Minelab Go Find 40
MSRP $229
Mfg. by Minelab
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Available from selected dealers

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Whhen I learned that Minelab had released a new machine, my initial thoughts were that it would be a great addition, but little did I know this machine would have so much technology and great features.

I originally thought that since this was an entry-level machine it perhaps wasn't meant to be taken seriously, but after several tests on both land and at the beach, my opinion changed. This is one of the best entry-level detectors on the market I have ever seen due to its versatility and sensitivity.

One of the things I first noticed on the machine was its display. The four LED Icons indicate whether the target you have found is iron, nickel or foil, penny/ring, and dime/quarter. These icons were different than what I was accustomed to, as my Minelab X-Terra 705 detector uses numbers for VDI displays. It was difficult at first to get comfortable with the Go

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Find machine, but after about an hour using it in the field I understood the different settings and how to use the machine fully.

The versatility of the Minelab Go Find metal detector is impressive. It blew me away and is very different from any other introductory level detector I have had the chance to use. The detector folds into about the size of a backpack and, at 22 inches, can be taken anywhere, making it a great machine for scouting missions or for traveling by ship or plane. It is hard to break down some other detectors into separate pieces and ship those pieces to your destination, but not with the Minelab Go Find.

After various air tests of several coins and relics, I came away with a good idea of the machine's sensitivity. A dime hit perfectly at five inches when I had the sensitivity set at its highest, and a Civil War bullet rang in with solid numbers at about six inches. Overall I think this machine would be a good dry-beach detector (although, like most VLF machines, it does act erratically in salt) and a great detector for traveling. The Minelab Go Find is also one of the first entry level detectors that offers Bluetooth capabilities.

One of the features that threw me off with this machine was its pinpoint function. In order to pinpoint a target, you have to keep the detector in motion. This was hard for me to learn even as an experienced detectorist, because often you can set the coil on the target and have the pinpoint still sound on the detector, even when the searchcoil isn't in motion.

The quality of this machine is good as well. The control box is up to date with technology and almost looks like a cell phone. The shaft and armrest are, however, plastic. This may not be a problem for some people, but it can get scratched very easily when being used in woodlands. With caution and care, this shouldn't be a major concern.

Bluetooth capabilities are what this machine is best known for. I was able to connect this machine to my phone, and listen to music while I was detecting. When I received a signal, the music would fade out and the detector would beep through my phone wirelessly. I am surprised that all this technology is available in a 200-dollar machine.

When I used this detector on the beach, I got strong signals from quarters at five inches deep in dry sand, but the salt mineralization's interference made it difficult to hear targets clearly. In normal, non-beach soil this detector was very sensitive. I was pulling copper pennies at seven inches with it. I wasn't surprised at the performance of this machine in salt water because I have had the same issue with my Minelab X-Terra 705. Again, this metal detector is perfect for entry level detectorists. Minelab made a great addition to their products and the Go Find 40 is a detector you shouldn't miss.

To see a video of this review, scan the QR code shown here.