



Cat. No. 43-1087

### **OWNER'S MANUAL**

Please read before using this equipment.

# ET-917

# 900-MHz • Digital Cordless Telephone with 10-Number Memory



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# FEATURES

Your RadioShack ET-917 900-MHz • Digital Cordless Telephone with 10-Number Memory uses advanced digital cordless telephone technology to give you superior sound quality. It uses the 900 MHz band which means less interference, clearer sound, and greater range than 46/49 MHz cordless telephones.

The ET-917's features include:

**900 MHz Digital Operation** — provides better sound and less interference than many other cordless phones.

**30 Channels** — automatically selects a clear channel when you make or answer a call. You can also manually change channels during a call.

Super CCT Noise-Reduction Circuitry — provides clear telephone conversations, giving you sound clarity comparable to that of a corded phone.

Security Access-Protection Code automatically prevents other cordless phone users from using your phone line while the handset is off the cradle.

**Digitally Encoded Signal** — prevents other people from picking up your phone's signal and listening to your conversations.

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**COM-LOK**<sup>®</sup> — ensures that other cordless phone users cannot use your phone line when the handset is on the cradle.

**Page** — lets you send a paging signal from the base to the handset to page someone or locate the handset if you misplace it.

**10-Number Memory Dialing** — lets you store up to 10 numbers in memory for easy dialing.

**Redial** — lets you quickly redial the last number dialed.

**Flash** — sends an electronic switchhook signal for use with special phone services, such as Call Waiting.

**Volume Control** — lets you adjust the volume you hear through the handset.

**Programmable Ringer** — lets you select from four ringer tone/volume settings.

**Tone/Pulse Dialing** — lets you use your phone with tone or pulse service.

**Quick Talk** — lets you make or answer a call by just lifting the handset from the base.

**Hearing-Aid Compatibility** — lets you use your phone with hearing aids that have a T (telephone) switch.

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This telephone has been tested and found to comply with all applicable UL and FCC standards.

**Important Note:** Cordless phones such as this one require AC power to operate. When the AC power is off, you cannot dial out or receive incoming calls using your ET-917. To be safe, you should also have a phone that does not need AC power to operate (not a cordless phone) so you can still make and receive calls if there is an AC power failure.

We recommend you record your phone's serial number here. The number is on the bottom of the base.





Serial Number

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. **Warning**: To prevent fire or shock hazard, do not expose this product to rain or moisture.

# READ THIS BEFORE

Each device that you connect to the phone line draws power from the phone line. We refer to this power draw as the device's *ringer equivalence number*, or REN. The REN is shown on the bottom of the base.

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, your phones might not ring. In rural areas, a total REN of three might impair ringer operation. If ringer operation is impaired, remove a device from the line.

## FCC STATEMENT

This telephone complies with Part 68 of *FCC Rules*. You must, upon request, provide the FCC Registration Number and the REN to your phone company. These numbers are located on the bottom of the base.

**Note:** You must not connect your phone to any of the following:

- · coin-operated systems
- · party-line systems
- most electronic key phone systems

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# INSTALLATION

# SELECTING A LOCATION

You can place the phone on a desk top or table, or mount it on a wall. Select a location that is:

- near an AC outlet
- near a telephone line jack
- · out of the way of normal activities
- away from electrical machinery, electrical appliances, metal walls or filing cabinets, wireless intercoms, alarms, and room monitors
- · away from other cordless phones

The base's location affects the handset's range. If you have a choice of several locations, try each to see which provides the best performance.

**Caution:** The supplied RadioShack AC adapter was designed specifically for your ET-917. Use only the supplied adapter.

#### Notes:

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

- The phone company will charge you for the installation of necessary jacks.
- The USOC number of the jack to be installed is RJ11C (RJ11W if you want to mount it on a wall plate).

# Placing the Base on a Desk Top

Follow these steps when you place the base on a desk, shelf, or table.

1. Plug one end of the supplied long modular cord into the **TEL.LINE** jack on the back of the base.



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



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3. Insert the supplied AC adapter's barrel plug into the **DC IN 9V** jack on the back of the base.



4. Route the adapter's cord through the strain relief slot on top of the base.

#### Strain Relief Slot



- 5. Plug the adapter into a standard AC outlet. The POWER indicator on the base lights.
- 6. Lift the base's antenna to a vertical position.

# Mounting the Base on a Wall Plate

1. Plug one end of the supplied short modular cord into the **TEL.LINE** jack on the back of the base.



2. Route the modular cord through the top right slot on the bottom of the base.





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3. Insert the supplied AC adapter's barrel plug into the **DC IN 9V** jack on the back of the base.



 Route the adapter's cord through the slot on top of the base and through the left slots on the bottom of the base.



5. Plug the short modular cord into the wall plate jack.



6. Align the base's keyhole slots with the wall plate studs and slide the base downward to secure it.



7. Press and lift out the handset holder, rotate it 180°, then snap it back into place so it holds the handset.



- 8. Plug the adapter into a standard AC outlet. The POWER indicator on the base lights.
- 9. Lift the base's antenna to a vertical position.

# Mounting the Base Directly on the Wall

For this mounting method, you need two flat-head wood screws (not supplied) with heads that fit into the keyhole slots on the bottom of the base.

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- 1. Drill two holes  $3^{5/16}$   $_{3/16}$ inches apart. Then thread a screw into each hole, letting the heads extend about  $^{3/16}$  inch from the wall.  $3^{5/16}$
- 2. Plug one end of the supplied modular cord into the **TEL.LINE** jack on the back of the base.

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



5. Route the adapter's cord through the slot on top of the base and through the left slots on the bottom of the base.



3. Route the modular cord through the right slots on the bottom of the base.



 Align the keyhole slots with the mounting screws and slide the base downward to secure it.



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7. Plug the modular cord into a modular phone line jack. 43-1087.fm Page 9 Tuesday, August 17, 1999 2:46 PM

8. Press and lift out the handset holder, rotate it 180°, then snap it back into place so it holds the handset.



- Plug the adapter into a standard AC outlet. The POWER indicator on the base lights.
- 10. Lift the base's antenna to a vertical position.
- CONNECTING AND CHARGING THE BATTERY PACK

The ET-917 comes with a rechargeable nickel-cadmium battery pack in the handset. Before using your phone, you must connect the battery pack and then charge it for at least 14 hours.

 Loosen the screw on the battery compartment cover on the bottom of the handset. Press down and slide off the compartment cover in the direction of the arrow.

2. Insert the battery pack's plastic connector into its socket. The plug fits only one way.

**Note:** For easier battery pack connection, lift it out of the compartment, insert its connector into its socket and replace the battery pack inside the compartment.



3. Replace the cover and tighten the screw.

To charge the battery pack, simply place the handset on the base. The CHARGE indicator on the base lights.



Recharge the battery pack when the TALK/BATT LOW indicator flashes.



#### Notes:

 If the CHARGE indicator does not light when you place the handset on the base, be sure the battery pack and AC adapter are correctly and securely connected.

Also, check the charging contacts on the handset and the base. If the contacts are dirty or tarnished, clean them with a pencil eraser.





- When you first use the phone after charging or recharging the battery pack, the phone might not work and you might hear an error tone. If this happens, return the handset to the base for a few seconds.
- About once a month, fully discharge the battery pack by keep-

ing the handset off the base until the TALK/BATT LOW indicator flashes. Otherwise, the battery pack loses its ability to fully recharge.

- If the TALK/BATT LOW indicator does not light but the phone does not work, recharge the battery pack. (The battery power might be too low to light the indicator.)
- If the battery pack becomes weak during a call, you hear a beep every 30 seconds and the TALK/ BATT LOW indicator flashes every 3 seconds. Recharge the battery pack.
- If the battery pack is completely discharged, the handset loses the security access-protection code. To reset the code, place the handset on the base and charge the battery pack.
- The supplied battery pack should last for about a year. When the battery pack loses its ability to fully recharge, order a replacement battery pack from your local RadioShack store (see "Replacing the Battery Pack" on Page 19).



# SETTING THE DIALING MODE

Set **DIAL MODE** on the back of the base for the type of service you have. If you are not sure which type you have, do this test.

1. Set DIAL MODE to T.

## SETTING THE RINGER TONE/VOLUME

You can select one of four different ringer tone/volume settings while the phone is not in use.



- 2. Lift the handset and listen for a dial tone.
- 3. Press any number other than 0.

**Note:** If your phone system requires that you dial an access code (9, for example) before you dial an outside number, do not press the access code either.

If the dial tone stops, you have touch-tone service. Leave **DIAL MODE** set to **T**.

If the dial tone continues, you have pulse service. Set **DIAL MODE** to **P**.



- 1. Press **VOLUME**. The ET-917 sounds the current ringer tone.
- Repeatedly press VOLUME until you hear the desired ringer setting.

Each time you press **VOLUME**, the ringer changes in this order:

→High-volume, high-pitch ↓Low-volume, high-pitch ↓High-volume, low-pitch ↓Low-volume, low-pitch



# OPERATION

## MAKING AND RECEIVING CALLS

To make or answer a call, lift the handset. Or, if the handset is away from the cradle, press **TALK**. The TALK/BATT LOW indicator on the handset and the IN USE indicator on the base light. handset beeps, followed by a brief pause as your phone searches for a clear channel.



**Note:** If the handset is too far from the base, the channel might not change. Move closer to the base and try again.



To end a call, place the handset on the cradle or press **TALK** so the TALK/ BATT LOW indicator turns off.

**Note:** If you press **TALK** to hang up the phone and the phone does not disconnect, place the handset on the cradle or press **TALK** again while holding the handset closer to the base.

### SELECTING THE CHANNEL

The ET-917 scans 30 channels (frequency pairs used between the base and the handset) and automatically selects a clear channel each time you make or receive a call.

If you hear other conversations or excessive noise during a call, press **CH** to select a different channel. The TALK/ BATT LOW indicator blinks, and the

# SETTING THE HANDSET VOLUME

To adjust the volume you hear through the handset, press **VOLUME** during a call. The handset volume has two settings, high or low.

### **USING REDIAL**

You can quickly dial the last number dialed. When you hear a dial tone, simply press **REDIAL/P**.





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#### Notes:

- The redial memory holds up to 32 digits, so you can redial longdistance as well as local numbers.
- The redial memory also holds pause entries. See "Entering a Pause" on Page 15.
- The redial memory does not store a flash entry or any digits you press after FLASH (see "Using Flash").

## **USING FLASH**

**FLASH** performs the electronic equivalent of a switchhook operation for special services, such as Call Waiting.

### USING TONE SERVICES ON A PULSE LINE

Some special services, such as bankby-phone, require tone signals. If you have pulse service, you can still use these special tone services by following these steps.

- 1. Be sure DIAL MODE is set to P.
- 2. Dial the service's main number.
- When the service answers, press TONE/\*. Any additional numbers you dial are sent as tone signals.



For example, if you have Call Waiting, press **FLASH** to answer an incoming call without disconnecting the current call. Press **FLASH** again to return to the first call.

**Note:** If you do not have any special phone services, pressing **FLASH** might disconnect the current call.



 After you complete the call, return the handset to the cradle or press TALK. The phone automatically resets to the pulse mode.



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# PAGING

To page the person who has the handset or to locate the handset when the phone is not in use, press **PAGE** on the base. The handset beeps for 2 seconds.

- 1. Lift the handset. If the TALK/BATT LOW indicator lights, press **TALK** to turn it off.
- 2. Press **MEMO**. The TALK/BATT LOW indicator blinks.



## MEMORY DIALING

You can store up to 10 numbers in memory, then dial a stored number by pressing a one-digit memory location number.

Each number you store can be up to 16 digits long.

#### Storing a Number in Memory

**Note:** An error tone sounds and the phone exits the programming mode if you wait more than 20 seconds between each keypress.



 Enter the number and any TONE/ \* mode changes or REDIAL/P entries (see "Entering a Pause" on Page 15).

**Note:** Each **TONE/** + or **REDIAL/P** entry uses one digit of memory.

- Press MEMO, then enter the memory location number (0–9) where you want to store the number. A tone sounds to indicate that the number is stored.
- 5. For each stored number, write the person's or company's name next to the appropriate location number on the supplied MEMORY directory sticker. (Use a pencil in case you need to change the number later.)



#### 6. Attach the sticker to the phone.



To erase a stored number, simply store a new number in its place.

Or, lift the handset, press **TALK** if the TALK/BATT LOW indicator lights, and press **MEMO** twice. Then press the memory location number (**0**–**9**) you want to clear. A tone sounds.

#### **Entering a Pause**

In some telephone systems, you must dial an access code (9, for example) and wait for a second dial tone before you can dial an outside number. You can store the access code with the phone number. However, you must also store a pause after the access code to allow the outside line time to connect. To do so, press **REDIAL/P**. Each press enters a 2-second pause. For a longer pause, press **REDIAL/P** additional times.

#### **Dialing a Memory Number**

To dial a number stored in memory, lift the handset or press **TALK**. The TALK/ BATT LOW indicator lights.

When you hear a dial tone, simply press **MEMO** and enter the memory location number for the number you want to dial.

#### Chain-Dialing Service Numbers

When calling special services (such as alternate long distance or bank by phone), dial the service's main number first. Then, at the appropriate place in the call, press **MEMO** and the number for the location where the additional information is stored.

#### Testing Stored Emergency Numbers

If you store an emergency service's number (police department, fire department, ambulance) and you choose to test the stored number, make the test call during the late evening or early morning hours to avoid peak demand periods. Also, remain on the line to explain the reason for your call.

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# TROUBLESHOOTING

We do not expect you to have any problems with your phone, but if you do, the following suggestions might help.

Problem	Suggestion
Low volume or unusual sounds.	Someone has picked up another phone on the same line. Hang up the other phone.
Severe noise interference.	Press CH to change the channel.
	• Keep the handset away from comput- ers, remote control toys, wireless microphones, alarm systems, inter- coms, room monitors, fluorescent lights, and electrical appliances.
	• Move to another location or turn off the source of interference.
The phone cannot be operated at a useful distance from the base because the signal becomes weak or noisy (handset's range has decreased).	<ul> <li>Lift the base's antenna to a fully verti- cal position.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Be sure neither the handset or base antenna is touching a metal surface.</li> </ul>
,	<ul> <li>Return the handset to the cradle to recharge the battery pack.</li> </ul>
The phone does not work or works poorly.	Be sure the base's phone line cord and AC adapter are correctly and securely connected, and the battery is charged.
The handset battery does not charge.	• Check the charging contacts on the handset and base. If they are dirty, clean them with a pencil eraser.
	Be sure the battery is connected cor- rectly.
The call is too noisy.	Change channels or hang up and redial the number.

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Problem	Suggestion
Handset does not ring or receive a page.	Return the handset to the cradle to recharge the battery pack.
	<ul> <li>Lift the base's antenna to a fully verti- cal position.</li> </ul>
	Move the handset closer to the base.
	<ul> <li>Move the base away from other elec- trical devices.</li> </ul>
The handset stops working or works	Move the handset closer to the base.
poorly during a call.	<ul> <li>Be sure the handset's battery pack is charged. (If the battery pack power is too low, it does not have enough power to light the TALK/BATT LOW indicator.)</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Lift the base's antenna to a fully verti- cal position.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Make sure the charging contacts on the handset and base are clean.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>If the base lost power while the hand- set was off of it, the security access- protection code might have changed. Remove the handset from the base (if it is on the base). Restore power to the base, then place the handset back on the base. The CHARGE indicator lights, indicating that the code is set again.</li> </ul>

If you still have problems, disconnect the phone. If other phones on the same line work properly, the fault is in this phone or its installation. If you cannot find the problem, take your phone to your local RadioShack store for assistance.

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# CARE AND MAINTENANCE

Your ET-917 900-MHz Digital Cordless Telephone with 10-Number Memory is an example of superior design and craftsmanship. The following suggestions will help you care for your cordless telephone so you can enjoy it for years.



Keep the ET-917 dry. If it gets wet, wipe it dry immediately. Liquids might contain minerals that can corrode the electronic circuits.



Handle the ET-917 gently and carefully. Dropping it can damage circuit boards and cases and can cause the ET-917 to work improperly.



Use and store the ET-917 only in normal temperature environments. Temperature extremes can shorten the life of electronic devices and distort or melt plastic parts.



Keep the ET-917 away from dust and dirt, which can cause premature wear of parts.



Wipe the ET-917 with a damp cloth occasionally to keep it looking new. Do not use harsh chemicals, cleaning solvents, or strong detergents to clean the ET-917.

Modifying or tampering with the ET-917's internal components can cause a malfunction and might invalidate your ET-917's warranty and void your FCC authorization to operate it. If your ET-917 is not performing as it should, take it to your local RadioShack store for assistance. If the trouble is affecting the phone lines, the phone company might ask you to disconnect your phone until you have resolved the problem.

# REPLACING THE BATTERY PACK

If you follow the instructions in "Connecting and Charging the Battery Pack" on Page 9, the battery pack should last about one year. If the battery does not hold a charge for more than 2 hours after an overnight charge, replace the battery with a new 3.6 volt, 600 milliamp battery with a connector that fits the connector in the battery compartment. You can order a replacement battery pack through your local RadioShack store.

Install the new battery pack as described below, then charge the battery for at least 14 hours (see "Connecting and Charging the Battery Pack" on Page 9).

 Loosen the screw on the battery compartment cover on the bottom of the handset, and slide off the cover in the direction of the arrow.

- 2. Gently pull on the battery connector to disconnect it, then remove the battery.
- Insert the new battery pack's plastic connector into its socket and place the battery pack into the compartment.
- 4. Replace the cover and tighten the screw.

#### Cautions:

- You must use a replacement battery of the same size and type.
- Do not dispose of the battery in a fire because it might explode.
- Do not open or mutilate the battery.
- Be careful not to short the battery by touching it with conducting materials, such as rings, bracelets, and keys. The battery or conductor might overheat and burn.

#### Notes:

- If you have trouble replacing the battery, take the phone to your local RadioShack store for assistance.
- To avoid losing phone numbers stored in memory, try to install and begin charging the new battery within 3 minutes.

**Important:** This product contains a rechargeable nickel cadmium battery. At the end of the battery's useful life, it must be recycled or disposed of properly. Contact your local, county, or state hazardous waste management authorities for information on recycling or disposal programs in your area. Some options that might be available are: municipal curb-side collection, drop-off boxes at retailers such as your local RadioShack store, recycling collection centers, and mail-back programs.

## THE FCC WANTS YOU TO KNOW

In the unlikely event that your phone causes problems on the phone line, the phone company can temporarily discontinue 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 this telephone. The telephone company notifies you of these changes in advance, so you can take the necessary steps to prevent interruption of your telephone service.

Your phone might cause TV or radio interference even when it is operating properly. To determine whether your phone is causing the interference, turn off your phone. If the interference goes away, your phone is causing the interference. Try to eliminate the interference by:

- Moving your phone away from the receiver
- Connecting your phone to an AC outlet that is on a different electrical circuit from the receiver
- Contacting your local RadioShack store for help

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If you cannot eliminate the interference, the FCC requires that you stop using your phone.

Some cordless telephones operate on frequencies that may cause interference to nearby TVs and VCRs. To minimize or prevent such interference, the base of the cordless telephone should not be placed near or on top of a TV or VCR.

#### LIGHTNING

Your telephone has built-in lightning protection to reduce the risk of damage from surges in telephone line and power line current. This lightning protection meets or exceeds FCC requirements. However, lightning striking the telephone or power lines can damage your telephone.

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



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#### RadioShack Limited Warranty

This telephone product is warranted against manufacturing defects in material and workmanship for one (1) year from the date of purchase from RadioShack company owned stores and authorized RadioShack franchisees and dealers. Within this period **bring your RadioShack sales slip** as proof-of-purchase date to any RadioShack store.

This warranty does not cover damage or failure caused by or attributable to Acts of God, abuse, misuse, improper or abnormal usage, faulty installation, improper maintenance, lightning or other incidence of excess voltage, or any repairs other than those provided by a RadioShack Authorized Service Facility, or transportation costs. **RadioShack is not responsible or liable for indirect, special, or consequential damages arising out of or in connection with the use or performance of the product or other damages with respect to loss of property, loss of revenue or profit, or costs of removal, installation or reinstallation.** 

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

We Service What We Sell

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