



# BANDIDO



**NEW**

**ONLY \$359<sup>00</sup>**

We felt it was high time someone produced a metal detector that would provide peak performance and maximum ground penetration at an affordable price.

Our new Bandido is that detector...a straightforward, easy-to-use unit made for almost any treasure hunting environment or experience.

Bandido will deliver peak performance for coinshooting, relic hunting, nuggetshooting, competition events, and more!

Bandido's all-new HGS (High Gain Sensitivity) circuitry provides explosive power to get the **deep** targets!

Exclusive ED 120 discrimination permits a broader range of adjustment for relic hunting or for separating trash from goodies in coinshooting.

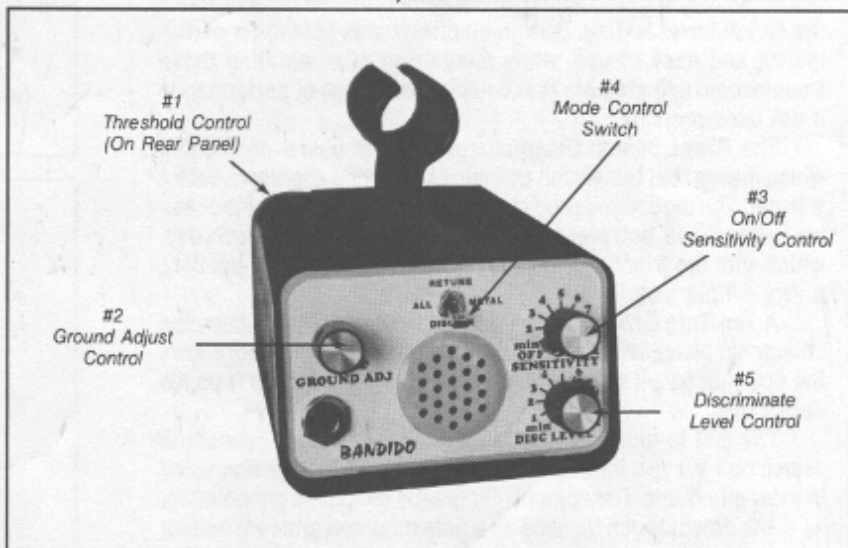
## SPECIFICATIONS

- Ultra-lightweight...approx. 3 lbs.
- Convertible to hipmount
- Weather resistant ABS housing
- Operating frequency...10 kHz
- Audio frequency...625 Hz
- Audio output...stereo; 1½" speaker & ¼" phone jack
- Power supply...two 9V batteries
- Battery life...15-30 hours

## LIFE TIME WARRANTY

**CALL TOLL FREE!!**

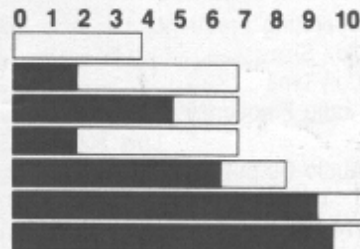
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FOR THE NAME OF  
YOUR NEAREST DEALER



## EXPANDED ED-120 DISCRIMINATION

- IRON OBJECTS .....
- STEEL BOTTLE CAP .....
- NICKEL COIN .....
- GOLD NUGGETS .....
- PULL TABS .....
- ALUMINUM BEER CAN .....
- COINS .....

## DISCRIMINATE LEVEL CONTROL SETTING



NOTE: Solid line indicates audio response, open line indicates possible audio response, no line indicates no audio response. Typical response levels shown.

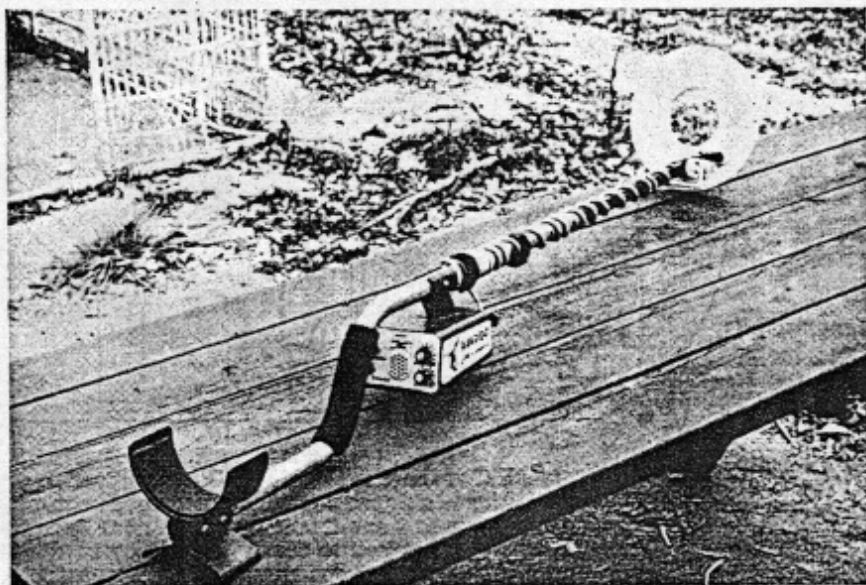
DISCRIMINATION LEVEL SETTINGS.



**TESORO ELECTRONICS, INC.**  
5289 W. Montebello Ave.  
Glendale, AZ 85301  
(602) 934-3999



## FIELD TEST



*The Bandido gets down and hits those deeper targets.*

# Testing The Tesoro Bandido

By Jerry Eckhart

I found my first gold coin with a Tesoro metal detector. That was years ago, right after the Tesoro first came out, so it was like a visit from an old friend when I received the Tesoro Bandido from *Western & Eastern Treasures* for a field test. Would this new detector be as kind to me as its predecessor? My doubts overshadowed my dreams, for gold coin finds are rare with any metal detector. At any rate, my goal was to learn whether this new Tesoro performed as claimed. Whatever I found would be secondary.

Packaging was excellent. There were no rattles or loose parts inside the box. That means a lot, for metal detectors take a lot of abuse from today's shipping fleet. The effort a manufac-

turer makes to prevent shipping damage speaks volumes about what they think of their customer, and their product.

Assembly of the Tesoro Bandido was a matter of connecting the upper stem to the lower and attaching the searchcoil. Simple, yes. Quick, no. Two rubber washers are used to take up slack between the shaft and the mounting ears of the searchcoil. This is standard on many detectors, and usually, there is no problem. In the case of the Bandido the rubber washers were about 1/16 of an inch too thick and the shaft would not fit the searchcoil. After a futile 30 minutes, I solved the problem by shaving about a third of the rubber from one side of each washer. The shaft still fit tightly, but it did fit. It is possible this

was an isolated problem with only the detector I received. Others may not be as stubborn.

All other aspects of assembly were quick and simple. Batteries are packed separately, to prevent accidental damage to the unit. The detector also comes with a couple of velcro strips to anchor the extra cable firmly to the detector shaft.

In these days of high-tech metal detectors, it is refreshing to find one featuring the latest technology, but not requiring an electronic degree to operate. The Bandido is a Transmitter-Receiver detector which operates in the Very Low Frequency range. It performs in a true mineral-free mode in both All-Metal and Discriminate. That means the Tesoro *must* be ground balanced before using in Discriminate. The searchcoil requires a small amount of motion when operating in Discriminate, but requires no motion to perform in All-Metal.

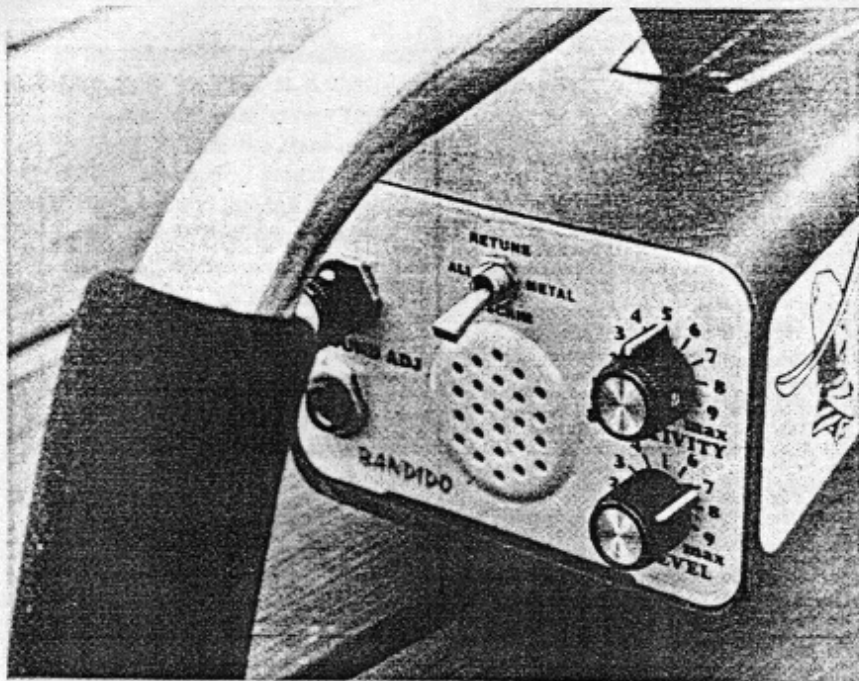
The Tesoro Bandido has five controls on the front panel, and a threshold adjust on the rear panel. The four main controls are easily reached and changed with only the index finger of the hand holding the detector. Here is a brief explanation of those four controls.

**On/Off, Battery Test, Sensitivity Control:** That is quite an assignment for one control, but it does the job. When the knob is turned on, power goes to the detector. At the same time, the Bandido automatically tests the batteries and gives an audible tone that indicates their condition. Fresh batteries give a loud response that gradually dies out as the detector adjusts to its preset threshold. This test must be done in the Discriminate setting. As the bat-

### Tesoro Bandido AIR TEST

Tests were conducted at a  
Discriminate setting of 3.5 and  
a Sensitivity setting of 5.

14k white gold ring	5 1/2"
Nickel	5 1/2"
Zinc cent	5 3/4"
Wheat cent	5 3/4"
Clad dime	5 1/4"
Mercury dime	5 1/2"
Clad quarter	6 1/4"
Clad half dollar	7 1/2"
Silver half	7 1/2"



"The four main controls are easily reached and changed."

teries weaken, the initial tone will be weaker and die out faster. When you turn the unit on and get just a buzz or no response, it is time to replace them.

The remainder of the range on this control is used to set the sensitivity of your detector. The higher you go, the more sensitive the Bandido is. Don't forget, if you turn the sensitivity too high, the detector will react to the min-

erals in the ground, producing choppy, erratic responses. Set the control at the point just below where the detector becomes unstable.

During the field tests, I was able to operate the Bandido at an average setting of 6 in the areas I searched. Some sandy areas were low enough in minerals to allow me to operate at near maximum sensitivity.

**Ground Adjust Control:** This control adjusts the All-Metal mode to ignore ground mineralization. It is a ten-turn component and is very accurate. They have a clutch which allows the knob to continue turning after the end of the tuning range is reached, so study the manual section on tuning carefully.

**Mode Switch:** This toggle switch is used to select All-Metal or Discriminate. It also retunes the All-Metal mode when needed. Center position is All-Metal. Down is Discriminate, and the Up position retunes All-Metal.

**Discriminate Level:** This is a standard control with positions marked from 1 to 9. The higher the number, the more that is rejected. The instruction manual gives a chart which shows the approximate setting where various items are accepted and rejected. Each Bandido may vary slightly from this standard chart so it is best to test the unit you get and write the rejection points for your particular detector on a

#### APPROXIMATE DISCRIMINATE POINTS FOR TEST UNIT

Sm. gold ring	4.5
Nickel	5.0
Zinc Cent	8.0
Wheat Cent	9.0
Pulltab	6.5
Iron bottle cap	4.5
14K White gold band	5.0
14K small yellow band	3.8

Clad dimes, silver dimes, and clad quarters were still detected when discrimination was turned fully up to the stop.

Note: The rings and nickel are discriminated much lower than pulltabs. Check this on your unit. You may be able to determine whether a signal is a ring or nickel before you dig it, by the setting at which it is rejected.

## DO YOU OWN A "CLASSIC"?

We define a "Classic" as a not quite current metal detector which works too good to sit in the closet.

**True:** A Classic Detector is not new. (But not *real* old).

**True:** It has already found a fair share of treasure.

**True:** A "broken-in" detector usually has the bugs out.

**True:** A "Classic" metal detector usually sells for less than current models.

**True:** Scratches don't affect how well a machine works. ("Classics" are sometimes scratched)

**False:** Old machines are not worth much. (You may be surprised just how much your machine is worth.)

Give us a call. We will explain how we can help turn your Classic Detector into \$\$\$

Let National advertising work for you. There are many persons interested in our hobby who can't afford a new detector. **Sell them yours.**

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