

G-M DETECTORS JOB AID:



- **Check batteries**
- **Take background reading in an uncontaminated area**
- **Scan slowly and close to the object**
- **Record your survey readings**

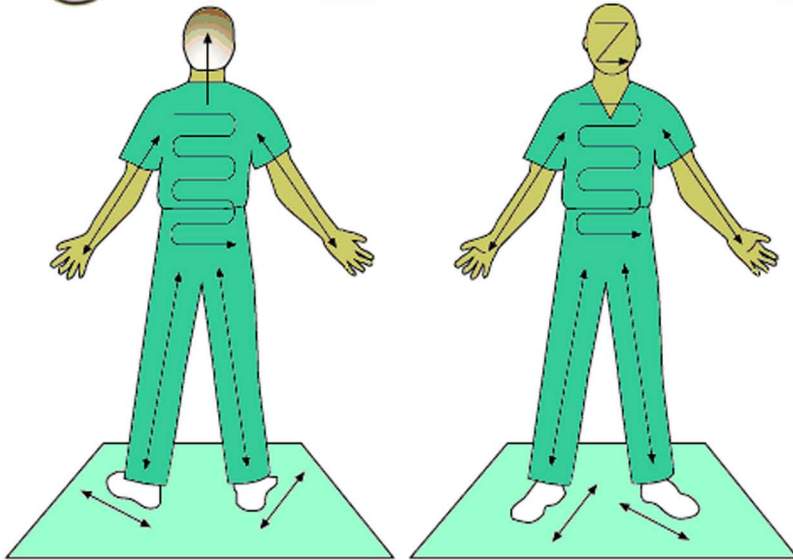


Figure: Conducting the Survey

SAFETY NOTE:

Do not disconnect or connect the connectors for the coaxial cable on the survey meter when the meter is turned on. You could receive an electrical shock.

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Inspect the equipment.

- Attach the meter to the probe with the cable.
- Inspect the cable that connects the G-M detector to the survey meter. With the meter on, wiggle the cable near the connectors to see if this causes erratic behavior of sound or display; if so, the cable is defective.
- Inspect the meter for obvious signs of damage (e.g., broken detector window; broken glass on meter face).

Perform a battery check.

- Check the batteries, using the "range" switch or "bat" button; the method depends on the type of instrument. The meter needle should move to an area on scale marked "Bat" indicating the batteries are good. Replace if necessary.

Conduct a source/operational check.

- Place detector close to a check source (e.g., Thorium containing gas lantern mantle in a plastic bag; plastic button "check source").
- Select appropriate range (e.g., x10).
- Verify meter response.
- If no source is available, assume the meter is working if the response to background is about 30 to 200 counts per minute (cpm).

Conduct a background reading.

- Expect a reading of 30 to 200 counts per minute.

Conduct the survey (see figure).

- Move the probe slowly (1 inch per second).
- Do not let the probe touch anything.
- Pay particular attention to face, feet, and hands.
- Locate the points that produce the most clicks and document the reading. Generally, areas more than twice the pre-determined background are considered contaminated.

If large numbers of people require screening, to avoid delays, it may be necessary to perform only a "quick look" spot survey of the head, face, shoulders and hands, the most likely locations for contamination.