

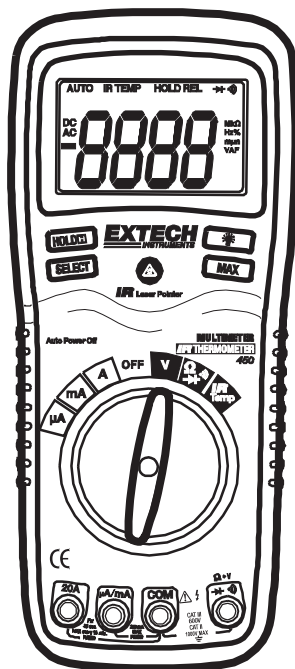
# User's Guide

**EXTECH**  
INSTRUMENTS

## Autoranging Multimeter plus IR Thermometer

**Extech 450**

Patent Pending



## Introduction

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Congratulations on your purchase of the Extech 450 (part number EX450) True RMS Autoranging Multimeter plus IR Thermometer. This meter measures AC/DC Voltage, AC/DC Current, Resistance, Diode Test, and Continuity plus Non-Contact IR Temperature. Proper use and care of this meter will provide many years of reliable service.

## Safety

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This symbol adjacent to another symbol, terminal or operating device indicates that the operator must refer to an explanation in the Operating Instructions to avoid personal injury or damage to the meter.

**WARNING**

This **WARNING** symbol indicates a potentially hazardous situation, which if not avoided, could result in death or serious injury.

**CAUTION**

This **CAUTION** symbol indicates a potentially hazardous situation, which if not avoided, may result damage to the product.



This symbol advises the user that the terminal(s) so marked must not be connected to a circuit point at which the voltage with respect to earth ground exceeds (in this case) 600 VAC or VDC.



This symbol adjacent to one or more terminals identifies them as being associated with ranges that may, in normal use, be subjected to particularly hazardous voltages. For maximum safety, the meter and its test leads should not be handled when these terminals are energized.



This symbol indicates that a device is protected throughout by double insulation or reinforced insulation.



This symbol indicates there is a potential hazard from a laser light source.

### OVERVOLTAGE CATEGORY III

This meter meets the IEC 610-1-95 standard for OVERVOLTAGE CATEGORY III. Cat III meters are protected against overvoltage transients in fixed installation at the distribution level. Examples include switches in the fixed installation and some equipment for industrial use with permanent connection to the fixed installation.

### SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

This meter has been designed for safe use, but must be operated with caution. The rules listed below must be carefully followed for safe operation.

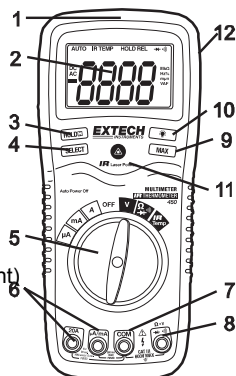
1. **NEVER** apply voltage or current to the meter that exceeds the specified maximum:

Input Protection Limits	
Function	Maximum Input
V DC or V AC	1000V DC/750V AC, 200Vrms on 200mV range
mA AC/DC	200mA 250V fast acting fuse
A AC/DC	20A 250V fast acting fuse(30 seconds max every 15 minutes)
Resistance, Diode Test, Continuity	250Vrms for 15sec max

2. **USE EXTREME CAUTION** when working with high voltages.
3. **DO NOT** measure voltage if the voltage on the "COM" input jack exceeds 600V above earth ground.
4. **NEVER** connect the meter leads across a voltage source while the function switch is in the current, resistance, or diode mode. Doing so can damage the meter.
5. **ALWAYS** discharge filter capacitors in power supplies and disconnect the power when making resistance or diode tests.
6. **ALWAYS** turn off the power and disconnect the test leads before opening the cover to replace the fuse or battery.
7. **NEVER** operate the meter unless the back cover and the battery and fuse covers are in place and fastened securely.
8. **NEVER** look directly at the laser light source or aim the pointer at an eye.

## Controls and Jacks

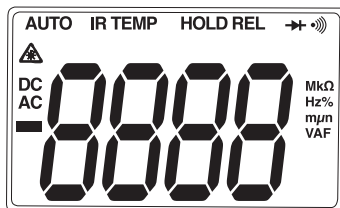
1. IR Thermometer and laser pointer
2. 2000 count LCD display
3. HOLD button
4. SELECT button
5. Function switch
6. mA,  $\mu$ A and A input jacks
7. COM input jack
8. Positive input jack
9. MAX hold button (voltage and current)
10. BACKLIGHT button
11. Laser pointer button
12. Protective holster



**Note:** Tilt stand and battery compartment are on rear of unit.

## Symbols and Annunciators

•)))	Continuity
▶	Diode test
☼	Laser pointer
🔋	Battery status
✖	Test lead connection error



$\mu$	micro ( $10^{-6}$ ) (amps)	A	Amps
m	milli ( $10^{-3}$ ) (volts, amps)	F	Farads (capacitance)
k	kilo ( $10^3$ ) (ohms)	$\Omega$	Ohms
M	mega ( $10^6$ ) (ohms)	V	Volts
MAX	Maximum hold	DC	Direct current
AUTO	Autoranging	$^{\circ}$ F	Degrees Fahrenheit
HOLD	Display hold		
$^{\circ}$ C	Degrees Centigrade		

## Specifications

Function	Range	Resolution	Accuracy	
DC Voltage	200mV	0.1mV	$\pm(0.5\% \text{ reading} + 2 \text{ digits})$	
	2V	0.001V	$\pm(0.8\% \text{ reading} + 2 \text{ digits})$	
	20V	0.01V		
	200V	0.1V		
	1000V	1V	$\pm(1.0\% \text{ reading} + 3 \text{ digits})$	
AC Voltage			50 to 400Hz	400Hz to 1kHz
	2V	0.001V	$\pm(1.0\% \text{ reading} + 4 \text{ digits})$	$\pm(2.5\% \text{ reading} + 8 \text{ digits})$
	20V	0.01V	$\pm(1.5\% \text{ reading} + 4 \text{ digits})$	$\pm(3.0\% \text{ reading} + 8 \text{ digits})$
	200V	0.1V		
	750V	1V	$\pm(2.0\% \text{ reading} + 6 \text{ digits})$	$\pm(3.5\% \text{ reading} + 8 \text{ digits})$
DC Current	200 $\mu$ A	0.1 $\mu$ A	$\pm(1.5\% \text{ reading} + 3 \text{ digits})$	
	2000 $\mu$ A	1 $\mu$ A		
	20mA	0.01mA		
	200mA	0.1mA		
	2A	0.001A	$\pm(2.5\% \text{ reading} + 5 \text{ digits})$	
	20A	0.01A		
AC Current			50 to 400Hz	400Hz to 1KHz
	200 $\mu$ A	0.1 $\mu$ A	$\pm(1.8\% \text{ reading} + 8 \text{ digits})$	
	2000 $\mu$ A	1 $\mu$ A		
	20mA	0.01mA		
	200mA	0.1mA		
	2A	0.001A	$\pm(3.0\% \text{ reading} + 8 \text{ digits})$	$\pm(3.5\% \text{ reading} + 10 \text{ digits})$
	20A	0.01A		

**NOTE:** Accuracy is stated at 65°F to 83°F (18°C to 28°C) and less than 75% RH.

Function	Range	Resolution	Accuracy
Resistance	200Ω	0.1Ω	±(0.8% reading + 4 digits)
	2kΩ	0.001kΩ	±(0.8% reading + 2 digits)
	20kΩ	0.01kΩ	±(1.0% reading + 2 digits)
	200kΩ	0.1kΩ	
	2MΩ	0.001MΩ	
	20MΩ	0.01MΩ	±(3.0% reading + 5 digits)
Temp (IR)	-58 to 518°F	1°F	±2.0% reading or ±2°C, ± 4 °F
	-50 to 270°C	1°C	

**NOTE:** Accuracy specifications consist of two elements:

- (% reading) – This is the accuracy of the measurement circuit.
- (+ digits) – This is the accuracy of the analog to digital converter.

**Diode Test**

Test current of 0.3mA maximum,  
open circuit voltage 1.5V DC typical

**Continuity Check**

Audible signal will sound if the  
resistance is less than 150Ω  
(approx.), test current <0.7mA

**IR Spectral response**

6 to 16μm

**IR Emissivity**

0.95 fixed

**IR distance ratio**

8:1

**Input Impedance**

>7.5MΩ (VDC & VAC)

**AC Response**

Average responding

**ACV Bandwidth**

50Hz to 1kHz

**Display**

2000 count backlit liquid crystal

**Overrange indication**

"OL" is displayed

**Auto Power Off**

15 minutes (approximately)


**Polarity**

Automatic (no indication for  
positive); Minus (-) sign for negative

**Measurement Rate**

2 times per second, nominal

**Low Battery Indication**

" " is displayed if battery voltage  
drops below operating voltage

<b>Battery</b>	One 9 volt (NEDA 1604) battery
<b>Fuses</b>	mA, $\mu$ A ranges; 0.2A/250V fast blow A range; 20A/250V ceramic fast blow
<b>Operating Temperature</b>	41°F to 104°F (5°C to 40°C)
<b>Storage Temperature</b>	-4°F to 140°F (-20°C to 60°C)
<b>Operating Humidity</b>	Max 80% up to 87°F (31°C) decreasing linearly to 50% at 104°F(40°C)
<b>Storage Humidity</b>	<80%
<b>Operating Altitude</b>	7000ft. (2000meters) maximum.
<b>Weight</b>	0.753lb (342g) (includes holster).
<b>Size</b>	7.36" x 3.2" x 2.0" (187 x 81 x 50mm) (includes holster)
<b>Safety</b>	For indoor use and in accordance with the requirements for double insulation to IEC1010-1 (1995): EN61010-1 (1995) Overvoltage Category III 600V and Category II 1000V, Pollution Degree 2.

## Operating Instructions

**WARNING:** Risk of electrocution. High-voltage circuits, both AC and DC, are very dangerous and should be measured with great care.

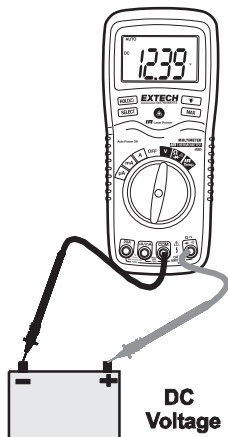
1. ALWAYS turn the function switch to the OFF position when the meter is not in use.
2. If "OL" appears in the display during a measurement, the value exceeds the range you have selected. Change to a higher range.

**NOTE:** On some low AC and DC voltage ranges, with the test leads not connected to a device, the display may show a random, changing reading. This is normal and is caused by the high-input sensitivity. The reading will stabilize and give a proper measurement when connected to a circuit.

### DC VOLTAGE MEASUREMENTS

**CAUTION:** Do not measure DC voltages if a motor on the circuit is being switched ON or OFF. Large voltage surges may occur that can damage the meter.

1. Set the function switch to the green V position.
2. Press the SELECT button to indicate "DC" on the display.
3. Insert the black test lead banana plug into the negative **COM** jack. Insert the red test lead banana plug into the positive **V** jack.
4. Touch the black test probe tip to the negative side of the circuit. Touch the red test probe tip to the positive side of the circuit.
5. Read the voltage in the display.



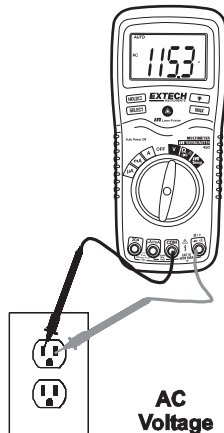


## AC VOLTAGE MEASUREMENTS

**WARNING:** Risk of Electrocutation. The probe tips may not be long enough to contact the live parts inside some 240V outlets for appliances because the contacts are recessed deep in the outlets. As a result, the reading may show 0 volts when the outlet actually has voltage on it. Make sure the probe tips are touching the metal contacts inside the outlet before assuming that no voltage is present.

**CAUTION:** Do not measure AC voltages if a motor on the circuit is being switched ON or OFF. Large voltage surges may occur that can damage the meter.

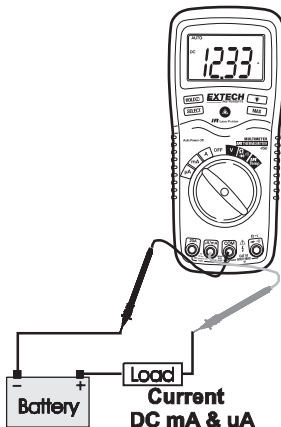
1. Set the function switch to the green V position.
2. Press the SELECT button to indicate "AC" on the display.
3. Insert the black test lead banana plug into the negative **COM** jack. Insert red test lead banana plug into the positive **V** jack.
4. Touch the black test probe tip to the neutral side of the circuit. Touch the red test probe tip to the "hot" side of the circuit.
5. Read the voltage in the display.



## DC CURRENT MEASUREMENTS

**CAUTION:** Do not make current measurements on the 20A scale for longer than 30 seconds. Exceeding 30 seconds may cause damage to the meter and/or the test leads.

1. Insert the black test lead banana plug into the negative **COM** jack.
2. For current measurements up to 2000 $\mu$ A DC, set the function switch to the yellow  $\mu$ A position and insert the red test lead banana plug into the  **$\mu$ A/mA** jack.
3. For current measurements up to 200mA DC, set the function switch to the yellow mA position and insert the red test lead banana plug into the  **$\mu$ A/mA** jack.
4. For current measurements up to 20A DC, set the function switch to the yellow 20A range and insert the red test lead banana plug into the **20A** jack.
5. Press the SELECT button to indicate "DC" on the display.
6. Remove power from the circuit under test, then open up the circuit at the point where you wish to measure current.
7. Touch the black test probe tip to the negative side of the circuit. Touch the red test probe tip to the positive side of the circuit.
8. Apply power to the circuit.
9. Read the current in the display.

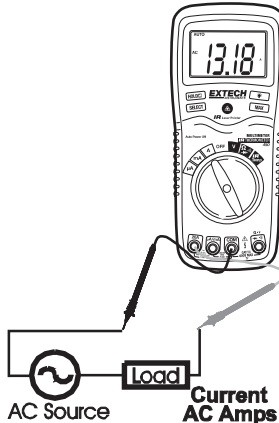


**Note:** When current measurements exceed 10 Amps the meter will produce an audible warning tone which indicates that the measurement time should be limited to 30 seconds or less.

## AC CURRENT MEASUREMENTS

**CAUTION:** Do not make current measurements on the 20A scale for longer than 30 seconds. Exceeding 30 seconds may cause damage to the meter and/or the test leads.

1. Insert the black test lead banana plug into the negative **COM** jack.
2. For current measurements up to 2000 $\mu$ A AC, set the function switch to the yellow  $\mu$ A position and insert the red test lead banana plug into the  **$\mu$ A/mA** jack.
3. For current measurements up to 200mA AC, set the function switch to the yellow mA position and insert the red test lead banana plug into the  **$\mu$ A/mA** jack.
4. For current measurements up to 20A AC, set the function switch to the yellow 20A range and insert the red test lead banana plug into the **20A** jack.
5. Press the SELECT button to indicate "**AC**" on the display.
6. Remove power from the circuit under test, then open up the circuit at the point where you wish to measure current.
7. Touch the black test probe tip to the neutral side of the circuit. Touch the red test probe tip to the "hot" side of the circuit.
8. Apply power to the circuit.
9. Read the current in the display.

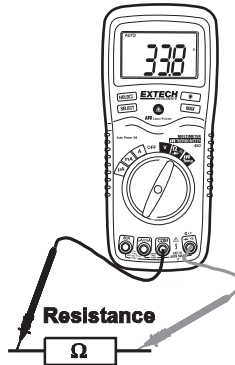


**Note:** When current measurements exceed 10 Amps the meter will produce an audible warning tone which indicates that the measurement time should be limited to 30 seconds or less.

## RESISTANCE MEASUREMENTS

**WARNING:** To avoid electric shock, disconnect power to the unit under test and discharge all capacitors before taking any resistance measurements. Remove the batteries and unplug the line cords.

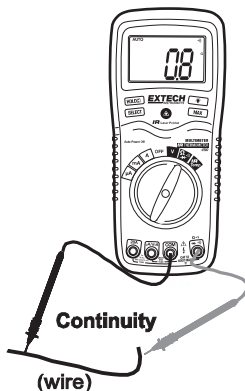
1. Set the function switch to the green  $\Omega \rightarrow \rightarrow$  position.
2. Insert the black test lead banana plug into the negative **COM** jack. Insert the red test lead banana plug into the positive  $\Omega$  jack.
3. Press the SELECT button to indicate  $\Omega$  on the display.
4. Touch the test probe tips across the circuit or part under test. It is best to disconnect one side of the part under test so the rest of the circuit will not interfere with the resistance reading.
5. Read the resistance in the display.



## CONTINUITY CHECK

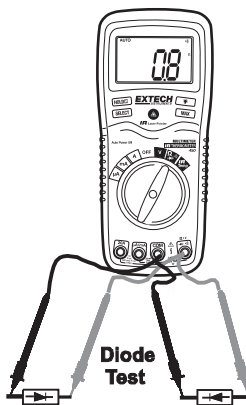
**WARNING:** To avoid electric shock, never measure continuity on circuits or wires that have voltage on them.

1. Set the function switch to the green  $\Omega \rightarrow \bullet \rightarrow \bullet$  position.
2. Insert the black lead banana plug into the negative **COM** jack. Insert the red test lead banana plug into the positive  $\Omega$  jack.
3. Press the SELECT button to indicate  $\bullet \rightarrow \bullet$  on the display.
4. Touch the test probe tips to the circuit or wire you wish to check.
5. If the resistance is less than approximately  $150\Omega$ , the audible signal will sound. If the circuit is open, the display will indicate "OL".



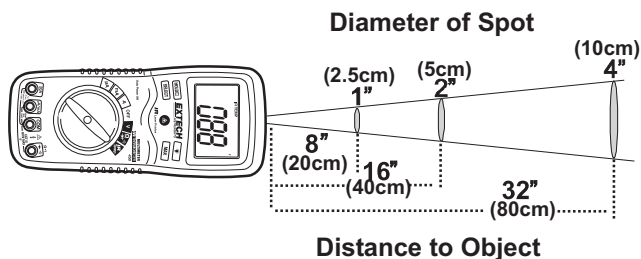
## DIODE TEST

1. Set the function switch to the green  $\Omega \rightarrow \bullet \rightarrow \bullet$  position.
2. Insert the black test lead banana plug into the negative **COM** jack and the red test lead banana plug into the positive **V** jack.
3. Press the SELECT button to indicate  $\rightarrow \bullet$  on the display.
4. Touch the test probes to the diode under test. Forward voltage will typically indicate 0.400 to 0.700V. Reverse voltage will indicate "OL". Shorted devices will indicate near 0V and an open device will indicate "OL" in both polarities.



## NON-CONTACT TEMPERATURE MEASUREMENTS


1. Set the function switch to the red IR Temp position.
2. Press the SELECT button to select °F or °C
3. Point the meter at the surface to be measured.
4. If needed, press the IR Laser Pointer button to locate the exact spot being measured.
5. The area of the surface to be measured must be larger than the spot size as determined by the distance to spot size specification.
6. Read the temperature in the display.



**WARNING: Do not directly view or direct the laser pointer at an eye.** Low power visible lasers do not normally present a hazard, but may present some potential for hazard if viewed directly for extended periods of time.



## DISPLAY BACKLIGHT

Press and hold the  button for >1 second to turn on or off the display backlight function. The backlight will automatically turn off after 30 seconds.

## MAX

Press the MAX button to activate the MAX feature in the voltage or current functions. The display will hold the maximum reading and will update only when a reading higher than the currently displayed reading occurs. Press the MAX button again to disable the feature.


## HOLD

The hold function freezes the reading in the display. Press the HOLD key momentarily to activate or to exit the hold function.


## AUTO POWER OFF

The auto off feature will turn the meter off after 15 minutes.

## LOW BATTERY INDICATION

The  icon will appear in the lower left corner of the display when the battery voltage becomes low. Replace the battery when this appears.

## WRONG CONNECTION INDICATION

The  icon will appear in the upper right corner of the display and the buzzer will sound whenever the positive test lead is inserted into the 20A or uA/mA input jack and a non-current (green, black or red) function is selected. If this occurs, turn the meter off and reinsert the test lead into the proper input jack for the function selected.

## **Maintenance**

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**WARNING:** To avoid electric shock, disconnect the test leads from any source of voltage before removing the back cover or the battery or fuse covers.

**WARNING:** To avoid electric shock, do not operate your meter until the battery and fuse covers are in place and fastened securely.

This MultiMeter is designed to provide years of dependable service, if the following care instructions are performed:

1. **KEEP THE METER DRY.** If it gets wet, wipe it off.
2. **USE AND STORE THE METER IN NORMAL TEMPERATURES.** Temperature extremes can shorten the life of the electronic parts and distort or melt plastic parts.
3. **HANDLE THE METER GENTLY AND CAREFULLY.** Dropping it can damage the electronic parts or the case.
4. **KEEP THE METER CLEAN.** Wipe the case occasionally with a damp cloth. DO NOT use chemicals, cleaning solvents, or detergents.
5. **USE ONLY FRESH BATTERIES OF THE RECOMMENDED SIZE AND TYPE.** Remove old or weak batteries so they do not leak and damage the unit.
6. **IF THE METER IS TO BE STORED FOR A LONG PERIOD OF TIME,** the batteries should be removed to prevent damage to the unit.



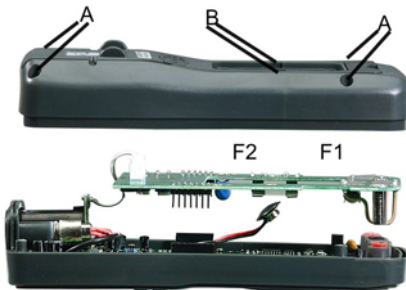
## BATTERY INSTALLATION

**WARNING:** To avoid electric shock, disconnect the test leads from any source of voltage before removing the battery cover.

1. Turn power off and disconnect the test leads from the meter.
2. Open the rear battery cover by removing two screws (B) using a Phillips head screwdriver.
3. Insert the battery into battery holder, observing the correct polarity.
4. Put the battery cover back in place. Secure with the screw.

**WARNING:** To avoid electric shock, do not operate the meter until the battery cover is in place and fastened securely.

**NOTE:** If your meter does not work properly, check the fuses and battery to make sure that they are still good and that they are properly inserted.



## REPLACING THE FUSES

**WARNING:** To avoid electric shock, disconnect the test leads from any source of voltage before removing the fuse cover.

1. Disconnect the test leads from the meter.
2. Remove the protective rubber holster.
3. Remove the battery cover (two "B" screws) and the battery.
4. Remove the four "A" screws securing the rear cover.
5. Lift the center circuit board straight up from the connectors to gain access to the fuse holders.
6. Gently remove the old fuse and install the new fuse into the holder.
7. Always use a fuse of the proper size and value (0.2A/250V fast blow for the 200mA range, 20A/250V fast blow for the 20A range).
8. Align the center board with the connectors and gently press into place.
9. Replace and secure the rear cover, battery and battery cover.

**WARNING:** To avoid electric shock, do not operate your meter until the fuse cover is in place and fastened securely.

### UL LISTED

The UL mark does not indicate that this product has been evaluated for the accuracy of its readings.

## **Warranty**

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EXTECH INSTRUMENTS CORPORATION warrants this instrument to be free of defects in parts and workmanship for three years from date of shipment (a six month limited warranty applies on sensors and cables). If it should become necessary to return the instrument for service during or beyond the warranty period, contact the Customer Service Department at (781) 890-7440 ext. 210 for authorization or visit our website at [www.extech.com](http://www.extech.com) (click on 'Contact Extech' and go to 'Service Department' to request an RA number). A Return Authorization (RA) number must be issued before any product is returned to Extech. The sender is responsible for shipping charges, freight, insurance and proper packaging to prevent damage in transit. This warranty does not apply to defects resulting from action of the user such as misuse, improper wiring, operation outside of specification, improper maintenance or repair, or unauthorized modification. Extech specifically disclaims any implied warranties or merchantability or fitness for a specific purpose and will not be liable for any direct, indirect, incidental or consequential damages. Extech's total liability is limited to repair or replacement of the product. The warranty set forth above is inclusive and no other warranty, whether written or oral, is expressed or implied.

### **Calibration and Repair Services**

Extech offers complete repair and calibration services for the products we sell. For periodic calibration, NIST certification or repair of an Extech product, call customer service for details on services available for that product. Extech recommends that calibration be performed on an annual basis to ensure calibration integrity.



#### **Support Hotline (781) 890-7440**

Tech support: Ext. 200; Email: [support@extech.com](mailto:support@extech.com)

Repair>Returns: Ext. 210; Email: [repair@extech.com](mailto:repair@extech.com)

Website: [www.extech.com](http://www.extech.com)

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