

# *FM/MW/SW Cassette Car stereo*

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Operating Instructions \_\_\_\_\_

**GB**

For installation and connections, see the supplied installation/connections manual.

*XR-C2604J*

## Welcome !

Thank you for purchasing this Sony Cassette Player.

In addition to the cassette playback and radio operations, you can expand your system by connecting an optional CD/MD unit\*<sup>1</sup>.

When you operate this unit or a connected optional CD unit with the CD TEXT function, the CD TEXT information will appear in the display when you play a CD TEXT disc\*<sup>2</sup>.

\*<sup>1</sup> You can connect a CD changer, an MD changer, a CD player, or an MD player.

\*<sup>2</sup> A CD TEXT disc is an audio CD that includes information such as the disc name, artist name, and track names.  
This information is recorded on the disc.

## Precautions

- If your car was parked in direct sunlight resulting in a considerable rise in temperature inside the car, allow the unit to cool off before operating it.
- If no power is being supplied to the unit, check the connections first. If everything is in order, check the fuse.
- If no sound comes from the speakers of a two-speaker system, set the fader control to the centre position.
- When a tape is played back for a long period, the cassette may become warm because of the built-in power amplifier. However, this is not a sign of malfunction.

If you have any questions or problems concerning your unit that are not covered in this manual, please consult your nearest Sony dealer.

### To maintain high quality sound

If you have drink holders near your audio equipment, be careful not to splash juice or other soft drinks onto the car audio. Sugary residues on this unit or cassette tapes may contaminate the playback heads, reduce the sound quality, or prevent sound reproduction altogether.

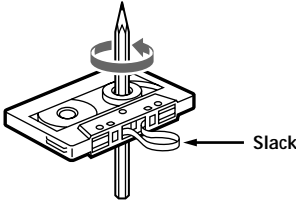
Cassette cleaning kits cannot remove sugar from the tape heads.



# Notes on Cassettes

## Cassette care

- Do not touch the tape surface of a cassette, as any dirt or dust will contaminate the heads.
- Keep cassettes away from equipment with built-in magnets such as speakers and amplifiers, as erasure or distortion on the recorded tape could occur.
- Do not expose cassettes to direct sunlight, extremely cold temperatures, or moisture.
- Slack in the tape may cause the tape to be caught in the machine. Before you insert the tape, use a pencil or a similar object to turn the reel and take up any slack.



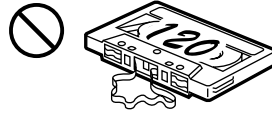
- Distorted cassettes and loose labels can cause problems when inserting or ejecting tapes. Remove or replace loose labels.



- The sound may become distorted while playing the cassette. The cassette player head should be cleaned after each 50 hours of use.

## Cassettes longer than 90 minutes

The use of cassettes longer than 90 minutes is not recommended except for long continuous play. The tape used for these cassettes is very thin and tends to stretch easily. Frequent playing and stopping of these tapes may cause them to become entangled in the cassette deck mechanism.



# Table of Contents

## This Unit Only

Location of controls .....	5
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### Getting Started

Resetting the unit .....	6
Detaching the front panel .....	6
How to use the menu .....	6
Setting the clock .....	7

### Cassette Player

Listening to a tape .....	7
Radio Reception during Fast-forwarding or Rewinding of a Tape — ATA (Automatic Tuner Activation) .....	8

### Radio

Memorizing stations automatically — Best Tuning Memory (BTM) .....	8
Memorizing only the desired stations .....	9
Receiving the memorized stations .....	9

### Other Functions

Adjusting the sound characteristics .....	10
Attenuating the sound .....	10
Changing the sound and display settings .....	10
Boosting the bass sound — D-bass .....	11

## With Optional Equipment

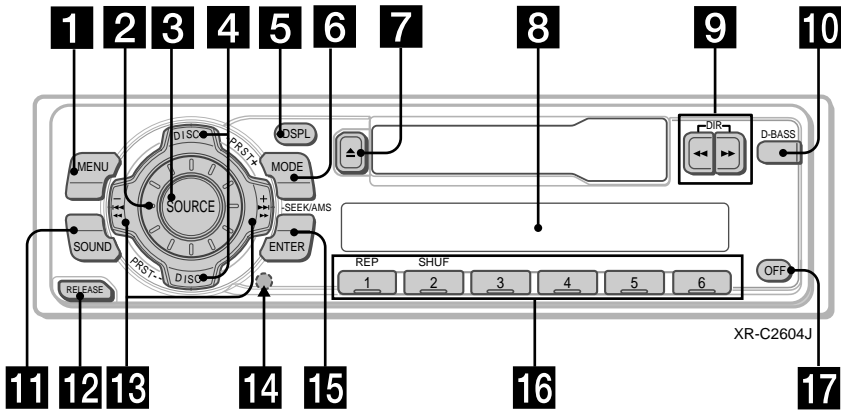
### CD/MD Unit

Playing a CD or MD .....	11
Playing tracks repeatedly — Repeat Play .....	13
Playing tracks in random order — Shuffle Play .....	13

### Additional Information

Maintenance .....	13
Dismounting the unit .....	14
Specifications .....	15
Troubleshooting guide .....	16

# Location of controls



Refer to the pages listed for details.

- 1** MENU button 7, 8, 9, 10, 12
- 2** Volume control dial
- 3** SOURCE (TUNER/CD/MD) button 8, 9, 11
- 4** PRST/DISC +/- (cursor up/down) buttons 7, 8, 9, 10, 12  
During radio reception:  
Preset stations select 9  
During CD/MD playback:  
Disc change 12
- 5** DSPL (display mode change) button 8, 11, 12
- 6** MODE button  
During radio reception:  
BAND select 8, 9  
During CD or MD playback:  
CD/MD unit select 11
- 7** ▲ (eject) button 7
- 8** Display window
- 9** ◀▶ (fast winding)/DIR (tape transport direction change) buttons 7
- 10** D-BASS button 11
- 11** SOUND button 10
- 12** RELEASE (front panel release) button 6, 14
- 13** SEEK/AMS -/+ (cursor left/right) buttons 7, 8, 9, 10, 12  
seek 9  
Automatic Music Sensor 12  
manual search 12
- 14** Reset button (located on the front side of the unit behind the front panel) 6
- 15** ENTER button 7, 8, 9, 10, 12
- 16** Number buttons  
During radio reception  
Preset number select 9  
During tape/CD/MD playback:  
① REP 13  
② SHUF 13
- 17** OFF button\* 6

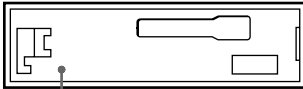
\* **Warning when installing in a car without ACC (accessory) position on the ignition key switch**  
Be sure to press (OFF) on the unit for two seconds to turn off the clock display after turning off the engine.  
When you press (OFF) momentarily, the clock display does not turn off and this causes battery wear.

# Getting Started

## Resetting the unit

Before operating the unit for the first time or after replacing the car battery, you must reset the unit.

Remove the front panel and press the reset button with a pointed object, such as a ballpoint pen.



Reset button

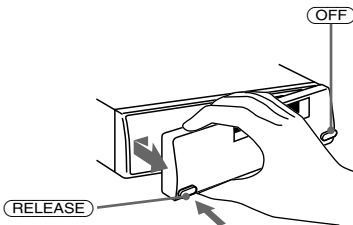
### Note

Pressing the reset button will erase the clock setting and some memorized functions.

## Detaching the front panel

You can detach the front panel of this unit to protect the unit from being stolen.

- 1 Press **(OFF)**.
- 2 Press **(RELEASE)**, then slide the front panel a little to the left, and pull it off towards you.

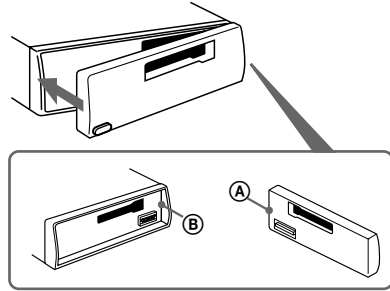


### Notes

- Be sure not to drop the panel when detaching it from the unit.
- If you detach the panel while the unit is still turned on, the power will turn off automatically to prevent the speakers from being damaged.
- When carrying the front panel with you, use the supplied front panel case.

## Attaching the front panel

Attach part **(A)** of the front panel to part **(B)** of the unit as illustrated and push the left side into position until it clicks.



### Notes

- Be sure not to attach the front panel upside down.
- Do not press the front panel too hard against the unit when attaching it.
- Do not press too hard or put excessive pressure on the display window of the front panel.
- Do not expose the front panel to direct sunlight or heat sources such as hot air ducts, and do not leave it in a humid place. Never leave it on the dashboard of a car parked in direct sunlight or where there may be a considerable rise in temperature.

## Caution alarm

If you turn the car ignition off without removing the front panel, the caution alarm will beep for a few seconds.

If you connect an optional power amplifier and do not use the built-in amplifier, the beep sound will be deactivated.

## How to use the menu

This unit is operated by selecting items from a menu.

To select, first enter the menu mode and choose up/down (+/- of **(PRST/DISC)**), or choose left/right (-/+ of **(SEEK/AMS)**).

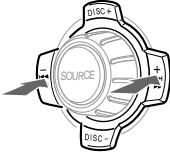
**(PRST/DISC)**



**(+)** : To select upwards

**(-)** : To select downwards

SEEK/AMS



(-) : To select leftwards

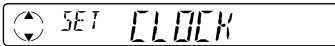
(+) : To select rightwards

## Setting the clock

The clock uses a 12-hour digital indication.

Example: To set the clock to 10:08

- 1 Press **(MENU)**, then press either side of **(PRST/DISC)** repeatedly until "CLOCK" appears.



- 1 Press **(ENTER)**.



The hour indication flashes.

- 2 Press either side of **(PRST/DISC)** to set the hour.



- 3 Press + side of **(SEEK/AMS)**.

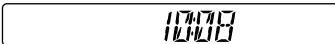


The minute indication flashes.

- 4 Press either side of **(PRST/DISC)** to set the minute.



- 2 Press **(ENTER)**.



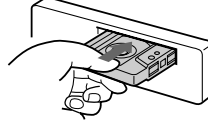
The clock starts.

After the clock setting is complete, the display returns to normal playback mode.

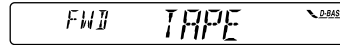
# Cassette Player

## Listening to a tape

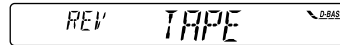
Insert a cassette.  
Playback starts automatically.



The side facing up is played.



The side facing down is played.



### Tip

To change the tape's playback direction, press **◀▶** and **▶▶**.

## To stop playback and eject the cassette

Press **▲**.

## Fast-winding the tape

During playback, press **◀▶** or **▶▶**.

Direction indicator*	To advance	To rewind
FWD	▶▶	◀◀
REV	◀◀	▶▶

\* The <> indicator will flash while fast-winding the tape.

To start playback during fast-forwarding or rewinding, press the other fast-winding button partially until the locked button is released.

## Changing the display item

Each time you press (DSPL), the item changes as follows:

Tape playback ↔ Frequency\*

\* While the ATA function is activated.

After you select the desired item, the display will automatically change to the Motion Display mode after a few seconds. In the Motion Display mode, all the above items are scrolled in the display one by one in order.

### Tip

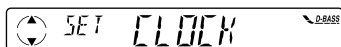
The Motion Display mode can be turned off. (See "Changing the sound and display settings" on page 10.)

## Radio Reception during Fast-forwarding or Rewinding of a Tape

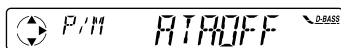
— ATA (Automatic Tuner Activation)

When fast-forwarding or rewinding with the ◀◀ or ▶▶ button, the tuner will turn on automatically.

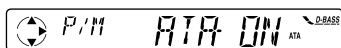
1 During playback, press (MENU).



2 Press either side of (PRST/DISC) repeatedly until "ATA" appears.



3 Press + side of (SEEK/AMS) to select "ON."



The selected play mode starts.

4 Press (ENTER).

To return to normal playback mode, select "OFF" in step 3 above.

## Radio

### Memorizing stations automatically

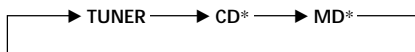
— Best Tuning Memory (BTM)

The unit selects the stations with the strongest signals and memorizes them in the order of their frequencies. You can store up to 6 stations on each band (FM1, FM2, FM3, MW, SW1, and SW2).

### Caution

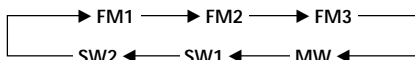
When tuning in stations while driving, use Best Tuning Memory to prevent accidents.

1 Press (SOURCE) repeatedly to select the tuner. Each time you press (SOURCE), the source changes as follows:



\* If the corresponding optional equipment is not connected, this item will not appear.

2 Press (MODE) repeatedly to select the band. Each time you press (MODE), the band changes as follows:



3 Press (MENU), then press either side of (PRST/DISC) repeatedly until "BTM" appears.

4 Press (ENTER).

The unit stores stations in the order of their frequencies on the number buttons. A beep sounds when the setting is stored.

### Notes

- The unit does not store stations with weak signals. If only a few stations can be received, some number buttons will retain their former setting.
- When a number is already indicated in the display, the unit stores stations in order from the one currently displayed.



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## Memorizing only the desired stations

You can preset up to 18 FM stations (6 each for FM1, 2, and 3), up to 6 MW stations, and up to 12 SW stations (6 each for SW1 and 2) in the order of your choice.

- 1 Press **(SOURCE)** repeatedly to select the tuner.
- 2 Press **(MODE)** repeatedly to select the band.
- 3 Press either side of **(SEEK/AMS)** to tune in the station that you want to store on the number button.
- 4 Press and hold the desired number button (**(1)** to **(6)**) until "MEM" appears. The number button indication appears in the display.

### Note

If you store a new station on a number button which already has a station registered, the previously stored station will be replaced by the new station.

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## Receiving the memorized stations

- 1 Press **(SOURCE)** repeatedly to select the tuner.
- 2 Press **(MODE)** repeatedly to select the band.
- 3 Press the number button (**(1)** to **(6)**) on which the desired station is stored.

### Tip

Press either side of **(PRST/DISC)** to receive the stations in the order they are stored in the memory (Preset Search Function).

## If you cannot tune in a preset station

Press either side of **(SEEK/AMS)** to search for the station (automatic tuning). Scanning stops when the unit receives a station. Press either side of **(SEEK/AMS)** repeatedly until the desired station is received.

### Note

If the automatic tuning stops too frequently, press **(MENU)**, then press either side of **(PRST/DISC)** repeatedly until "LOCAL" (local seek mode) is displayed. Then press + side of **(SEEK/AMS)** to select "LOCAL-ON." Press **(ENTER)**. Only the stations with relatively strong signals will be tuned in.

### Tip

If you know the frequency of the station you want to listen to, Press and hold either side of **(SEEK/AMS)** until the desired frequency appears (manual tuning).

## If FM stereo reception is poor — Monaural Mode

- 1 During radio reception, press **(MENU)**, then press either side of **(PRST/DISC)** repeatedly until "MONO" appears.
- 2 Press either side of **(SEEK/AMS)** repeatedly until "MONO-ON" appears. The sound improves, but becomes monaural ("ST" disappears).
- 3 Press **(ENTER)**.

To return to stereo mode, select "MONO-OFF" in step 2 above.

## Other Functions

### Adjusting the sound characteristics

You can adjust the bass, treble, balance, and fader.

You can store the bass and treble levels independently for each source.

- 1 Select the item you want to adjust by pressing **(SOUND)** repeatedly.

BAS (bass) → TRE (treble) →  
BAL (left-right) → FAD (front-rear)

- 2 Adjust the selected item by pressing either side of **(SEEK/AMS)**.  
Adjust within three seconds after selecting the item.

### Attenuating the sound

When the interface cable of a car telephone is connected to the ATT lead, the unit decreases the volume automatically when a telephone call comes in (Telephone ATT function).

## Changing the sound and display settings

The following items can be set:

- CLOCK (page 7).
- BEEP – to turn the beep sound on or off.
- D.INFO (Dual Information) to display the clock and the play mode at the same time (ON) or to display the information alternately (OFF).
- A.SCRL (Auto Scroll)\* (page 12).
- M.DSPL (Motion Display) – to turn the motion display on or off.

- 1 Press **(MENU)**.

- 2 Press either side of **(PRST/DISC)** repeatedly until the desired item appears.

Each time you press (–) side of **(PRST/DISC)**, the item changes as follows:

CLOCK → BEEP → A.SCRL\* → D.INFO →  
M.DSPL

\* When no CD or MD is playing, this item will not appear.

- 3 Press (+) side of **(SEEK/AMS)** to select the desired setting (Example: ON or OFF).

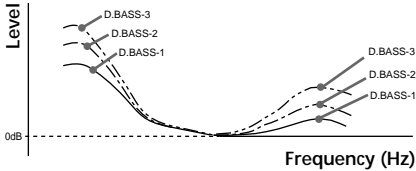
- 4 Press **(ENTER)**.  
After the mode setting is complete, the display returns to normal playback mode.

# Boosting the bass sound

— D-bass

You can enjoy a clear and powerful bass sound. The D-bass function boosts the low frequency signal and high frequency signal with a sharper curve than conventional bass boost.

You can hear the bass line more clearly even while the vocal volume remains the same. You can emphasize and adjust the bass sound easily with the D-BASS control.



## Adjusting the bass curve

Press **(D-BASS)** repeatedly to select the desired bass curve.

As the D-BASS number increases so does the effect.

D.BASS-1 → D.BASS-2 → D.BASS-3 →  
D.BASS-OFF

### Note

The bass sound may distort at same volume. If the bass sound distorts, select less effective bass curve.

## With Optional Equipment CD/MD Unit

This unit can control a maximum of ten external CD/MD units in this configuration:

CD unit – maximum of five

MD unit – maximum of five

Any combination up to ten will work.

If you connect an optional CD unit with the CD TEXT function, the CD TEXT information will appear in the display when you play a CD TEXT disc.

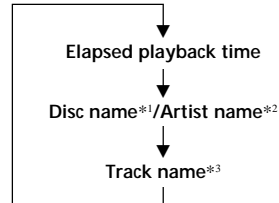
## Playing a CD or MD

- 1 Press **(SOURCE)** repeatedly to select CD or MD.
- 2 Press **(MODE)** until the desired unit appears.  
CD/MD playback starts.

When a CD/MD unit is connected, all the tracks play from the beginning.

## Changing the display item

Each time you press **(DSPL)** during CD, CD TEXT, or MD playback, the item changes as follows:



\*1 If you have not labeled the disc or if there is no disc name prerecorded on the MD, "NO NAME" appears in the display.

\*2 If you play a CD TEXT disc, the artist name appears in the display after the disc name. (Only for CD TEXT discs with the artist name.)

\*3 If the track name of a CD TEXT disc or MD is not prerecorded, "NO NAME" appears in the display.

After you select the desired item, the display will automatically change to the Motion Display mode after a few seconds.

In the Motion Display mode, all the above items are scrolled in the display one by one in order.

Continued to next pane →

**Tip**

The Motion Display mode can be turned off. (See "Changing the sound and display settings" on page 10).

### Automatically scrolling a disc name

#### — Auto Scroll

If the disc name, artist name, or track name on a CD TEXT disc or MD exceeds 8 characters and the Auto Scroll function is on, it automatically scrolls across the display as follows:

- The disc name appears when the disc has changed (if the disc name is selected).
- The track name appears when the track has changed (if the track name is selected).

If you press (DSPL) to change the display item, the disc or track name of the MD or CD TEXT disc is scrolled automatically whether you set the function on or off.

- 1 During playback, press (MENU).
- 2 Press either side of (PRST/DISC) repeatedly until "A.SCRL" appears.
- 3 Press + side of (SEEK/AMS) to select "A.SCRL-ON."
- 4 Press (ENTER).

To cancel Auto Scroll, select "A.SCRL-OFF" in step 3 above.

**Note**

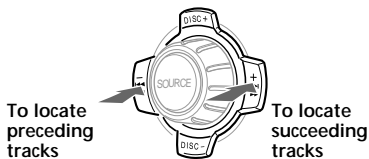
For some discs with very many characters, the following cases may happen:

- Some of the characters are not displayed
- Auto Scroll does not work.

### Locating a specific track

#### — Automatic Music Sensor (AMS)

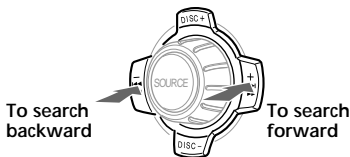
During playback, press either side of (SEEK/AMS) momentarily for each track you want to skip.



### Locating a specific point in a track

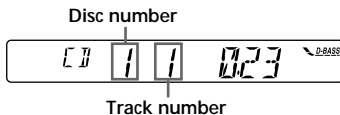
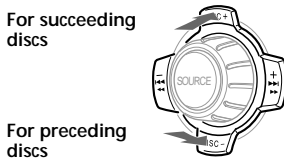
#### — Manual Search

During playback, press and hold either side of (SEEK/AMS). Release when you have found the desired point.



### Changing Discs

During playback, press either side of (PRST/DISC) momentarily. The desired disc in the current unit begins playback.



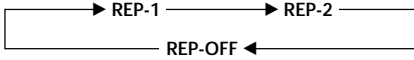
## Playing tracks repeatedly

### — Repeat Play

You can select:

- REP-1 – to repeat a track.
- REP-2 – to repeat a disc.

During playback, press **Ⓜ** (REP) repeatedly until the desired setting appears.



Repeat Play starts.

To return to normal playback mode, select “REP-OFF” in step above.

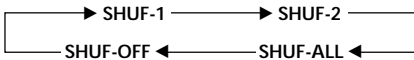
## Playing tracks in random order

### — Shuffle Play

You can select:

- SHUF-1 – to play the tracks on the current disc in random order.
- SHUF-2 – to play the tracks in the current unit in random order.
- SHUF-ALL – to play all the tracks in all the units in random order.

During playback, press **Ⓜ** (SHUF) repeatedly until the desired setting appears.



Shuffle Play starts.

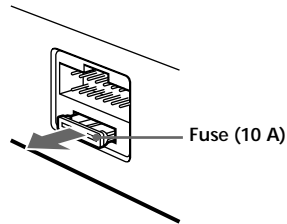
To return to normal playback mode, select “SHUF-OFF” in step above.

## Additional Information

### Maintenance

#### Fuse Replacement

When replacing the fuse, be sure to use one matching the amperage rating stated on the original fuse. If the fuse blows, check the power connection and replace the fuse. If the fuse blows again after replacement, there may be an internal malfunction. In such a case, consult your nearest Sony dealer.

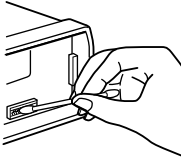


#### Warning

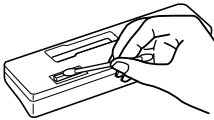
Never use a fuse with an amperage rating exceeding the one supplied with the unit as this could damage the unit.

## Cleaning the Connectors

The unit may not function properly if the connectors between the unit and the front panel are not clean. In order to prevent this, open the front panel by pressing (RELEASE), then detach it and clean the connectors with a cotton swab dipped in alcohol. Do not apply too much force. Otherwise, the connectors may be damaged.



Main unit



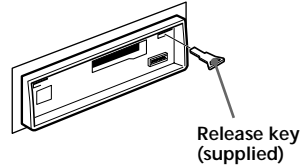
Back of the front panel

### Notes

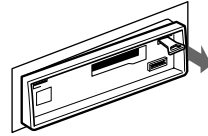
- For safety, turn off the engine before cleaning the connectors and remove the key from the ignition switch.
- Never touch the connectors directly with your fingers or with any metal device.

## Dismounting the unit

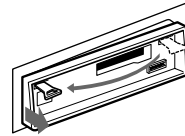
1



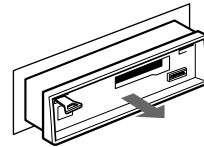
2



3



4



# Specifications

## Cassette player section

Tape track	4-track 2-channel stereo
Wow and flutter	0.13 % (WRMS)
Frequency response	30 – 15,000 Hz
Signal-to-noise ratio	55 dB

## Tuner section

<b>FM</b>	
Tuning range	87.5 – 108.0 MHz
Aerial terminal	External aerial connector
Intermediate frequency	10.7 MHz
Usable sensitivity	9 dBf
Selectivity	75 dB at 400 kHz
Signal-to-noise ratio	65 dB (stereo), 68 dB (mono)
Harmonic distortion at 1 kHz	0.7 % (stereo), 0.4 % (mono)
Separation	35 dB at 1 kHz
Frequency response	30 – 15,000 Hz

## MW

Tuning range	531 – 1,602 kHz
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## SW

Tuning range	SW tuning interval: SW1: 2,940 – 7,735 kHz SW2: 9,500 – 18,135 kHz (except ofr 10,140 – 11,575 kHz)
Aerial terminal	External aerial connector
Intermediate frequency	10.7 MHz/450 kHz
Sensitivity	30 $\mu$ V

## Power amplifier section

Outputs	Speaker outputs (sure seal connectors)
Speaker impedance	4 – 8 ohms
Maximum power output	45 W $\times$ 4 (at 4 ohms)

## General

Outputs	Audio output Power aerial relay control lead Power amplifier control lead Telephone ATT control lead
Tone controls	Bass $\pm$ 8 dB at 100 Hz Treble $\pm$ 8 dB at 10 kHz
Power requirements	12 V DC car battery (negative earth)
Dimensions	Approx. 188 $\times$ 58 $\times$ 182 mm (w/h/d)
Mounting dimensions	Approx. 182 $\times$ 53 $\times$ 163 mm (w/h/d)
Mass	Approx. 1.2 kg
Supplied accessories	Parts for installation and connections (1 set) Front panel case (1)
Optional accessories	BUS cable (supplied with an RCA pin cord) RC-61 (1 m), RC-62 (2 m)
Optional equipment	CD changer (10 discs) CDX-838, CDX-828, CDX-737, CDX-636 MD changer (6 discs) MDX-65 Other CD/MD changers with the Sony-BUS system Source selector XA-C30

*Design and specifications are subject to change without notice.*

# Troubleshooting guide

The following checklist will help you remedy the problems you may encounter with your unit. Before going through the checklist below, check the connections and operating procedures.

## General

Problem	Cause/Solution
No sound.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Set the fader control to the centre position for two-speaker systems.</li><li>• Rotate the dial clockwise to adjust the volume.</li></ul>
The contents of the memory have been erased.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The power cord or battery has been disconnected.</li><li>• The reset button was pressed. → Store again into the memory.</li></ul>
Indications do not appear in the display.	Remove the front panel and clean the connectors. See "Cleaning the connectors" (page 14) for details.

## Tape playback

Problem	Cause/Solution
The sound is distorted.	The tape head is contaminated. → Clean the head with a commercially available dry-type cleaning cassette.

## Radio reception

Problem	Cause/Solution
Preset tuning is not possible.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Memorize the correct frequency.</li><li>• The broadcast signal is too weak.</li></ul>
Automatic tuning is not possible.	The broadcast signal is too weak. → Use manual tuning.
The stations cannot be received. The sound is hampered by noises.	Connect an power aerial control lead (blue) or accessory power supply lead (red) to the power supply lead of a car's aerial booster. (When your car has built-in FM/MW/SW aerial in the rear/side glass only.)
The "ST" indication flashes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Tune in the frequency accurately.</li><li>• The broadcast signal is too weak. → Set to MONO mode (page 9).</li></ul>

## CD/MD playback

Problem	Cause/Solution
The sound skips.	A dirty or defective disc.



## Error displays (when an optional CD/MD unit is connected)

The following indications will flash for about five seconds, and an alarm sound will be heard.

Display	Cause	Solution
<b>NO MAG</b>	The disc magazine is not inserted in the CD/MD unit.	Insert the disc magazine in the CD/MD unit.
<b>NO DISC</b>	No disc is inserted in the CD/MD unit.	Insert discs in the CD/MD unit.
<b>NG DISCS</b>	A CD/MD cannot play because of some problem.	Insert another CD/MD.
<b>ERROR</b> *1	A CD is dirty or inserted upside down.*2	Clean or insert the CD correctly.
	An MD does not play because of some problem.*2	Insert another MD.
<b>BLANK</b> *1	No tracks have been recorded on an MD.*2	Play an MD with tracks recorded on it.
<b>RESET</b>	The CD/MD unit cannot be operated because of some problem.	Press the reset button of the unit.
<b>NO READY</b>	The lid of the MD unit is open or MDs are not inserted properly.	Close the lid or insert the MDs properly.
<b>HI TEMP</b>	The ambient temperature is more than 50°C.	Wait until the temperature goes down below 50°C.

\*1 When an error occurs during playback of a CD or MD, the disc number of the CD or MD does not appear in the display.

\*2 The disc number of the disc causing the error appears in the display.

If the above-mentioned solutions do not help improve the situation, consult your nearest Sony dealer.

# ***FM/MW/SW Cassette Car stereo***

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***XR-C2604J***