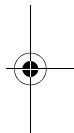




**RadioShack**

www.radioshack.com

# MICRO-33 Voice-Activated Microcassette Tape Recorder



**Owner's Manual**  
Please read before using this equipment.



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## **Features**

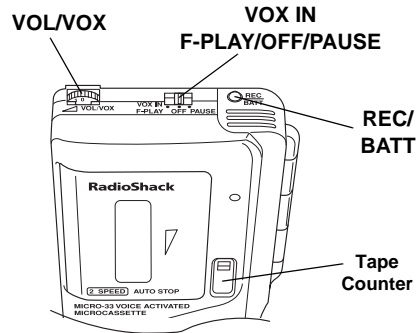
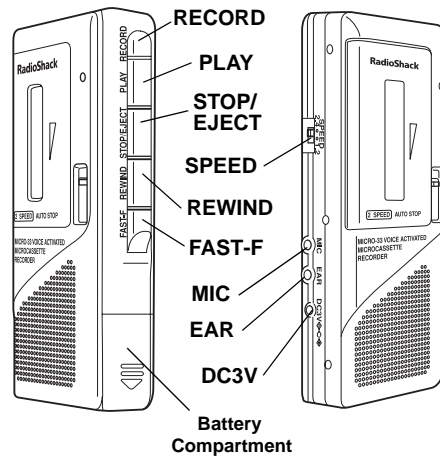
Your RadioShack MICRO-33 Voice-Activated Microcassette Tape Recorder is ideal for quick note-taking. Its compact size makes it easy to slip into a pocket or briefcase. You can use it at school, at business conferences, for dictation in the office, or anywhere on the go!

**Voice-Actuated Circuitry (VOX)** — begins recording when the recorder picks up sound and stops a few seconds after the sound stops.

**External Microphone Jack** — lets you use an external microphone, so you can extend your recording range.

**Fast Play** — lets you play a tape back about 30% faster than normal speed, to save time when listening to a tape.

## **□ A Quick Look at Your Recorder**



## **Preparation**

### **CONNECTING POWER**

You can power your recorder from internal battery power, AC power (with an optional AC adapter), or your vehicle's battery (with an optional DC adapter).

#### **Using Batteries**

You can use two AAA batteries (not supplied) to power your recorder. For the best performance and longest life, we recommend RadioShack alkaline batteries.

**Warning:** Dispose of old batteries promptly and properly. Do not burn or bury them.

#### **Cautions:**

- Use only fresh batteries of the required size and recommended type.
- Do not use rechargeable batteries in the recorder.
- Do not mix old and new batteries or different types of batteries (standard or alkaline).

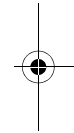
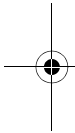


- If you do not plan to use the recorder with batteries for several days or more, remove the batteries. Batteries can leak chemicals that can destroy electronic parts.

When the REC/BATT indicator does not light, lights dimly during manual recording, or the recorder stops operating properly, replace the batteries.

1. Slide the battery compartment cover in the direction of the arrow until it stops, then lift up the cover.

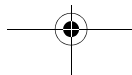
**Caution:** The battery compartment cover is attached to the recorder. Do not try to remove it.



2. Insert the batteries into the compartment as indicated by the polarity symbols (+ and -) marked on the back of the recorder.
3. To close the battery compartment cover, hold the cover down against the recorder and slide it in the opposite direction of the arrow.

## Using AC or DC Power

To power the recorder from an AC outlet or your vehicles battery power, you need



an AC or DC adapter and an Adaptaplug™ (neither supplied, available at your local RadioShack store).

**Cautions:**



You must use a (Class 2 for AC) power source that supplies 3 volts DC power and delivers at least 200 mA. The center tip of the Adaptaplug must be set to positive, and the plug must properly fit the recorder's **DC3V** jack. Using an AC adapter and plug that do not meet these specifications could damage the recorder, the adapter, or the plug.

- Always connect the adapter to the recorder before you plug it into the power source, and unplug the adapter from the power source before you unplug it from the recorder.
1. If necessary, set the adapter's voltage switch to **3V**.
  2. Attach the Adaptaplug to the adapter's cord with the tip set to positive (+).

**Caution:** Be sure to set the tip polarity to positive (+). If the polarity is

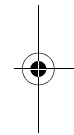
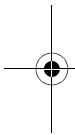


reversed, the recorder, adapter, or plug might be damaged.

3. Insert the barrel plug into the recorder's **DC3V** jack. This disconnects the internal batteries.
4. Plug the other end of the adapter into the power source.

### CONNECTING AN EARPHONE

You can use an optional earphone with a  $\frac{3}{32}$ -inch plug to listen to a tape in privacy. You can also use an earphone to listen to what the recorder picks up through the internal microphone or an external microphone. Your local RadioShack store carries a wide selection of earphones.

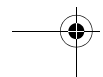
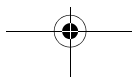


Plug the earphone's plug into the recorder's **EAR** jack. The built-in speaker automatically disconnects.

### Listening Safely

To protect your hearing, follow these guidelines when you use an earphone.

- Set the volume to the lowest setting before you begin listening. After you

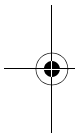




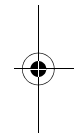


begin listening, adjust the volume to a comfortable level.

- Do not listen at extremely high volume levels. Extended high-volume listening can lead to permanent hearing loss.
- Once you set the volume, do not increase it. Over time, your ears adapt to the volume level, so a volume level that does not cause discomfort might still damage your hearing.

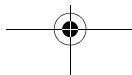


### Traffic Safety



Do not wear an earphone while operating a motor vehicle or riding a bicycle. This can create a traffic hazard and could be illegal in some areas.

Even though some earphones let you hear some outside sounds when listening at normal volume levels, they still can present a traffic hazard.



## **Operation**

Although the recorder's auto shut-off feature stops the recorder's tape drive motor when the tape reaches the end, the recorder continues to use power, and its tape-handling parts continue to touch the tape until you press **STOP/EJECT**. We recommend you press **STOP/EJECT** as soon as the tape reaches the end. This helps to save power and reduces the possibility of damaging the tape.

### **LOADING A MICROCASSETTE TAPE**

We recommend MC-60 microcassette tapes for up to 2 hours of recording/playback time, or MC-90 microcassette tapes for up to 3 hours of recording/playback time.

1. Use a pencil to turn the cassette's hub and remove any tape slack. Avoid touching the tape.
2. Press **STOP/EJECT** to open the cassette compartment door.



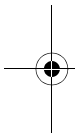
3. Insert the microcassette into the door's guides so the microcassette's open edge faces out.



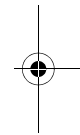
**Note:** The arrow on the cassette compartment door indicates tape travel direction. Be sure the tape's full reel is in the opposite direction of the arrow.

4. Close the cassette compartment door.

## RECORDING



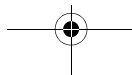
When you use the VOX feature, recording begins when the recorder picks up sound and stops a few seconds after the sound stops.



The **VOL/VOX** setting determines the sound level that activates the VOX circuit and starts recording. At higher settings, a softer sound starts VOX recording. At lower settings, a louder sound starts VOX recording. Use a low **VOL/VOX** setting in a high-noise environment such as in a plane or vehicle.

**Note:** You can monitor the sound level by connecting an optional earphone.

1. Load the microcassette tape.

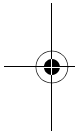




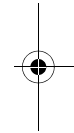
2. Set **SPEED** on the side of the recorder as follows:



- To double the tape's recording/playback time, set **SPEED** to **1.2**. This setting allows 120 minutes total recording/playback time on an MC-60 tape, or 180 minutes on an MC-90 tape.
- For better sound quality, set **SPEED** to **2.4**. This setting allows 60 minutes total recording/playback time on an MC-60 tape, or 90 minutes on an MC-90 tape.



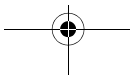
3. Set the function switch as follows:



- To manually start and stop recording, set the switch to **OFF**.
- To use voice-actuated recording, set the switch to **VOX IN**.

**Note:** The voice-activation feature saves power and tape if there are long or frequent pauses in the material you are recording.

4. Press **RECORD** to begin recording. **RECORD** and **PLAY** both lock down, and the REC/BATT indicator lights.

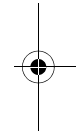
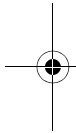




If the function switch is set to **OFF**, recording begins immediately. If the function switch is set to **VOX IN**, recording begins and the REC/BATT indicator lights steadily only when the recorder picks up sound.

**Cautions:**

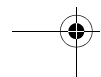
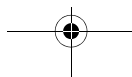
- Do not force down **RECORD**. If you cannot easily press **RECORD**, check the microcassette tape's erase-protection tabs (see "Preventing Accidental Erasure" on Page 16).
- To protect the recorder, press **RECORD** only when a microcassette tape is loaded.



**Note:** To pause recording, slide the function switch to **PAUSE**. To resume operation, slide the function switch to the previous position.

5. If you set the function switch to **VOX IN**, adjust **VOL/VOX** to set the sound level at which recording begins.
6. Press **STOP/EJECT** to stop the tape.

**Note:** To record on the other side of the tape, unload the tape, turn it over, and reload it.





## Using an External Microphone

You can use an external microphone to make high-quality recordings. Plug a microphone with a  $\frac{3}{32}$ -inch plug into the recorder's **MIC** jack.

**Note:** You can use a unidirectional microphone with your recorder (not supplied, available at your local RadioShack store).

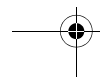
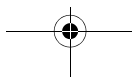
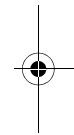
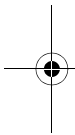
## PLAYING A TAPE

1. Load the microcassette tape.
2. Set **SPEED** to the speed used when the tape was recorded.
3. To listen to the tape at normal speed, set the function switch to **OFF**.

To listen to the tape at about 30% faster than normal, set the function switch to **F-PLAY** (fast play).

4. Press **PLAY**.
5. Adjust **VOL/VOX** to a comfortable listening level.
6. Press **STOP/EJECT** to stop playback.

**Note:** To play the other side of the tape, unload the tape, turn it over, and reload it.



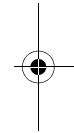
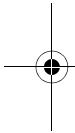


## Using FAST-F and REWIND

Press **REWIND** to rapidly rewind (review) a tape. Press **FAST-F** to fast-forward (cue) a tape.

If you press **FAST-F** or **REWIND** during playback, you can hear the tape at a faster speed as it cues or reviews. If you release **FAST-F** or **REWIND**, the recorder resumes normal playback.

If you press **FAST-F** or **REWIND** when the tape is stopped, the button locks down. The tape fast-forwards or rewinds until you press **STOP/EJECT** or the tape reaches the end.



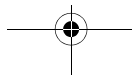
## QUICK RECORD

During playback, you can press **RECORD** to begin recording without pressing **STOP/EJECT** first.

## USING THE TAPE COUNTER

You can use the tape counter to mark locations of specific sections of tape so you can easily return to them.

Press the reset button next to the tape counter to set the counter to **000** at the beginning of a tape. As the tape plays or





records, note the counter reading at the position(s) where you want to return.



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## **Tape Tips**

### **STORING CASSETTE TAPES**

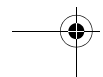
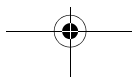
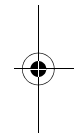
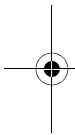
Do not expose cassette tapes to high temperatures, high humidity, dust or dirt, or motors, transformers, or other sources with strong magnetic fields.

### **PREVENTING ACCIDENTAL ERASURE**

Most microcassette tapes have an erase-protection tab for each side of the tape. To protect your recordings from being accidentally erased or recorded over, use a screwdriver to carefully break off the erase-protection tabs.

If you later decide to erase or record over the tape, place a piece of strong tape over the holes.

**Caution:** Removing the erase-protection tabs does not prevent a tape from being erased by a bulk tape eraser.





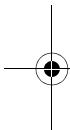


## ERASING A CASSETTE TAPE

If you no longer want a recording, you can record over it or erase it.

To record over a cassette tape, be sure the erase-protection tabs are in place. Then simply record as usual. The recorder records over the previous recording.

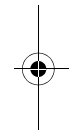
You might prefer to use a bulk tape eraser which erases both sides of a tape in just a few seconds.



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### **Care**



Modifying or tampering with the recorder's internal components can cause a malfunction and might invalidate its warranty. If your recorder is not performing as it should, take it to your local RadioShack store for assistance.

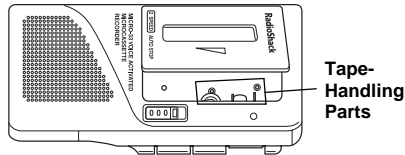
## CLEANING THE TAPE-HANDLING PARTS

Dirt, dust, or particles of the tape's coating can accumulate on the tape heads and other parts that the tape touches. This can greatly reduce the performance of the recorder. Use the following cleaning proce-



sure after every 20 hours of recorder operation.

1. Press **STOP/EJECT**, remove the batteries, and disconnect any power source.
2. Press **PLAY** to expose the tape-handling parts.



3. Use a cotton swab dipped in tape head cleaning solution or denatured alcohol to gently clean the tape-handling parts.
4. Press **STOP/EJECT** to release the tape-handling parts.

**Note:** For easier cleaning, you can use a microcassette cleaner kit, which includes a special cleaning cassette. Your local RadioShack store carries a full line of microcassette cleaning supplies.

## **Specifications**

Tape Type ..... Microcassette  
Tracks ..... 2 Tracks, 1 Channel Monaural  
Drive System ..... Capstan Drive  
Tape Speed ..... 2.4 cm/sec. (<sup>15</sup>/<sub>16</sub> ips)  
1.2 cm/sec. (<sup>15</sup>/<sub>32</sub> ips)

**Recording**  
**(with MC-60):** ..... 30 min. (2.4 cm/sec.) per side  
60 min. (1.2 cm/sec.) per side  
Practical Max. Output ..... 125 mW  
Frequency Response ..... 400-4,000 Hz at 2.4 cm/sec.  
Fast Play ..... Approx. 30% Faster  
Than Normal Speed  
Microphone Sensitivity ..... Continuous Adjustment  
Using **VOL/VOX** in Record Mode

**Power Sources:**  
Internal Batteries ..... Two AAA Batteries  
(3 Volts DC)  
AC Power ..... 120V with AC adapter  
Vehicle Battery ..... 12V with DC adapter  
Typical Cassette Recording Time  
(alkaline batteries) ..... 8 hours (approx.)  
Dimensions (HWD): .....  $4\frac{7}{16} \times 2\frac{1}{4} \times \frac{3}{4}$  In.  
(112.5 × 57 × 19 mm)  
Weight (with batteries) ..... 4.2 oz.  
(119 g)

Specifications are typical; individual units might vary.  
Specifications are subject to change and improvement  
without notice.

### Limited Ninety-Day Warranty

This product is warranted by RadioShack against manufacturing defects in material and workmanship under normal use for ninety (90) days from the date of purchase from RadioShack company-owned stores and authorized RadioShack franchisees and dealers, EXCEPT AS PROVIDED HEREIN. RadioShack MAKES NO EXPRESS WARRANTIES AND ANY IMPLIED WARRANTIES, INCLUDING THOSE OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE, ARE LIMITED IN DURATION TO THE DURATION OF THE WRITTEN LIMITED WARRANTIES CONTAINED HEREIN. EXCEPT AS PROVIDED HEREIN, RadioShack SHALL HAVE NO LIABILITY OR RESPONSIBILITY TO CUSTOMER OR ANY OTHER PERSON OR ENTITY WITH RESPECT TO ANY LIABILITY, LOSS OR DAMAGE CAUSED DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY BY USE OR PERFORMANCE OF THE PRODUCT OR ARISING OUT OF ANY BREACH OF THIS WARRANTY, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, ANY DAMAGES RESULTING FROM INCONVENIENCE, LOSS OF TIME, DATA, PROPERTY, REVENUE, OR PROFIT OR ANY INDIRECT, SPECIAL, INCIDENTAL, OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES, EVEN IF RadioShack HAS BEEN ADVISED OF THE POSSIBILITY OF SUCH DAMAGES.

Some states do not allow limitations on how long an implied warranty lasts or the exclusion or limitation of incidental or consequential damages, so the above limitations or exclusions may not apply to you.

In the event of a product defect during the warranty period, take the product and the RadioShack sales receipt as proof of purchase date to any RadioShack store. RadioShack will, at its option, unless otherwise provided by law, (a) correct the defect by product repair without charge for parts and labor, (b) replace the product with one of the same or similar design, or (c) refund the purchase price. All replaced parts and products, and products on which a refund is made, become the property of RadioShack. New or reconditioned parts and products may be used in the performance of warranty service. Repaired or replaced parts and products are warranted for the remainder of the original warranty period. You will be charged for repair or replacement of the product made after the expiration of the warranty period.

This warranty does not cover: (a) damage or failure caused by or attributable to acts of God, abuse, accident, misuse, improper or abnormal usage, failure to follow instructions, improper installation or maintenance, alteration, lightning or other incidence of excess voltage or current; (b) any repairs other than those provided by a RadioShack Authorized Service Facility; (c) consumables such as fuses or batteries; (d) cosmetic damage; (e) transportation, shipping or insurance costs; or (f) costs of product removal, installation, set-up service adjustment or reinstallation.

This warranty gives you specific legal rights, and you may also have other rights which vary from state to state.

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