# product test | Scuba Tector Daniel Spencer



# **Scuba Tector**

Manufacturer:

**Quest Metal Detectors** 

(previously Deteknix)

RRP: £149.95

**Availability: NOW** 

From: Detectorbits and LP Metal Detecting

Specifications

**Depth:** Submersible to 60m/200' **Coil:** 5"x4" / 13x10cm mono

Length: 42cm/16.5"

Weight: 400q/14 oz with battery

Thickness: Max 3.8cm

Battery: Built in 3.7V 500mAh Li-Poly

battery

Working Method: Pulse Induction Operating Frequency: 95kHz

**Tuning:** Automatic or manually (retune) **Indicators:** Audio / Vibration / LED

1 Year warranty Price: £149.95



From the moment it was rumoured, to the first images of this Xpointer Pro incarnation, the Scuba Tector has created quite a hype on social media and for good reason. Up to now, no UK dealer kept stock of anything like it and the demand was certainly there so with summer holidays approaching, the timing couldn't have been better and new for 2017 Quest introduced us to the Scuba Tector!

## In the box

1 x Scuba Tector

1 x USB Charging cable

1 x Coiled Lanyard and attachment

1 x Wrist Band

2 x Spare 'O' rings

Instructions

Straight out of the box it looks impressive in its bright orange guise. You're certainly not going to lose it easily in the murky margins of rivers or when the sand is churned up by the waves in shallow water. Essentially the Scuba Tector is an XPointer Pro with a specifically designed fixed attachment on the end (which is not removable) to give greater coverage and more depth over a standard pinpointer. With the attachment, the total length is 42cm (17").

What makes the Scuba coil end even more rugged and protected is the epoxy resin that has been used sealing the edge of the shell and is three times thicker than the last generation Xpointer.

At the business end is a 12cm x 10cm (5" x 4") Pulse Induction mono coil. This balances automatically and being a Pulse Induction coil will search over black sand without skipping a beat.

At the opposite end is a screw in black cap which houses the charging port for the 3.7v 500mAH Li-Poly battery. In the box comes a flat charger cable for ease of application but I recommend keeping this plugged in and folded back up into the space at all times to avoid misplacing the cable or not taking it away with you (it's a little tricky to keep putting in and out too). The battery is good for around 14 hours solid searching.

The cap has an 'O' ring above the thread to create the seal required to get this down the maximum depth of 60m. It's always recommended to lube the 'O' ring with silicone grease after each charge to keep this in top working order. The end of the cap has a strap attachment loop to house the supplied lanyard which is handy to keep it attached to you whilst manoeuvring around under water.

The On/Off button is located on top of the Scuba Tector and has raised symbols to enable ease of use in low light/visibility.

### **TURNING ON / MODES**

Once charged, the operation for 0-10m detecting is as simple as turning it on and selecting your preferred search mode:

On / Off - Power button Mode Control - Press M for Beep Mode, again for Vibrate mode and again for the Beep & Vibrate combination.

Sensitivity - 4 Modes - Whilst ON, keep the 'M' button held down and press the On/Off button to reach your desired selection.

1) Low 1 Beep 2) Medium 2 Beeps 3) High 3 Beeps 4) Maximum Long beep LED Light - Hold On/Off button for approx. Four seconds for White & Red light

Press again for White Only
Press again for Red Only
Press again to turn lights off
DIVE MODE - 10 - 60m - Hold Power
& M buttons down together for two
seconds to turn on Dive mode.

The red light will flash five times and vibration will start. Click mode three times quickly to switch back to shallow water mode.

### **OUT IN THE WATER**

My first opportunity to test the Scuba came at my local lake. Deep and shallow margins with an average depth of just 4ft right across the lake. Fishermen, duck feeders and swimmers alike frequent this lake and so finds were

always going to be varied. I started in the shallows where you can go to knee height with gravel below your feet and it wasn't long before I was finding lead weights, the odd coin and some costume jewellery.

The depth was impressive. The leads were past the 6" mark and the ring was around 3-4". This was in my eyes a positive start and encouraging. The margins were slightly trickier as the silt was more predominant here so little bits of fishing tackle were all I had to show for my trouble, however, tiny lead shot on fishing line was picked up a few times showing the sensitivity of the Scuba Tector. What was very positive also was the strength of vibration! There was no mistaking a signal or the distance of the object from the search coil.

At the beach: It was great fun. No falsing between different substrates. It was as happy over shingle as it was sand and silt. I did manage to let go of it a couple of times to find that although it doesn't float, it does stand up on end so it's easy to pick up again. I didn't find a great deal difference in the sensitivity modes in terms of depth but put it in maximum to be sure I was getting everything I went over. I would certainly drop it down to a low setting if I was coming across tiny trashy aluminium and iron pieces so I could winkle out the larger rings and coins etc.



**Top Tip:** If you are looking to detecting in areas of flow (tidal areas/rivers) or at any depth of note. I would highly recommend adding a sleeve over the handle such as heat shrink or rubber tape to ensure good grip. The body of the Scuba Tector is very smooth and offers little grip as standard.

However, this is to be combatted in the new a new upgrade as the Scuba will come with a wrist anti-loss string for users worried about the losing the Scuba in strong wave conditions or tidal currents.

Also available soon is a coil cover as an optional accessary.

**Diving:** To activate the 60m mode, you have to perform a quick additional function. Press and hold Power & M buttons down together for two seconds until the LED flashes five times and it then vibrates. Now, when in the water



at depth, it will work instantly. In water 10–30m deep it needs to be activated. You simply tilt the Scuba Tector on its end and back three times. You'll get a confirmation signal and it's ready to go. Most pleasure diving is done in the first 30m but it's good to know that it's over engineered for the task in hand.

An **Underwater Depth Test** was easy to perform but like detector air tests, it was only really used as a guide. There is not test better than actually having an item in the ground and measuring what depth it was located at.

	AIR	WATER
	TEST:	TEST:
9ct gold ring	5 <b>"</b>	5.5"
Titanium ring	5.5"	7"
20p coin	4"	5 <i>"</i>
New £1 coin	4"	4.5"
Mobile phone	10"	11.5"
Thin gold chain	3″	3″
Fishing lead	<b>6</b> ″	7.5"

### **CONCLUSION:**

The Scuba Tector is fun and fully capable. Unlike a full size waterproof detector, you're not required to take

months of time to master it. At just £149.95, it's affordable and I'm sure you'll get that back after a few trips down the beach, even if it is all in loose change (surely part of the fun?)! An added extra soon to complete the package will be a coil cover as an optional accessory.

So get yourself a Scuba Tector, a sand scoop and a snorkel because your holidays are about to change forever! Good luck and happy searching!

THE SEARCHER RATING: 10/10 – A must have in your detecting arsenal!

