

KENWOOD

KDC-234SG

CD-RECEIVER

INSTRUCTION MANUAL

Kenwood Corporation



© B64-3245-00/00 (E2W)



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Safety precautions

⚠ WARNING

To prevent injury or fire, take the following precautions:

- To prevent a short circuit, never put or leave any metallic objects (such as coins or metal tools) inside the unit.

⚠ CAUTION

To prevent damage to the machine, take the following precautions:

- Make sure to ground the unit to a negative 12V DC power supply.
- Do not install the unit in a spot exposed to direct sunlight or excessive heat or humidity. Also avoid places with too much dust or the possibility of water splashing.
- Do not place the faceplate in areas exposed to direct sunlight, excessive heat or humidity. Also avoid places with too much dust or the possibility of water splashing.
- To prevent deterioration, do not touch the terminals of the unit or faceplate with your fingers.
- Do not subject the faceplate to excessive shock, as it is a piece of precision equipment.
- When replacing a fuse, only use a new fuse with the prescribed rating. Using a fuse with the wrong rating may cause your unit to malfunction.
- Do not use your own screws. Use only the screws provided. If you use the wrong screws, you could damage the unit.

Do Not Load 3-in. CDs in the CD slot

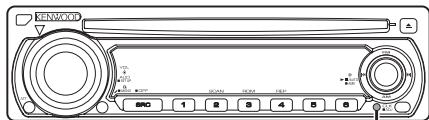
If you try to load a 3 in. CD with its adapter into the unit, the adapter might separate from the CD and damage the unit.

Lens Fogging

When you turn on the car heater in cold weather, dew or condensation may form on the lens in the CD player of the unit. Called lens fogging, this condensation on the lens may not allow CDs to play. In such a situation, remove the disc and wait for the condensation to evaporate. If the unit still does not operate normally after a while, consult your Kenwood dealer.

Notes

- If you experience problems during installation, consult your Kenwood dealer.
- If the unit fails to operate properly, press the Reset button. The unit returns to factory settings when the Reset button is pressed.



Reset button

- Characters in the LCD may become difficult to read in temperatures below 5 °C (41 °F).
- The illustrations of the display and the panel appearing in this manual are examples used to explain more clearly how the controls are used. Therefore, what appears on the display in the illustrations may differ from what appears on the display on the actual equipment, and some of the illustrations on the display may be inapplicable.

Cleaning the Unit

If the faceplate of this unit is stained, wipe it with a dry soft cloth such as a silicon cloth.

If the faceplate is stained badly, wipe the stain off with a cloth moistened with neutral cleaner, then wipe it again with a clean soft dry cloth.



- Applying spray cleaner directly to the unit may affect its mechanical parts. Wiping the faceplate with a hard cloth or using a volatile liquid such as thinner or alcohol may scratch the surface or erase characters.

Cleaning the Faceplate Terminals

If the terminals on the unit or faceplate get dirty, wipe them with a clean soft dry cloth.

The marking of products using lasers (Except for some areas)

CLASS 1 LASER PRODUCT

The label is attached to the chassis/case and says that the component uses laser beams that have been classified as Class 1. This means that the unit is utilizing laser beams that are of a weaker class. There is no danger of hazardous radiation outside the unit.

This Product is not installed by the manufacturer of a vehicle on the production line, nor by the professional importer of a vehicle into an EU Member State.

Information on Disposal of Old Electrical and Electronic Equipment (applicable for EU countries that have adopted separate waste collection systems)



Products with the symbol (crossed-out wheeled bin) cannot be disposed as household waste.

Old electrical and electronic equipment should be recycled at a facility capable of handling these items and their waste byproducts. Contact your local authority for details in locating a recycle facility nearest to you. Proper recycling and waste disposal will help conserve resources whilst preventing detrimental effects on our health and the environment.

About CDs

Handling CDs

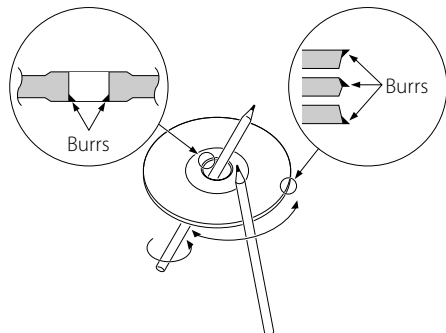
- Do not touch the recording surface of the CD.



- CD-R and CD-RW are easier to damage than a normal music CD. Use a CD-R or a CD-RW after reading the caution items on the package etc.
- Do not stick tape etc. on the CD, or use a CD with tape stuck on it.

When using a new CD

If the CD center hole or outside rim has burrs, use the CD only after removing the burrs with a ballpoint pen etc.

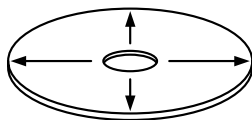


CD accessories

Do not use disc type accessories.

CD cleaning

Clean from the center of the disc and move outward.

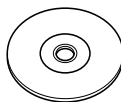


Removing CDs

When removing CDs from this unit pull them out horizontally.

CDs that can't be used

- CDs that are not round cannot be used.



- CDs with coloring on the recording surface or that are dirty cannot be used.
- This unit can only play the CDs with



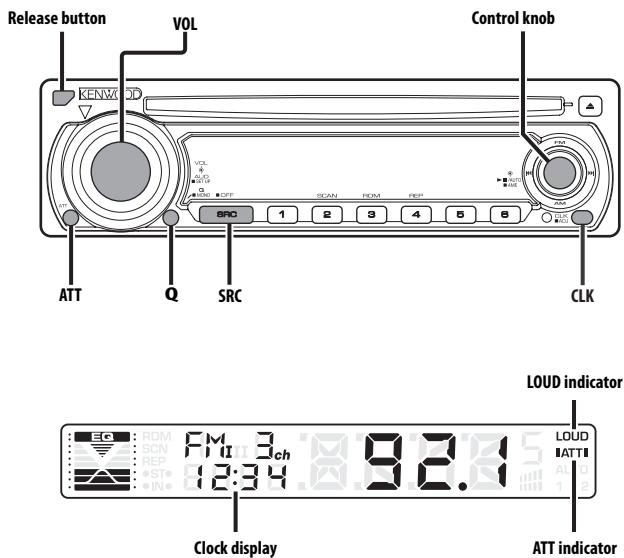
This unit may not correctly play discs which do not have the mark.

- You cannot play A CD-R or CD-RW that has not been finalized. (For the finalization process refer to your CD-R/CD-RW writing software, and your CD-R/CD-RW recorder instruction manual.)

CD storage

- Do not place CDs in direct sunlight (On the seat or dashboard etc.) or where the temperature is high.
- Store CDs in their cases.

General features



Power

Turning ON the Power
Press the [SRC] button.

Turning OFF the Power
Press the [SRC] button for at least 1 second.

Selecting the Source

Press the [SRC] button.

Source required	Display
Tuner	"TUnE"
CD	"CD"
Standby (Illumination only mode)	"STBY"

Volume

Increasing Volume
Turn the [VOL] knob clockwise.

Decreasing Volume
Turn the [VOL] knob counterclockwise.

Attenuator

Turning the volume down quickly.

Press the [ATT] button.
Each time you press the button, the Attenuator turns ON and OFF.
When the Attenuator is ON, the "ATT" indicator blinks.

System Q

Selecting the best sound setting preset for different types of music.

1 Select the source to set

Press the [SRC] button.

2 Select the Sound type

Press the [Q] button.

When you press the button once, the current sound setting is displayed.

Each time you press the button, the sound setting alternates.

Sound setting	Display
Flat	"FLAT"
Rock	"ROCK"
Pops	"POPS"
Easy	"EASY"
Top 40	"TP40"
Jazz	"JAZZ"



- "USER": The values set on the <Audio Control> (page 7). When the System Q setting is changed, the Bass, Middle, and Treble set in audio control replace the System Q values.
- Change each setting value with the <Speaker Setting> (page 8).
First, select the speaker type with the Speaker setting.

Audio Control

1 Select the source to adjust

Press the [SRC] button.

2 Enter Audio Control mode

Press the [VOL] knob.

3 Select the Audio item to adjust

Press the [VOL] knob.

Each time you press the knob, the item to be adjusted alternates between the items shown in the table below.

4 Adjust the Audio item

Turn the [VOL] knob.

Adjustment Item	Display	Range
Bass level	"BAS"	-8 — +8
Middle level	"MID"	-8 — +8
Treble level	"TRE"	-8 — +8
Balance	"BL"	Left 15 — Right 15
Fader	"FD"	Rear 15 — Front 15
<i>Exit Audio Control mode (Volume control mode)</i>		

5 Exit Audio Control mode

Press any button.

Press a button other than the [VOL] knob, [SRC], [▲] and [ATT] button.

Audio Setup

Setting the Sound system, such as Volume offset and Loudness.

1 Select the source to adjust

Press the [SRC] button.

2 Enter Audio Setup mode

Press the [VOL] knob for at least 1 second.

3 Select the Audio Setup item to adjust

Press the [VOL] knob.

Each time you press the knob, the item to be adjusted alternates between the items shown in the table below.

4 Adjust the Audio setup item

Turn the [VOL] knob.

Adjustment Item	Display	Range
Volume offset	"V-OF"	-8 — ±0
Loudness	"LOUD"	ON/OFF



- Volume offset: Sets each source's volume as a difference from the basic volume.
- Loudness: Compensates for low and high tones during low volume.
When Loudness is ON, "LOUD" indicator is ON.

5 Exit Audio Setup mode

Press the [VOL] knob for at least 1 second.

Speaker Setting

Fine-tuning so that the System Q value is optimal when setting the speaker type.

1 Enter Standby

Press the [SRC] button.

Select the "STBY" display.

2 Enter Speaker Setting mode

Press the [VOL] knob.

3 Select the Speaker type

Turn the [VOL] knob.

Each time you turn the knob, the setting alternates between the settings shown in the table below.

Speaker type	Display
OFF	"SP-F"
For 5 & 4 in. speaker	"SP-5"
For 6 & 6x9 in. speaker	"SP-6"
For the OEM speaker	"SP-0"

4 Exit Speaker Setting mode

Press the [VOL] knob.

Clock Display

Press the [CLK] button.

Each time you press the button, the clock display turns ON and OFF.

Adjusting Clock

1 Enter Standby

Press the [SRC] button.

Select the "STBY" display.

2 Select the clock display

Press the [CLK] button.

3 Enter clock adjustment mode

Press the [CLK] button for at least 2 seconds.

The clock display blinks.

4 Adjust the hours

Push the Control knob towards [FM] or [AM].

Adjust the minutes

Push the Control knob towards [◀◀] or [▶▶].

5 Exit clock adjustment mode

Press the [CLK] button.

Theft Deterrent Faceplate

The faceplate of the unit can be detached and taken with you, helping to deter theft.

Removing the Faceplate

Press the Release button.

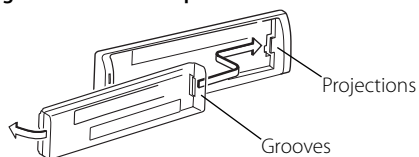
The faceplate unlocks, allowing you to detach it.



- The faceplate is a precision piece of equipment and can be damaged by shocks or jolts.
- Do not expose the faceplate to direct sunlight or excessive heat or humidity. Also avoid places with too much dust or the possibility of water splashing.

Reattaching the Faceplate

1 Align the projections on the unit with the grooves on the faceplate.



2 Push the faceplate in until it clicks.

The faceplate is locked in place, allowing you to use the unit.

TEL Mute

The audio system automatically mutes when a call comes in.

When a call comes in

"CALL" is displayed.

The audio system pauses.

Listening to the audio during a call

Press the [SRC] button.

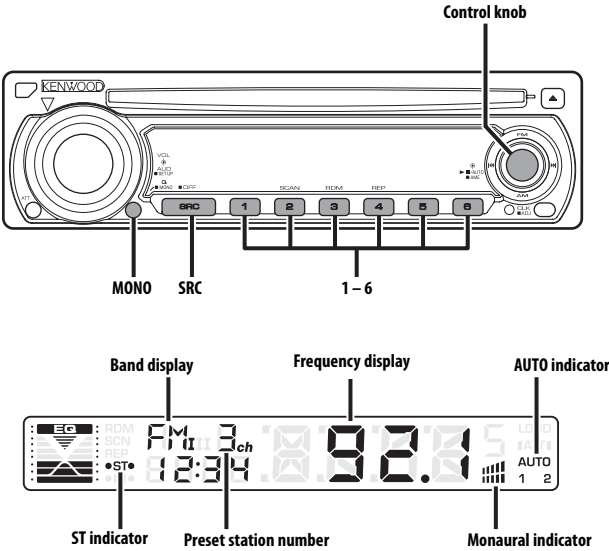
The "CALL" display disappears and the audio system comes back ON.

When the call ends

Hang up the phone.

The "CALL" display disappears and the audio system comes back ON.

Tuner features



Tuning

Selecting the station.

1 Select tuner source

Press the [SRC] button.

Select the "TUnE" display.

2 Select the band

Push the Control knob towards [FM] or [AM].

Each time you push the knob toward [FM], it switches between the FM1, FM2, and FM3 bands.

3 Tune up or down band

Push the Control knob towards [◀◀] or [▶▶].



- During reception of stereo stations the "ST" indicator is ON.

Tuning Mode

Choose the tuning mode.

Press the Control knob.

Each time you press the knob, the Tuning mode alternates between the modes shown in the table below.

Tuning mode	Display	Operation
Auto seek	"AUTO 1" indicator	Automatic search for a station.
Preset station seek	"AUTO 2" indicator	Search in order of the stations in the Preset memory.
Manual	—	Normal manual tuning control.

Station Preset Memory

Putting a station in the memory.

1 Select the band

Push the Control knob towards [FM] or [AM].

2 Select the frequency to put in the memory

Push the Control knob towards [◀◀] or [▶▶].

3 Put the frequency in the memory

Press the desired [1] — [6] button for at least 2 seconds.

The preset number display blinks 1 time.

On each band, 1 station can be put in the memory on each [1] — [6] button.

Auto Memory Entry

Putting stations with good reception in the memory automatically.

1 Select the band for Auto Memory Entry

Push the Control knob towards [FM] or [AM].

2 Open Auto Memory Entry

Press the Control knob for at least 2 seconds.

When 6 stations that can be received are put in the memory Auto Memory Entry closes.

Preset Tuning

Recalling the stations in the memory.

1 Select the band

Push the Control knob towards [FM] or [AM].

2 Recall the station

Press the desired [1] — [6] button.

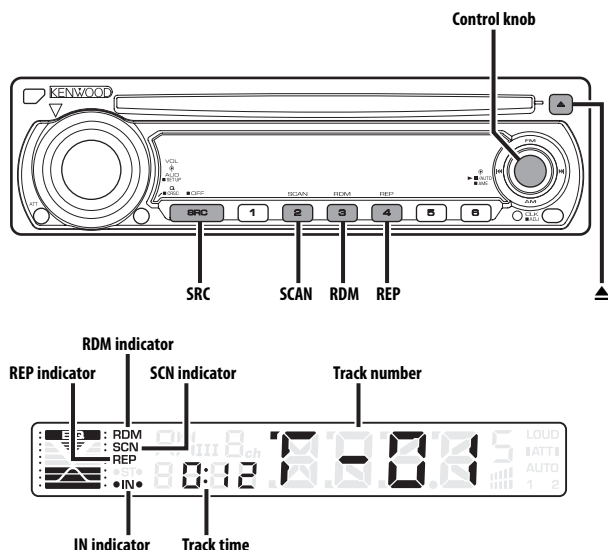
Monaural Reception

Press the [MONO] button for at least 1 second.

Each time you press the button for at least 1 second, the Monaural Reception turns ON and OFF.

When Monaural Reception is ON, the Monaural indicator is ON.

CD player features



Playing CD

When a disc is inserted

Press the [SRC] button.

Select the "CD" display.



- When a CD is inserted, the "IN" indicator is ON.

Pause and play

Press the Control knob.

Each time you press the knob, the audio pauses or plays.

Eject the CD

Press the [▲] button.

Fast Forwarding and Reversing

Fast Forwarding

Hold down toward [▶▶] with the Control knob.

Release your finger to play the disc at that point.

Reversing

Hold down toward [◀◀] with the Control knob.

Release your finger to play the disc at that point.

Track Search

Selecting the song you want to hear.

Push the Control knob towards [◀◀] or [▶▶].

Track Repeat

Replaying the song you are listening to.

Press the [REP] button.

Each time you press the button, the Track Repeat turns ON or OFF.

When the Track Repeat is ON, the "REP" indicator is ON.

Scan Play

Playing the first part of each song on the disc you are listening to and searching for the song you want to hear.

1 Start Scan Play

Press the [SCAN] button.

"SCN" indicator is ON.

2 Release the button when the song you want to hear is played

Press the [SCAN] button.

Random Play

Playing all the songs on the disc in random order.

Press the [RDM] button.

Each time you press the button, Random Play turns ON or OFF.

When the Random mode is ON, the "RDM" indicator is ON.

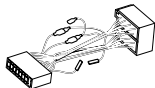


- When you push the Control knob toward [▶▶], the next random song starts.

Accessories/ Installation Procedure

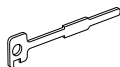
Accessories

①



.....1

②



.....2

③



.....1

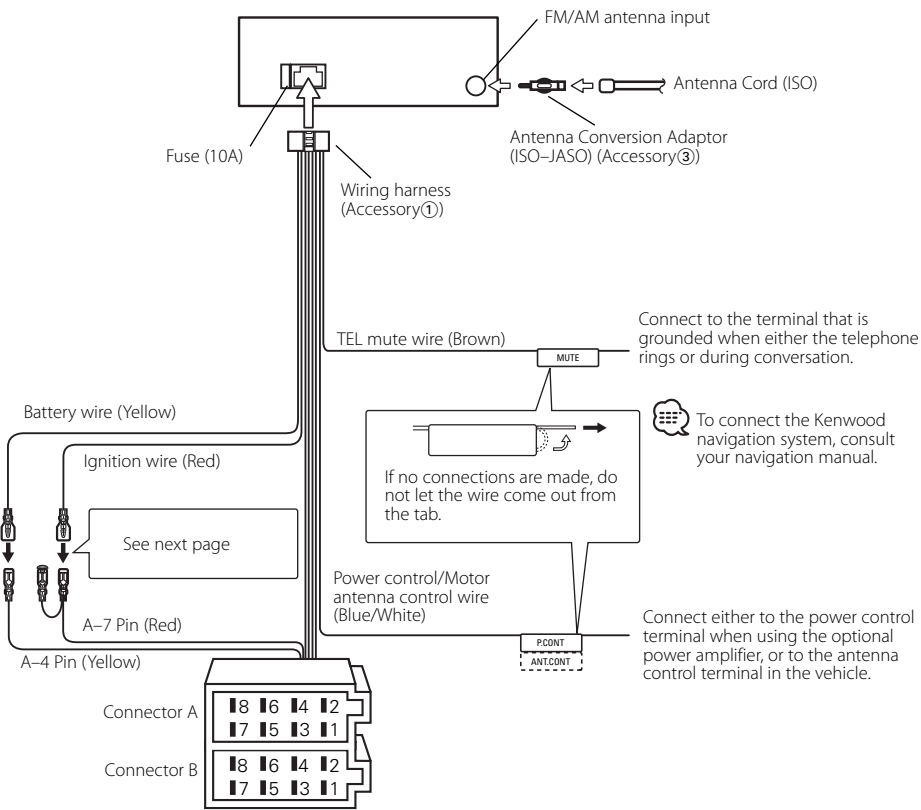
Installation Procedure

1. To prevent short circuits, remove the key from the ignition and disconnect the \ominus terminal of the battery.
2. Make the proper input and output wire connections for each unit.
3. Connect the wire on the wiring harness.
4. Take Connector B on the wiring harness and connect it to the speaker connector in your vehicle.
5. Take Connector A on the wiring harness and connect it to the external power connector on your vehicle.
6. Connect the wiring harness connector to the unit.
7. Install the unit in your car.
8. Reconnect the \ominus terminal of the battery.
9. Press the reset button.



- If the power is not turned ON (or it is ON, but will be OFF immediately), the speaker wire may have a short-circuit or touched the chassis of the vehicle and the protection function may have been activated. Therefore, the speaker wire should be checked.
- If your car is not prepared for this special connection-system, consult your Kenwood dealer.
- Only use antenna conversion adapters (ISO-JASO) when the antenna cord has an ISO plug.
- Make sure that all wire connections are securely made by inserting jacks until they lock completely.
- If your vehicle's ignition does not have an ACC position, or if the ignition wire is connected to a power source with constant voltage such as a battery wire, the power will not be linked with the ignition (i.e., it will not turn on and off along with the ignition). If you want to link the unit's power with the ignition, connect the ignition wire to a power source that can be turned on and off with the ignition key.
- If the fuse blows, first make sure that the wires have not caused a short circuit, then replace the old fuse with one with the same rating.
- Insulate unconnected wires with vinyl tape or other similar material. To prevent short circuits, also do not remove the caps on the ends of the unconnected wires or the terminals.
- Connect the speaker wires correctly to the terminals to which they correspond. The unit may receive damage or fail to work if you share the \ominus wires and/or ground them to any metal part in the car.
- After the unit is installed, check whether the brake lamps, indicators, wipers, etc. on the car are working properly.
- If the console has a lid, make sure to install the unit so that the faceplate does not hit the lid when closing and opening.
- Mount the unit so that the mounting angle is 30° or less.

Connecting Wires to Terminals



Connecting Wires to Terminals

Connector Function Guide

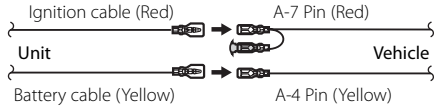
Pin Numbers for ISO Connectors	Cable Colour	Functions
External Power Connector		
A-4	Yellow	Battery
A-5	Blue/White	Power Control
A-7	Red	Ignition (ACC)
A-8	Black	Earth (Ground) Connection
Speaker Connector		
B-1	Purple	Rear Right (+)
B-2	Purple/Black	Rear Right (-)
B-3	Gray	Front Right (+)
B-4	Gray/Black	Front Right (-)
B-5	White	Front Left (+)
B-6	White/Black	Front Left (-)
B-7	Green	Rear Left (+)
B-8	Green/Black	Rear Left (-)

⚠ WARNING

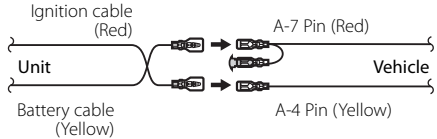
Connecting the ISO Connector

The pin arrangement for the ISO connectors depends on the type of vehicle you drive. Make sure to make the proper connections to prevent damage to the unit. The default connection for the wiring harness is described in [1] below. If the ISO connector pins are set as described in [2] or [3], make the connection as illustrated. Please be sure to reconnect the cable as shown [2] below to install this unit to the **Volkswagen** vehicles etc.

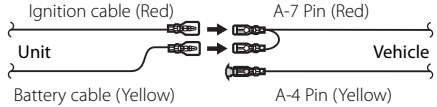
[1] (Default setting) The A-7 pin (red) of the vehicle's ISO connector is linked with the ignition, and the A-4 pin (yellow) is connected to the constant power supply.



[2] The A-7 pin (red) of the vehicle's ISO connector is connected to the constant power supply, and the A-4 pin (yellow) is linked to the ignition.



[3] The A-4 pin (yellow) of the vehicle's ISO connector is not connected to anything, while the A-7 pin (red) is connected to the constant power supply (or both the A-7 (red) and A-4 (yellow) pins are connected to the constant power supply).

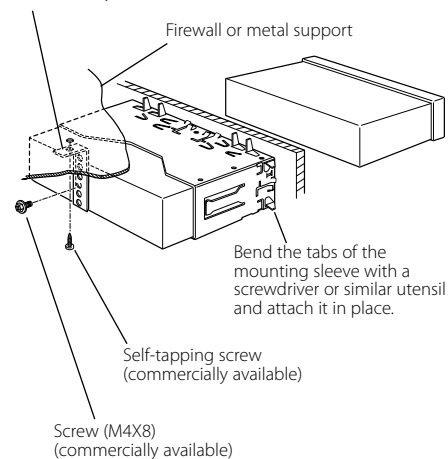


- When the connection is made as in [3] above, the unit's power will not be linked to the ignition key. For that reason, always make sure to turn off the unit's power when the ignition is turned off. To link the unit's power to the ignition, connect the ignition cable (ACC...red) to a power source that can be turned on and off with the ignition key.

Installation

Installation

Metal mounting strap
(commercially available)

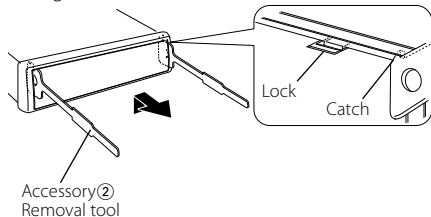


- Make sure that the unit is installed securely in place. If the unit is unstable, it may malfunction (for example, the sound may skip).

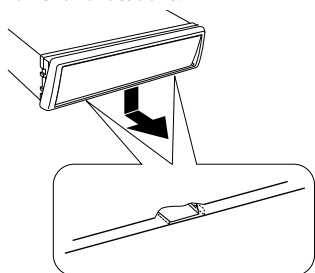
Removing the Unit

Removing the hard rubber frame

- 1 Engage the catch pins on the removal tool and remove the two locks on the upper level. Upper the frame and pull it forward as shown in the figure.



- 2 When the upper level is removed, remove the lower two locations.

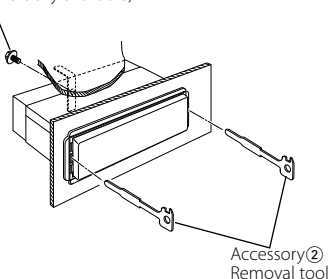


- The frame can be removed from the bottom side in the same manner.

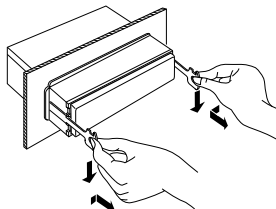
Removing the Unit

- 1 Refer to the section <Removing the hard rubber frame> (page 18) and then remove the hard rubber frame.
- 2 Remove the screw (M4 × 8) on the back panel.
- 3 Insert the two removal tools deeply into the slots on each side, as shown.

Screw (M4X8)
(commercially available)

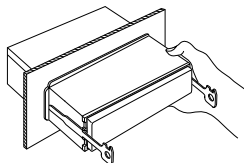


- 4 Lower the removal tool toward the bottom, and pull out the unit halfway while pressing towards the inside.



- Be careful to avoid injury from the catch pins on the removal tool.

- 5 Pull the unit all the way out with your hands, being careful not to drop it.



Troubleshooting Guide

What might seem to be a malfunction in your unit may just be the result of slight misoperation or miswiring. Before calling service, first check the following table for possible problems.

General

? **The power does not turn ON.**

- ✓ The fuse has blown.
 - ⓘ After checking for short circuits in the wires, replace the fuse with one with the same rating.

? **There's a source you can't switch.**

- ✓ There's no media inserted.
 - ⓘ Set the media you want to listen to. If there's no media in this unit, you can't switch to each source.

? **The memory is erased when the ignition is turned OFF.**

- ✓ The ignition and battery wire are incorrectly connected.
 - ⓘ Connect the wire correctly, referring to the section on <Connecting Wires to Terminals>.

? **The TEL mute function does not work.**

- ✓ The TEL mute wire is not connected properly.
 - ⓘ Connect the wire correctly, referring to the section on <Connecting Wires to Terminals>.

? **The TEL mute function turns ON even though the TEL mute wire is not connected.**

- ✓ The TEL mute wire is touching a metal part of the car.
 - ⓘ Pull the TEL mute wire away from the metal part of the car.

? **Even if Loudness is turned ON, high-pitched tone isn't compensated for.**

- ✓ Tuner source is selected.
 - ⓘ High-pitched tone isn't compensated for when in Tuner source.

? **No sound can be heard, or the volume is low.**

- ✓ The fader or balance settings are set all the way to one side.
 - ⓘ Center the fader and balance settings.
- ✓ The input/output wires or wiring harness are connected incorrectly.
 - ⓘ Reconnect the input/output wires or the wiring harness correctly. See the section on <Connecting Wires to Terminals>.
- ✓ The values of Volume offset are low.
 - ⓘ Turn up the Volume offset, referring to the section on <Audio Control> (page 7).

? **The sound quality is poor or distorted.**

- ✓ One of the speaker wires is being pinched by a screw in the car.
 - ⓘ Check the speaker wiring.
- ✓ The speakers are not wired correctly.
 - ⓘ Reconnect the speaker wires so that each output terminal is connected to a different speaker.

Tuner source


? **Radio reception is poor.**

- ✓ The car antenna is not extended.
 - ⓘ Pull the antenna out all the way.
- ✓ The antenna control wire is not connected.
 - ⓘ Connect the wire correctly, referring to the section on <Connecting Wires to Terminals>.


Disc source

? The specified disc does not play, but another one plays instead.


- ✓ The specified CD is quite dirty.

 Clean the CD.

- ✓ The disc is loaded in a different slot from that specified.

 Eject the disc magazine and check the number for the specified disc.

- ✓ The disc is severely scratched.

 Try another disc instead.


? A CD ejects as soon as it is loaded.

- ✓ The CD is quite dirty.

 Clean the CD, referring to the CD cleaning of the section on <About CDs> (page 5).



? Can't remove disc.

- ✓ The cause is that more than 10 minutes has elapsed since the vehicle ACC switch was turned OFF.

 The disc can only be removed within 10 minutes of the ACC switch being turned OFF. If more than 10 minutes has elapsed, turn the ACC switch ON again and press the Eject button.

? The disc won't insert.

- ✓ There's already another disc inserted.

 Press the  button and remove the disc.

The messages shown below display your systems condition.

E-04: The CD is quite dirty. The CD is upside-

down. The CD is scratched a lot.

⇄ Clean the CD and load it correctly.

E-99: The unit is malfunctioning for some reason.

⇄ Press the reset button on the unit. If the "E-99" code does not disappear, consult your nearest service center.

IN (Blink): The CD player section is not operating properly.

⇄ Reinsert the CD. If the CD cannot be ejected or the display continues to flash even when the CD has been properly reinserted, please switch off the power and consult your nearest service center.

Specifications

Specifications subject to change without notice.

FM tuner section

- Frequency range (50 kHz space)
 - : 87.5 MHz – 108.0 MHz
- Usable sensitivity (S/N = 26dB)
 - : 0.7 μ V/75 Ω
- Quieting Sensitivity (S/N = 46dB)
 - : 1.6 μ V/75 Ω
- Frequency response (\pm 3.0 dB)
 - : 30 Hz – 15 kHz
- Signal to Noise ratio (MONO)
 - : 65 dB
- Selectivity (DIN) (\pm 400 kHz)
 - : \geq 80 dB
- Stereo separation (1 kHz)
 - : 35 dB

MW tuner section

- Frequency range (9 kHz space)
 - : 531 kHz – 1611 kHz
- Usable sensitivity (S/N = 20dB)
 - : 25 μ V

LW tuner section

- Frequency range
 - : 153 kHz – 281 kHz
- Usable sensitivity (S/N = 20dB)
 - : 45 μ V

CD player section

- Laser diode
 - : GaAlAs
- Digital filter (D/A)
 - : 8 Times Over Sampling
- D/A Converter
 - : 1 Bit
- Spindle speed
 - : 500 – 200 rpm (CLV)
- Wow & Flutter
 - : Below Measurable Limit
- Frequency response (\pm 1 dB)
 - : 10 Hz – 20 kHz
- Total harmonic distortion (1 kHz)
 - : 0.01 %
- Signal to Noise ratio (1 kHz)
 - : 93 dB
- Dynamic range
 - : 93 dB
- Channel separation
 - : 85 dB

Audio section

- Maximum output power
 - : 45 W x 4
- Output power (DIN 45324, +B=14.4V)
 - : 28 W x 4
- Speaker Impedance
 - : 4 – 8 Ω
- Tone action
 - Bass : 100 Hz \pm 8 dB
 - Middle : 1 kHz \pm 8 dB
 - Treble : 10 kHz \pm 8 dB

General

- Operating voltage (11 – 16V allowable)
 - : 14.4 V
- Current consumption
 - : 10 A
- Installation Size (W x H x D)
 - : 182 x 53 x 155 mm
- Weight
 - : 1.30 kg

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