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“Police” brand xenon flashlight.

Tjin

- Gear reviews and tests - Lamps and Lanterns -



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Description :

A review of a cheap xenon flashlight.

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"Police" brand xenon flashlight.



The "Police" xenon flashlight is an inexpensive high powered flashlight, sold to people who want quality flashlights, but do not want to pay the price of the high end brand names. It's equipped with a permanent and temporarily switch. It's powered by 2 cr123a lithium batteries. And it is marketed to produce 90 lumens. Not having any measuring equipment I can't confirm it, nor disprove it. It does give a lot of light, certainly comparable to my [Nuwai Q3](#), it actually appears to be slightly more. The xenon bulb is directly driven by the batteries, no regulation what so ever. And has an adjustable beam. The light is made of "aircraft grade" aluminium.



size comparison From left to right: Aurora 2xAA, "police" light, AI-81 1x AAA, Nuwai Q3

The body is made of separate parts:

Head with lens and reflector fixed to it.

A disk with the removable lamp

The main body, it's where the batteries are stored when in use.

A disk with the battery spring and a knob at the other end. (Part of the switch.)

The end, which is just a tube shaped thingy with a rubber pad to cover the hole in the back.

There are rubber O-rings on the places where the head and the end join the main body. I have used it in light rain without failure. So I would certainly rate it splash proof. Because both ends are normally not screwed tight, it feels kind of loose.



the parts

The temporarily and permanently on button is mounted on the end of the light. Push the end and you will get temporarily light, until you release it again. Twist the end to the right will activate the permanently on mode, until you turn it back or the batteries die. Rubber-ish button cover on the back feels cheap. When pushed on it, you will push a little disk, with on one end the battery spring and the other a knob. The spring will prevent the dish from touching the side, which will otherwise complete the electric circle. When the button is pushed or the knob is turned on, the back will push the disk on to the side and thus complete the circle. A very simple design, but requires you to push the end relative hard to have temperately light. And it adds another loose component to the flashlight, which means more things to loose.



the switch The end removed and the metal disk with the spring and knob in place.

When in use I experience many occasions when the light just wouldn't go on when the switch was activated. A whack or more on a rigid surface is needed to "fix" the problem. The cause of the problem could not be found. But it's a serious flaw! Oh... did I mentioned on MANY occasions?

The black finished feels and looks like paint! But don't quote me on that, I'm not 100% sure. It's surprisingly durable, no damaged detected. That could be influenced by 2 things: first this light was not carried often, because I didn't like it. And secondly it has something to do with the shape of the flashlight; it's smooth. There are no sharp angles or other grip giving shapes on the body. Just some very light grooves in the middle of the light, which gives no grip at all. Also a few light dots were made on the lights head and end, giving little to none additional grip. Leaving the paint-ish finish as the gripping surface, this is pretty bad. Since the finish is smooth and slippery, it also makes it

possible for the flashlight to easily roll away.



The light kicking out light

Not sure what the lens is made of, but it has come loose on mine. But it's currently stuck between the reflector and a groove inside the head. And has started to rattle a bit, which is annoying. The reflector is smooth, with a mirror-ish look to it. The beam is adjustable, but will not give a perfect beam. You always seem to have distortions in the beam and often a donut shape beam. The best beam I can get out of this thing is about the same as the fixed beams on my cheap krypton flashlights, just a lot brighter. Maybe I'm spoiled with high-end LED lights, but this looks crappy to me.



the light sticking out of the sheath The flap is pushed away with the light semi sticking out.

The nylon sheath raised my eyebrows when it saw it the first time. They stopped half way on one of the important stitches?!?! Barely holding the little D ring on the back and made the snap-on loop pretty useless, unless you plan on losing the light! This means I had to take out my sewing kit and fix it myself. I don't buy things to fix it myself. The sheath is made of a rough kind of nylon, with no padding. It has a fixed belt loop and a snap-on loop. The light I carried in a round sleeve with an open underside. The slightly bigger head of the light prevents it from sliding away. There is a big flap with Velcro to cover the top, which can be additionally be secured with a strap that holds the flap in place. In real life however the top flap can be easily be pushed away top access the light even with the securing flap holding it in place. Also after some use the nylon material has started to fray at several places.

Good points: Inexpensive, gives a lot of light.

Bad points: Cheap smooth finish, little grip, not reliable, lens got loose, ugly beam, bad sheath was unfinished.

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In my opinion this light is cheap in every aspect and not just on the price tag! The greatest selling point is the price, not quality. If you plan to buy a good quality light, steer away from this one. This light will probably disappoint you and you will end up buying a better one anyway, meaning you wasted you money on this one first, but on the other hand it doesn't cost much. (On ebay you can get one for as low as \$4 a piece, without batteries and S&H.)But again that's MY opinion... I ordered the Nuwai Q3 (see review [here](#)) shortly after getting this light...

Any additions or corrections will be posted on the comment section below.