



Few pieces of modern technology have changed the lives of boatowners and fishermen to the extent of the modern GPS unit.

Garmin is one of the world's biggest GPS manufacturers, and once they convinced the automotive world to install GPS systems in cars . . . and started selling them by the million, the price of a quality GPS unit tumbled.

This is a terrific example - an incredibly clever, but childishly simple, GPS you can hold in your hand

Garmin's brilliant **GPSMAP 78sc**

The small Garmin GPS units first came into prominence with us back in 2003 when an expedition into the vast Hinchinbrook mangrove forests in our 2.4m dory, chasing barra on the rising tide, left us totally lost after an hour absorbed in the hunt.

At this point, we were mighty glad we'd brought the battery powered Garmin GPS Map 176C with us, or we could have died a painful death that night as the swarms of insects moved into attack formation right on sunset - and up there, in those conditions, you need a .22 rifle to fight 'em off . . . but the Garmin GPS had faithfully 'tracked' our way in through the green coloured mangroves on the chart and screen, and we were able to back-track out of the mangroves unscathed and definitely ready for sundowners.

After that, we used a Garmin hand held for ten years in every boat test and trip - and when I finally dropped it once too often, it had to be replaced - and you can see what we purchased.

This is an amazing bit of kit. Available from BIAS or Whitties for around \$350-\$380 usually, this is all any small boat owner needs - and much more. Don't think of this as something less than one of the big built-in units, 'coz it can do anything the big guys can do - in your hand.

We've been using the 78sc for several months now, and the only problem we can find is the klutz that uses it (*er, that's moi!*) keeps forgetting to turn it off, and our turn over in batteries is a worry. Apart from that (operator) issue, what's not to love? It's a beauty, and fantastic value for money

- PW, ABM

Key Benefits & Features:

Featuring a bright 2.6-inch LCD colour display with built-in basemap and high-sensitivity GPS receiver with HotFix™, the GPSMAP 78sc takes recreational navigation to a new level. This unit is waterproof, includes a built-in microSD^a card slot for loading additional maps and has a dedicated MOB (man over board) button.

The 78sc adds a 3-axis compass, a barometric altimeter and a world wide shaded relief basemap. Also comes preloaded with marine charts for Australia and New Zealand and offers wireless route and waypoint sharing with other compatible units.

Supports Garmin Custom Maps and BirdsEye^a Satellite Imagery. Garmin Custom Maps is a free and simple process that transforms paper and electronic maps into downloadable maps for your compatible Garmin GPS. "BirdsEye Satellite Imagery" is a subscription-based service that allows you to see aerial views of your destination.

Features

- High-sensitivity GPS receiver and HotFix
- Floats
- Rugged, waterproof (IEC 60529 IPX7)
- Worldwide built-in basemap with shaded relief
- 1.7 GB of internal memory, plus microSD card slot for optional mapping and data storage
- Wirelessly share thumbnails, routes, tracks, waypoints and geocaches between compatible units





- Bright LCD sunlight readable colour display (160 x 240 pixels)
- 3-axis compass, provides accurate heading even when the unit is not held level
- Barometric altimeter tracks pressure changes to pinpoint your precise altitude and to help monitor weather
- Preloaded Australia and New Zealand charts
- High-speed USB interface, Full-speed USB and NMEA 0183
- Up to 20 hours of battery life, battery type: 2 AA (not included) NiMH or lithium recommended
- Weight: 218g with batteries

Specifications

- Unit dimensions: 66(W) x 152(H) x 30(D) mm

- Display size: 41(W) x 56(H) mm; diag 66 mm
- Display resolution: 160(W) x 240(H) pixels
- Display type: Transflective, 65-K colour TFT
- Weight: 218.3g with batteries
- Battery life: 20 hours
- Waterproof: yes (IPX7)
- Floats: yes
- High-sensitivity receiver: yes
- Interface: High-speed USB and NMEA 0183 compatible

Maps & Memory:

- Basemap: yes
- Ability to add maps: yes
- Built-in memory: 1.7 GB

Left: Two things are really important with the 78sc in the boating world - firstly, make sure you check out the excellent bracket they have to mount the 78sc on your boat's dash or the seat - and secondly, order the (optional) \$35 (usually) NiMH rechargeable battery kit and/or the cabling to enable the GPS 78sc to be 'wired in' to your boat's electrics. This will save you worrying about the 'Status' screen all the time!

- Accepts data cards: microSD™ card (not incl)
- Waypoints/favourites/locations: 2000
- Routes: 200
- Track log: 10,000 points, 200 saved tracks

ABM