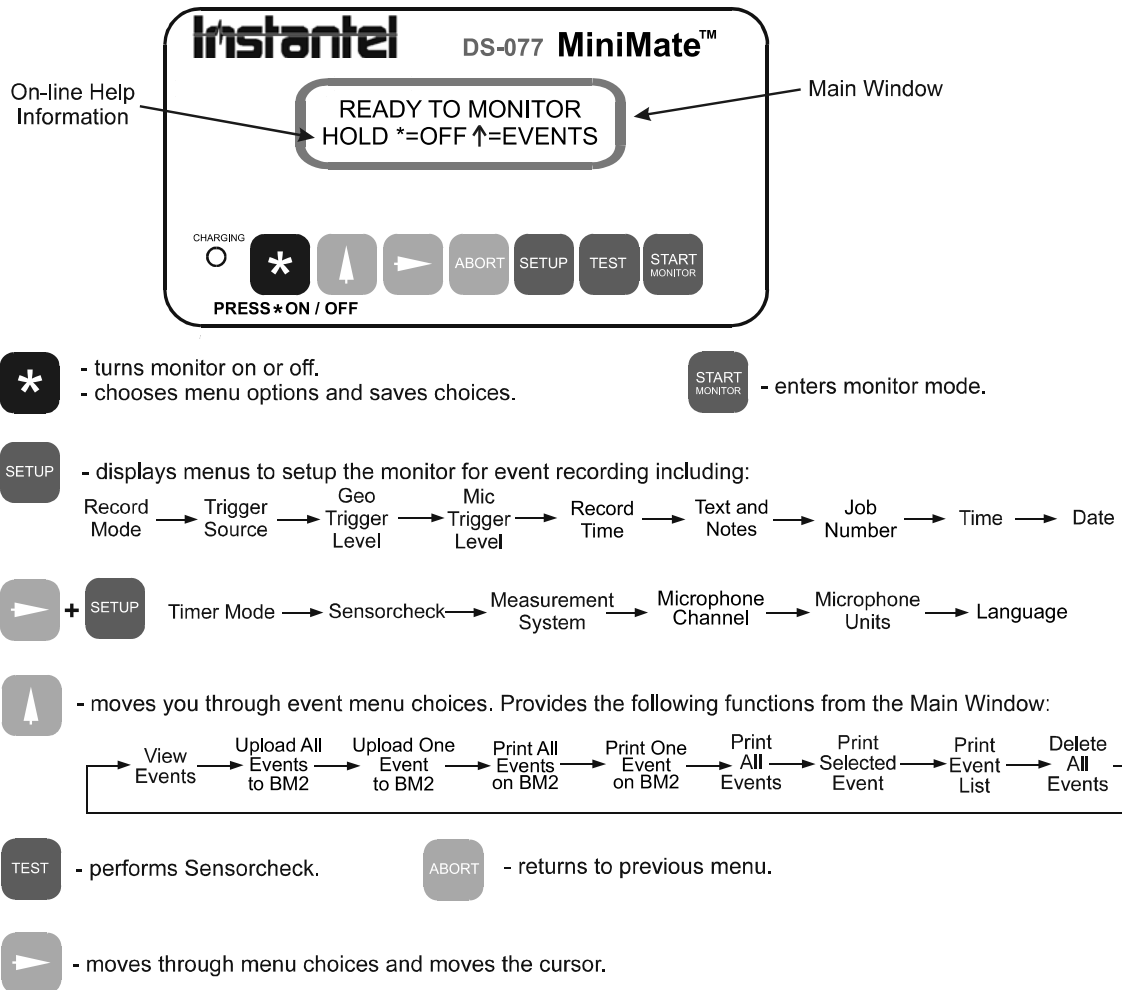


1.3. MiniMate Keys



Notes:

2. BASIC TUTORIAL

In this tutorial, you will learn how to turn on and setup the MiniMate to record an event. Follow this tutorial to practice event monitoring. You can also use it as a guide when recording actual events.

Step 1: Install the MiniMate

Unpack your MiniMate. Attach the ground spikes to the MiniMate, and point it in the direction of the event. For this tutorial, point it away from yourself. Press on the MiniMate's protective cover to force the ground spikes fully into the ground. Check that the monitor is level. Screw the microphone stand's three sections together and attach the microphone to the stand. Aim the front of the microphone towards the event. In our case, aim it away from yourself. Press the microphone stand into the ground keeping it in an upright position. Attach the microphone cable to the MIC connector located on the side of the MiniMate.

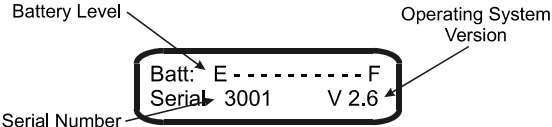


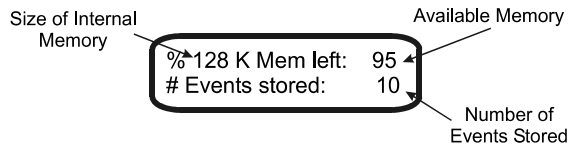
Figure 2-1 Installing the MiniMate.

Step 2: Turn the MiniMate On

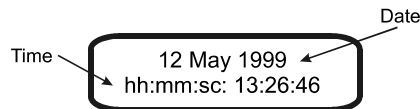
Press and hold the red * key, located on the MiniMate keyboard, until you hear a beep. A series of Start Up Message Windows appear, showing the battery level, amount of installed memory, and other information on the MiniMate. The windows appear in the following order.

1. Battery level, unit operating system version, and serial number. Make sure the battery is fully charged. If it is not, connect the AC adapter and recharge the unit.

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- The diagram shows a rectangular display box with the following text: "Batt: E - - - - - F", "Serial 3001", and "V 2.6". Arrows point from labels to the corresponding parts of the display: "Battery Level" points to the "Batt:" line, "Serial Number" points to the "Serial" line, and "Operating System Version" points to the "V 2.6" line.
2. Internal memory size, available memory and number of events currently stored. Make sure that there is enough memory to record an event. If memory is full, you must first download events to your PC and then erase the events stored in memory.



3. Current date and time. You'll learn how to change the date and time later in this tutorial.



4. MiniMate Main Window. This window is displayed whenever the unit is ready to monitor.



Step 3: Check Your Installation

Check your installation by pressing the **TEST** key. After displaying the battery level, serial number and other information, the unit runs Sensorcheck to test the transducer and microphone. The message "ALL SENSORS OK" appearing on the display tells you that your installation is level. If you see any other message, check your installation.

Step 4: Change the MiniMate Setups

In all likelihood, you will want to change some of the MiniMate's setups from their factory defaults. For this tutorial, we will change the record mode, trigger source, trigger levels, record time, notes settings, the time, and the date. To change these setups, follow the steps below.

a) Change the Record Mode

The MiniMate has three record modes: Single Shot, Continuous, and Manual. We want to change the record mode from single shot to continuous. Single shot record mode records one event and stops. In continuous record mode, the MiniMate records multiple events until you stop monitoring or the monitor runs out of memory.

To change the record mode, press the **SETUP** key with the Main Window displayed. Press the ***** (**Enter**) key to scroll through the setups windows until the Record Window appears. Press the **Up** or **Right Arrow** key to display the CONTINUOUS option. Press the **Enter** key to select this record mode. The display will automatically advance to the Trigger Source Window.

b) Choose a Trigger Source

By choosing a trigger source, you set the MiniMate to trigger and start recording on either ground vibrations, measured by the transducer or sound pressure, measured by the microphone. The trigger source may be the transducer, microphone, or both the transducer and microphone.

The Trigger Source Window appears right after the Record Mode Window. Use the **Up** or **Right Arrow** key to display the GEO/MIC option. Press the **Enter** key to select this trigger source.

c) Set the Trigger Levels

The MiniMate uses a trigger level, chosen by you, to automatically start recording when an event's activity exceeds this preset level. For our purposes, we will set an arbitrary trigger level for the standard transducer and the microphone.

The Trigger Source Window appears right after the Record Mode Window. Set the Geo trigger level to 3.0 mm/s using the **Right Arrow** key to move the cursor and the **Up Arrow** key to change the trigger level number. Press the **Enter** key to save your setting. The Mic trigger level window appears. Set the Linear Mic trigger level to 106 dB using the **Right Arrow** key to move the cursor and the **Up Arrow** key to change the trigger level number. Press the **Enter** key to save your setting and advance to the Record Time Window.

d) Set the Record Time

In the single shot or continuous record modes, you must set the record time for recording the event. You can set either a fixed record time or use the AUTO setting (the MiniMate continues to record event activity as long as that activity remains above the trigger level). We will set a fixed record time of two seconds.

The Record Time Window appears right after the Trigger Source Window. To set the record time, press the **Up** or **Down Arrow** key to enter a record time of two seconds. Press the **Enter** key to save this setting. This will take you to the Text Notes Window.

e) Choose to Include Text Notes

The MiniMate allows you to choose whether or not to store various notes with each event. This information is downloaded to the MiniMate from a BlastMate II or the BlastWare III software, and includes the client name, the location, the user and extended notes. To include this data, use the **Right** or **Up Arrow** key to display "Include text notes", then press the **Enter** key to save your setting. The contents of each note will scroll by.

f) Choose to Include the Job Number

Once you have made your settings in the Text Notes Window, the Job Number Window appears. Here you can set a job number for the current event. First press the **Right** or **Up Arrow** key to display the message "Include job #" and then press the **Enter** key. Another window appears where you set the job number. Use the **Right Arrow** key to move the cursor, and the **Up Arrow** key change the job number. Press the **Enter** key to save your setting, and advance to the Time Window.

g) Set the Current Time

The MiniMate uses the twenty four hour time format (e.g. 23:55:23). To set the time, display the Time Window, and then press the **Right Arrow** key to move the cursor and the **Up Arrow** key to set the current time. Press the **Enter** key to save your setting and advance to the Date Window.

h) Set Today's Date

The MiniMate uses the Day/Month /Year date format (e.g. 12 May 1999). To set the date, display the Date Window, and then press the **Right Arrow** key to move the cursor and the **Up Arrow** key to set the current date. Press the **Enter** key to save your setting. You will return to the Main Window.

Step 5: Record Events

At this point, you are ready to record events. Press the **START MONITOR** key to begin monitoring. To record an event, clap your hands once in front of the microphone. The MiniMate beeps indicating an event's activity has exceeded the trigger level. The MiniMate then returns to the monitoring mode ready to record another event. Now bump the MiniMate. Again, the MiniMate beeps. Press the **ABORT** key to stop monitoring.

We have just recorded two events and stored them in the MiniMate memory. In the next steps, we view these events on the MiniMate's display.

Step 6: View the Events

Let us view the events we just recorded. From the Main Window, press the **Up Arrow** key until the View Events Window appears. Press the **Enter** to display the most recent event. In our tutorial, this is the one we triggered by bumping the transducer. Next, press the **Up Arrow** key to display the event we recorded caused by clapping our hands in front of the microphone.

Step 7: Turn the MiniMate Off

We are finished with the MiniMate, so let's turn it off. Press the **ABORT** key to return to the Main Window. Press and hold the **Enter** key until the display disappears. The MiniMate is now turned off.

Congratulations! you are now a MiniMate User.