

Re: Strange Problems/Any way to completely clear out an eTrex Vista?

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- *From:* "Mike Mason" <[m.mason01TAKETHISOUT@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:m.mason01TAKETHISOUT@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Sun, 14 May 2006 07:30:38 GMT
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"Eric" <[egrumling1@xxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:egrumling1@xxxxxxxxxxxx)> wrote in message  
<news:1147545271.200127.71090@xx>

Thursday afternoon, my visa quit getting a lock. I did the click up/page/power reset, which cleared out my user data (but left the mapsource maps). The Sat. page said there were at least 12 sats above, and it had black bars on at least 6, but no lock. I tried to tell it I was in a new location and to search, same thing, although the message at the top went from track satellites to searching for satellites. Again, the same thing, no solution but several strong signals. I don't think it was local interference, as I drove about 100 miles checking all the way, and tried it about 150' from my truck that evening.

The really strange part is that it was working just fine when I went to work in the morning. I do a lot of driving with short stops, and I noticed it lost position (need clear view of the sky) right before all this started (again, with 6-7 satellites locked).

Yesterday I left it at home, figuring something got screwed up in the firmware, maybe. This morning I fired it up to reload the firmware, and it got a solution, right away and with only 4 satellites.

I figured I'd go ahead and reload the firmware anyway, just for the heck of it. After the restart, I was suprised to see the Mapsource maps still loaded, and the unit didn't need to search for satellites, as I would have expected. To reiterate, I was reloading the current firmware, not upgrading.

So, to make a long question short: Is there a way to completely clear out everything on an e-trex unit (specifically the vista)? I'm talking making it look like it just came out of the box.

You could try this which came from Garmin Tech Support.

Thank you for contacting Garmin Europe Support.

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I would be happy to help you with this. Please try the following.

With the unit switched off please press and hold PAGE+ENTER+FIND+ON (must be held for 5 seconds).

You will lose any data stored on the unit so back your unit up first. I would also suggest running the latest software update from the following link, if you have not already done so

It won't clear out the Mapsource maps but could you not just load a blank set of Mapsource data to your gps first. It's just like changing the bits you want in memory but have no bits identified. (Does that make sense).

Mike Mason

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