

Inova T3R 234 Lumen Torch

This is quite a torch for its size. It has a fierce output at 234 Lumens and to cope with this it is a rechargeable, not a conventional replaceable battery powered device. The special Lithium Ion battery is, however, replaceable if necessary and one could carry a second one if away from a charging source on long duration ops.

Quoted figures give it a full power operating duration of 2.75 hours, extending to 40 hours on low power. Full power is said to have a 152 metre range. The beam can be varied to suit needs by adjusting the body of the torch.

Made from aircraft quality anodised aluminium it has a very professional feel to it, with aggressive knurling to give a positive grip. It is water resistant, with O-ring seals where appropriate. The torch comes complete with its recharging items including mains, USB and car. To recharge, you simply unscrew the front body to expose the recharge socket. There is an LED to show when charging is in progress (red) and complete (green). A full charge can take up to four hours from zero but it can be topped up as and when. The single LED light is switched at the rear of the T3R with a rubberised push button. This does take a little getting used to, but in principal the first press gives full power, the second low and either of these can be made to stay on by pressing the button further in. Off is a full press. If it is important not to show light, a small turn of the rear body will prevent the light coming on by an inadvertent button push. The torch can be operated by turning the end cap if preferred by first pressing the on button and from then on by turning the end cap and this will also alternate between high and low. There is a fearsome strobe which is activated by two rapid button presses in the high power mode. This I must say does take a little practice to get right but is certainly enough to attract attention or confuse a possible assailant. This is definitely for the serious user and is made to last in hard use environments and applications. For outright performance, it will walk all over many much larger torches.

1: The Inova T3R as it appears on the shelf - do not be misled by its relatively small size

2: Charging is simple - here from a 13-amp mains socket into the normally obscured USB port in the torch

3: It is difficult to show with any realism the true power of this torch but this shot does perhaps give an idea of size and ability

