches your measurement.
- 4 Select **Done**.

Controlling the Device with the Spy Foot Control

You can use the foot control to maneuver the Spy pole. You can also use the programmable buttons to engage other features of the device.

- 1 Use the large ◀ or ▶ control buttons to turn the Spy pole that direction.



- 2 When needed, press the top programmable buttons ① or ② to activate other features of the Spy pole.

NOTE: By default, button ① performs the "Toggle Gesture" action and button ② performs the "Engage SpyScan™" action.

NOTE: You can change the actions performed by these buttons after you have connected the Spy pole to a compatible chartplotter ([Programming the Spy Foot Control Buttons, page 16](#)).

Controlling the Device with the Spy Gesture Remote

You can use the gesture remote to maneuver the Spy pole. You can also use the programmable buttons to engage other features of the device.

- 1 By default, press ◀ and ▶ to turn the Spy pole.

You can program these buttons to activate other features of the Spy pole instead after you have connected the Spy pole to a compatible chartplotter ([Programming the Spy Gesture Remote Buttons, page 17](#)).



- 2 Press and hold the bottom button ① to enable gesture control of the Spy pole.

You can program the gesture control type (pan or tilt) after you have connected the Spy pole to a compatible chartplotter ([Programming the Spy Gesture Remote Buttons, page 17](#)).

Controlling the Device with a Chartplotter

You can use a compatible Garmin® chartplotter to maneuver the Spy pole. You can also use the chartplotter to engage other features of the device.

For more details, see the latest version of your chartplotter owner's manual.


- 1 Open the Spy pole toolbar ([Performing Menu-Based Calibration, page 12](#)).
- 2 Select ◀ and ▶ to turn the Spy pole.
- 3 Use the other buttons on the interface to activate and control other features of the Spy pole.



Programming the Spy Foot Control Buttons

Before you can program the buttons on the Spy foot control, you must connect the Spy pole to a compatible chartplotter ([Connecting to a Garmin® Chartplotter, page 10](#)).


The foot control includes 2 buttons that you can program to perform several different functions.

- 1 On the chartplotter, open the Spy pole toolbar and select  > **Foot Control**.
- 2 Select a function for each of the two control buttons.

Programming the Spy Gesture Remote Buttons

Before you can program the buttons on the Spy gesture remote, you must connect the Spy pole to a compatible chartplotter ([Connecting to a Garmin® Chartplotter, page 10](#)).

You can program the ◀ and ▶ buttons on the gesture remote to perform several different functions.

- 1 On the chartplotter, open the Spy pole toolbar and select  > **Gesture Remote**.
- 2 Select a function for the ◀ and ▶ buttons.
- 3 Select the gesture control type (Swing To Steer or Twist To Steer) for the gesture control button.

Replacing the Battery in the Gesture Remote

WARNING

See the *Important Safety and Product Information* guide in the product box for product warnings and other important information.

A battery is already installed in the Spy gesture remote, and you can replace it when necessary.

- 1 Remove the gesture remote from any remote mount.
- 2 Using a #1 Phillips screwdriver, unscrew the three screws on the back of the remote.
- 3 Remove the back of the remote to access the battery terminal.
- 4 Remove the dead battery and dispose of it safely.
You may need to use a flat prying tool to remove the battery from the housing.
- 5 Place the new battery in the back housing, with the positive (+) side facing down.
- 6 Place the back of the housing onto the remote and secure it using the three screws you removed previously.

NOTICE

You must tighten the screws enough to fasten the back housing onto the remote securely. Improperly tightening the screws to secure the back housing can lead to water ingress and damage the remote.

Replacing the Batteries in the Spy Foot Control

- 1 Pull the foot control toward you to release it from the mount plate.
- 2 Open the battery door on the underside of the foot control.
- 3 Replace the batteries, making sure to observe the polarity when installing the new batteries.
- 4 Close the battery door.
- 5 Set the foot control on the mount plate and push it away from you until it clicks into place.



Using Advanced Spy Pole Features

Before you can take advantage of all the features of your Spy pole, you must connect it to a compatible Garmin® chartplotter and perform required configuration and calibration procedures.

- 1 Go to garmin.com/manuals.
- 2 Enter the name of your chartplotter and select the right model.
- 3 Select the Owner's Manual on the manuals page.
- 4 Refer to the Spy pole control chapter for instructions to set up and use features such as SpyLink™ synchronization, SpyScan™ search mode, and SpyLock™ locking.

NOTE: The advanced features available on the chartplotter depend on the availability of other required hardware such as a Garmin trolling motor and a Spy heading sensor.

Stowing and Deploying Considerations

You can stow or deploy the Spy Pole in different ways to best suit how the device is mounted on your vessel.

NOTICE

You should stow the Spy Pole whenever your vessel is traveling at speeds greater than trolling speeds. Traveling faster than a trolling speed with the Spy deployed may damage the Spy Pole or any devices mounted to the Spy Pole.

If the Spy Pole is mounted on a trolling motor, you should refer to the trolling motor stowing instructions (*Stowing or Deploying the Spy Pole on a Trolling Motor, page 21*).

If the Spy Pole is mounted on the gunnel mount (not included), you should refer to the gunnel mount stowing instructions (*Stowing and Deploying the Spy Pole on a Gunnel Mount, page 21*).

You can control how the Spy Pole reacts when you stow or deploy it by adjusting the automatic park settings from your chartplotter (*Setting the Spy Pole Automatic Park Settings, page 21*).

Stowing or Deploying the Spy Pole on a Trolling Motor

If the Spy pole is mounted on a trolling motor, the Spy pole is stowed and deployed automatically when you stow and deploy the trolling motor.

- 1 To stow the Spy pole, use the pull-cable on your trolling motor to pull the motor out of the water and into the stowed position.
The Spy pole moves out of the water with the trolling motor and rests in the stowed position.
- 2 To deploy the Spy pole, pull the pull-cable on the trolling motor back until it stops to release the latch, and hold it tight.
- 3 Lift the motor and Spy pole assembly up and forward using the pull-cable, then lower it slowly into the deployed position.
- 4 If necessary, push down on the mount arm to lock the assembly in the deployed position.
The Spy pole and trolling motor are deployed in the water and ready to use.

Stowing and Deploying the Spy Pole on a Gunnel Mount

If the Spy pole is installed on a gunnel mount, you can stow or deploy the Spy pole by manually moving it on the mount.


- 1 To stow the Spy pole, unlatch the quick-release lever on the gunnel mount's horizontal tube.
- 2 Rotate the Spy pole until it is parallel to the water.
- 3 Relatch the quick-release lever to hold the Spy pole out of the water.
- 4 Pull one of the silver security pins from the tube-connector bracket and push it through the concentric holes in the bracket and horizontal tube.
The Spy pole is securely stowed out of the water.
- 5 To deploy the Spy Pole, remove the silver security pin and return it to the storage hole on the tube-connector bracket.
- 6 Hold onto the Spy Pole while you unlatch the quick-release lever.
- 7 Gently lower the Spy Pole into the water.
- 8 Relatch the quick-release lever.
The Spy Pole is deployed and ready to use.

Setting the Spy Pole Automatic Park Settings

With the automatic park feature, you can set the Spy pole to automatically rotate into a parked position when it is stowed. When deployed, the Spy pole automatically rotates into the active position. This feature is disabled by default, but you can enable it through your connected chartplotter settings.

⚠ CAUTION

Take care when holding onto the Spy pole shaft while stowing the device when the automatic park features are enabled. The device can rotate in your hands and can potentially cause minor injuries or damage the device.

- 1 On a connected chartplotter, open the Spy pole control bar.
- 2 Select  > **Installation** > **Transducer Auto Park**.
- 3 Adjust the automatic park settings for your Spy pole as needed.

Specifications

Spy Pole Specifications

Weight (motor, mount, and cables)	42 in. model: 4.1 kg (9 lbs) 49 in. model: 4.24 kg (9.35 lbs)
Operating temperature	From -5° to 55°C (23° to 131°F)
Storage temperature	From -40° to 85°C (-40° to 185°F)
Power cable length	2 m (6.6 ft)
Input voltage	From 10 to 45 Vdc
Input amperage	1.5 A RMS 7 A Peak
Fuse information	8 A (included)
Power usage	Off: <10 mW Typical: 18 W Max: 70 W
Radio frequency	2400 - 2483.5 MHz @ <20 dBm nominal
Water rating	IEC 60529 IPX7 ¹
Compass safe distance	48.3 cm (19 in.)

Spy Gesture Remote Specifications

Dimensions (W×H×D)	32 mm diameter x 13 mm thick (1.25 in. diameter x 0.5 in thick)
Weight (with included battery)	14 g (0.5 oz)
Operating temperature	From -15° to 55°C (5° to 131°F)
Storage temperature	From -40° to 85°C (-40° to 185°F)
Battery type	1 CR2032 (included)
Battery life	1 full season, typical use
Radio frequency	2400 - 2483.5 MHz @ <20 dBm nominal
Water rating	IEC 60529 IPX7 ¹
Compass-safe distance	2.5 cm (1 in.)

Spy Foot Control Specifications

Dimensions (W×H×D)	198 x 147 x 46 mm (7.8 x 5.8 x 1.8 in.)
Weight (without batteries)	0.48 kg (1.06 lbs)
Operating temperature	From -15° to 55°C (5° to 131°F)
Storage temperature	From -40° to 85°C (-40° to 185°F)
Battery type	2 AA (not included)
Battery life	1 full season, typical use
Radio frequency	2400 - 2483.5 MHz @ <20 dBm nominal
Water rating	IEC 60529 IPX7 ¹
Compass-safe distance	12.7 cm (5 in.)

Spy Heading Sensor Specifications

Dimensions (W×H×D)	90 x 50 x 25 mm (3.5 x 2 x 1 in.)
Weight	122 g (4.3 oz)
Operating temperature	From -15° to 70°C (5° to 158°F)
Storage temperature	From -40° to 85°C (-40° to 185°F)

¹ The device withstands incidental exposure to water of up to 1 m for up to 30 min. For more information, go to www.garmin.com/waterrating.



Input voltage	From 10 to 45 Vdc
Input amperage	0.1 A max
Fuse information	1 A (included)
Power Usage	Off: <10 mW Typical: 0.1 W Max: 5 W
Radio frequency	2400 - 2483.5 MHz @ <20 dBm nominal
Water rating	IEC 60529 IPX7 ¹
Compass-safe distance	2.5 cm (1 in.)

¹ The device withstands incidental exposure to water of up to 1 m for up to 30 min. For more information, go to www.garmin.com/waterrating.



Status LEDs

The Spy pole and its accessories each have an LED light that changes color to convey different meanings.

Spy Pole

Event	LED	Comment
Device Startup	Solid red	Boot in progress
	Solid green	System booted and ready
Pairing	Solid blue	Pairing mode enabled
	Solid green	Pairing successful
Device Update	Flashing purple	Update in progress
Device Fault	Flashing red	Servo fault detected (this light will remain until reboot, even if the fault is cleared)
System Recovery	Solid yellow	Device in recovery mode

Spy Gesture Remote

Event	LED	Comment
Device Startup	Flashing green	Battery normal
	Flashing yellow	Battery low
	Flashing red	Battery critical
Key Press	Flashing green	Connected
	Flashing red	Not connected
Pairing	Flashing blue	Pairing mode enabled
	Flashing green	Pairing successful
Clear Pairings	Flashing red twice	
Device Update	Flashing purple	Update in progress

Spy Foot Control

Event	LED	Comment
Device Startup	Flashing green	Battery normal
	Flashing yellow	Battery low
	Flashing red	Battery critical
Key Press	Flashing green	Connected
	Flashing red	Not connected
Pairing	Flashing blue	Pairing mode enabled
	Flashing green	Pairing successful
Clear Pairings	Flashing red twice	
Device Update	Flashing purple	Update in progress

Spy Heading Sensor




Event	LED	Comment
Key Press	Flashing green	Connected
	Flashing red	Not connected
Pairing	Solid blue	Pairing mode enabled
	Flashing green	Pairing successful
Clear Pairings and Calibration	Flashing red twice	
Device Update	Flashing purple	Update in progress
Iron Calibration	Solid purple	Calibration mode
	Flashing green	Calibration successful
	Flashing red	Calibration failed







Button Combinations

Different button combinations control different features on the Spy pole and its accessories.




Spy Pole

Feature	Description
Power Button Turn-Off	Press and hold  for 3 seconds to turn the device off.
Pairing	Press  3 times in a row to put the Spy Pole into pairing mode.
Software Update	Press and hold  while the Spy Pole is turned off until the status LED turns yellow. This puts the device in update mode.
Clear Pairings	Within 2 minutes of booting up the device, press the gesture button 12 times in a row to manually prompt the device to clear all saved pairings, including all stored BLE pairings. The LED flashes red twice.

Spy Gesture Remote

Feature	Description
Pairing	Press the  and  buttons simultaneously 3 times in a row to put the gesture remote into pairing mode.
Reset	Press and hold the  and  buttons simultaneously until the LED flashes (at least 8 seconds) to reset the device.
Clear Pairings	Within 2 minutes of booting up the device, press the gesture button 12 times in a row to manually prompt the device to clear all saved pairings.

Spy Foot Control

Feature	Description
Pairing	Press the  and  buttons simultaneously 3 times in a row to put the foot control into pairing mode.
Clear Pairings	Within 2 minutes of booting up the device, press  12 times in a row to manually prompt the device to clear all saved pairings.

Spy Heading Sensor

Feature	Description
Pairing	Press the button 3 times in a row to put the heading sensor into pairing mode.
Reboot	Press and hold the button for 3 seconds to reboot the device.
Clear Pairings and Calibration	Within 2 minutes of booting up the device, press the button 12 times in a row to manually prompt the device to clear all saved pairings and iron calibration.



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