

Maximum, Minimum, and Current Temperature Protocol

Field Guide

Task

Measure the current, maximum, and minimum air temperatures.

Reset the maximum and minimum indicators to start the next 24-hour measurement.

What You Need

- A properly sited instrument shelter
- [Integrated 1-Day Data Sheet](#)
- A properly calibrated and installed maximum/minimum thermometer
- Pen or pencil

In the Field

1. Record the time and date on the *Integrated 1-Day Data Sheet*.
2. Open the instrument shelter being careful not to touch or breathe on the thermometer.
3. Position yourself so that your eye is level with the mercury in the thermometer.
4. Read the level of the mercury on the maximum side of the thermometer to the nearest 0.5° C.
5. Record this reading as the current temperature.
6. Read the bottom of the indicator on the maximum side of the thermometer to the nearest 0.5° C.
7. Record this reading as the maximum temperature.
8. Read the bottom of the indicator on the minimum side of the thermometer to the nearest 0.5° C. Remember that the temperature scale is upside down.
9. Record this reading as the minimum temperature.
10. Use the magnet to gently move the maximum and minimum indicators down until they just touch the mercury.
11. Close the instrument shelter.