



# USER'S GUIDE

SPOT. THE WORLD'S FIRST SATELLITE MESSENGER.



VISIT [FINDMESPOT.COM](https://findmepot.com) TO ACTIVATE

## SECTION 1: WELCOME

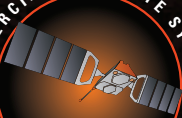
The great outdoors can be a big, uncertain place. But you've just purchased the most peace of mind available for the active outdoor adventurer or smartly-prepared individual. SPOT is the world's first satellite messenger, using the GPS satellite system to determine your location and communications satellites to transmit that information to the chosen recipient. SPOT gives you and your loved ones peace of mind by allowing you to notify them or a GEOS International 9-1-1 Emergency Response Center™ of your exact location via Google Maps™, and to send for assistance in time of need around the world, completely independent of cellular phone or other land-based radio coverage. To begin using SPOT, visit [findmespot.com](http://findmespot.com) to select a service plan and activate.

GPS SATELLITE SYSTEM



1

COMMERCIAL SATELLITE SYSTEM



3

INTERNET (EMAIL)



CELL PHONES (SMS)



5

EMERGENCY RESPONSE CENTER



2



SPOT MESSENGER

4



ANTENNAS



## HOW SPOT WORKS

- 1 GPS satellites provide coordinates.
- 2 SPOT messenger's onboard GPS chip determines your exact coordinates and sends your location and message to the SPOT satellite system.
- 3 SPOT commercial satellites relay your message to specific satellite antennas around the world.
- 4 Satellite antennas and supporting equipment route your message and location to the appropriate network.
- 5 Your message is delivered according to your instructions via text message, email or emergency notification via the response center.

Powered by Google Maps™ 

When SPOT sends a text or email message to one of your contacts or to a GEOS International 9-1-1 Emergency Response Center, it includes your exact coordinates and a web link to view your location using Google Maps™.



## SECTION 2: GETTING STARTED

### What You Need To Get Started

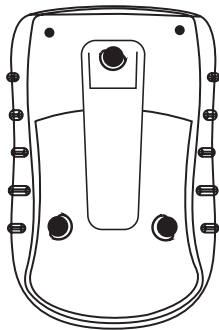
Your SPOT comes with:

- SPOT Satellite Messenger
- 2 AA Lithium Batteries
- User's Guide

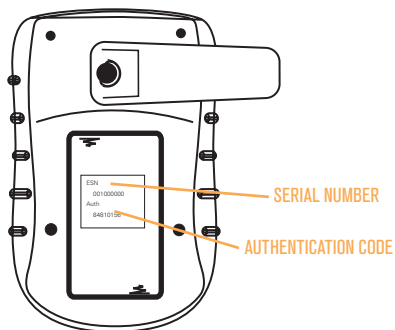
You will need to log on to [www.findmespot.com](http://www.findmespot.com) to register your SPOT messenger and activate service. To do so, you need to have the following available:

- Personal information
- Credit card information
- SPOT unit serial number and 8-digit authentication code located inside battery compartment

back of unit



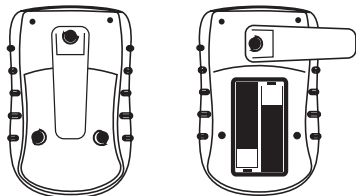
inside battery compartment



## Installing Batteries

Improper installation of batteries could result in damage to the unit. Use only lithium batteries with SPOT.

- 1) Using a screwdriver or built-in rings, loosen screw in belt clip and swing to the side.
- 2) Loosen 2 screws holding battery cover in place.
- 3) Install AA lithium batteries as shown.
- 4) Replace cover and clip, then tighten screws.



## Creating Your Account

Log on to [www.findmespot.com](http://www.findmespot.com). Follow the instructions online to choose your subscription plan and register your SPOT unit. Once complete, you can set up your personal account information, activate your emergency 9-1-1 services, and create your SPOTteam – the friends and family members you wish to receive your SPOT messages via cellular short messaging service (SMS) and/or email. For questions or additional support, visit [www.findmespot.com](http://www.findmespot.com) or call 1-866-OK1-SPOT (1-866-651-7768).

(NOTE: SPOTteam members can be changed at any time simply by logging into your account. For worldwide phone contacts or for support outside the U.S., visit [www.findmespot.com](http://www.findmespot.com).)

## Additional Services

At [www.findmespot.com](http://www.findmespot.com) you can also purchase additional service options, like SPOTcasting tracking service, which allows you to use waypoints to mark your progress in real time as you travel, and GEOS rescue service, which provides a global private Search and Rescue Benefit. To learn more about GEOS Alliance services, visit [www.geosalliance.com](http://www.geosalliance.com).



**ASK FOR HELP      CHECK IN      TRACK PROGRESS      ALERT 9-1-1**

Request help from friends and family at your exact location.

Let contacts know where you are and that you're okay.

Send and save your location and allow contacts to track your progress using Google Maps™.

Dispatch emergency responders to your exact location.



POWERED BY GOOGLE MAPS™

**EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE WHERE EMERGENCIES HAPPEN.** The SPOT Satellite Messenger gives you a line of communication with friends and family when and where you want it, and emergency assistance when and where you need it. For the low cost of a service subscription, SPOT works around the world, even where cell phones don't.



## SECTION 3: USING SPOT

### POWER

SPOT has a separate power button to ensure long battery life and to help avoid sending messages accidentally. To turn SPOT on, press the ON/OFF button. You must then wait an additional 2 seconds before activating any SPOT function. When power is on, the indicator light will blink once every 3 seconds. This is also helpful for making SPOT more visible in the dark. To turn SPOT off, press and hold the ON/OFF button for 3 seconds.

### TESTING SPOT

SPOT is designed for maximum reliability. SPOT performs a self-diagnostic test each time it is powered on. Additionally, SPOT strongly recommends that you send and verify an OK✓ message each time before use. This allows you to evaluate the entire messaging system, from the operational condition of the messenger to the readiness of those you've chosen to receive your messages.



### ALERT 9-1-1

Use this option in the event of a life threatening or other critical emergency.

The Emergency Response Center notifies the appropriate emergency responders based on your location and personal information – which may include local police, highway patrol, the Coast Guard, your country's embassy or consulate, or other emergency response or search & rescue teams – as well as contacting the primary and secondary emergency contact numbers you have entered in the SPOT web service. Even if SPOT cannot acquire its location from the GPS network, it will still attempt to send a distress signal – without exact location – to the Emergency Response Center. There is no test mode. If you activate the 9-1-1 function, the Emergency Response Center will treat it as a real emergency.

**To Activate 9-1-1 Mode:**

In an emergency, press and hold the 9-1-1 button for at least 2 seconds. A distress signal and your exact location will be sent to an Emergency Response Center every 5 minutes until cancelled. Once activated, the indicator light will blink green every 3 seconds, and turn solid green for 5 seconds when a message is being sent.

**To Cancel:**

Press and hold the 9-1-1 button for at least 3 seconds. The blinking green light will blink red to indicate that it is preparing to send a “Cancel” message, and will then turn solid red for 5 seconds to indicate that the message has been sent.

**ASK FOR HELP** 

Use this option in the event of a non-life-threatening situation to notify your SPOTteam – the friends and family you have chosen to notify – that you need assistance. Or, in the event of a life-threatening emergency, 9-1-1 and HELP can be activated simultaneously to notify both the Emergency Response Center and your SPOTteam that you are in distress. Even if SPOT cannot acquire its

location from the GPS network, it will still attempt to send a distress signal – without exact location – to your selected contacts.

**To Activate HELP Mode:**

Press and hold the HELP button for 2 seconds. The SPOTteam members you have specified in your online account will receive your pre-programmed HELP message via text message and/or email with a link to Google Maps™ with your exact location. Once activated, the indicator light will blink green every 3 seconds, and turn solid green for 5 seconds when a message is being sent. SPOT will automatically determine your coordinates and send your message every 5 minutes for 1 hour in this mode.

**To Cancel:**

Press and hold the HELP button for 3 seconds. The indicator light will change from green to red to indicate that it is preparing to send a “Cancel” message, and will then turn solid red for 5 seconds to indicate that the message has been sent.



### CHECK IN – SPOTchecking<sup>SM</sup> Google

Use this feature to let your SPOTteam know that all is well, notify them of your location, or save waypoints so you can review your route at a later date.

#### To Activate CHECK IN Mode:

Press the OK✓ button. The SPOTteam members you have specified in your online account will receive a pre-programmed SPOTcheck message via text and/or email with a link to Google Maps™ with your exact location. Once activated, the indicator light will blink green every 3 seconds, and turn solid green for 5 seconds when a SPOTchecking message is being sent. In the SPOTchecking mode, your SPOT messenger sends your message three times for maximum reliability. The SPOT network will deliver the first message received to your SPOTteam and discard the remaining identical messages. To make sure SPOT has enough time to repeat your messages, leave the SPOT messenger on and with a clear view of the sky for 20 minutes.

#### To Disable:

You cannot cancel a SPOTcheck message, but you can stop any unsent SPOTcheck messages by turning off the messenger at any time. Unsent SPOTcheck messages are automatically disabled when you activate either 9-1-1 or HELP.



### TRACK PROGRESS – SPOTcasting<sup>SM</sup> Premium Upgrade Service Google

Use this feature to send your location to your SPOT account every 10 minutes so your SPOTteam can follow your progress in real time, or to save waypoints so you can view your full route at a later date. (NOTE: Additional fees may apply for this service. See account information at [www.findmespot.com](http://www.findmespot.com) to learn more.)

#### Activate SPOTcasting<sup>SM</sup> Mode:

Press and hold the OK✓ button for more than 5 seconds. The green indicator will begin blinking every 3 seconds, and the SPOTteam members you have given access to your online account can view your progress. Your exact location is updated every 10 minutes for 24 hours. To continue tracking after 24 hours, you must activate the unit again. Once activated,

the OK√ indicator light will blink green every 3 seconds, and turn solid green for 5 seconds when a SPOTcasting message is being sent. SPOTcheck must be inactive for SPOTcasting to be activated.

#### **To Cancel:**

Turn unit off by pressing and holding the ON/OFF button for 3 seconds, or press and hold the OK√ button for 5 seconds to terminate SPOTcasting. SPOTcasting is automatically disabled when you activate either 9-1-1 or HELP.

## **SECTION 4: SYSTEM FUNCTION AND INDICATORS**

### **GPS Coordinate Acquisition**

The first time you turn on SPOT, or after moving more than 600 miles since its last use, SPOT will normally determine your coordinates within 4 minutes. In rare instances, this could take longer. After that, SPOT will normally determine your GPS coordinates in less than one minute. Sending a CHECK-IN message as a test each time before you use SPOT will let SPOT determine GPS coordinates and greatly reduce the time needed for additional messages.

If SPOT is unable to acquire its GPS coordinates, it will still attempt to send a satellite message, without coordinates, when either the 9-1-1 or HELP functions are activated. In the rare case that SPOT cannot obtain your GPS coordinates, but sends a 9-1-1 message, the Emergency Response Center will contact the primary and secondary contacts on your account to notify them of the distress message. The Emergency Response Center will then continually monitor the SPOT network for further messages.

### **SPOT Message Schedule**

The SPOT network, both hardware and software, are designed to work together to provide outstanding quality and reliability. With a perfect view of the entire sky, the SPOT network is designed to successfully send virtually every message. In everyday conditions, the view to the sky is often blocked due to hills, buildings or other obstructions. It's normal for some messages to be blocked by your environment. That's why the SPOT Messenger is scheduled to automatically send multiple messages in every mode – giving you excellent overall reliability.

## Message Indicators

For all functions, SPOT lets you know what it's doing. While preparing to send a message, the function indicator and ON/OFF lights will blink green every 3 seconds, in unison. Once SPOT has determined your GPS coordinates and sent your message, the indicator lights will turn solid green for 5 seconds and then continue flashing in unison. If the lights blink out of unison, this indicates that the messenger was not able to determine GPS coordinates, usually due to a blocked view of the sky. To correct, move the SPOT messenger to an area with a clearer view of the sky, where SPOT will automatically continue searching for a GPS signal. The lights will blink in unison once it is successful.

## Coverage

SPOT works around the world, including virtually all of North America, Europe and Australia, portions of South America, Northern Africa and Northeastern Asia, and hundreds or thousands of miles off-shore of these areas. It is important that you check coverage for your destination before traveling. For latest coverage information, visit [www.findmespot.com](http://www.findmespot.com).

## Belt Clip Usage

For maximum GPS performance in SPOTcasting mode, hold the SPOT messenger away from your body with a clear view of the sky until the lights turn solid for 5 seconds (after approximately 4 minutes) before attaching the device to your belt.

- SPOTcasting tracking mode: Approx. 14 days
- 9-1-1 mode: Up to 7 consecutive days
- SPOTcheck OK/√: 1900 messages

## SECTION 5: CARE AND SUPPORT

### Battery Life and Usage

- Use only AA lithium batteries in your SPOT messenger. Alkaline or other battery technologies are not compatible and may damage or cause malfunction of the device.
- Lithium batteries properly installed in the SPOT messenger should last for several years while stored. The ON/OFF light will flash red when lithium batteries have approximately 30%

of their life or less left. If the ON/OFF light flashes red, or if you are unsure as to the battery life remaining, replace the batteries. Always test and verify your SPOT device before any trip.

- Under normal usage a SPOT messenger with fully charged batteries should meet or exceed the following:
  - Power ON, unused: Approx. 1 year
  - SPOTcasting tracking mode: Approx. 14 days
  - 9-1-1 mode: Up to 7 consecutive days
  - HELP mode: up to 1900 messages
  - SPOTcheck OK/√: up to 1900 messages

## Operating Conditions and Climate

Your SPOT Satellite Messenger is designed to go anywhere. However, like all electronic devices, it has its limits. SPOT relies upon GPS and low earth orbit satellites to fix your location and send your messages. To work, the SPOT logo (which is directly above the transmitter) needs to have an unobstructed view of the sky, either outdoors or in a glass-enclosed area such as in a vehicle. For safety, keep the following in mind regarding the care and usage of SPOT:

- SPOT floats, but the SPOT logo needs to be facing the sky for the unit to work
- Waterproof to a depth of 1 meter for up to 30 minutes
- Operating Temperatures: -40°F to +185°F
- Operating Altitude: -300 ft to +21,300 ft
- Humidity and Salt Fog Rated
- OSHA Certified Intrinsically Safe to Class 1, Division 1, Group A-D standards

## Cleaning

Follow these general rules when cleaning the outside of your SPOT messenger:

- Make sure power is OFF.
- Use a damp, soft, lint-free cloth. Avoid excess moisture near buttons or openings.
- Don't use aerosol sprays, solvents, alcohol or abrasives.
- Do not attempt to open the SPOT unit case.

## Troubleshooting

Spot performs a self-diagnostic test each time it is powered on. Additionally, for maximum security, Spot strongly recommends that you send and verify an OK/Check message each time before use. This allows you to evaluate your entire messaging system, from the operational condition of the messenger to the readiness of those you've chosen to notify of your messages

### Conditions:

- OK/√ indicator light blinks RED every second immediately after ON/OFF button is pressed:
  - Unit self-test failed. Contact manufacturer.
- ON/OFF indicator light blinks RED every second:
  - Low batteries. Replace with new AA lithium type batteries. The ON/OFF light will flash red when lithium batteries have approximately 30% of their life or less left. If the ON/OFF light flashes red, or if you are unsure as to the battery life remaining, replace the batteries.
    - Improper battery type. SPOT is designed to use AA lithium batteries. Alkaline or other battery technologies are not compatible and may cause malfunction of the device. However, in a critical situation, non-lithium batteries may allow the unit to operate for a limited period of time if no lithium batteries are available.
- Not all scheduled messages are received:
  - The SPOT network, both hardware and software, are designed to work together to provide outstanding quality and reliability. With a perfect view of the entire sky, the SPOT network is designed to successfully send virtually every message. In everyday conditions, the view to the sky is often blocked due to hills, buildings or other obstructions. It's normal for some messages to be blocked by your environment. Therefore, SPOT automatically sends repeat messages, resulting in excellent overall reliability.



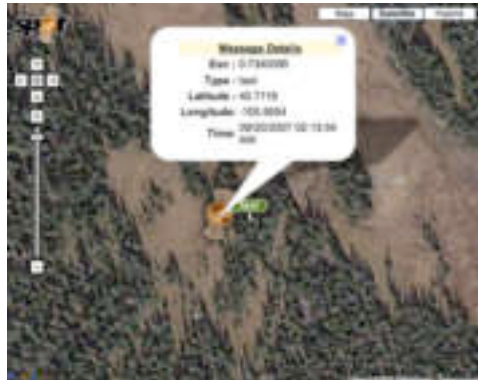
## TRACK PROGRESS

Selecting "Track" messages in your online account to display allows contacts to follow your progress in real time.



## CHECK IN

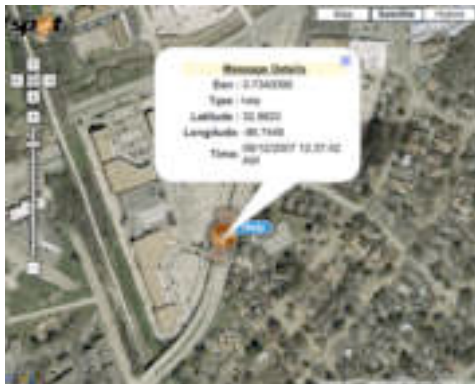
By clicking on the link in an OK✓ email, your contacts are shown your exact location via Google Maps™.





## ASK FOR HELP

HELP messages are sent every 5 minutes for one hour, updating your contacts with your exact location.



## ALERT 9-1-1

SPOT sends 9-1-1 messages every 5 minutes, allowing you to move while updating authorities with your location.



For additional questions or support:  
Visit [www.findmespot.com](http://www.findmespot.com) or call 1-866-OK1-SPOT (1-866-651-7768).

## **Warranty**

SPOT is warranted by Axonn, LLC for 12 months from the date of purchase against manufacturing defects. For warranty details and procedures, visit [www.findmespot.com](http://www.findmespot.com).

## **FCC/IC Notice**

This equipment has been tested and found to comply with the limits for a Class B digital device, pursuant to Part 15 of the FCC Rules. Operation is subject to the following two conditions:

(1) This device may not cause harmful interference, and (2) this device must accept any interference received, including interference that may cause undesired operation.





- ROHS and WEEE compliant
- OSHA certified Intrinsically Safe to Class 1, Division 1, Group A-D standards
- Certified to FCC and CE emissions, immunity and safety regulations.
- Meets FCC part 25 regulations, Canada type approval, CISPR Publication 22 (1985 1st Edition), RTTE Directive (1999/EC) and IEC 60950 safety standard.

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