

FarView

User Manual

FarView Version 1.0
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1. Introduction

Congratulations on choosing the FarView, a pocketsize electronic video magnifier from Optelec. Optelec's FarView magnifies printed text and images, taken from any distance, up to 42 times in live mode or up to 90 times in playback mode on a 4.3" wide screen display.

With its versatile camera, enabling both distance and close-up viewing, the FarView offers an enhanced design that extends operating comfort. The integrated snapshot function and built-in memory allow you to store and recall up to 100 images. The FarView is designed for every day use in any location. Stored images can be recalled at any moment with a simple press of a button. Ergonomically placed buttons and a built-in menu allow the user to enhance reading comfort. The document read mode enables scrolling through a captured text via the ergonomic scrolling button and auto-scroll to the beginning of the text.

If you have any questions or suggestions concerning the use of this product, please contact your distributor or the Optelec headquarters using the contact information on the last page of this manual. Your feedback is greatly appreciated. We hope you enjoy working with your FarView.

About this manual

This manual will familiarize you with the FarView's features and basic operation. Please read this manual carefully before using your device.

What's in the box?

The FarView's packaging contains the following:

- The FarView video magnifier
- A detachable neck cord
- A protection and carrying pouch
- A power cable with power adapter
- The user manual

Optional accessories for FarView include a RGB out IF cable that connects FarView to a VGA monitor.

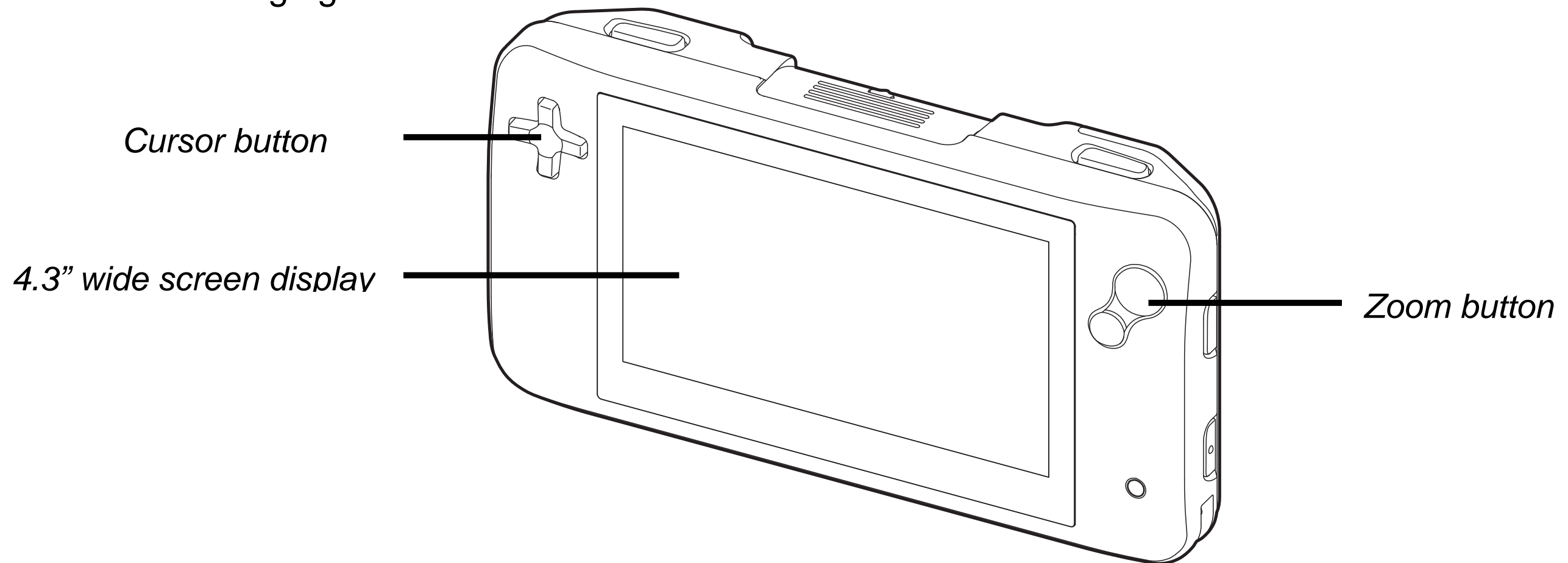
If any items are missing from your package, please contact your distributor.

2. *Getting to know your FarView*

The unit is placed correctly in front of you when the display is facing towards you and the plus shaped button is located on the left side of the screen.

Front side

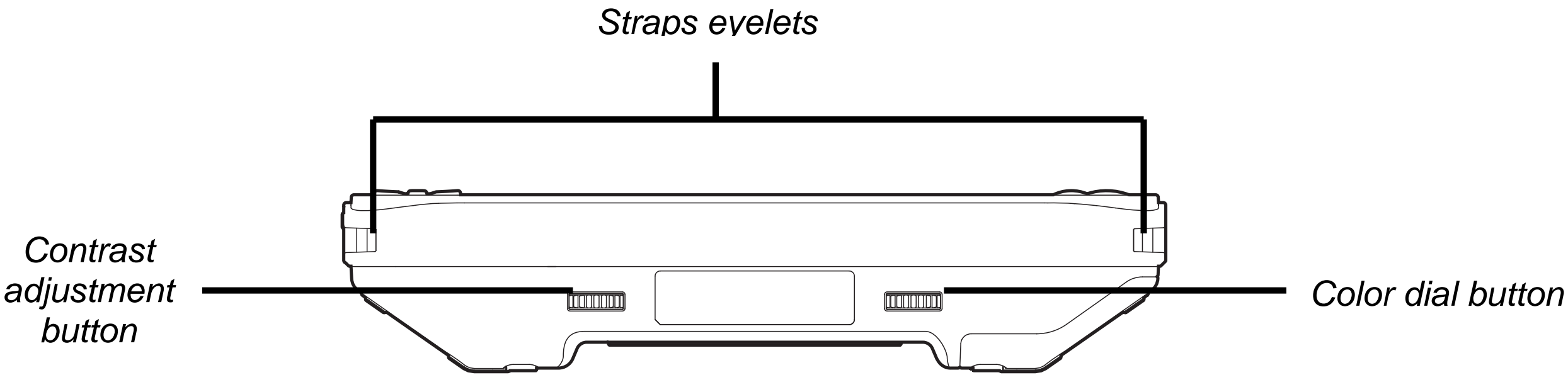
The following figure shows the front side of the FarView.



Cursor button	Pressing these buttons enable navigation through images and the FarView menu.
4.3” wide screen display	The 4.3” wide screen displays text and images.
Zoom button	Pressing the zoom button allows you to change the magnification.

Bottom side

The following figure shows the bottom side of the FarView.



Strap eyelets	The strap eyelets allow you to attach the detachable neck cord
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that came with your FarView.

Contrast adjustment button

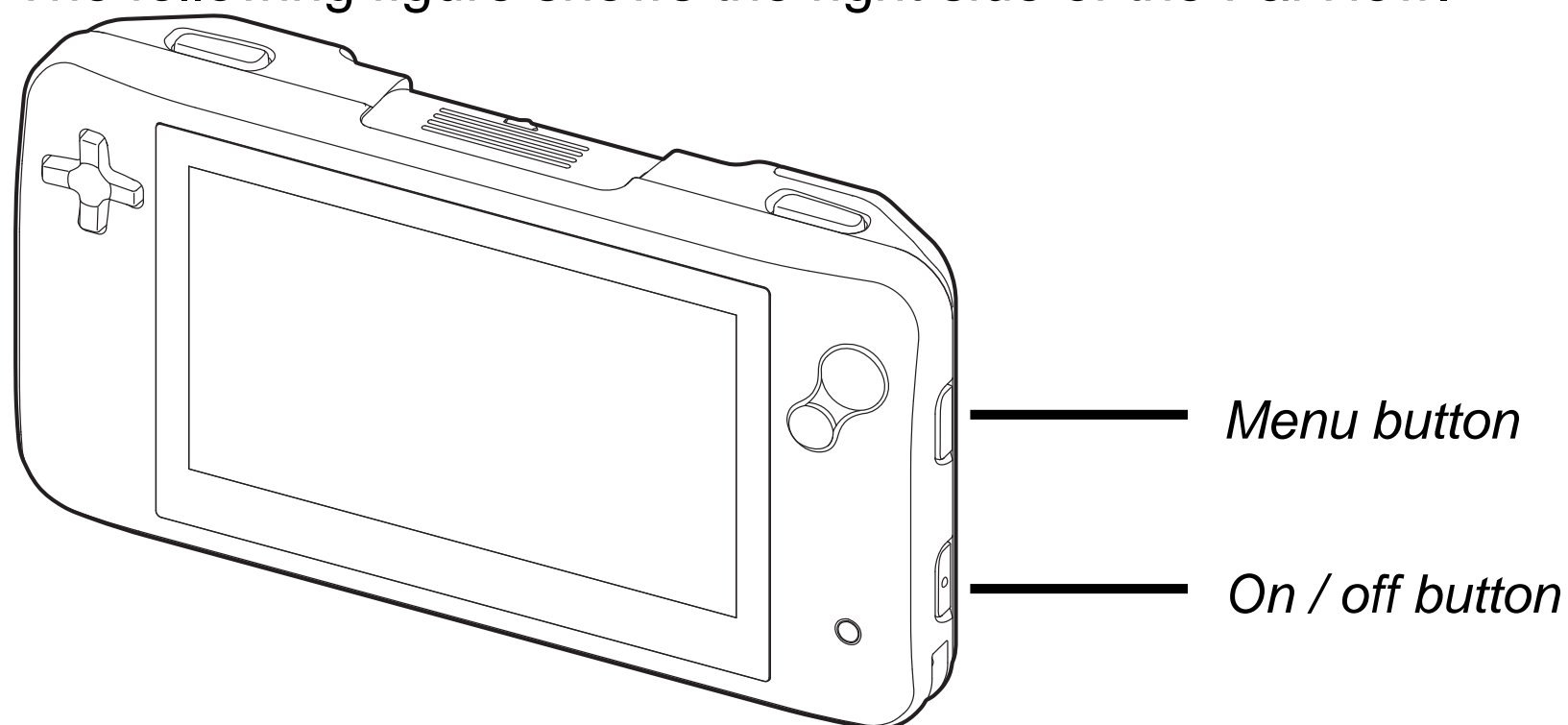
Rotating the adjustment button allows you to increase or decrease the contrast

Color mode button

Rotating the color mode button allows you to change the foreground and background colors of the FarView's screen.

Right side

The following figure shows the right side of the FarView.



Menu button

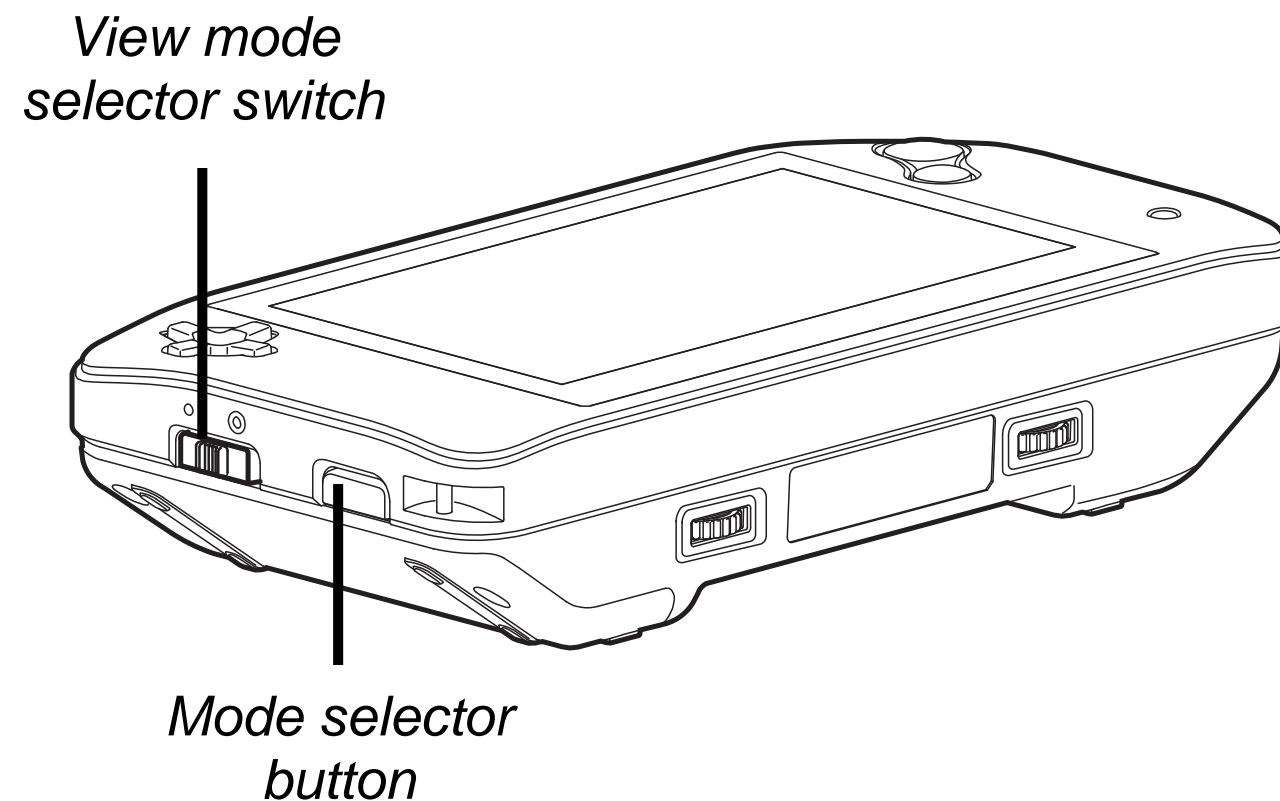
Pressing this button will open and close the FarView's integrated menu.

On / off button

Press and hold the power button for approximately two seconds to turn the power on and off. When switching the unit on, the power light located on the right side of the screen will light up. This light automatically goes off when switching off the FarView.

Left side

The following figure shows the left side of the FarView.



View mode selector switch

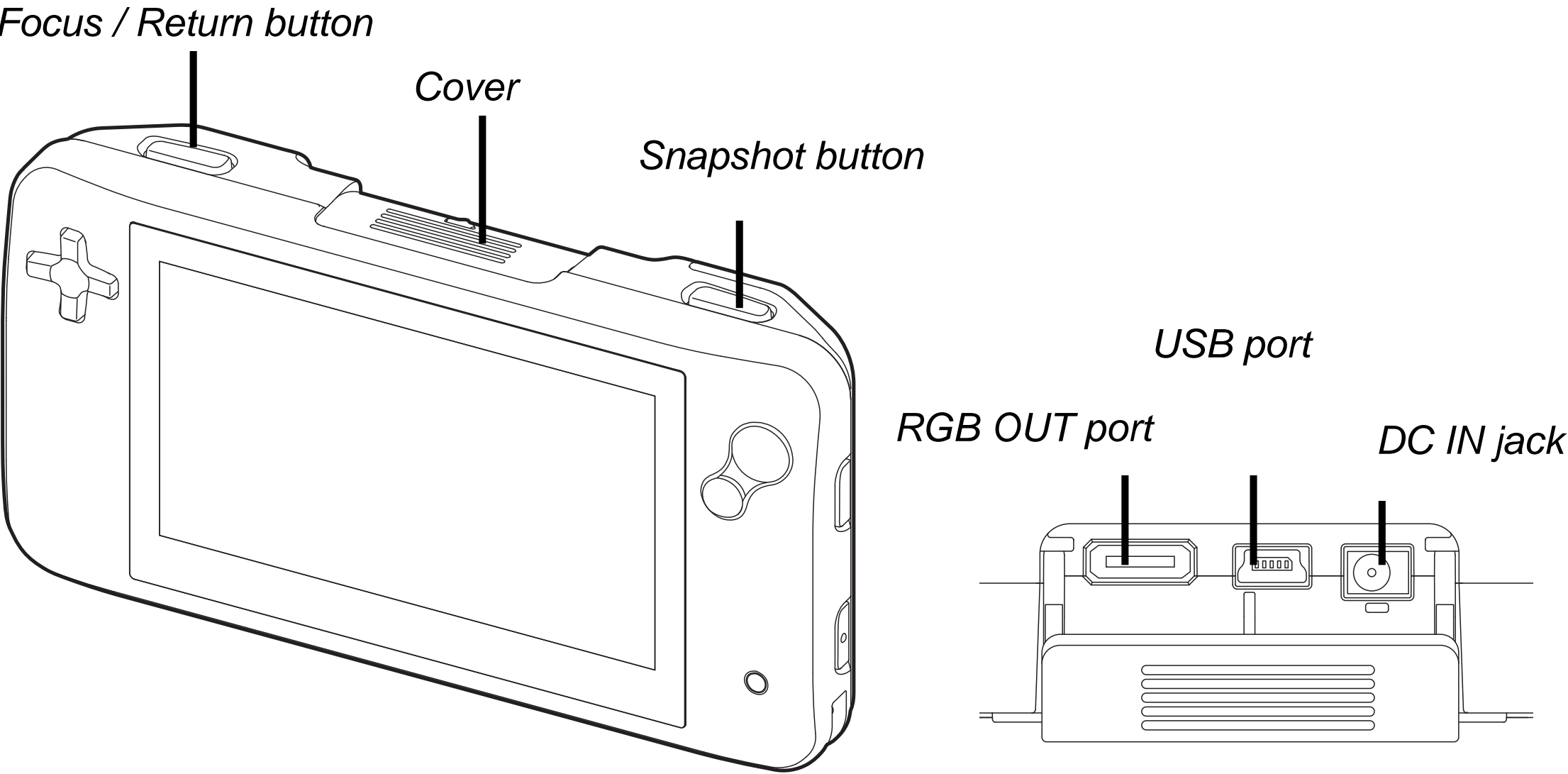
Switching this button allows you to select either the close-up or distance viewing mode. Moving the switch towards you will set the unit to distance mode. Moving the switch away from you will set the unit to close-up view.

Mode selector button

Pressing the mode selector button allows you to switch back and forth between the live view mode and playback mode. By default, the FarView will start in live mode.

Top side

The following figure shows the top side of the FarView.



Focus / Return button

Pressing the return button allows you to focus the camera on the object or text you wish to magnify.

Cover

The cover protects the power and monitor / PC connectors from dust and dirt. Upon opening the cover, you will find the following:

- RGB out connector

This connector can be used to connect the FarView to an external VGA monitor or TV. Please note that the optionally available RGB OUT IF cable is required to connect the FarView to a VGA monitor or TV.

- USB port

The USB port allows you to connect the FarView to a PC with Windows 2000, XP or Vista operating system.

- DC IN jack

The AC adapter cable plugs into this jack. Use only the model of the AC adapter that is provided with the FarView.

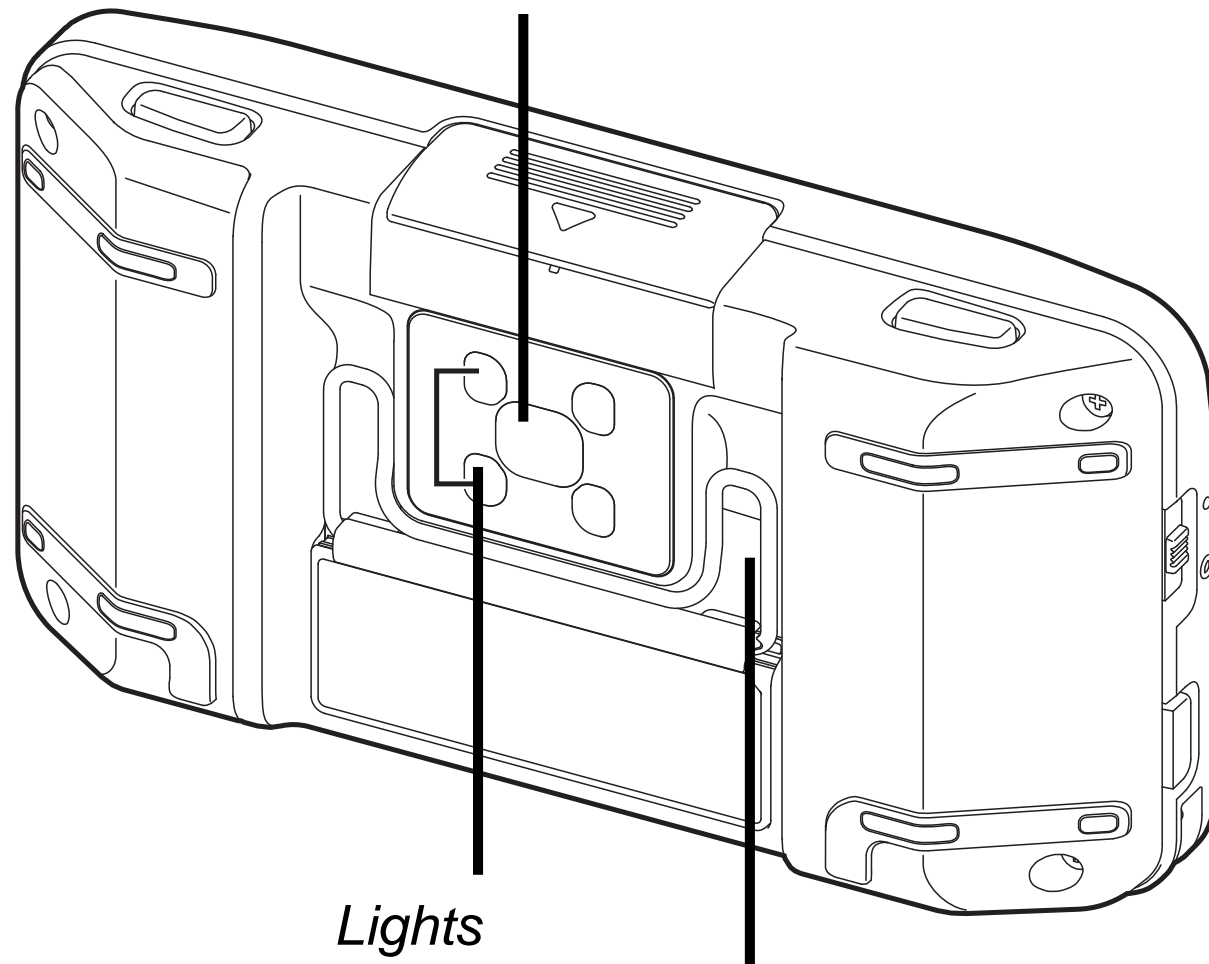
Snapshot button

Pressing this button allows you to capture images. Images will be saved in the FarView's internal memory.

Back side

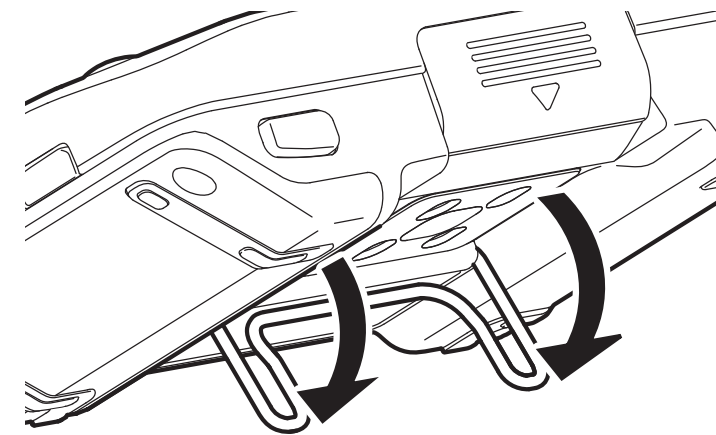
The following figure shows the back side of the FarView.

Camera



Lights

Reading stand



Reading stand

Camera

The FarView features a high resolution continuous auto-focus camera that can be used for both distance and close-up viewing.

Light

The lights can be switched on and off. The lights will automatically be switched on when the unit is switched into close-up viewing mode.

Reading stand

Pull and place the reading stand for enhanced reading comfort in close-up live mode.

Attention: we strongly advise you to open and close the reading stand carefully as to avoid hurting your fingers.

3. Power and battery use

When the AC adapter is not connected, the FarView relies on the integrated batteries as its main power source.

Charging the batteries

When using the FarView for the first time, make sure that the batteries are is fully charged. Charging the batteries takes approximately 4.5 hours. When the batteries are fully charged, the FarView's operating time is approximately 2.5 hours in live mode and 4 hours in playback mode.

To charge the batteries, plug in the adapter that was supplied with the unit into the DC IN jack, located at the top side of the unit. Plug the other end into a power outlet. The power indicator located on the right side of the screen will blink to indicate that the batteries are charging. When the batteries are fully charged this indicator will switch off.

The unit can continue to be used while it is still plugged into the AC adapter.

Turning the power on and off

Switch the unit on and off by pressing the rectangular button, located on the right side of the unit, for approximately two seconds. By default the FarView will start in live viewing mode.

Battery indicator

When the unit is switched on, the battery level will be indicated on the screen for about two seconds. When the batteries are exhausted, this indicator will start blinking and the unit will generate a few beeps. Plug in the AC adapter to charge the batteries.

Stand-by mode and system auto off

This feature will switch the FarView into stand-by mode when not used for about 3 minutes. While in stand-by mode, the LCD display will switch off and the power indicator will start blinking. Pressing any button, other than the power button, will switch off the stand-by mode and you will automatically return to the previous mode.

If the unit continues to go unused for an additional 4 minutes, while in stand-by mode, this feature will automatically turn off the power off to save the batteries. Press the power button for two seconds to switch the unit on again.

When plugged into an AC adapter, the unit will not go into stand-by mode.

Mode selector button

The FarView has two viewing modes: the *“live viewing mode”* and the *“playback mode”*.

Live viewing mode:

This is used for looking at objects and text at any distance in real time. The image displayed on the screen can be captured using the snapshot button. Alternatively, information can be viewed and magnified in real-time.

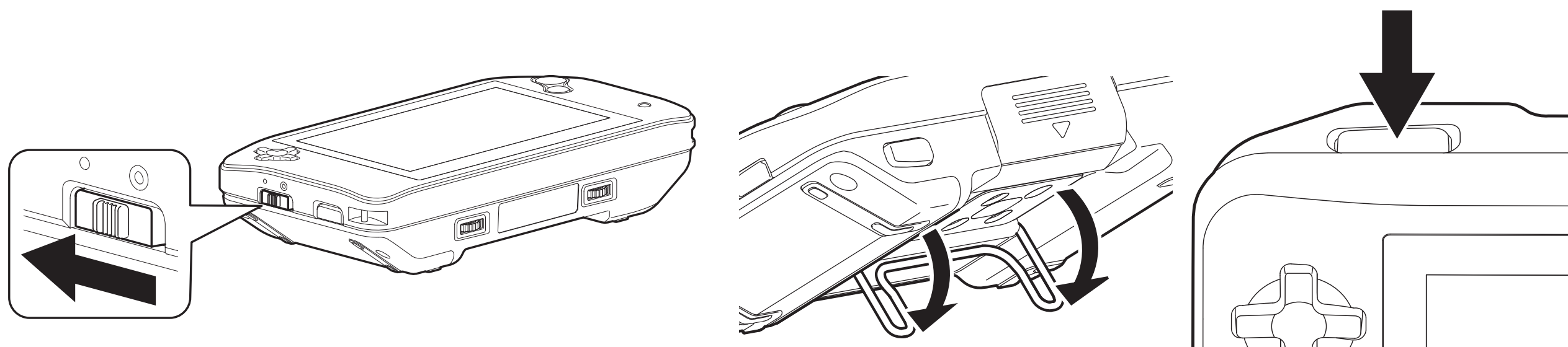
Playback mode:

Images stored in the internal memory can be recalled and displayed on the FarView’s 4.3” widescreen.

Pressing the mode selector button allows you to switch between the live viewing mode and playback mode. By default the FarView will start in the live viewing mode when it is switched on.

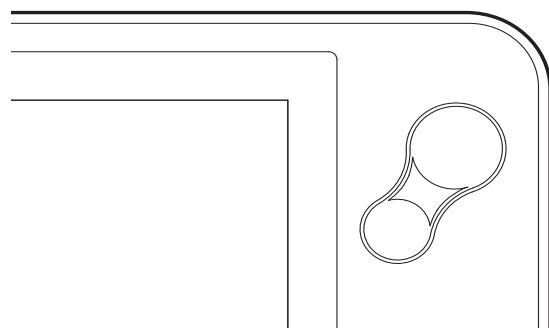
4. *Using the FarView for close-up viewing*

To start using the FarView, turn on the power by pressing the on / off button on the right side of the unit, and select the live viewing mode by pressing the rectangular button on the left side of the unit.



1. Select the close-up mode by moving the view mode selector switch to close-up mode. The view mode selector is located on the left side of the unit.
2. Unfold the reading stand and place the FarView over your reading material.
3. Press the focus / return button to focus the text.
4. Move the FarView over the text and use the zoom, contrast and color setting buttons to adjust the image to your needs. You can also use the contrast adjustment and screen brightness settings in the menu to adjust the contrast and brightness.

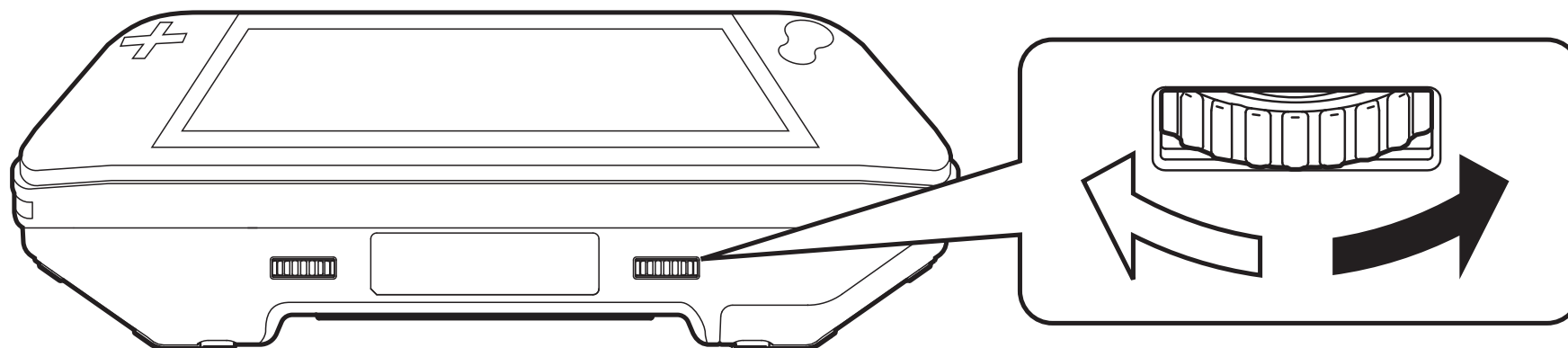
Using the zoom button



Press the zoom button, located on the right side of the screen, to change the magnification. Pressing the larger part of the button allows you to increase the magnification, whereas pressing the smaller part of the button will decrease the magnification.

Selecting a viewing mode

Rotating the color mode button, located right on the right of the bottom side of the unit, allows you to select among six viewing modes.

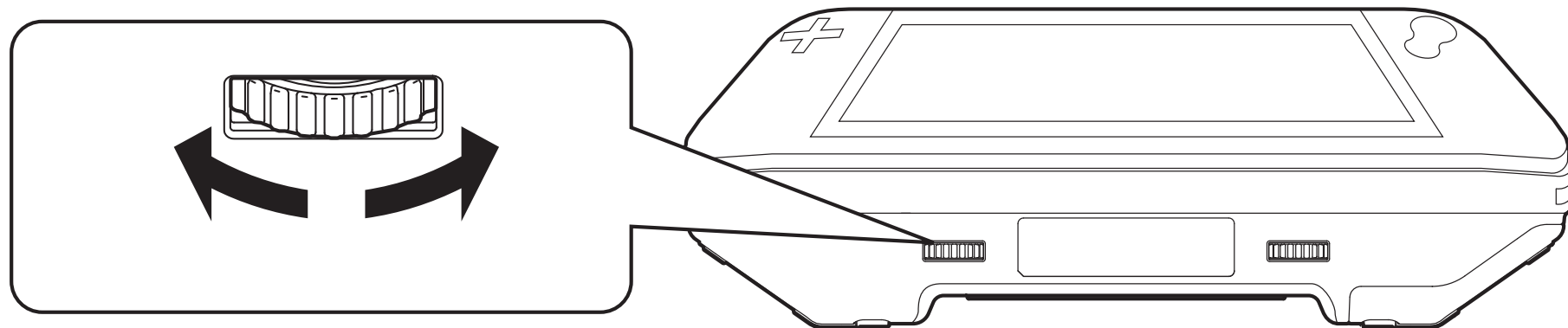


- Photo mode: view text and images in full color
- Negative mode: reading in high contrast white text on black background
- Positive mode: reading in high contrast black text on white background

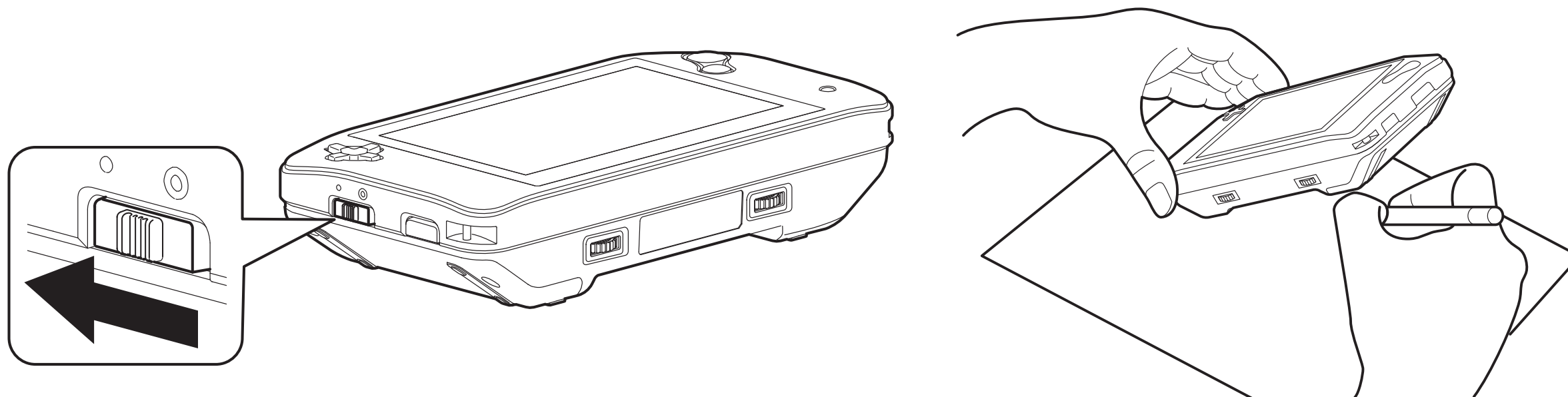
- Yellow-Black mode: reading in high contrast yellow text on black background
- Yellow-Blue mode: reading in high contrast yellow text on blue background
- Blue-Yellow mode: reading in high contrast blue text on yellow background

Contrast settings

Rotating the contrast adjustment button, located left on the left of the bottom side of the unit, allows you to adjust the contrast for a clearer image.

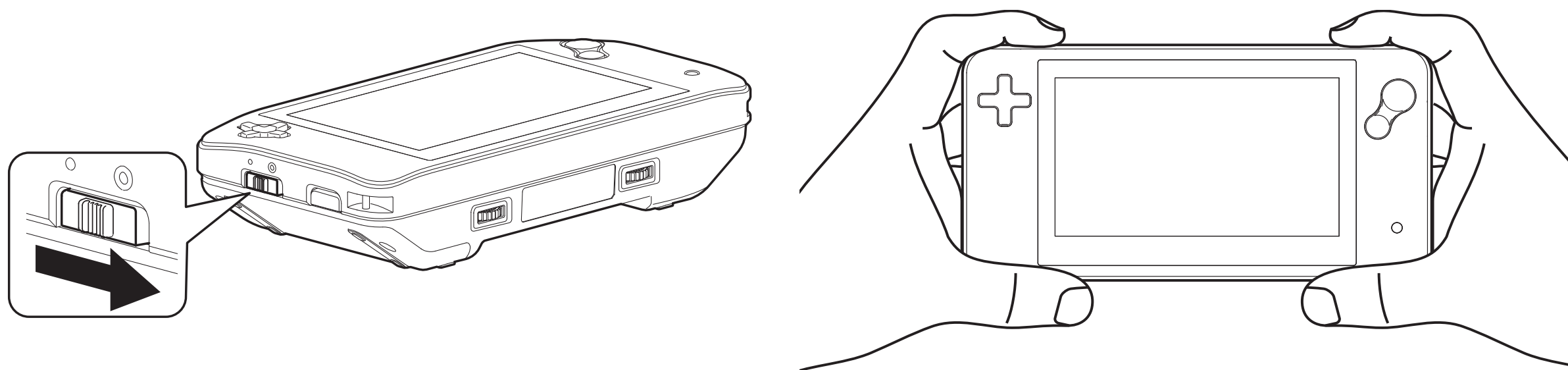


Using the FarView for writing



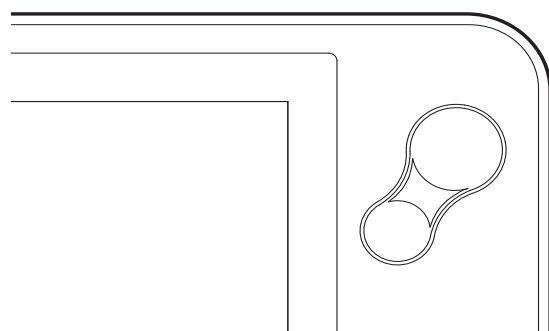
1. Select the close-up viewing mode by setting the view mode selector switch to close-up mode.
2. Place the unit on the paper with the display facing up.
3. Press the FarView down on the cursor button side.
4. Place your pen under the raised side to start writing

5. *Using the FarView for distance viewing*



1. Select the distance mode by moving the view mode selector switch into distance mode. The view mode selector is located on the left side of the unit.
2. Direct the unit to the text or object that you wish to look at, and use the zoom, contrast and color settings buttons to adjust the image to your needs. You can also use the contrast adjustment and screen brightness settings in the menu to adjust the contrast and brightness.

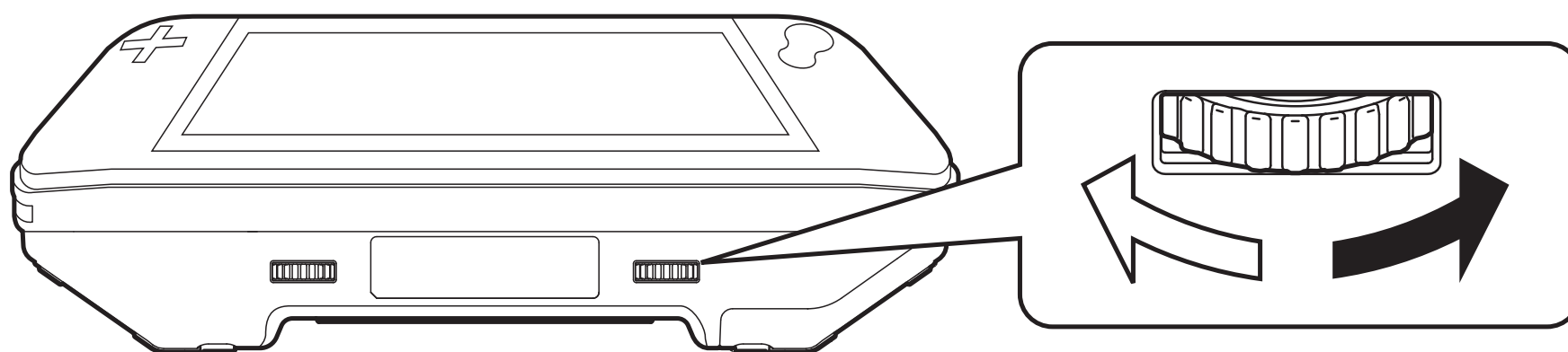
Using the zoom button



Press the zoom button, located on the right side of the screen, to change the magnification. Pressing the larger side of the button allows you to increase the magnification, whereas pressing the smaller side of the button will decrease the magnification.

Selecting a viewing mode

Rotating the color mode button, located on the right of the bottom side of the unit, allows you to select among the six viewing modes.

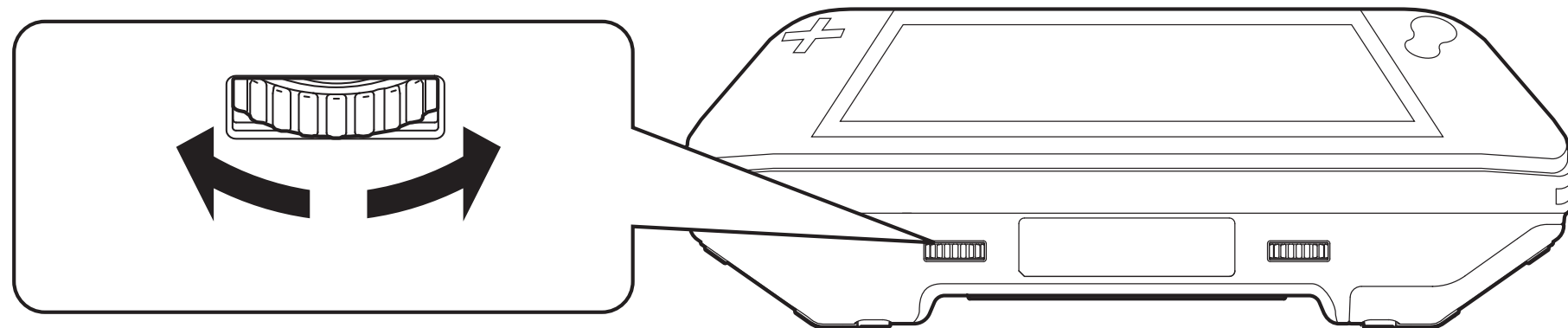


- Photo mode: view text and images in full color
- Negative mode: reading in high contrast white text on black background

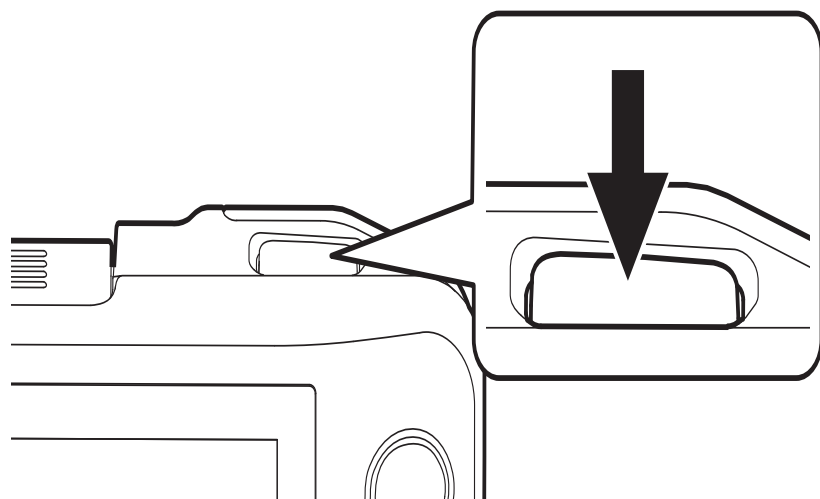
- Positive mode: reading in high contrast black text on white background
- Yellow-Black mode: reading in high contrast yellow text on black background
- Yellow-Blue mode: reading in high contrast yellow text on blue background
- Blue-Yellow mode: reading in high contrast blue text on yellow background

Contrast settings

Rotating the contrast adjustment button, located on the left of the bottom side of the unit, allows you to adjust the contrast for a clearer image.



Taking pictures with the FarView (Document Read Mode)



- Direct the FarView towards the text or image
- Press the oval shaped snapshot button, located right at the top side of the unit. The FarView generates a beep to indicate that the focus is adjusted, followed by a second beep, indicating that the picture is taken.
- View the picture on the screen of the FarView
- Captured images are automatically saved in the FarView's integrated memory for later reference.

Note! This function also allows you to capture a complete A4 or Letter size document or multiple pages of a book or magazine. Store the pages in the internal memory and recall the page while on the go or while sitting in a comfortable chair.

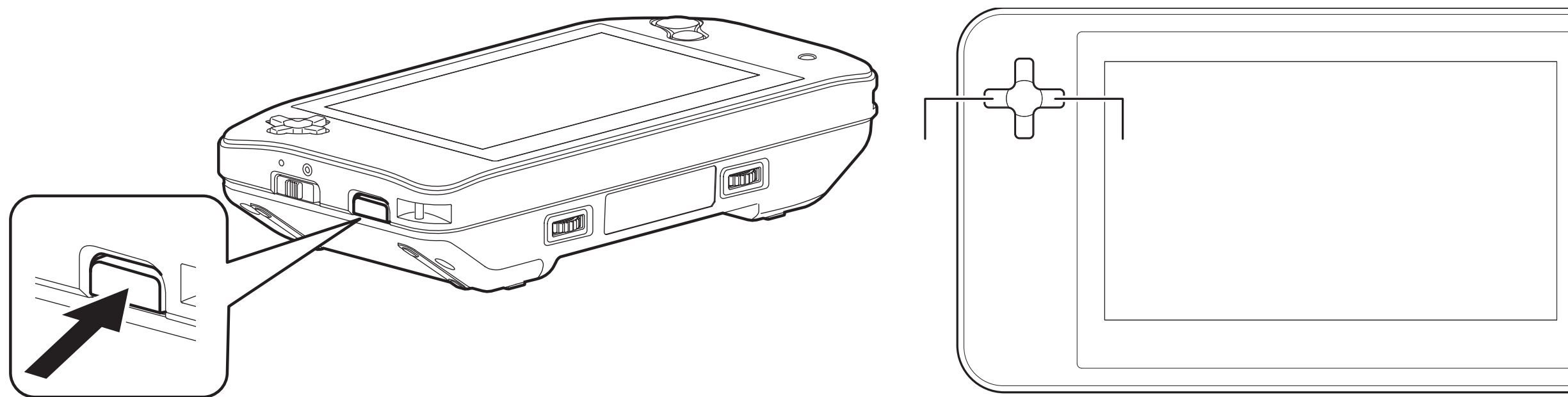
Storing images and documents

Pictures are automatically stored in the internal memory. When you take a picture, you will see both the picture as well as the number of stored pictures displayed on the screen for approximately two seconds. The FarView can store up to 100 images in the internal memory. For more information about setting the maximum number of pictures, please refer to chapter 7

Please note that when the number of pictures exceeds the allowed 100 images, the first picture will automatically be deleted. To protect pictures from automatic deletion, please refer to chapter 7.

6. *Picture Playback Mode*

The pictures stored in the FarView's internal memory can be recalled and displayed on the screen.



1. Switch the unit into playback mode by pressing the mode selector button on the left side of the unit.
2. Use the cursor buttons, located on the left side of the screen, to navigate through the images. Pressing the left cursor button will display the previous image, whereas pressing the right cursor button will display the next image.

Picture selection and adjustment

The pictures stored in the FarView's internal memory can be recalled and displayed on the screen.

Use the zoom button, contrast adjustment button or color settings button to adjust the images to your needs.

You can also use the menu to adjust the contrast, rotate the picture and adjust screen brightness. More information about these and other features can be found in chapter 7.

To enhance reading comfort, you can use the skew settings, return / stop position setting and scroll speed setting. Please keep in mind that the image displayed on the screen can only be scrolled when the image is magnified.

FarView features an automatic scrolling feature, allowing automatic scrolling to the beginning of the line. To optimally use this feature, follow the steps below:

1. Display the preferred position in the text to set the return position
2. Press and hold the focus / return button for approximately 2 seconds (until the unit generates a beep) to set the return position. The return position is marked on the left side of the screen.
3. Display the preferred position in the text to set the stop position.

4. Press and hold the snapshot button for approximately 2 seconds (until the unit generates a beep) to set the stop position. The stop position is marked on the right side of the screen.

Use the scrolling buttons to navigate through the text. Press the focus / return button when you have reached the end of the line to scroll automatically to the beginning of the line.

To cancel the return and stop position, press respectively the focus / return or snapshot button.

Please note that the automatic scrolling feature will be disabled when:

- displaying other images;
- switching to live viewing mode;
- connecting the FarView to an external monitor or PC

Pressing the snapshot button will return the magnified image to its original size. Press the left and right cursor buttons to continue navigating through the images saved in the unit's memory.

For more information on rotating pictures or enhancing reading comfort, please refer to chapter 7.

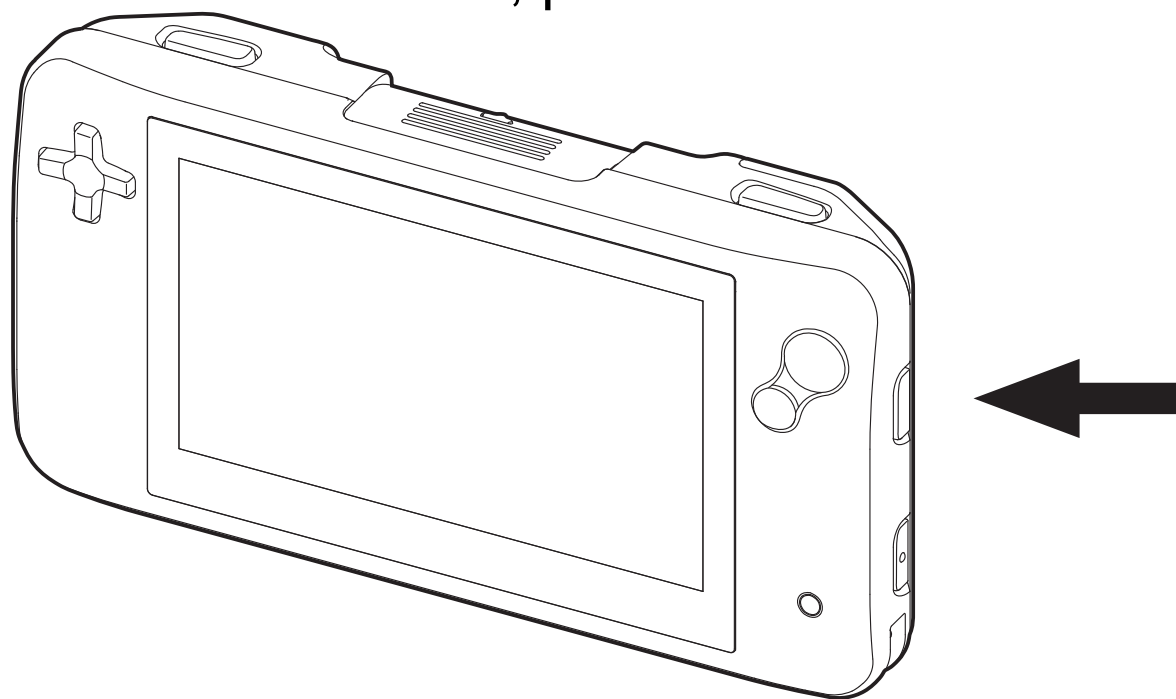
7. *Using the FarView Menu*

The FarView has an integrated menu that enables you to adjust many built-in settings to your needs.

Opening the menu

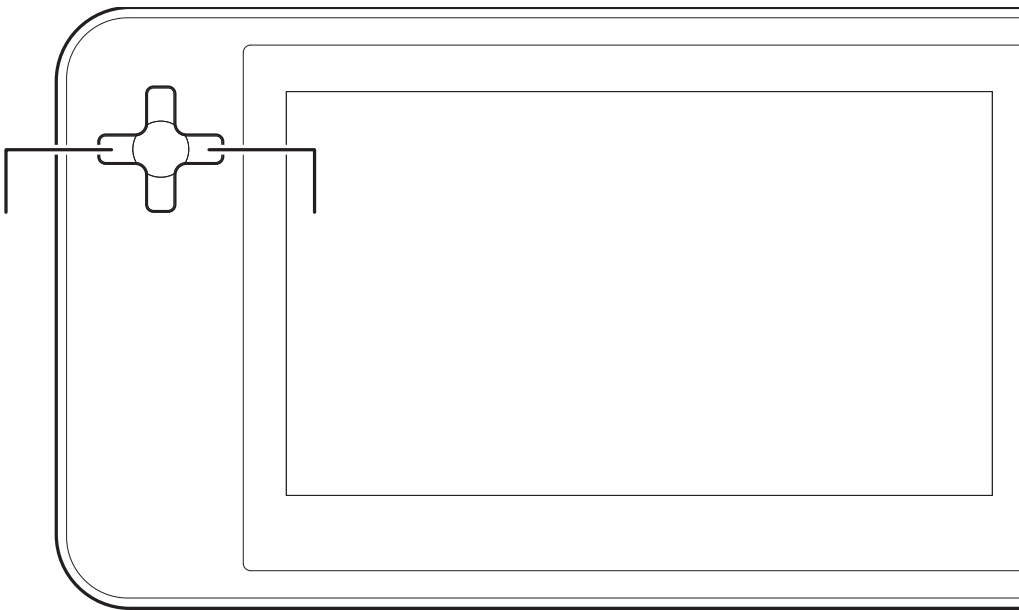
Press the menu button, located on the right side of the unit, to open the main menu. Use the cursor buttons 'up' and 'down' to navigate through the menu. Press the right cursor button to open the selected menu item.

To close the menu, press the menu button again and return to the viewing mode.



Modifying settings in the menu

The FarView menu has 12 items. These allow you to configure the FarView or to access information about the FarView’s current status.



Menu

- Open menu
- Next menu item
- Previous menu item
- Select menu item
- Modify value in menu field
- Confirm value and close menu
- Close menu

Button

- Menu button
- Cursor up button
- Cursor down button
- Cursor right button
- Cursor up and down buttons
- Press menu button twice
- Menu button

Contrast (live view and playback view) can be adjusted using the 'up' and 'down' cursor buttons. Either 'AUTO' contrast or 'MANUAL' contrast can be selected. Press the right cursor button to confirm your selection.

Auto: the contrast is adjusted automatically.

Manual: the contrast is adjusted according to your needs, using the color mode button.

Please note that the unit automatically returns to the 'AUTO' setting when the unit is switched off and back on again.

Light (live view): the light can be set on or off in the close up live viewing mode. Press the 'up' and 'down' cursor buttons to select 'ON' or 'OFF' and press the right cursor button to confirm your setting. By default, the unit starts in light 'ON' mode every time it is switched on.

Rotate (playback view): this feature allows you to rotate the image displayed on screen to 90° toward the left or right, or to 180°. Use the 'up' and 'down' cursor buttons to navigate through the different rotating options, and press the right cursor button to confirm your setting. Please note that protected images cannot be rotated

Delete (playback view): display the picture on the screen that you wish to delete and press the menu button. Select 'DELETE' and press the right cursor button to confirm. Select either 'THIS', 'ALL' or 'NO' to delete either the selected picture, all pictures or no pictures.

When selecting 'ALL' a dialog box will appear asking you if you want to delete all pictures. Select either 'YES' or 'NO' and confirm your choice by pressing the right cursor button.

Please note that protected images cannot be deleted when selecting 'DELETE ALL'. To delete protected images, you must first cancel the protection setting in the 'PROTECTION' submenu.

Scroll speed (playback view): this can be adjusted to your needs by pressing 'up' and 'down' cursor buttons. Pressing the 'up' button will increase the scrolling speed. Pressing the 'down' button will decrease the scrolling speed.

Skew (playback view): when a picture is not aligned properly, the skew settings can be used to correct the alignment. The skew can be adjusted by pressing the 'up' and 'down' cursor buttons. The guideline will rotate 1° each time the 'up' or 'down' button is pressed. Press the menu button twice to save your settings and to return to playback mode.

Please note that switching off the unit or selecting another image in playback mode will cancel the settings. Pressing the left or right scrolling buttons, allows you to return to playback mode.

Brightness (live view and playback view): this can be adjusted by pressing the 'up' and 'down' cursor buttons. This submenu features four levels. Press the 'up' button to increase the brightness and press the 'down' button to decrease the brightness. The brightness settings will be saved automatically, even when the unit is switched off. Please note that the brightness cannot be adjusted when the FarView is connected to an external monitor.

Protect (playback view): pictures stored in the internal memory can be protected from accidental deletion. Select 'PROTECT' while the unit is in playback mode and then press the

right cursor button to confirm your setting. A protection mark will appear on screen to indicate that the picture is protected. Pressing the 'up' and 'down' cursor buttons will cancel the protection settings.

To continue protecting images, select another picture and repeat the same procedure.

Beep (live view and playback view): this can be switched 'ON' or 'OFF', by pressing the 'up' and 'down' cursor buttons. By default, sounds are switched on. Sound settings are automatically saved when switching the unit off and back on again.

Language (live view and playback view): press the 'up' and 'down' cursor buttons to navigate the language menu and press the right cursor button to confirm your setting. The language menu features 7 different language options:

- Japanese
- English
- French
- German
- Spanish
- Italian
- Dutch

The language setting is automatically saved when the unit is switched off and back on again. The default language setting is 'ENGLISH'.

Number of image (live view): this setting allows you to set the maximum number of images that can be stored in the FarView's internal memory. You can select 30 images or 100 images. Press the 'up' and 'down' cursor buttons followed by the right cursor button to select your preferred setting. By default this setting is set to 30 images.

Reset (live view and playback view): this allows you to restore the factory settings. Selecting this option will restore the 'contrast', 'light', 'scroll', 'brightness' and 'beep' settings.

8. *Connecting the FarView to other equipment*

The FarView can be connected to an external VGA monitor or PC to view images at a more comfortable size.

Viewing images on an external monitor or TV

Plug the VGA cable (available as an option) into the RGB OUT port, located on the top side of the unit. Plug the other end of the VGA cable to the external monitor or TV.

Please make sure that the power is switched off when connecting the unit to an external VGA monitor or TV. When connecting the FarView to a TV, make sure that the select the external input mode on your television is selected.

Connecting the FarView to a PC

Connect the FarView to your computer to save, play, print and email your pictures.

1. Switch the power off and connect the FarView to the AC adapter into your FarView.
2. Switch the power back on.
3. Connect the FarView to the PC by using a USB cable (available in store)

Once connected to the PC the text 'PC CONNECTED' will appear on the screen. Unplugging the USB cable will switch the unit back into the previous used mode.

The FarView's drive can be found in the 'My Computer' folder on your PC.

To exit the PC mode, please follow the instruction in the 'Safely remove hardware' dialog box found in your PC's system task tray.

9. Others

Message display

MESSAGE	ACTION
No Image	No saved images. Take pictures and store them in the internal memory.
Irregular Image data	The image might be damaged, making it impossible to view the image in playback mode. Please delete file.
Please connect AC adapter	When connecting the unit to a PC via a USB cable, make sure that the AC adapter is plugged in.
Accessing	Please do not unplug the USB cable or AC adapter when accessing the memory, as this may automatically delete images stored in the internal memory.
This image is protected	Release the protection before deleting or rotating images.
Too many protected image. Please protect off.	Cancel protection and delete images to gain extra space.

Cannot save, please delete some images	When more than 30 images are stored, the number of images option cannot be set to 30. Please make sure to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Delete images until the number of pictures equals or is lower than 30.• Set the number of images to 100.
Cannot operate	The image might be damaged, making it impossible to protect or rotate the image. Please delete file.
Memory is full	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Delete images (make sure to cancel protection settings to delete protected images).• Check if the number of images is set to 100.
Memory card access error	Please turn the unit off and back on again.
Camera / Lens error	Please turn the unit off and back on again.
Communication error	Please turn the unit off and back on again.

Troubleshooting

Battery and power source

Questions	Answers
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Unit does not work even when power is turned on	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Press and hold the power button (for approximately 2 seconds)• Press and hold focus / return button and menu button for approximately 2 seconds simultaneously• Battery is exhausted. Please recharge.
LCD monitor lights shut off even if power is turned on	When the unit is connected to an external monitor, the lights of the display automatically switch off
Unit switches off as soon as power is turned on	Batteries are exhausted. Please recharge.
The power cannot be turned off	Press and hold both the return and menu buttons down (for approximately 2 seconds) simultaneously.

Battery and power source

Questions	Answers
Cannot record picture	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Check if the unit is in the live viewing mode• Cancel protection settings
Recorded picture looks white	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lens is dirty (fingerprints, etc.) → Turn the power off and gently clean the

	lens surface with a soft dry cloth
The object is not focused properly	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Make sure to select the correct viewing mode; close-up viewing or distance viewing• Object or text is outside of focus range• Caused by subject movement or hand movement• Make sure to take the picture right after the shutter button is pressed → Do not move the unit or object until the picture has been taken and is fixed on the screen

Lens

Questions	Answers
Picture is skewed or color surroundings differ from the actual scene	While recording pictures, the images may skew slightly or may be colored on the outline.

LCD monitor

Questions	Answers
LCD monitor lights switch off while the power is turned on.	When the unit goes unused for about 3 minutes, it automatically switches into standby

	mode. Press any button, except for the on / off button, to switch the lights back on.
Brightness is unstable	This might occur when the aperture value is set (this does not affect the recorded pictures.)
Monitor flickers indoors	Monitor may flicker after switching unit on (this prevents any influences from fluorescent lighting).
Black/blue/red/green dots or interference appears. Monitor looks distorted when touched	This is not a malfunction. These dots will not be recorded on the actual picture.

Playback

Questions	Answers
Cannot view pictures	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Check if the unit is set to playback mode.• No pictures in the internal memory.
Picture is too bright or too dark	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Check if the unit is set to playback mode.• Adjust the brightness by rotating the contrast adjustment button.

Connection with an external monitor or PC

Questions	Answers
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No image appears on TV or external monitor	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The unit is not connected properly• When the unit is connected to a TV, make sure to set the TV input to external input mode
Cannot send pictures to computer	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The unit is not connected properly.• Check if the computer has recognized the camera.• Plug the AC adapter into the computer.

Others

Questions	Answers
Unit is warm	The unit may become a warm during use or while charging. This does not affect the unit’s performance or quality.

Appendix A: Safety

- Do not drop or knock the unit or put a lot of pressure on it. This may damage the FarView, lens or monitor.
- Do not use the FarView near electromagnetic equipment, radio transmitters or high voltage lines.
- Do not expose the FarView to excessive heat or direct sunlight as to avoid the risk of fire.
- Do not remove any parts of the FarView. Contact an Optelec authorized service organisation in your area.
- To avoid risk of electrical damage, keep your FarView away from fluids and chemicals.
- Handle the FarView with care. Rough handling will damage its internal components.
- Do not use the FarView near inadequately-shielded medical devices.
- Contact your dealer to service this equipment if necessary. Do not open your unit as it will void the warranty.
- Always unplug the system before cleaning it. Use a soft damp cloth to clean the exterior. Do not use cleaning agents or abrasive materials as they will damage your unit.
- Use only the supplied power adapter.

Use of the FarView other than described in this manual will exclude it from warranty conditions.

Appendix B: Technical information

Magnification	Up to 42 times
	Live viewing mode (close-up): 3 – 12 times
	Live viewing mode (distance): 3 – 42 times
	Playback mode: Up to 14 times zoom
Viewing modes	Full color photo mode, High contrast white on black, High contrast black on white, High contrast blue on yellow, High contrast yellow on blue, High contrast yellow on black
Focus	Auto-focus
Screen	4.3” widescreen TFT
Battery power	Up to 4 hours continuous use
	Live viewing mode: 2.5 hours
	Playback mode: 4 hours
	Charging time 4.5 hours
Battery model	Lithium-ion (Li-ion) rechargeable batteries
Weight	290 grams / 10.2 ounces (incl. batteries and excl. adapter)
Input	100 – 240V, 50 – 60Hz

Storage and transport conditions:

Relative humidity: 10 – 80%, no condensation

Temperature: 0° – 40 ° C

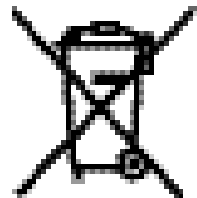
Note: Used batteries should be disposed of in a depot that is designated by competent local authorities.

**About picture data**

Recorded data may be damaged or lost if the unit breaks down due to inappropriate handling. Neither Optelec nor its partners will be held liable for any damages suffered due to loss of recorded data.

WARNING: The use of accessories, transducers and cables, with the exception of transducers and cables sold by the FarView's manufacturer as replacement parts, may result in increased emissions or decreased immunity of the FarView.

-If you see this symbol-

Information on Disposal for other Countries outside the European Union.

This symbol is only valid in the European Union.
If you wish to discard this product, please contact your local authorities or dealer and ask for the correct method of disposal.

This product complies with the safety and EMC requirements of the directives:

IEC 60601-1;
IEC 60601-1-2

FCC
FCC part 15 Class B



This device bears the CE and FCC approval mark

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