

**SURVEY METER: PREOPERATIONAL CHECKS**

Always conduct the following pre-operational checks prior to using your survey meter.

1. Verify the instrument is in good physical condition.
2. Perform a battery check. Battery voltage must be in the acceptable range to ensure the meter operates properly.
3. Verify that the instrument's audible response is working.
4. Verify that the instrument has been calibrated within the past 12 months.
5. When possible, test the audible and meter response against a known radioactive source to verify both are responding as anticipated.

**PROCEDURE FOR USING A SURVEY METER**

1. The detector's "window" should be held within 0.5" of the surface being measured. If present, remove covering from the detector window.
2. Scan surfaces slowly, at a rate of about 1" to 2" per second.
3. Use the instrument's audible response for conducting surveys. The audible response is much faster than the meter indication. If the audible response increases, stop and scan that area thoroughly. A sustained increase above background must be investigated.
4. Set the meter on the lowest scale (i.e., x0.1 or x1 scale) for conducting the survey. Select higher range scales as necessary to obtain maximum readings if radiation is detected.