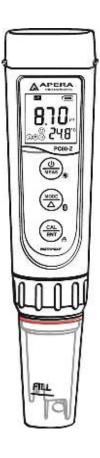


ZenTest™ PC60-Z Smart 7-in-1 Tester

(pH/Cond./TDS/Salinity/Resistivity/ORP/Temp.)

Instruction Manual













APERA INSTRUMENTS (Europe) GmbH

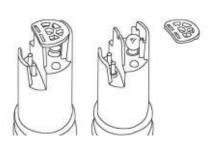
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ATTENTION

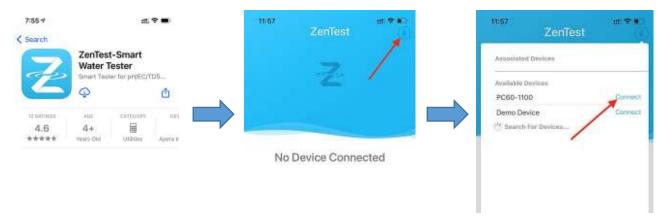
- Water droplets are added during production to maintain the moisture of the probe. This is normal practice and should not be attributed to used product.
- Never use the product when it's freezing cold. Let it warm to room temperature before using.
- The latest PC60-Z Tester comes with an upgraded probe structure equipped with a sensor shield that prevents glass bulb breakage from accidental collisions (see picture below).
 Users can remove the shield when cleaning the sensor and put it back on after cleaning.



1. Introduction

Thank you for choosing Apera Instruments PC60-Z Smart Multi-Parameter Tester. Please carefully read this manual before using the product.

1.1 Search "zentest smart" in Apple App Store or Google Play App Store to download the latest App for your tester. Turn on the Bluetooth of your phone, go to ZenTest™ App, tap ∜ on the upper right corner, then select your tester to connect.



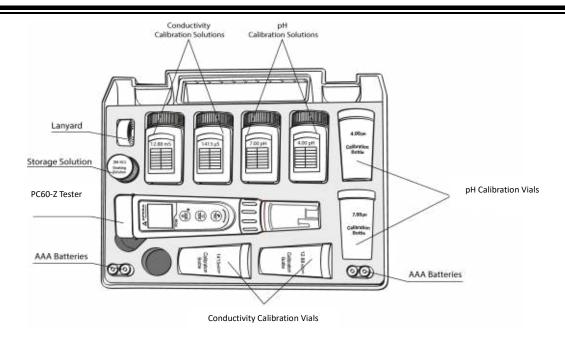
- 1.2 For video tutorials on how to get the most out of **ZenTest™**, please go to **www.aperainst.de**
- 1.3 This product is designed with a two-way control on both the tester and ZenTest™ App. Please refer to the functions available on each platform in the following table. This manual shows you how to operate the tester without connecting to a smartphone.

Table 1: Funtions on 60-Z Tester and ZenTest® Mobile App

Functions	60-Z Tester	Tester ZenTest Mobile App	
	splay LCD display	Basic Mode: digital display +calibration info Dial Mode: digital display+dial display	Swipe to
Display		Graph Mode: digital display+graph display	among various
		Table Mode: digital display+real time measurement and history display	modes
Calibration	Press buttons to operate	Operate on smartphone following graphic gu	ıides
Self- Diagnosis	Er1 – Er6 icons	Detailed problem analysis and solutions	
Parameter Setup	Press buttons to set up (except for P7 and P11)	All parameters can be set up in Settings.	

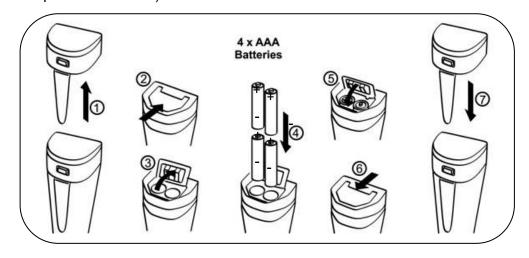
Alarm	The screen turns red when alarm triggered; cannot be setup	Alarm display and alarm values can be preset for each parameter
Datalogger	N/A	Manual or Auto. Datalogger; notes can be added to saved data
Data Output	N/A	Share data via Email

2. What's in the Kit



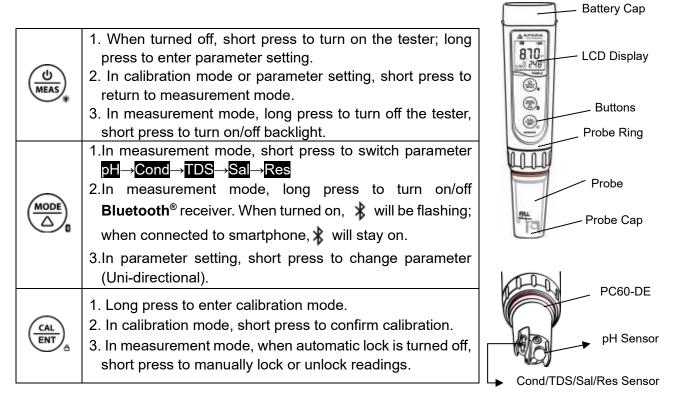
3. Battery Installation

Please install batteries according to the following steps. *Please note direction of batteries: All POSITIVE SIDES ("+") FACING UP. (Wrong installation of batteries will cause damage to the tester and potential hazards)



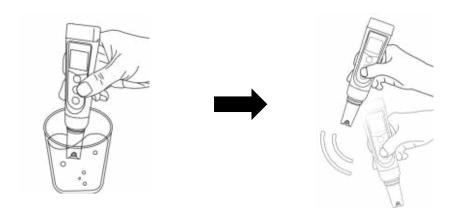
4. Keypad Functions

■ Short press----- < 2 seconds ,Long press-----> 2 seconds



5. Preparation before Use

- 5.1 Pull out the battery insulation slip, and take off the probe cap.
- 5.2 Rinse off the probe in pure water (preferably distilled or deionized water. RO water or tap water is the alternative), then shake off excess water.



- **5.3** Perform calibration. For pH calibration tutorial, refer to Section 6; for conductivity calibration, refer to Section 8.
- 5.4 If the tester hasn't been used for a long time (over 1 month), please soak the probe in the 3M KCL soaking solution for 15 minutes, then calibrate it before test.

6. pH Calibration

- 6.1 Short press to turn on the meter; rinse the probe in distilled water, Shake off excess water
- 6.2 Pour certain amount of pH 7.00 and pH 4.00 buffer solution into the corresponding calibration bottles (to about half volume of the bottle);
- 6.3 Long press (CAL) to enter calibration mode; Short press (U) to exit.
- 6.4 Insert the probe into pH 7.00 buffer solution, make a quick stir, and hold still. When the reading is stabilized (stays on the LCD screen), short press complete 1st point calibration. After calibration is completed, the tester will return to measurement mode. Icon will appear at the bottom left of the LCD screen. indicating a successful 1st point pH calibration.
- 6.5 To calibrate 2nd point, use 4.00 pH buffer and repeat Step 6.3 to 6.4 (Do NOT turn off the tester after you finish pH 7 calibration). will display next to M, indicating a successful 2-point pH calibration (low and middle points).
- 6.6 If necessary (target pH>8.00), calibrate 3rd point using 10.01 standard pH buffer and repeat Step 6.3 to 6.4, (H) will show up next to (L) and (M), indicating a successful 3-point calibration (high, low, and middle points).
- 6.7 Notes about Calibrationhe
 - 1) The 1st point calibration must be 7.00 pH. Perform the 2nd and 3rd point calibrations (4.00, 10.01, 1.68, or 12.45) immediately after the 1st point calibration is finished. Do NOT turn off the meter before you calibrate 2nd or 3rd point. Otherwise, you will need to restart the calibration process with 7.00 pH first.
 - 2) The pH 4.00 and 7.00 buffer solutions poured into the calibration vials can be used for up to 10 times as long as they are not contaminated and the bottles are capped when not in use. pH 10.01 can only be used for up to 5 times as it will lose its accuracy much faster. After that, replace the buffer solutions in the calibration vials with new ones to keep the accuracy. Keeping the freshness and cleanliness of calibration buffers is essential for accurate pH measurement.
 - 3) The tester can perform 1 to 3 points of automatic calibration and can recognize 5 types of pH standard solutions. For details, please refer to the following table:

Calibration		USA Series	NIST Series		Indication icon	Recommended
1-point	t 7.00 pH		6.86 pH		M	Accuracy requirement ≥ 0.1
2 pt	Option A	1 st pt: 7.00 pH 2 nd pt: 4.00 pH or 1.68 pH	Option A	1 st pt: 6.86 pH 2 nd pt: 4.01 pH or 1.68 pH	L)M)	Range < 7.00 pH
2-pt	Option B	1 st pt: 7.00 pH 2 nd pt: 10.01 pH or 12.45 pH	Option B	1 st pt: 6.86 pH 2 nd pt: 9.18 pH or 12.45 pH	(M)(H)	Range >7.00 pH
3-pt	1 st pt: 7.00 pH 2 nd pt: 4.00 or 1.68 pH 3 rd pt: 10.01 or 12.45 pH			1st pt: 6.86 pH pt: 4.01 or 1.68 pH 9.18 pH or 12.45 pH	(L) M(H)	Range: 0 to 14.00 pH

6.8 For the self-diagnosis information, please refer to the table below:

Symbol	Self-Diagnosis information	Potential problems and how to fix
Er I	The pH calibration solution cannot be recognized by the meter.	 Make sure the probe is fully immersed in the calibration solution. Check if calibration solution is expired or polluted. 1st point of pH calibration must be pH 7.00 or 6.86. See 6.2 (1). Please check whether pH electrode is damaged or broken. If so, please replace with a new one. The glass bulb or junction is severely contaminated. Please use a soft brush with soap water to clean it thoroughly. Then soak it in 3M KCL 3-5 hours before performing calibration again.
Er2	Cal. Is pressed before measurement is fully stable	Wait for to come up and stay on screen before pressing (ENT)
Er3	During calibration, readings being unstable for over 3 minutes	 Please check whether pH electrode is damaged or broken. If so, please replace with a new one. The glass bulb or junction is severely contaminated. Please use a soft brush with soap water to clean it thoroughly. Then soak it in 3M KCL overnight before performing calibration again. The electrode is aged (used for over a year and has a much slower response). A replacement is needed.
Er4	pH electrode zero electric potential out of range (<-60mV or >60mV)	 Check whether pH buffer solutions comply with the USA or NIST standard. Check whether pH buffers are expired or contaminated. Please check whether pH electrode is damaged or broken. If so, please replace with a new one.
Er5	pH electrode slope out of range (<85% or >110%)	 4. The electrode is aged (used for over a year and has a much slower response). A replacement is needed. 5. The electrode is invalidated (Er4/Er5 repetitively appears, and problems 1, 2, 3 are excluded). A replacement is needed.
Er6	The calibration reminder is triggered. It's time to perform a new pH calibration	Perform pH calibration or cancel calibration reminder in ZenTest App settings.

7. pH Measurement

7.1 How to take pH measurements

Short press to turn on the tester. Rinse the probe in distilled water, shake off excess water. Insert the probe in your sample solution, make a quick stir and hold still. Record the reading when it is stabilized (appears and stays on screen).



7.2 Pure Water pH Measurement

When testing pure water like tap water, drinking water, RO water and distilled water, it will take longer for the readings to get fully stabilized

(typically 1-5 minutes). Please be patient. If still not working, add Apera 3M KCL (Al1107) to your pure water at the ratio of 1:1000 (e.g. 1 ml KCL to 1000 ml water) to accelerate stabilization while minimizing pH change. If the accuracy is not meeting your requirement, please contact us at info@aperainst.de to find the specialized meter designed for pure water pH test.

8. Conductivity Calibration

8.1 How to calibrate

- 1) Power on the tester. Press (MODE) key to switch to conductivity measurement mode (**Cond**). Rinse the probe in distilled water and dry it.
- 2) Pour certain amount of 1413µS/cm and 12.88mS/cm conductivity calibration solution into corresponding calibration bottles (to about half volume of the bottle).
- 3) Long press (key to enter calibration mode, (screen turns green).
- 4) Dip the probe into 1413 µS/cm conductivity calibration solution, stir gently and hold still. When the reading is fully stabilized (stays on screen), short press (AL) to start one-point calibration, the tester returns to measurement mode and (M) will appear at the bottom left of the screen, indicating a successful 1st point conductivity calibration.
- 5) If needed (your target conductivity level is greater than 2 mS or 2000 μS), insert the probe into the 12.88 mS conductivity calibration solution. Follow the steps in 8.1.3 to 8.1.4 to complete the 2nd point of calibration using the 12.88 mS standard solution. H will appear next to M, indicating a successful 2-point conductivity calibration.

8.2 Conductivity Calibration Notes

The tester can calibrate 84μ S, 1413μ S/cm and 12.88μ mS/cm conductivity calibration solution. User can conduct 1 to 3 points calibration. Refer to the table below. Usually calibrating the tester with 1413μ S/cm conductivity buffer solution alone shall meet the testing requirement.

Calibration Indication Icon	Calibration Standards	Measuring Range
Ū.	84 μS/cm	0 - 200 μS/cm
M	1413 μS/cm	200 - 2000 μS/cm
Э	12.88 mS/cm	2 – 20 mS/cm

For conductivity calibration solutions, we recommend that users replace new solutions after 5 times of use to keep the standard solution's accuracy. Do NOT pour the used calibration solutions back into the solution bottles in case of contamination.

8.3 For the self-diagnosis information, please refer to the table below:

Symbol	Self-Diagnosis information	How to fix
Er l	The meter cannot recognize the conductivity standard solutions.	 Make sure the probe is fully submerged in the solution. Check if the standard solution is expired or contaminated. Check if the conductivity electrode (two black rods) is damaged. Check if the conductivity electrode is contaminated. If so, please use a soft brush with warm water to clean up.
Er2	measurement is fully stable (© comes up and stays)	Wait for to come up and stays on screen before pressing (ENT)
Er3 During calibration, readings being unstable for over 3 minutes		 Shake the probe to remove the air bubbles on the surface of the black rods Check if the conductivity electrode is contaminated. If so, please use a soft brush with warm water to clean up. Soak the probe in 12.88mS/cm solution for 10 minutes, then rinse with distilled water.
ЕгБ	The calibration reminder is triggered. It's time to perform a new conductivity calibration	Perform conductivity calibration or cancel calibration reminder in ZenTest settings.

9. Conductivity Measurement

9.1 How to Measure Conductivity, TDS, Salinity, and Resistivity

Short press to turn on the tester. Rinse the probe in distilled water and dry it. Dip the probe into your sample solution, make a quick stir, and hold still. Record the reading after it is fully stabilized (comes up and stays). Press to switch from conductivity to TDS, salinity, and resistivity.

9.2 Unit Conversion

- a) 1000 μ S/cm = 1 mS/cm = 1 EC (In conductivity mode, the unit will automatically turn from μ S to mS if the reading is greater than 1999 μ S, meaning you will only see 2.XX mS instead of 2XXX μ S)
- b) **1000 ppm = 1 ppt** (In TDS mode, the unit will automatically turn from ppm to ppt if the reading is greater than 999 ppm, meaning you will only see 1.XX ppt instead of 1XXX ppm)
- c) The TDS and Salinity values are converted from the conductivity values via a certain conversion factor. TDS and conductivity is linear related, and its conversion factor is 0.40 to 1.00. Adjust the factor in parameter setting P5 based on the requirements in different industries. The factory default setting is 0.71.
- d) Salinity and conductivity is linear related, and its conversion factor is 0.5.
- e) The tester only needs to be calibrated in Conductivity mode.
- f) Conversion Example: if conductivity measurement is 1000μS/cm, then the default TDS measurement will be 710 ppm (under the default 0.71 conversion factor), and the salinity be 0.5 ppt. If TDS conversion rate is changed to 0.5, then the TDS measurement will be 500 ppm.

9.3 Temperature compensation factor

The default setting of the temp. compensation factor is 2.0%/°C. User can adjust the factor based on test solution and experimental data in parameter setting P10. The following table is some common examples for setting up the temp. compensation factor.

Solution	Temperature compensation factor	Solution	Temperature compensation factor
NaCl	2.12%/°C	10% Hydrochloric acid	1.32%/°C
5% NaOH	1.72%/°C	5% Sulfuric acid	0.96%/°C
Dilute ammonia	1.88%/°C		

10. ORP Measurement

ORP stands for Oxidation-Reduction Potential, measured in mV. It's also called redox. ORP is a measure of the cleanliness of water & its ability to break down contaminants. A separate ORP probe (ORP60-DA) needs to be installed to be able to measure ORP.

Power on the PC60-Z tester, unscrew the original probe, and install the ORP60-DA probe, then the tester will automatically switch to ORP measurement mode (Refer to Section 14 for how to replace a probe).

Rinse the probe in distilled water and dry it. Dip the probe in sample solution, shake for a few seconds, and allow it to stand still. Get the ORP readings after appears and stays on screen.

11. Probe Cleaning

- 1) The tester is only as accurate as the probe is clean. Always thoroughly rinse off the probe before and after each measurement with pure water in a container or with a wash bottle.
- 2) For tough contaminants, detach the sensor shield, soak the probe in Apera probe cleaning solution (Al1166) or detergent water for 30 minutes. Then use a soft brush to remove the contaminants. Afterwards, soak the probe in 3M KCL soaking solution for at least 1 hour. Rinse it off, then re-calibrate the tester before using again.

12. Probe Storage

- 1) Under regular usage (daily or weekly use), make sure the probe cap is wet, and tightly close the cap with the O-ring.
- 2) For long-term storage (you are not going to use the product for a while), add 3M KCL soaking solution to the Fill line in the probe cap and store the probe in it. Close on the probe cap tightly with the O-ring.
- 3) If you find white crystals inside or outside the probe cap, it is perfectly normal. It is the 3M KCL soaking solution that crystalizes over time by its nature. Just rinse them off and add in new soaking solution. This chemical is not poisonous nor dangerous, and the probe's performance will not be affected at all.
- 4) NEVER store the probe in pure water like tap, RO, distilled, or deionized water as they could damage the pH probe. If this happens, immediately soak the pH probe Apera 3M KCL soaking solution overnight, then re-calibrate it before using. Pure water is only for rinsing the probe.

13. Parameter Setting

13.1 Table of Settings

Symbol	Parameter Setting Contents	Content	Factory Default
P1	Temperature Unit	°C – °F	°F
P2	Select automatic lock	5-20 seconds – Off	Off
P3	Automatic Backlight Off	1-8 minutes – Off	1
P4	Automatic Power Off	10-20 minutes – Off	10
P5	pH Buffer Series Selection	USA – NIST	USA
P6	pH Resolution	0.1 – 0.01	0.01
P7	pH Calibration Reminder	H-hours D-Days (set up in ZenTest App)	/
P8	pH back to factory default	No – Yes	No
P9	Conductivity Reference Temperature	15 °C to 30 °C	25 °C
P10	Temp. Compensation Coefficient	0 to 9.99	2.00
P11	Conductivity Calibration Reminder	H-hours D-Days (set up in ZenTest App)	/
P12	Conductivity Back to Factory Default	No – Yes	No
P13	TDS Factor	0.40 to 1.00	0.71
P14	Salinity Unit	ppt – g/L	ppt

13.2 Parameter Setting

- 1) When the meter is turned off, long press (⊕) to enter parameter setting →short press (△) to switch P01-P02... →P14. Short Press (□), parameter flashes → short press (□) to adjust parameter → short press (□) to confirm →Short press (□) to exit parameter setting and go back to measurement mode.
- 2) Auto. Lock (P02) Users can set the auto lock time from 5 to 20 seconds. For example, if 10 seconds is set, when the measured value is stable for more than 10 seconds, the measured value will be automatically locked, and the HOLD icon will be displayed. Short press (CAL) to release the lock. When the setting is "Off", the Auto. lock function is turned off, that is, the measured value can only be manually locked. Short press (CAL) to lock or unlock the measured value. The HOLD icon will be displayed when reading is locked.
- 3) Auto. Backlight (P03) Users can set the automatic backlight time for 1 to 8 minutes. For example, if 3 minutes is set, the backlight will turn off automatically after 3 minutes; when the "Off" is set, the auto. backlight function will be turned off, and short press backlight on or off.

- 4) **Auto. Power off (P04)** The auto. power off time can be set to 10 to 20 minutes. For example, if 15 minutes is set, the meter will automatically shut down after 15 minutes if no operation; when "Off" is set, the auto. power off function will be turned off. Long press (to manually shut down the meter.
- 5) pH Calibration Reminder (P07) and Conductivity Calibration Reminder (P11) set X hours (H) Or X days (D) in ZenTest mobile app settings Parameter pH Calibration Reminder. On the meter, you can only check the values that's been set up on ZenTest App. For example, if 3 days is set up, the Er6 icon (see Figure-4) will appear in the lower right corner of the LCD screen in 3 days to remind you to perform calibration, also in the ZenTest App there will be a pop-up reminder. After calibration is finished or the reminder setting is cancelled in the ZenTest App, the Er6 icon will disappear.
- 6) **pH Back to Factory Default (P08) and Conductivity Back to Factory Default (P12)** Select "Yes" to recover instrument calibration to theoretical value. This function can be used when instrument does not work well in calibration or measurement. Calibrate and measure again after setting the instrument back to factory default.

14. Technical Specifications

	Range	-2.00 to 16.00 pH
	Resolution	0.01 pH
рН	Accuracy	±0.01 pH ±1 digit
	Calibration Points	1 to 3 points
	Auto. Temperature Compensation	0 – 50°C (32 – 122°F)
	Range	0 to 199.9 $\mu\text{S},$ 200 to 1999 $\mu\text{S},$ 2 to 20.00 mS/cm
Conductivity	Resolution	0.1/1 μS, 0.01 mS/cm
Conductivity	Accuracy	±1% F.S
	Calibration Points	1 to 3 points
TDS	Range	0.1 ppm to 10.00 ppt
פטו	TDS Factor	0.40 to 1.00
Salinity	Range	0 to 10.00 ppt
Resistivity	Range	50Ω to 20MΩ
ORP (mV)	Range	-1000 mV to 1000 mV
OHF (IIIV)	Accuracy	±0.2% F.S
_	Range	0 to 50°C (32-122°F)
Temperature	Accuracy	±0.5°C

15. Icons and Functions

Calibrated points	(L) (M) (H)	Self-Diagnosis Symbol	Er1, Er2, Er3, Er4,Er5, Er6
Stable reading indicator	\odot	Waterproof Rating	IP67, floats on water
Reading Lock	HOLD	Power	DC3V, AAA batteries*4
Bluetooth Signal	*	Battery Life	> 200 Hours
Low power reminder		Backlight	White: Measurement; Green: Calibration; Red: Alarm
Auto. Power Off	Automatically power off if no operation for 10 minutes		
Dimension/Weight	Instrument: 40×40×178mm/133g; case: 255×210×50mm/680g;		







Graph-3 LCD Display

Graph-4 pH calibration reminder

Graph-5 pH alarm triggered

16. Probe Replacement

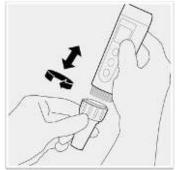
To replace a probe:

1) Take off the probe cap; 2) Screw off the probe ring 3) Unplug the probe; 4) Plug in the new replacement probe (pay attention to the probe's position); 5) Screw on the probe ring tightly. Soak the probe in 3M KCL for 5-15 minutes. Then perform calibration before testing.

The replacement probes that are compatible with PC60-Z are:

- PC60-DE (Default pH/cond. Probe),
- PH60-DE (Regular pH glass bulb probe), PH60S-DE (Spear pH probe for solids/semi-solids pH testing), PH60F-DE (Flat pH probe for surface pH testing),
- EC60-DE (Conductivity probe)
- ORP60-DA (ORP Probe).

*Probes don't last forever. Every probe will eventually age and fail even if you don't use it that often. The typical service life of Apera probes is 12-24 months depending on the frequency of usage and how well you keep it clean and properly stored. We recommend replacing your probe every 1 to 2 years to ensure the best performance.



17. Troubleshooting Guide

Trouble Reason		How to fix
	Incorrect standard solutions	Power on the meter, calibrate pH 7 first, then pH 4. After pH 4 is calibrated, if you want to calibratepH 7 again, you need to reboot the tester.
	Poor quality standard solutions	Replace with fresh and clean standard calibration solutions made by legitimate scientific instrument manufacturers.
Cannot	Contaminated probe	Clean the probe with Apera probe cleaning solution or detergent water.
calibrate	Aged probe	Replace the probe.
	Dried-out probe	Soak the probe in 3M KCL solution for at least 15 minutes.
	Probe is not fully submerged in the solution	Make sure the probe is fully immersed in the solution at least 1 inch deep.
	Air bubbles around the sensor	Make a quick stir in the solution to remove air bubbles.
	Contaminated probe	Clean the probe with Aprea's cleaning solution or detergent water.
Reading is always slowly	Clogged junction	Clean the probe with Aprea's cleaning solution, then soak it in 3M KCL soaking solution overnight.
changing, won't	Aged probe	Replace the probe.
stabilize	Testing pH of low iconic strength solutions like tap water, drinking water, RO water	Be patient, wait for 1-5 minutes to reach a fully stabilized reading. If still not stabilizing, add 1ml of 3M KCL solution to 1000ml of test solution (or 1 teaspoon to 1 gallon).
Display similar readings in any solutions or always display 7.0 pH	Broken probe	If you don't find any visible damage of the probe, contact us for warranty fulfillment; If there is visible damage, replace the probe.
	Probe is not fully submerged in the solution	Make sure the probe is fully immersed in the solution at least 1 inch deep.
Reading keeps	Air bubbles around the sensor	Make a quick stir in the solution to remove air bubbles.
jumping	Probe is not properly connected, or the pin connector is broken.	Check the probe's connector, make sure it's not broken and is correctly connected. Align the probe and instrument correctly before plugging in. Never force it. Ensure that the probe connector is not exposed to air too long.
	Aged probe	Replace the probe.
	Air bubbles around the sensor	Make a quick stir in the solution to remove air bubbles.
Calibration is successful, but	Clogged junction	Clean the probe with cleaning solution, then soak it in 3M KCL soaking solution overnight.
reading is not accurate	Comparison with other testers, test strips, or drop tests	To compare with other testers, make sure to perform a 2-point calibration for all testers in the same standard, then test a 3rd point. Whichever gives more accurate reading is the more accurate one. Test strips or drop tests' accuracy is not comparable to pH meters '.

18. Warranty

We warrant this instrument to be free from defects in material and workmanship and agree to repair or replace free of charge, at option of APERA INSTRUMENTS (Europe) GmbH, any malfunctioned or damaged product attributable to responsibility of APERA INSTRUMENTS (Europe) GmbH for a period of TWO YEARS (SIX MONTHS for the probe) from the delivery. This limited warranty does NOT cover any damages due to: accidental damage, unauthorized repair, normal wear and tear, or external causes such as accidents, abuse, or other actions or events beyond our reasonable control.