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Trimble Ranger Handheld Customer FAQs

What is the Trimble Ranger handheld?

The Trimble® Ranger™ handheld is a rugged and reliable field computer, now with Microsoft® Windows Mobile® version 5.0 software. Built-in wireless connectivity can help you access enterprise data on-the-go, so you've got the information you need to do the job right first time. The Trimble Ranger handheld features a full alphanumeric keyboard for improved productivity, saving your company time and money.

What are the key features of the Trimble Ranger handheld?

The Trimble Ranger handheld offers the following features and benefits:

- With Microsoft Windows Mobile version 5.0 software, the Trimble Ranger handheld provides familiar Microsoft productivity tools, including Word Mobile, Excel Mobile, PowerPoint Mobile, and Outlook® Mobile. The industry-standard Windows Mobile software means the Trimble Ranger handheld has a familiar, easy to use interface and your field crews can be quickly trained to be more productive.
- Built-in Bluetooth® allows cable-free connection to a range of Bluetooth devices, including cellular connections to your office, and seamless connectivity with Trimble's GPS Pathfinder® Pro series receivers, for accurate GPS positioning.
- Built-in wireless LAN capability provides connectivity to a local network for easy and convenient data transfer to and from your enterprise.
- A full alphanumeric keypad provides a fast and efficient way of entering data.
- Its ultra-rugged design enables you to keep working in all conditions.
- Two CompactFlash (CF) slots and one Secure Digital Input Output (SDIO) slot make the Trimble Ranger expandable and versatile, enabling you to add supported GSM, GPRS, CDMA, and memory cards.
- A USB host port for connecting USB peripherals such as memory sticks (flash drives) and input devices like barcode scanners.
- A large, clear landscape screen provides excellent visibility whether you're inside or outdoors.

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What software can I run on the Trimble Ranger handheld?

The Trimble Ranger handheld supports any software designed to run on Microsoft Windows Mobile 5.0 software. This includes a range of Trimble software applications, as listed below, and industry-specific applications, including ESRI ArcPad software.

The Trimble Ranger handheld is compatible with the following Trimble software versions:

- TerraSync™ software version 2.53
- Trimble GPSCorrect™ extension version 1.12 for ESRI ArcPad software version 6.0.3¹
- Trimble GPSCorrect extension version 2.00 for ESRI ArcPad software version 7.0
- Trimble GPS Controller software version 2.06
- Applications developed with GPS Pathfinder Tools Software Development Kit (SDK) version 2.02

What GPS receivers are compatible with the Trimble Ranger handheld?

The Trimble Ranger handheld is compatible with all Trimble Mapping & GIS GPS receivers, including the GPS Pathfinder ProXH™, ProXT™, and Pro XRS receivers, and the Recon GPS CF Card receiver. The Trimble Ranger handheld allows a Bluetooth connection to the GPS Pathfinder ProXH and ProXT receivers, for cable-free use.

What trade-in programs are available for the Trimble Ranger handheld?

There are no upgrade offers currently available for the new Trimble Ranger handheld. For further information, please contact your local Trimble Reseller.

Can I upgrade from my Windows Mobile 2003 Trimble Ranger handheld?

Yes. If you have an Operating System Enhancement Extension eligibility date that is on or after 10 July 2006, then you will receive the upgrade free of charge. You can find your eligibility information from the “My Trimble” registration system at www.trimble.com/register/

Note: You need to first register your unit in order to receive the upgrade.

If you are not eligible, then you will be required to purchase the upgrade. To do this, please contact your local Trimble Reseller.

To upgrade the operating system, download the installer and release notes from www.trimble.com/ranger_ts.asp, and follow the instructions provided. During installation, you will need to enter the handheld’s unique Windows Mobile 5.0 installation serial number, which can be found in your “My Trimble” registration page. This will be available if you are eligible for a free upgrade, or if

¹ Requires QFE Patch to be installed in order to work on a Windows Mobile 5 device – downloadable from www.esri.com

you have recently purchased an upgrade. An upgrade kit consisting of a manual and Getting Started disc to support the new operating system will be sent to the address you supplied in the “My Trimble” registration system.

For more information on how to upgrade your unit, please see the support note found on http://www.trimble.com/ranger_ts.asp

How is the Trimble Ranger handheld powered?

The Trimble Ranger handheld is powered by an integrated lithium-ion battery that provides 30 hours of battery life in normal use. The battery is internally rechargeable and can be removed and replaced. The battery can be charged while it is in the unit, or can be removed and recharged, using the international power supply that comes with the system. It takes five hours to fully recharge the battery. If you work in the field for multiple days, you may choose to purchase additional batteries. The battery can be easily “hot swapped” when in the field, allowing for an uninterrupted workflow.

What connectivity options are available in the Trimble Ranger handheld?

The Trimble Ranger handheld has a number of cabled and cable-free connectivity options available as standard.

- **Bluetooth**—The Trimble Ranger handheld has a built-in Bluetooth radio for connection to Bluetooth-capable devices including the GPS Pathfinder ProXT and ProXH receivers for accurate GPS positioning, cell phones for connection to the Internet, PCs and other handhelds for transfer of information. The Trimble Ranger handheld’s Bluetooth radio has a typical range of 10 meters, and allows up to two simultaneous serial port connections.
- **Wireless LAN**—The Trimble Ranger handheld has built-in wireless LAN (802.11g) capabilities for connection to a local network or wireless network “hotspot”.
- **Serial**—The Trimble Ranger handheld has a standard DE9 serial connector for cabled connection to external devices such as GPS receivers or external sensors.
- **USB**—The Trimble Ranger handheld has a USB slave port for connection to the office computer, and a USB host port for connection to USB peripherals.
- **CompactFlash**—The Trimble Ranger handheld has two CompactFlash slots built in (1 x Type I Slot and 1 x Type I/II slot), allowing the use of GPRS, GSM or CDMA cards, and other CompactFlash peripherals.
- **Secure Digital Input Output**—The Trimble Ranger handheld has an SDIO slot built-in, allowing the use of GPRS, GSM or CDMA cards, and other SDIO peripherals.

What expansion options are available in the Trimble Ranger handheld?

The Trimble Ranger handheld comes with two CompactFlash slots and one SDIO slot, allowing you to choose from a wide range of standard accessories to expand the functionality of your handheld. CF and

SDIO accessories include memory cards, barcode scanning cards, GPRS, GSM, and CDMA card. CF and SDIO card accessories are available worldwide from electronic equipment retailers.

What USB devices can I connect to the USB host port?

The USB host port allows you to connect USB peripherals to your Trimble Ranger handheld. There are two classes of USB peripheral that are supported by default on the Trimble Ranger handheld:

- USB flash memory devices (also known as USB flash drives or USB memory sticks)
- Human interface devices (HID). The HID class includes keyboards and mice, plus some GPS receivers, barcode scanners, and other devices.

Many USB devices that are supported on personal computers are **not** supported in Windows Mobile 5.0. Before purchasing any USB peripheral for use with the Ranger handheld, you should check whether it is supported under Windows Mobile 5.0. Some devices may work if you install device drivers and/or application software provided by the device manufacturer.

What is standard out of the box?

The Trimble Ranger handheld ships standard with:

- Trimble Ranger handheld
- Trimble Ranger handheld Getting Started Guide
- Getting Started Disc
- International AC charger
- USB data cable
- Two stylus pens
- Five CompactFlash card pull tabs
- Handstrap
- Pack of 10 screen protectors
- Nylon pouch

What optional accessories are available for the Trimble Ranger handheld?

The following optional accessories are available for the Trimble Ranger handheld:

- Range pole bracket
- 12V vehicle charger

Where can I get more information?

Visit the Trimble website at www.trimble.com for further information, or contact your local Trimble Reseller.