

Forumslader Companion

Garmin data field for the Forumslader V5/V6 - Quick Guide

Applies to: App version 2.4.1 (as of July 2026)**Compatibility:** Garmin devices with BLE and IQ capability, IQ API v3.2.0 (System 4) or higher

1. Quick Start

Install the data field once and add it to any activity you like. When you open the activity, it automatically connects to the Forumslader and shows its values.

- 1 Install the **Forumslader Companion** data field from the Garmin IQ Store.
- 2 Edit a data screen in the activity and add the data field.
- 3 Start the activity and wait for the connection status: searching – connecting – initializing – live
- 4 Bluetooth active on the Forumslader.



Fig. 1: Data field added Fig. 2: Connection status

2. Value Display and Fields

The data field shows up to four freely selectable readings. Each field can be set individually. For fewer than four readings, set the field(s) to **Off**.

Available values: Trip energy, Temperature, Dynamo power, Dynamo gear, Odometer, Battery current, Load, Speed, Battery level, Day distance, Tour distance, BLE Diagnostics, Consumed energy, Estimated range.

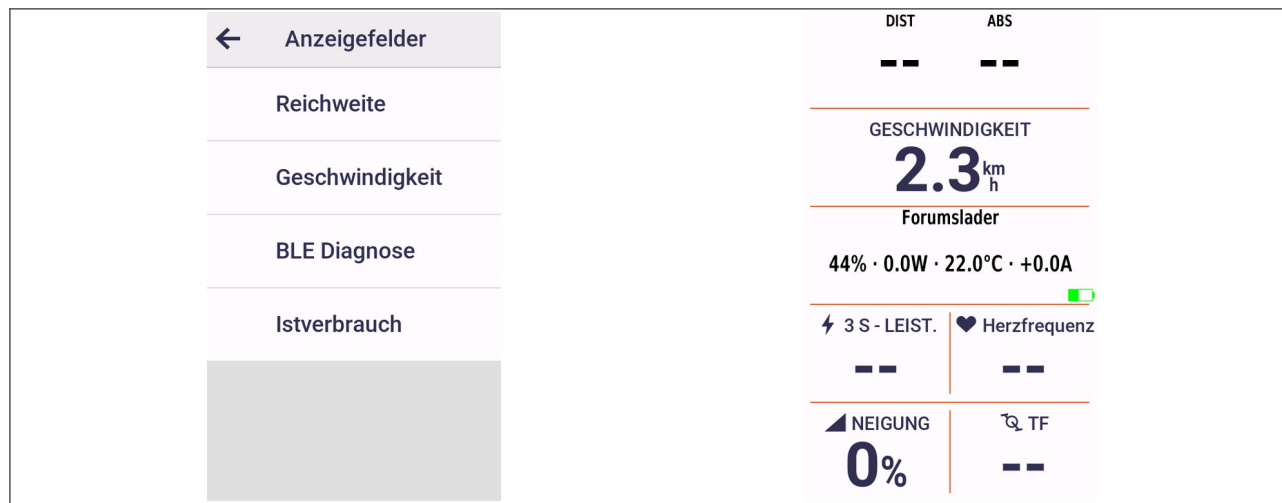


Fig. 3: Field configuration

Fig. 4: Multi-field display

2.1 Display Mode

On: Single large value – all devices cycle through the fields automatically once per second ("Rotate Fields" option); touchscreen devices can also switch manually by tapping ("Scroll Fields" option).

Off: All active fields shown compactly side by side.

If data is interrupted, the last valid value remains visible and is shown dimmed.

3. Settings

Settings are accessed via the device menu of the activity (only available on newer Garmin devices) or via Garmin Connect Mobile on the smartphone or PC.

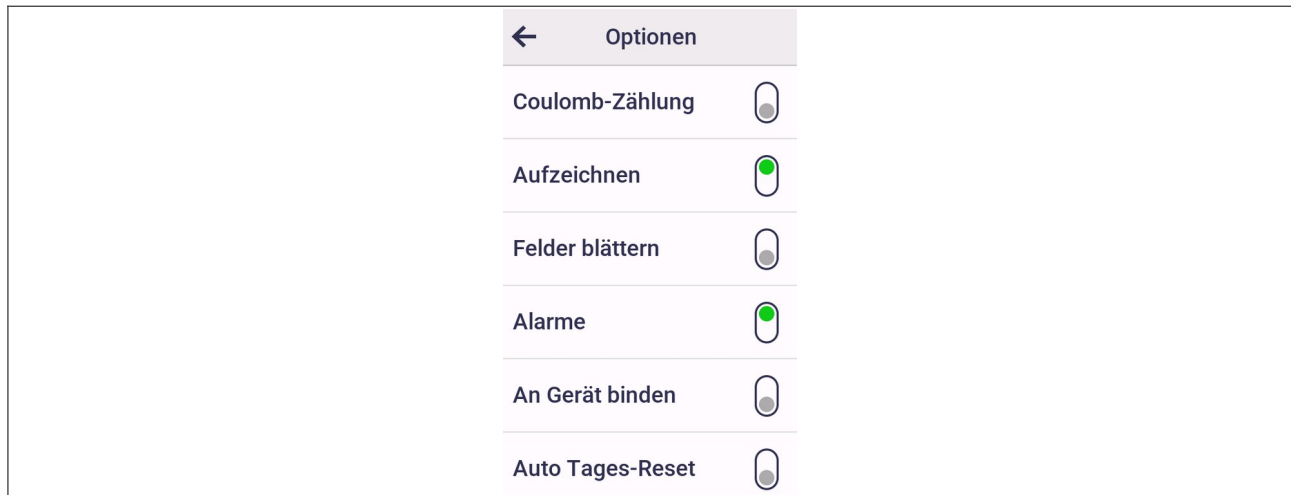


Fig. 5: Options

3.1 Device Lock

Lock on: Permanently connects to a specific Forumslader – recommended if you have several bikes. Also speeds up the BLE connection setup.

Lock off: Connects to the first Forumslader found in range.

Important: Right after enabling Lock on, immediately bring the Garmin very close to the Forumslader (a few centimeters) and keep it there until the connection is established, so the correct device is found and locked in.

Practical tip: Device lock prevents wrong connections when several Forumslader units are in range at the same time. However, it is inconvenient if you ride several bikes with the same Garmin device.

3.2 Alerts and Battery Level

The data field triggers alerts for:

- **Low battery level:** Alert below 20 %, cleared above 28 % (hysteresis). Repeat-lock active.
- **Short circuit:** Immediate alert on a wiring fault in the Forumslader.
- **System interrupt:** Internal error message from the Forumslader.

Method for calculating the battery level:

- **Coulomb counter on:** Level is calculated by the Forumslader chip by accumulating power consumption.
- **Coulomb counter off:** Level is calculated by the Forumslader firmware by measuring battery voltage.

3.3 Automatic Daily Reset

On: The day counter is automatically reset as soon as the activity timer starts – every recording thus starts with a clean baseline, without a manual reset on the Forumslader.

Off: The day counter keeps running unchanged; a reset only happens manually on the Forumslader or via the Forumslader menu (see section 4).

3.4 Recording (FIT Logging)

During the activity, readings are stored in Garmin FIT files and are later available in Garmin Connect as charts for analysis.

- Enable each recording field you want individually in the settings (Battery Level, Load, Dynamo Power, Temperature).
- Activity recording on the device must be running.

Recording fields are fixed to 4 values: Battery Level, Load, Dynamo Power, Temperature - each individually switchable on/off.

3.5 Automatic Wheel Circumference Calibration

On: In the Forumslader menu (section 4), enable "Calibrate", then start an activity on your Garmin and ride at least 20 km (12.4 mi) without stopping and good GPS signal. The app compares your Garmin's GPS distance with the wheel-rotation distance reported by the Forumslader and computes a more accurate wheel circumference, which is automatically stored in the Forumslader.

Status: While the calibration run is underway it shows "Calibration running...". After a successful run it shows the newly determined wheel circumference (in mm).

Cancelled: Stopping or pausing the activity before the minimum distance is reached cancels the calibration and "Calibrate" switches itself back off - simply re-enable it and try again on a longer, uninterrupted ride with good GPS-signal.

4. Forumslader Menu

Direct settings on the Forumslader from within the running activity (only on newer Garmin devices). Changes are transmitted to the Forumslader when you leave the menu.

- Trip reset – resets the day distance counter
- Tour reset – resets the tour counter
- Set wheel circumference
- Set pole count
- Calibrate – starts the automatic wheel circumference calibration (see section 3.5)

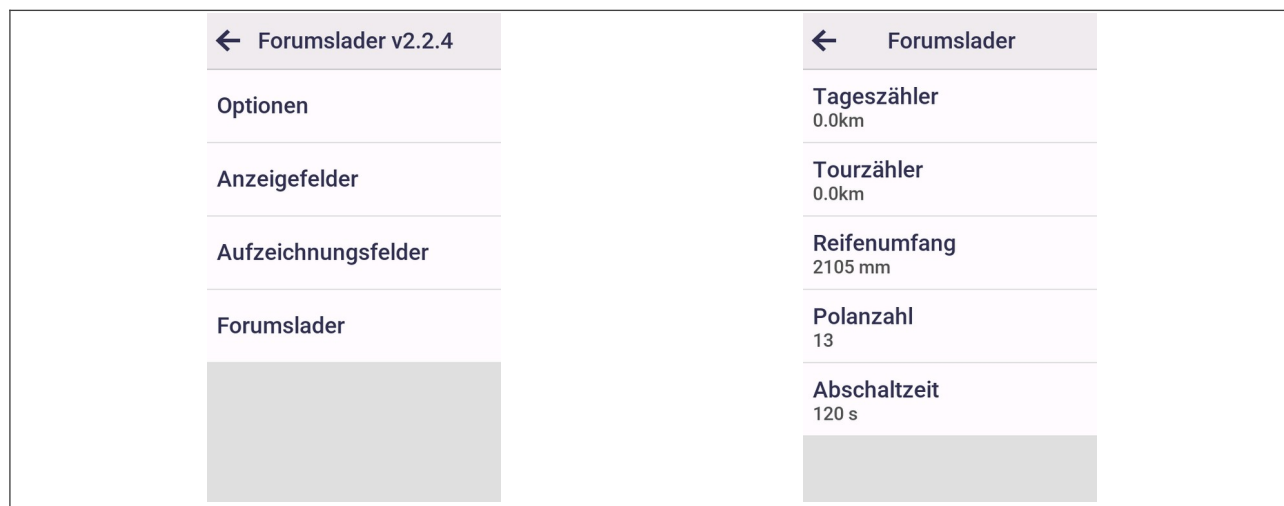


Fig. 6: Forumslader menu

Fig. 7: Device parameters

5. Troubleshooting

No values: Activity started, data field active, at least one field not Off, Bluetooth on the Forumslader not active, Forumslader running old firmware.

Stuck at searching/connecting: Reduce distance, remove Bluetooth interference sources, check device lock, Forumslader already connected to the Forumslader app on a smartphone or another Garmin device.

Values frozen (greyed out): Data loss – reconnection happens automatically.

No FIT data: FIT logging active, at least one FIT field active, recording running.