FF918C-T boat fish finder
Operations Manual

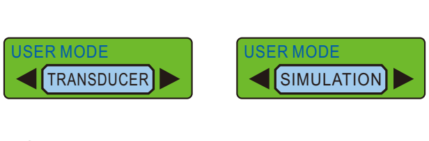
FF918C-T boat fish finder Operations Manual

1. Thank you for choosing LUCKY FF918C-T boat fish finder.

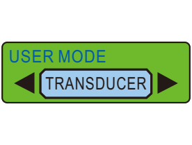
This amazing product is especially designed for amateur and professional fishermen alike, to find out the location of fish ,depth and bottom contour of water. The unit can be used in ocean, river or lake and is fantastic for detecting schools of fish in any particular area. Using amazing and innovative technology, this fish finder is the ideal tool to bring the fish to you !

The **FF918C-T** is a combo unit that allows you to choose either Cable Transducer user mode or Wireless user mode. This manual for Cable Transducer sonar user mode only.

Use the User Mode menu choice to change between these two user modes



TRANSDUCER: This user mode allows you to operate the FF918C-T with the Cable Transducer.

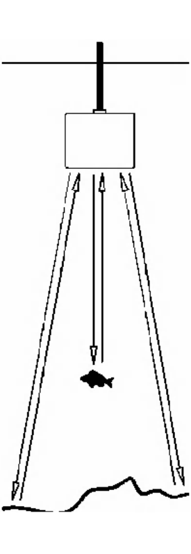


2. How FF918C-T Cable Transducer works

The FF918C-T is the easiest to use fish finder ever. For most anglers, all you'll ever need to do is power on and fish! The FF918C-T automatically determines depth and makes adjustments to keep the bottom and fish visible on the display.

The FF918C-T uses sonar technology to send sound waves from the transducer into the water. The returned "echoes" are plotted on the display, creating a very accurate picture of the underwater world, including distance to underwater objects such as the bottom, fish and structure.

When used with the Portable cable Transducer, your FF918C-T uses a 200KHz sonar system with a wide (45degree) area of coverage from shallow to very deep water in both fresh and salt water. Boat speed, wave action,bottom hardness,water conditions and transducer installation can all affect depth capability.

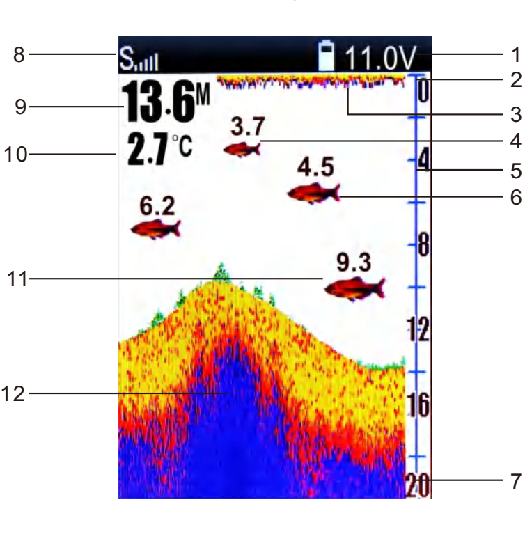


3. Display View

The FF918C-T displays underwater information in an easy - to - understand format. The top of the display corresponds to the water surface at the transducer, and the bottom of the display corresponds to the Depth Range automatically selected for the current water depth. The Bottom Contour varies as the depth under the boat changes. Digital readouts provide precise information for depth, fish and water temperature.

As the boat moves, terrain and bottom composition variations are displayed. Fish, baitfish and thermoclines

(underwater temperature changes) are displayed when detected. Underwater conditions vary greatly, so some experience and interpretation is needed to realize all the benefits of the FF918C-T use the picture as a guide to the most common conditions and practice using the FF918C-T over known bottom types.

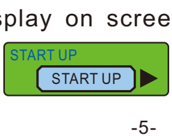


1-Battery capacity	7-Lower Zoom Range
2-Upper Zoom Range	8-Sensitivity
3-Water Surface Line	9-Water Depth
4-Small Fish Icon	10-Water Temperature
5-Depth ruler	11-Large Fish Icon
6-Medium Fish Icon	12-Bottom Contour

4. Powering ON and OFF

Press last 3seconds and release the POWER-MENU key to power the FF918C-T on. Press and hold the POWER-MENU key until the unit shuts down to power off.

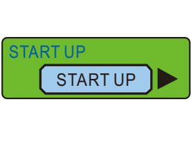
1-Up arrow key	4-Sensitivity key
2-Mode key	5-Down arrow key
3-Power/Menu key	6-light Key

When the FF918C-T powers on, the will temporarily display on screen last for 5 seconds. Then will show  .

From this menu, use the arrow keys to select either Start-Up, Simulation.

If you do nothing, the unit will default to normal on the water use.

-Use Start-Up for on the water use.



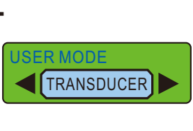
-Use Simulation for learning how to use the system with simulated sonar data; access Simulator by pressing the Down Arrow Key once

5. The Menu System

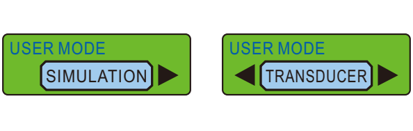
A simple menu system allows you to access your FF918C-T adjustable settings. To activate the menu system, press the POWER-MENU key. Press the POWER-MENU key repeatedly to display the FF918C-T menu settings, one at a time. When a menu setting is on the display, use the UP and DOWN Arrow keys to adjust the menu setting. Menus setting are removed from the screen automatically after several seconds. In Normal operating mode, most menu settings saved to memory will not return to their default values when the unit is turned off. See individual menu choices for more information.

NOTE: Each time the POWER-MENU key is pressed, the backlight momentarily illuminates for easy viewing at night. Adjust the Brightness menu setting to keep the backlight on.

5.1 User mode---



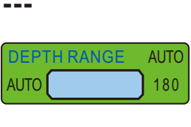
Use the User Mode menu choice to change user modes.



5.2 Sensitivity---

Press the POWER-MENU key until SENSITIVITY appears. Sensitivity controls how much detail is shown on the display. Increasing the sensitivity shows more sonar returns from small baitfish and suspended debris in the water; however, the display may become too cluttered. When operating in very clear water or greater depths, increased sensitivity shows weaker returns that may be of interest. Decreasing the sensitivity eliminates the clutter from the display that is sometimes present in murky or muddy water. If Sensitivity is adjusted too low, the display may not show many sonar returns that could be fish. (1 –9).

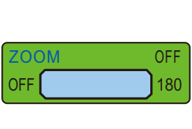
5.3 Depth Range---



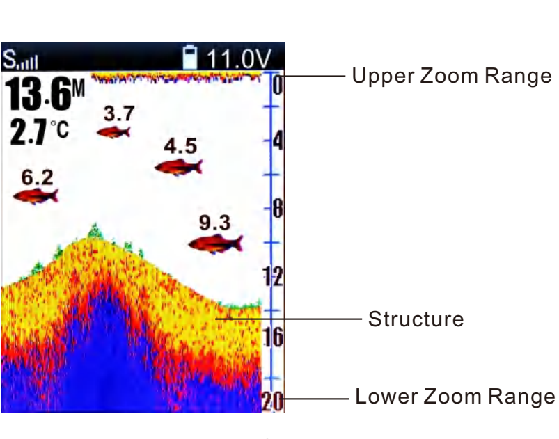
Press the POWER - MENU key until DEPTH RANGE appears. Automatic is the default setting. When in automatic, the lower range will be adjusted by the unit to follow the bottom. (Auto, 1-180)

NOTE: In manual operation, if the depth is greater than the depth range settings, the bottom will not be visible on the display. Select AUTO to return to automatic operation.

5.4 Zoom---

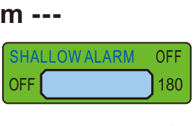


Press the POWER - MENU key until ZOOM appears. Select Auto to magnify the area around the bottom in order to reveal fish and structure close to the bottom that may not be visible during normal operation. When ZOOM is set to Auto, the upper and lower Depth Ranges are automatically adjusted to keep the area above and below the bottom on the display. Select Off to return to normal operation. (Off, Auto, 1-180).



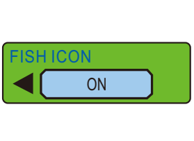
There is also a series of manual ranges which can be selected. The manual depth ranges are determined by the present depth conditions.

5.5 Shallow Alarm ---

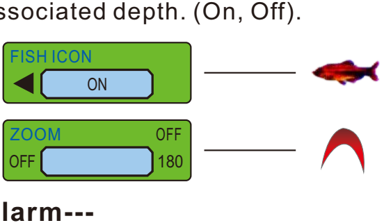


Press the POWER-MENU key until Shallow Alarm appears. Select OFF for no Depth Alarm, or select 1 to 180 meters to set the alarm depth. An audible alarm sounds when the depth is equal to or less than the setting. (Off, 1-180)

5.6 Fish Icon ---

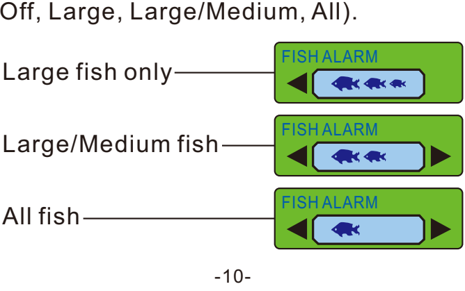


Make sure press the POWER-MENU key until Fish Icon appears. Select either Off to view "raw" sonar returns,or On to view Fish symbols. Fish Icon uses advanced signal processing to interpret sonar returns, and will display a Fish Symbol when very selective requirements are met. A select number of possible fish returns will be displayed with their associated depth. (On, Off).

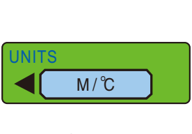


5.7 Fish Alarm---

Press the POWER-MENU key until FISH ALARM appears. Select Off for no fish alarm, or one of the following symbols to set the alarm. An alarm will sound when the FF918C180 detects fish that correspond to the alarm setting. Fish Alarm will only sound if Fish ID+ is also set to On. (Off, Large, Large/Medium, All).



5.8 Units---

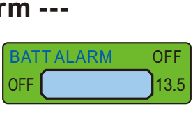


Make sure press the POWER-MENU key until UNITS appears. UNITS selects the units of measure.
(Feet/°F, Meters/℃, Feet/℃, Meters/°F ,where Fstands for Fahrenheit and C stands for Celsius)

5.9 Color Tone---

Make sure press the POWER-MENU key until Color Tone appears. Selects the method used to represent the bottom and structure on the display.
(Red, Green, Blue, Orange, Grey)

5.10 Battery Alarm ---



Make sure press the POWER-MENU key until Battery Alarm appears. Select Off or 8.6 to 13.5 Volts. Battery Alarm sounds when the input battery voltage is equal to or less than the menu setting. (Off , 8.6 to 13.5 Volts)

5.11 Brightness---

Press the POWER-MENU key until Brightness appears. Use the backlight for night fishing. Select 1-9 to activate the backlight at the desired level.

6. Maintenance

Follow these simple procedures to ensure your FF918C-T continues to deliver top performance.

6.1. If the unit comes into contact with salt spray, wipe the affected surfaces with a cloth dampened in fresh water.

6.2. Do not use a chemical glass cleaner on the less - this may cause cracking in the lens.

6.3. When cleaning the LCD protective lens, use a chamois and non-abrasive, mild cleaner. Do not wipe while dirt or grease is on the lens. Be careful to avoid scratching the lens.

6.4. If your boat remains in the water for long period of time, marine growth can reduce the effectiveness of the transducer. Periodically clean the face of the transducer with liquid detergent.

6.5. If your boat remains out of the water for a long period of time, it may take some time to wet the transducer when returned to the water. Small air bubbles can cling to the surface of the transducer and interfere with proper operation. These bubbles dissipate with time, or you can wipe the face of the transducer with your fingers after the transducer is in the water.

6.6. Never leave the unit in a closed car or trunk - the extremely high temperatures generated in hot weather can damage the electronics.

7. Trouble

Many requests for repair received by LUCKY involve units that do not actually need repair.

7.1. Nothing happens when I turn the unit on.

1.) Check the power cable connection at both ends. Be sure the cable is connected correctly to a reliable power source – red lead to positive, black lead to negative or ground. Ensure the power available is between 10 and 20 VDC.

2.) Check the power connection to the FF918C-T. It is possible to force the power cable connector into the cable holder incorrectly. If the connector is reversed, the unit will not work. Examine the contacts on the back of the unit to ensure there is no corrosion.

7.2.There is no transducer detected.

The FF918C-T has the ability to detect and identify that a transducer is connected. When powering on, make sure that an appropriate transducer connector is plugged into the unit. In addition, inspect the transducer cable from end to end for breaks, kinks, or cuts in the outer casing of the cable. Also make sure that the transducer is fully submerged in water. If the transducer is connected to the unit through a switch, temporarily connect it directly to the unit and try again. If none of these action identifies an obvious problem, the transducer itself is probably at fault. Be sure to include the transducer if returning the unit for repair.

7.3. There is no bottom reading visible on the display.

In very deep water, it may be necessary to increase the sensitivity setting manually to maintain a graphic depiction of the bottom. Inspect the transducer cable from end to end for breaks, kinks, or cuts in the outer casing of the cable. If none of these actions identifies an obvious problem, the transducer itself may be at fault. Be sure to include the transducer if returning the unit for repair.

7.4.When in very shallow water, I get gaps in the bottom reading and inconsistent digital depth indication.

The FF918C-T will work reliably in water 3 feet (0.9 meters) or deeper. Remember that the depth is measured from the transducer, not from the surface of the water.

7.5.The unit comes on before I press the POWER -MENU key, and won't turn off.

Check the transducer cable – if the outer jacket of the cable has been cut and the cable is in contact with bare metal, you will need to repair the cut with electrical tape. If these is no problem with the cable, disconnect the transducer from the unit and see if the problem is corrected.

7.6.The display begins to fade out. Images are not as sharp as normal.

Check the input voltage. The FF918C-T will not operate on input voltages below 10 VDC.

7.7.The display shows many black dots at high speeds and high sensitivity settings.

You are seeing noise or interference caused by one of several sources. Noise can be caused by electronic devices. Turn off any nearby electronics and see if the problem goes away. Noise can be caused by the engine. If engine noise is causing the interference, the problem will intensify at higher RPMs. Increase the engine speed with the boat stationary to isolate this cause. Propeller cavitation can also appear as noise on the display. If the transducer is mounted too close to the propeller, the turbulence generated can interfere with the sonar signal. Make sure that the transducer is mounted at least 15" (380mm) from the propeller.

8. Specifications

Depth Capability:---------------------------540 feet (180m)
Sonar Operating Frequency:----------------------200 KHz
Sonar Coverage:---------------------------------- 45 degree
LCD : ----------------3.5inch MVA-TFT-LCD,320V x 480H
Control Head Power Requirement:--------8X AA 1.5 Volt
Alkaline batteries (not included)
Control Head Power Requirement:--------10V to 20V DC
(not included)

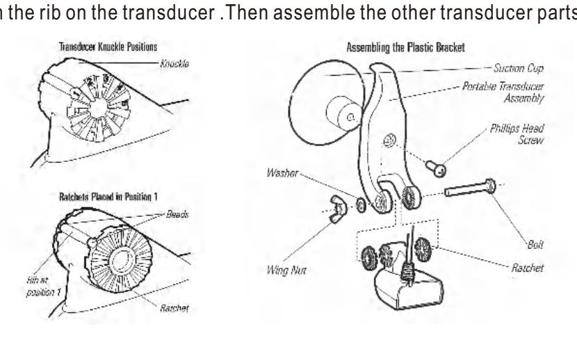
Installing the Batteries

1.With a screwdriver remove both screws located on either side of the battery door.
2.Insert the 8-AA (not included) into the battery holder as picture.
NOTE:It is recommended that only high quality alkaline batteries to used.
3.Reattaching the battery door.
4.Reattach the battery door to the case using a screwdriver.Partially insert one screw and then the other. Fully seat the screws.
5.Plug the power cable connector into the fish finder to make it ready for use.

FF 918C-T FISH FINDER INSTALLATION GUIDE

Assemble the transducer

1.Line up the two ratcher pieces at position 1 so that the beads are aligned with the rib on the transducer .Then assemble the other transducer parts.



Attaching the Transducer and Connecting the power

1.Plug the transducer cable into the socket that named TRANSDUCER located on the back of the fish finder.
2.Push down on the cable cover to conceal the cable.
3.Attach the suction cup transducer assembly to the back of the case.
4.Plug the power cable connector into the back of your protable fish finder.
5.Plug the cable into the socket that named POWER located on the back of the fish finder.
6.Verify that the transducer is still plugged into the protable case.
7. Your unit is now ready to be powered on and used.

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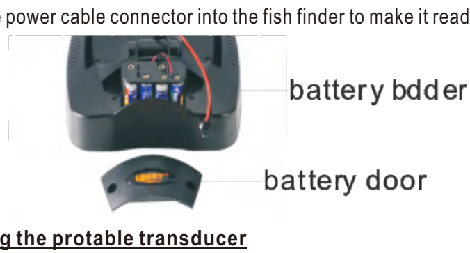
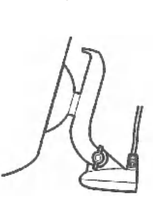


Mounting the protable transducer

NOTE:The section cup mount is designed for quick,easy installation and removal,NOT for high speed operation.If you intend to operate your boat at any speed faster than trolling speeds,remove the suction cup transducer from the water.



1.Attach the suction cup to a flat spot on the back of the hull.Make sure to keep the transducer at least 20 inches away from the motor.
2.When using the suction cup transducer on a moving boat, it is best to secure the transducer cable in case of accidental release.
Aloose transducer cable can cause damage to itself , your boat , or become entangled in the propeller.Attach the tie down strap to the transducer cable and loop the cable around an immovable object such as a rail or fitting as shown in the illustration.
3.Rotate the control head up,power the unit on,and fish .