

Re: 76CS vs Gold feature query

Source: <http://sci.tech-archive.net/Archive/sci.geo.satellite-nav/2004-12/2322.html>

From: Skramblr (skramblr_at_hotmail.com)

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FYI – I read thru all the threads and there's a lot of good Garmin info, I'll add a couple comments about the Meridian.

SD Card – You can use large SD cards. With a 1GB card you can load most of the USA. Also, an advantage of the memory card is you can load many maps. You don't have to pick and choose regions to upload to the GPS. Just upload them all! Then you can pick which map is active via the GPS menu. This is great if you want to do street routing (DirectRoute) and then go hiking and want Topo maps. You can have both these on the SD card at the same time.

Preview Maps – Magellan is supporting map previewing, just like Garmin.

User Maps – Yes, the Gold supports user made maps (just like Garmin). Garmin had the head start, so you'll find more maps for Garmin. But – there is a tool for converting Garmin maps to Magellan format – so you can get access to all homemade maps.

Color – If you're looking at the 76CS, then you'll want to look at the Meridian Color unit (not the gold).

Meridian Community Support – Note that the usenet newsgroups are an active place to get good information on Garmin units. The Meridian users tend to congregate over at Yahoo groups. The meridian group has around 9000 users and 500 to 1000 messages per month.

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/magellan_meridian/

–Skramblr

"David Leshner" <wb8foz@panix.com> wrote in message [news:cpv3gp\\$q09\\$1@reader2.panix.com](mailto:news:cpv3gp$q09$1@reader2.panix.com)...

>

> *So the only thing I can see that is in the same strata as a 76CS is the Meridian Gold package. True/False? The GOLD has some features [SD card] I like, but not color...*

>

> *Having read both the reviews a few times, I have some questions. I welcome comments from people with either box....*

>

- > 1) Does the 76 really lack a battery condition indicator?
- >
- > 2) Will the 76 run off its USB port -- ie your laptop can power it,
- > or not?
- >
- > 3) What do Joe/Jack mean by "automatic highway routing"? Is that
- > displaying the route, after you enter the destination street address;
- > or one step further -- the play-by-play from a Hertz-type system?
- >
- > 4) Is the 76 less waterproof than the Gold? I'm not going diving
- > but sometimes go sailing.
- >
- > 5) A big one: how can I compare the utility of the different map
- > offerings? Aside from the &^*% missing streets issue, that is. I
- > gather the GOLD lets me load only the map-areas I need [good] but
- > then, it has the swappable flash as well so it's almost moot? Will
- > I be boxed in with the 76CS 'all or nothing' attitude? {My use will
- > be domestic, and in fact mostly in a few metro regions. My big need
- > is -- "go to this address" while walking/driving, without downloading
- > that address from a PC.}
- >
- > It sounds as if the GOLD's map package is better, but maybe I'm
- > confused. Is there a writeup contrasting the two map offerings,
- > aside from the hardware?
- >
- > 6) Screen size/resolution. Is the Color of the 76CS a big win over
- > the Meridian, or less than I'd think?
- > --
- > A host is a host from coast to coast.....wb8foz@nrk.com
- > & no one will talk to a host that's close.....[v].(301) 56-LINUX
- > Unless the host (that isn't close).....pob 1433
- > is busy, hung or dead.....20915-1433