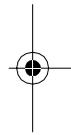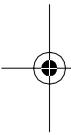Cat. No. 43-798
OWNER'S MANUAL
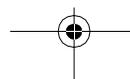
Please read before using this equipment.

TAD-798

Digital Telephone Answering System
with Call Breakthrough

RadioShack®

FEATURES

Your RadioShack TAD-798 Digital Telephone Answering System is a high-quality telephone answering device (TAD) that you can also control remotely from any touch-tone phone. With an optional pocket tone dialer, you can even use it from a rotary phone.

The TAD-798 stores messages on a computer chip. This gives you better performance than tape-based answering machines. For example, you can delete an individual message while saving the rest. Because your TAD is fully digital, there are no tapes to bother with and no tape mechanisms to wear out.

The TAD-798's 16-minute capacity lets you store a lot of messages. And its unique, space-saving design makes it ideal for any office or nightstand.

The TAD-798 has these features:

High Capacity — lets you record up to 16 minutes of messages and memos. Each incoming message can be up to 60 seconds long.

Voice Time/Day Stamp — announces the time and day that each message was recorded.

Call Breakthrough (CBT) — alerts you to an important call when the caller enters a code you set.

Two-Way Recording — lets you record both sides of a phone conversation.

Memo Recording — lets you leave messages for yourself or others in your home or office.

Dual Announcements — let you choose between playing an outgoing message then recording the caller's message, or just playing an announcement without recording a message. And, when the TAD's memory is full, it switches automatically to just playing an announcement. Each announcement can be up to 32 seconds long.

Adjustable Ring Number — lets you set the TAD to answer the phone after two, four, or seven rings.

Toll-Saver — lets you avoid unnecessary charges when you call by long-distance to check your messages.

Remote Operation — lets you use a touch-tone phone (or rotary phone and pocket tone dialer) to operate the TAD while you are away from your home or office.

Phone Pick-Up Detection — stops recording when you pick up any phone on the same line as the TAD.

Call Screening — lets you listen as a caller leaves a message so you can decide whether or not to answer the call.

Remote On/Off — lets you turn the TAD on or off even when you are away from your home or office.

LED Message Counter — clearly shows the number of messages the TAD has recorded.

Programmable Remote Operation Security Code — lets you set your own security code for remote operation.

Remote Answer-On — lets you call the TAD from a remote location and set it to answer calls.

Room Monitor — lets you listen from a remote phone to the room where the TAD is installed.

Memory Backup — protects stored messages in case of a power failure.

Your TAD is ETL listed to UL standards and meets all applicable FCC standards.

WARNING: To reduce the risk of fire or shock hazard, do not expose this product to rain or moisture.

CAUTION

RISK OF ELECTRIC SHOCK.
DO NOT OPEN.

CAUTION: TO REDUCE THE RISK OF ELECTRIC SHOCK, DO NOT REMOVE COVER OR BACK. NO USER-SERVICEABLE PARTS INSIDE. REFER SERVICING TO QUALIFIED PERSONNEL.

This symbol is intended to alert you to the presence of uninsulated dangerous voltage within the product's enclosure that might be of sufficient magnitude to constitute a risk of electric shock. Do not open the product's case.

This symbol is intended to inform you that important operating and maintenance instructions are included in the literature accompanying this product.

3

READ THIS BEFORE IN-STALLATION

Your TAD conforms to federal regula-tions, and you can connect it to most telephone lines. However, each device you connect to the phone line draws power from the phone line. We refer to this power draw is the device's *ringer equivalence number*, or REN. The REN is on the label on the bottom of the TAD.

If you are using more than one phone or other device on the line, add up all the RENs. If the total is more than five (or three in rural areas), your phone(s) might not ring and your TAD might not answer. If ringer operation is impaired, remove a device from the line.

FCC STATEMENT

Your TAD complies with Part 68 of *FCC Rules*. You must, upon request, provide the FCC Registration Number and the REN to your phone company. Both numbers are on the label on the bottom of the TAD.

You must not connect the TAD to any of the following:

- coin-operated systems

- party-line systems

- most electronic key phone systems

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CONTENTS

PREPARATION

Select a location for the TAD that is near both a telephone jack and an AC outlet, and is not in the way of normal activities.

CONNECTING THE TAD

Notes:

- Your TAD connects directly to a modular phone line jack. If your phone line jack is not modular, you can update it yourself, using jacks and adapters available at your local RadioShack store. Or, you can let the phone company update it for you.

- The USOC number of the jack to be installed is RJ11C.
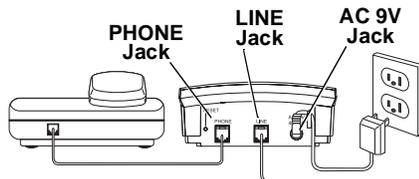
1. Unplug the telephone's modular cord from the modular phone line jack and plug it into the **PHONE** jack on the back of the TAD.

2. Plug one end of the supplied modular cord into the **LINE** jack on the back of the TAD.

3. Plug the cord's other end into a modular phone line jack.

4. Insert the supplied AC adapter's barrel plug into the **AC 9V** jack on the back of the TAD.

   Caution: The supplied AC adapter was designed specifically for your TAD-798. Use only the supplied adapter.

5. Plug the other end of the adapter into a standard AC outlet.

When you first connect power, the TAD announces "Please wait." The message counter counts from **0** to **18**. The TAD beeps, and **0** appears in the message counter window.

Note: The TAD's message counter usually shows the number of recorded messages. That number alternates with other displays to tell you the status of the TAD.

- **A1** appears if you have not recorded an outgoing message 1.

- **A2** appears if you have not recorded an outgoing message 2.

- **Lo** appears if the backup battery is weak or missing.

6

INSTALLING A BACKUP BATTERY

If the AC power fails or you unplug the TAD, a 9V backup battery (not supplied) saves the messages, time and day settings, and the CBT and remote operation security codes. We recommend you use an alkaline battery, such as RadioShack Cat. No. 23-553.

Caution: Always use a fresh battery of the required size and recommended type.

1. Use a Phillips screwdriver to remove the screw on the battery compartment cover, then remove the cover.
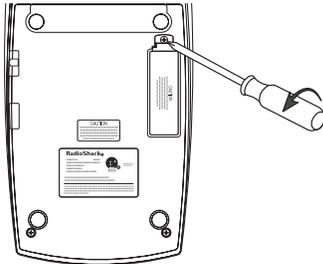
2. Snap the battery's contacts firmly to the battery connector and place the battery in the compartment.
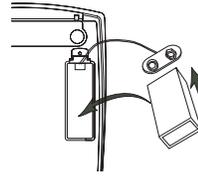
3. Replace the cover and secure it with the screw.

Replace the battery when Lo appears.

Cautions:

- Always remove an old or weak battery. Batteries can leak chemicals that can destroy electronic parts.

- Dispose of the old battery promptly and properly. Do not bury or burn it.

- To avoid losing stored information, be sure the AC adapter is plugged in and connected to the TAD before you replace the battery.

7

SETTING THE DAY AND TIME

When you set the TAD-798's clock, the TAD records the day and time each memo and message is recorded.

Notes:

- To avoid losing the day and time settings if AC power is lost, we recommend you install a backup battery before you set the day and time (see "Installing a Backup Battery" on Page 7).

- If you do not complete each step within 8 seconds, the TAD sounds four beeps and exits setup. Start again at Step 1.

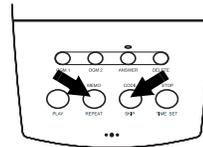- To adjust the TAD's volume, slide **VOLUME** toward **+** or **–**.
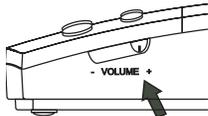
Follow these steps to set the day and time.

1. Hold down **TIME SET**. **CL** (clock) appears briefly, then a number from 1 to 7 (the day of week) appears, and the TAD announces the currently set day.
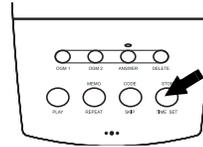
2. To change the day, hold down **RE-PEAT** to move backward or **SKIP** to move forward until the TAD announces the desired day.

3. Press **TIME SET**. The TAD announces the currently set hour.

4. To change the hour, hold down **RE-PEAT** or **SKIP** until the TAD announces the desired hour.

5. Press **TIME SET**. The TAD announces the currently set minute.

6. To change the minutes, hold down **REPEAT** or **SKIP** until the TAD announces the desired minute.

7. Press **TIME SET**. **CL** appears, and the TAD announces the day and time, then beeps. **CL** disappears.

To check the current day and time setting at any time, press **TIME SET**. **CL** (clock) appears, and the TAD announces the day and time, then beeps.

SETTING THE NUMBER OF RINGS

Set the ring select switch on the right side of the TAD to **2**, **4**, **7**, or **TS** to set how long the TAD waits before it answers a call (2 rings, 4 rings, 7 rings, or toll-saver).
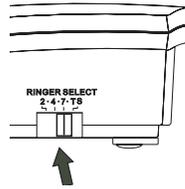
If you plan to check your messages by long distance, set the ring select switch to **TS** (see "Toll-Saver" on Page 17).

9

BASIC OPERATION

RECORDING THE OUTGOING MESSAGES

Before the TAD can answer calls and record messages, you must record an outgoing message (OGM). The TAD-798 lets you record two separate messages, and it operates differently based on the message you select (see "Using the Announce-Only Feature" on Page 11).

- OGM 1. After playing your outgoing message, the TAD lets callers record a message.

- OGM 2 (announcement-only). The TAD plays your outgoing message, but does not let the caller record a message.

Hint: Do not tell callers that you are out of town or not home. Instead, say that you cannot come to the phone right now.

Notes:

- The maximum length for each outgoing message is 32 seconds. As you record, the message counter shows the recording time.

- If you plan to use the TAD's announcement-only feature, OGM 2 should clearly state that the caller cannot leave a message.

Follow these steps to record an outgoing message.

1. To record an outgoing message, hold down **OGM 1** or **OGM 2** until the TAD beeps and the timer starts counting.
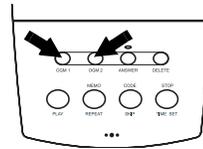
   Note: As soon as the TAD beeps, release **OGM 1** (or **OGM 2**) quickly. Otherwise, the TAD records a "pop" sound at the beginning of the outgoing message.

2. Release **OGM 1** (or **OGM 2**) and speak your message from about 8 inches in front of the TAD.

3. When you finish recording, press **STOP**. The TAD beeps and plays back the outgoing message.

Listening to the Outgoing Messages

To hear an outgoing message, press **OGM 1** or **OGM 2**. The TAD beeps, **A1** or **A2** appears, and the outgoing message plays.

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If no outgoing message is recorded when you press **OGM 1** or **OGM 2**, the TAD announces "You have no announcement one" (or "two") and sounds four beeps.

SETTING THE TAD TO ANSWER CALLS

To set the TAD to answer or not answer calls, press **ANSWER**. The TAD announces "Answer on" (or "off") and plays the outgoing message. If the ANSWER indicator is lit, the TAD is set to answer calls.
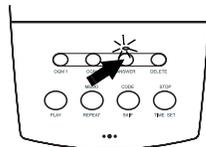

Notes:

- You must record an outgoing message before you can set the TAD to answer calls.

- If you have set the TAD to not answer calls, you can use a remote phone to set it to answer calls (see "Using Remote Commands" on Page 17).

USING THE ANNOUNCE-ONLY FEATURE

When the announce-only feature is on, the TAD-798 plays OGM 2 but does not let callers leave a message. (You must have recorded an OGM 2 message before you can use this feature.)

To set the TAD to announce-only, be sure the TAD is set to answer calls, then press **OGM 2**. The TAD says "Announce only," and plays the second outgoing message. The number of recorded messages and **Ao** appear alternately.
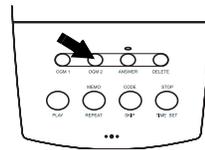
To turn off the announce-only feature, press **OGM 1**. The TAD beeps, says "Answer on," and plays OGM 1.

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RECORDING INCOMING MESSAGES

Each incoming message can be up to 60 seconds long. At 55 seconds the TAD beeps to notify the caller that time will soon be up. At 60 seconds it sounds one long and four short beeps, says "Thank you for your call," and hangs up.

Additionally, the TAD stops recording and resets to answer the next call when:

- The caller hangs up.

- There are more than 8 seconds of silence.

- You pick up any phone on the same line as the TAD.

If the TAD's memory is full, **FL** and the number of recorded messages alternately appear. It answers calls after 3 rings and plays the second outgoing message (OGM 2). If no OGM 2 is recorded, the TAD says "Memory is full. Thank you for your call."

Note: The maximum recording capacity is 16 minutes or 59 recorded messages.

PLAYING MESSAGES

The message counter shows the total number of messages, both old (ones you have listened to and saved) and new. If there are new messages, the ANSWER indicator flashes.

To play all messages, press **PLAY**. The TAD announces the number of messages recorded, the message number and the day and time the message was recorded, and then plays the message.
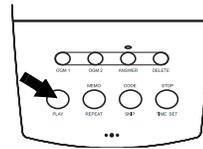
To adjust the TAD's volume, slide **VOLUME** toward **+** or **–**.
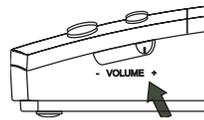
To play only new messages, hold down **PLAY** for 2 seconds. If there are no new messages stored, the TAD says, "You have no new messages."

After all messages play, the TAD says, "End of messages."

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To replay a message while you are listening to it, press **REPEAT**. The current message replays from the beginning.
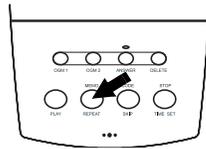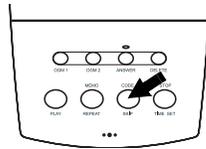
To return to a previous message, hold down **REPEAT** until the desired message number appears in the message counter window. Release **REPEAT** to play the selected message.

To skip to the next message, press **SKIP**. The next message plays.

To pause while listening to messages, press **PLAY**. **PA** (pause) appears on the display. To resume playback, press **PLAY** again within 60 seconds. Otherwise the TAD beeps, says "End of messages," and resets to answer calls.

To play the message at a faster speed, hold down **SKIP**. The playback speed increases, allowing you to quickly scan a message or move to any place within a message. To resume normal playback, release **SKIP**.

To stop playback, press **STOP**. The TAD beeps, says "End of messages," and resets to answer calls.
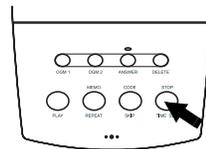
RECORDING A MEMO

A memo is a message you can record by speaking directly into the TAD, without having to call in on the phone.

Follow these steps to record a memo up to 60 seconds long.

1. Press **MEMO** (and quickly release it). *oo* appears briefly, the TAD sounds a long beep, and the timer starts counting. Speak into the microphone in a normal voice.

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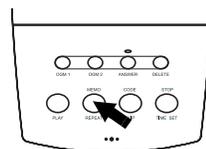2. Press **STOP** when you finish the memo (or let the TAD automatically stop recording after 60 seconds). The TAD beeps once and resets to answer calls.

The memo is stored with the incoming messages. To hear the memo, simply play back your messages.

RECORDING A CONVERSATION

You can record both sides of a conversation on any phone connected to the same phone line as the TAD.

Note: It is illegal in some areas to record a conversation without the consent of all parties to the conversation, including the phone company. Check the laws in your area before you use the two-way recording feature.

To start recording a phone conversation, hold down **MEMO** until the display changes from ⌀⌀ to ⌀⌀. The TAD records until:

- you press **STOP**

- the TAD hears 8 seconds of a busy signal or 25 seconds of silence

- the TAD's memory is full

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The recorded conversation is stored as a message (see "Playing Messages" on Page 12).

DELETING MESSAGES

To delete a specific message, press **DELETE** while the message is playing. The TAD beeps and deletes the message, then plays the next.
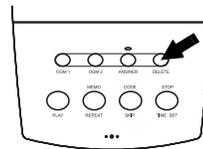
To delete all messages, stop playback then hold down **DELETE** (**dL** appears) until the TAD says "Erase messages" and sounds a long beep.

The TAD-798 does not delete new messages. If you have only new messages, the TAD sounds four beeps when you press **DELETE**.

SCREENING CALLS

To screen calls, let the TAD answer, then listen to the caller's message through the TAD's speaker. To adjust the TAD's volume, slide **VOLUME** toward **+** or **−**.

If you do not want to take the call, simply let the TAD finish recording the caller's message.

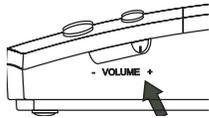If you decide to answer the call, pick up any phone on the same phone line as the TAD. The TAD stops recording and resets to answer the next call.

Note: If you pick up the phone just as the TAD answers, the TAD might not stop playing the outgoing message. If this happens, press **STOP**.

USING CALL BREAKTHROUGH

If you screen your calls but want to know when calls come in from certain people, give them your call breakthrough (CBT) code (preset to 648).

When a caller enters the CBT code during the outgoing message, the TAD alerts you with a series of loud beeps for 35 seconds. To answer the call, pick up the handset. If you do not answer, the caller can leave a message after the outgoing message plays.

Changing the CBT Code

The CBT code is preset to 648, but you can change it by following these steps.

Note: If you do not complete each step within 8 seconds, the TAD sounds four beeps and exits setup. Start again from Step 1.

1. Hold down **CODE** (Co appears) until the TAD beeps once.

2. Press **REPEAT**. Cc (CBT code) and the digits of the current code appear in sequence, then the first digit reappears.

   For example, if the CBT code is 648, the message counter shows Cc, ⁻6, −4, ‗8, then ⁻6.

3. Repeatedly press **SKIP** or **REPEAT** to set the first digit, then press **STOP**. The second digit appears.

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4. Repeatedly press **SKIP** or **REPEAT** to set the second digit, then press **STOP**. The third digit appears.

5. Repeatedly press **SKIP** or **REPEAT** to set the third digit, then press **STOP**. The TAD sounds a long beep then announces and displays the new CBT code.

CHANGING THE REMOTE OPERATION SECURITY CODE

The TAD's remote operation security code is preset to 798, but you can change it by following these steps.

Note: If you do not complete each step within 8 seconds, the TAD sounds four beeps and exits setup. Start again from Step 1.

1. Hold down **CODE** (`Co` appears) until the TAD beeps once.

2. Press **CODE** again. `Sc` (security code) and the digits of the current code appear in sequence, then the first digit reappears.

   For example, if the security code is 798, the message counter shows `Sc`, `⁻7`, `⁻9`, `_8`, then `⁻7`.

3. Repeatedly press **SKIP** or **REPEAT** to set the first digit, then press **STOP**. The second digit appears.

4. Repeatedly press **SKIP** or **REPEAT** to set the second digit, then press **STOP**. The third digit appears.

5. Repeatedly press **SKIP** or **REPEAT** to set the third digit, then press **STOP**. The TAD sounds a long beep then announces and displays the new security code.

REMOTE OPERATION

You can operate the TAD from almost any touch-tone phone, or from a rotary phone using a pocket tone-dialer (available at your local RadioShack store).

TOLL-SAVER

If the ring select switch is set to **TS** (toll-saver), the TAD-798 answers after two rings if you have new messages. If there are no new messages, the TAD answers after four rings. This gives you time to hang up before the TAD answers so you can avoid unnecessary long-distance charges. See "Setting the Number of Rings" on Page 9.
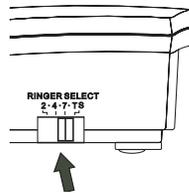
USING REMOTE COMMANDS

Follow these steps to operate the TAD from a remote location.

1. Dial your phone number.

   Note: Even if the TAD is not set to answer calls, it will answer after about 9 rings.

2. When the TAD answers, enter your remote operation security code. The TAD beeps once to confirm that you entered the correct code.

   Note: If you do not enter each digit of the security code within 8 seconds of the last, the TAD hangs up.

3. Enter the remote command (see "Remote Command List" on Page 18).

4. When you finish, hang up. The TAD resets to answer calls.

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Remote Command List

Press:	To:
00	Set the TAD to not answer calls. It beeps and says "Answer off."
01	Set the TAD to answer calls. It beeps, says "Answer on" and plays OGM 1. If no OGM 1 is recorded, it beeps and says "You have no announcement one."
02	Set the TAD to announce only. It beeps, says "Announce only," and plays OGM 2. If no OGM 2 is recorded, it beeps and says "You have no announcement two."
2	Play all messages. If there are no messages, the TAD says "You have no messages."
3	Play new messages. The TAD announces the number of new messages before playback. If there are no new messages, the TAD says, "You have no new messages."
4	Monitor the room for 20 seconds. Press 4 to repeat.

Press:	To:
5	Delete all messages (except new messages). Press 1 after the TAD announces "Erase messages," then the TAD beeps.
6	Stop playback or recording.
7	Record a memo.
81	Change OGM 1. After the TAD beeps, begin speaking. When you finish, press 6. The TAD beeps and plays the new OGM 1.
82	Play OGM 1. If no OGM 1 has been recorded, the TAD announces "You have no announcement one."
91	Change OGM 2. After the TAD beeps, begin speaking. When you finish, press 6. The TAD beeps and plays the new OGM 2.
92	Play OGM 2. If no OGM 2 has been recorded, the TAD announces "You have no announcement two."

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After pressing **2** or **3** to play messages, you can:

| Press	To:
1	Replay the previous message.
3	Skip to the next message.
4	Replay the current message.
5	Delete the current message.
6	Stop message playback.

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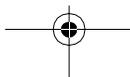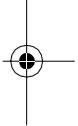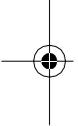
TROUBLESHOOTING

We do not expect you to have any problems with your TAD-798, but if you do, try these suggestions.

Problem	Remedy
The incoming message is incomplete.	Be sure the memory is not full.
The incoming message is unclear.	Be sure **VOLUME** is set to the desired sound level.
The TAD does not answer after two, four, or seven rings.	Be sure the TAD is set to answer calls.
Lo appears on the display.	The backup battery is weak. Replace the battery (see "Installing a Backup Battery" on Page 7).
The TAD does not respond to the remote operation security code.	Make sure the phone you used to dial the TAD is a touch-tone phone, or use a pocket tone dialer.
	Re-enter your remote operation security code, pressing each button for 2 seconds.
	Make sure the remote operation security code you entered is correct, or try entering the default code of 798. The remote operation security code might have reset to the default code due to a power failure and weak backup battery.

If the TAD still doesn't operate properly, try resetting it (see "Resetting the TAD" on Page 21) or take it to your local RadioShack store for assistance.

RESETTING THE TAD

If your TAD stops working properly, re-set it by using a straightened paper clip to press **RESET** on the back of the TAD.
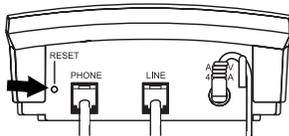
Note: The outgoing messages and all information stored in memory are erased when you press **RESET**.

CARE AND MAINTENANCE

Your RadioShack TAD-798 Digital Telephone Answering System is an example of superior design and craftsmanship. The following suggestions will help you care for the TAD so you can enjoy it for years.

Keep the TAD dry. If it gets wet, wipe it dry immediately. Liquids might contain minerals that can corrode the electronic circuits.

Handle the TAD gently and carefully. Dropping it can damage circuit boards and cases and can cause the TAD to work improperly.

Use and store the TAD only in normal temperature environments. Temperature extremes can shorten the life of electronic devices, damage batteries, and distort or melt plastic parts.

Keep the TAD away from dust and dirt, which can cause premature wear of parts.

Wipe the TAD with a damp cloth occasionally to keep it looking new. Do not use harsh chemicals, cleaning solvents, or strong detergents to clean the TAD.

Modifying or tampering with the TAD's internal components can cause a malfunction and might invalidate your TAD's warranty. If your TAD-798 is not performing as it should, take it to your local RadioShack store for assistance. If the trouble is affecting the telephone lines, the phone company can ask you to disconnect your TAD until you have resolved the problem.

THE FCC WANTS YOU TO KNOW

In the unlikely event that your TAD causes problems on the phone line, the phone company can temporarily disconnect your service. If this happens, the phone company attempts to notify you in advance. If advance notice is not practical, the phone company notifies you as soon as possible and advises you of your right to file a complaint with the FCC.

Also, the phone company can make changes to its lines, equipment, operations, or procedures that could affect the operation of your TAD. The phone company notifies you of these changes in advance, so you can take steps to prevent interruption of your phone service.

LIGHTNING

Your TAD has built-in protection circuits to reduce the risk of damage from surges in telephone and power line current. These protection circuits meet or exceed the FCC requirements. However, lightning striking the telephone or power lines can damage your TAD.

Lightning damage is not common. Nevertheless, if you live in an area that has severe electrical storms, we suggest that you unplug the TAD during storms to reduce the possibility of damage.

Limited One-Year Warranty

This product is warranted by RadioShack against manufacturing defects in material and workmanship under normal use for one (1) year 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 the limitations on how long an implied warranty lasts or the exclusion 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.

RadioShack Customer Relations, Dept. W, 100 Throckmorton St., Suite 600, Fort Worth, TX 76102

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