SONY

3-861-244-**12** (1)

Video Cassette Player

Operating Instructions

VHS

SLV-KA177PL

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WARNING

To prevent fire or shock hazard, do not expose the unit to rain or moisture.
To avoid electrical shock, do not open the cabinet. Refer servicing to qualified personnel only.

The mains lead must only be changed at a qualified service shop.

Precautions

Safety

- This unit operates on 110 – 240 V AC, 50/60 Hz. Check that the unit's operating voltage is identical with your local power supply.
- If anything falls into the cabinet, unplug the unit and have it checked by qualified personnel before operating it any further.
- The unit is not disconnected from the mains as long as it is connected to the mains, even if the unit itself has been turned off.
- Unplug the unit from the mains if you do not intend to use it for an extended period of time. To disconnect the cord, pull it out by the plug, never by the cord.

Installing

- Allow adequate air circulation to prevent internal heat buildup.
- Do not place the unit on surfaces (rugs, blankets, etc.) or near materials (curtains, draperies) that may block the ventilation slots.
- Do not install the unit near heat sources such as radiators or air ducts, or in a place subject to direct sunlight, excessive dust, mechanical vibration or shock.
- Do not install the unit in an inclined position. It is designed to be operated in a horizontal position only.
- Keep the unit and cassettes away from equipment with strong magnets, such as microwave ovens or large loudspeakers.
- Do not place heavy objects on the unit.
- If the unit is brought directly from a cold to a warm location, moisture may condense inside the unit and cause damage to the video head and tape. When you first install the unit, or when you move it from a cold to a warm location, wait for about one hour before operating the unit.

Caution

Television programmes, films, video tapes, and other materials may be copyrighted. Unauthorized recording of such material may be contrary to the provisions of the copyright laws. Also, use of this recorder with cable television transmission may require authorization from the cable television transmitter and/or programme owner.

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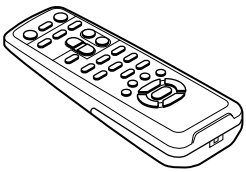
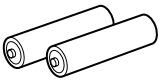
Step 1
Unpacking

Check that you have received the following items with the unit:

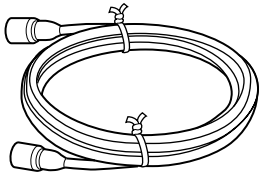
- Remote commander



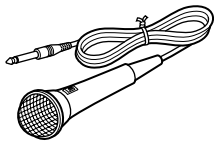
- R6 (Size AA) batteries



- 75-ohm coaxial cable with F-type connectors



- Microphone



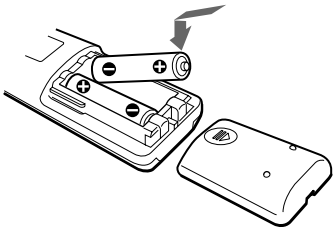
Step 2

Setting up the remote commander

Inserting the batteries

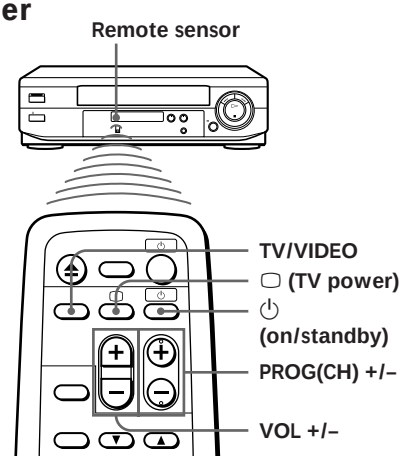
Insert two R6 (size AA) batteries by matching the + and – on the batteries to the diagram inside the battery compartment.

Insert the negative (–) end first, then push in and down until the positive (+) end clicks into position.



Using the remote commander

You can use this remote commander to operate the unit and a Sony TV. To operate this unit, point at the remote sensor on the unit. To operate the TV, point at the remote sensor on the TV.



To	Press
Turn the TV to standby or active mode	⏻ (on / standby)
Turn on the TV power	▭ (TV power)
Increase (+) or decrease (–) the TV volume	VOL + / –
Change the TV programme position	PROG(CH) + / –
Select an input source of the TV either from aerial in or from line in	TV / VIDEO

Notes

- With normal use, the batteries should last about three to six months.
- If you do not use the remote commander for an extended period of time, remove the batteries to avoid possible damage from battery leakage.
- Do not use a new battery with an old one.
- Do not mix different types of batteries.

Step 3

Hookups

Selecting the hookup

There are basically two ways to hookup this unit depending on whether your TV has audio/video inputs or not.

If your TV has audio/video inputs

See “Audio/video (A/V) hookup” on page 7.

If your TV doesn’t have audio/video inputs

See “Antenna hookup” on pages 8 and 9.

Before you get started

- Turn off the power to all equipment.
- Do not connect the AC power cords until all of the connections are completed.
- Be sure you make connections firmly. Loose connections may cause picture distortion.
- If your TV doesn’t match any of the examples provided, see your nearest Sony dealer or qualified technician.

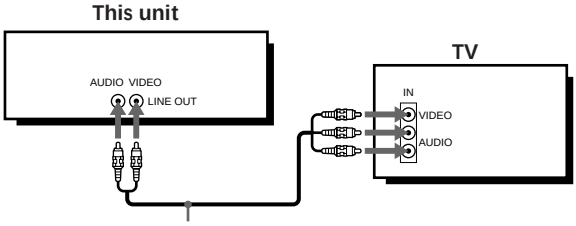
Audio/video (A/V) hookup

If your TV has audio/video (A/V) input jacks, you will get a better picture and sound if you hook up your unit using these connections.

You're finished setting up the unit after you've made the connections.

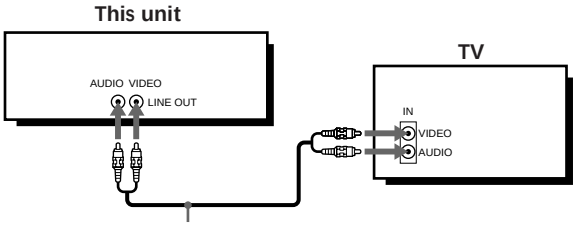
If your TV doesn't have A/V inputs, see page 8 for antenna hookup.

A Use this hookup if your TV has stereo jacks



Audio/video cable (not supplied)

B Use this hookup if your TV doesn't have stereo jacks



Audio/video cable (not supplied)

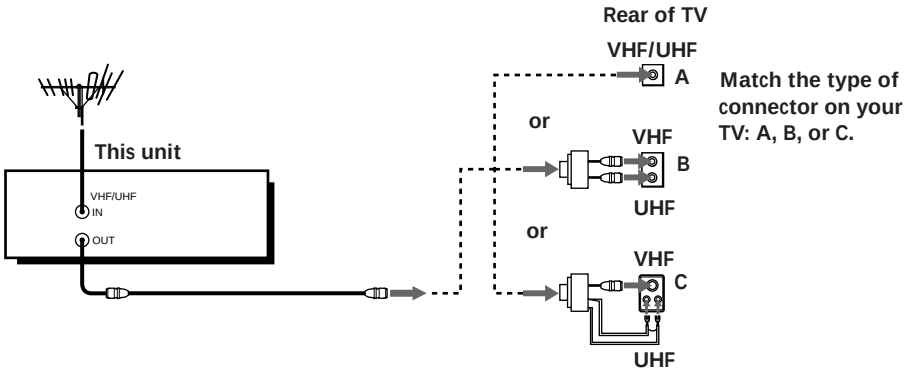
continued

Antenna hookup

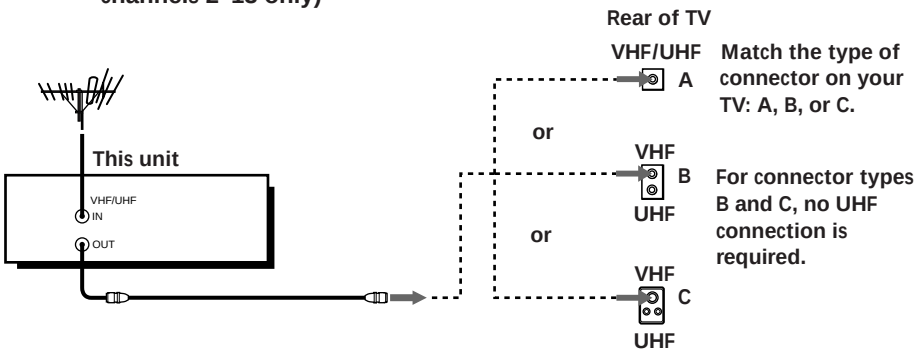
Make the following connections if your TV doesn't have A/V inputs.

A Use this hookup if you're using:

- VHF/UHF antenna (you get channels 2–13 and channels 14 and higher)
- UHF-only antenna (you get channels 14 and higher)
- Separate VHF and UHF antennas



B Use this hookup if you're using a VHF-only antenna (you get channels 2–13 only)



If you cannot connect your antenna cable to the unit directly

If your antenna cable is a flat cable (300-ohm twin lead cable), attach an external antenna connector (not supplied) so you can connect the cable to the VHF/UHF IN connector. If you have separate cables for VHF and UHF antennas, you should use a U/V band mixer (not supplied). For details, see page 17.

Antenna hookup: Video cassette player setup

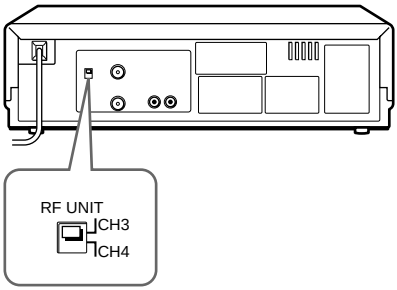
When connecting the unit to the TV using only the antenna cable, you must set the RF UNIT switch on the rear of the unit so that the TV can receive the correct signal from the unit.

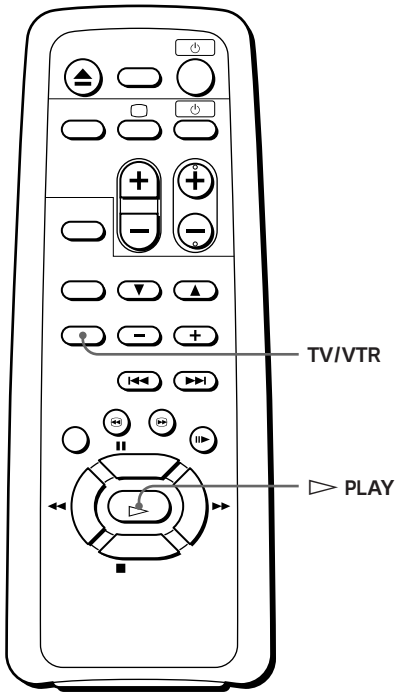
1. Set the RF UNIT switch to CH 3 or CH 4, whichever channel is not used in your area. If both are used, set the switch to either channel.
2. Insert a recorded tape into the tape compartment.

   The unit turns on and starts playing automatically.
3. Press TV/VTR to turn on the TV/VTR indicator in the display window.
4. Press ▷ PLAY (if playback didn't start in step 2).
5. Turn on your TV and set it to the channel you selected in step 1 (channel 3 or 4).

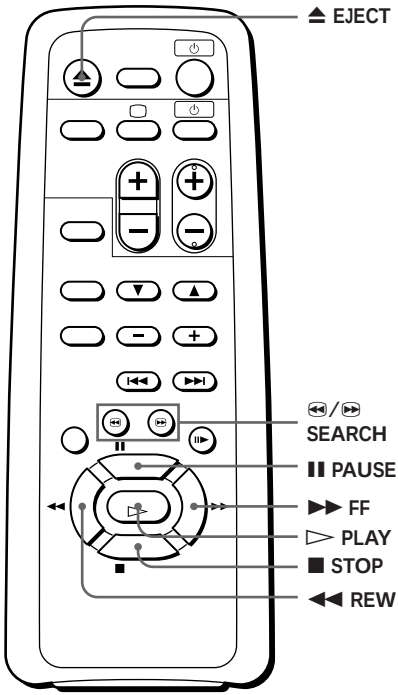
   The video playback picture will be clearly displayed on the TV screen.

   Whenever you use the unit, set the TV to the channel selected in step 1.





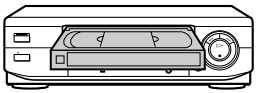
Playing a tape



1 Turn on your TV and set it to the video channel.

2 Insert a tape.

The unit turns on, and starts playing automatically if you insert a tape with its safety tab removed.



3

Press ▷ PLAY.

When the tape reaches the end, it will rewind automatically.

Additional tasks

To	Press
Stop play	■ STOP
Pause play	❚❚ PAUSE
Resume play after pause	❚❚ PAUSE or ▷ PLAY
Search forward	▶▶ FF or ⏩ SEARCH during playback
Search backward	◀◀ REW or ⏪ SEARCH during playback
Fast-forward the tape	▶▶ FF during stop
Rewind the tape	◀◀ REW during stop
Eject the tape	⏏ EJECT

Notes

- You can eject a tape even when the power is off. When you press ⏏ EJECT, the unit turns on automatically. After ejecting the tape, the unit turns off again.
- When the pause mode lasts for more than approximately five minutes, the unit will automatically enter the playback mode.
- You can play back tapes recorded in the SP and EP mode.

Turning on the unit and TV, and starting playback automatically (Trinitron TV Synchro Play)

You can only use this function if your TV is made by Sony (Trinitron TV).

How to connect to use this function

Connect the unit and TV with the audio / video cable (see "Audio / video (A / V) hookup" on page 7). Be sure to connect the audio / video cable to the VIDEO IN 1 jacks on the TV if the TV has two inputs or more. The TV must be placed where it will respond to the remote commander while you are pointing it at the unit.

Operation

Make sure that the TV's power is in standby mode.

Press TRINITRON TV SYNCHRO PLAY and hold the remote commander in place for about two seconds.

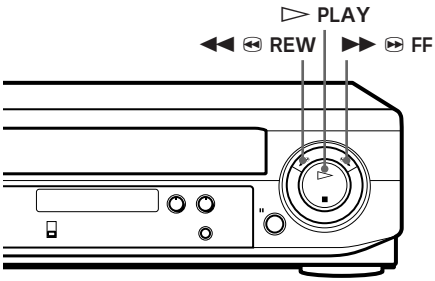
The unit and TV turn on, and the TV is set to the video channel. If there is a tape in the unit, playback starts automatically.

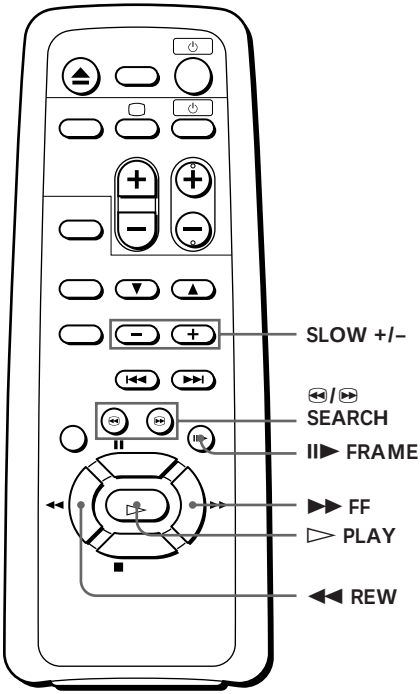
Notes

- If the Trinitron TV Synchro Play function does not work properly:
  - Wait a few moments, and press the button again.
  - Replace both of the batteries in the remote commander with new ones, and press the button again.

  Note that this function may not operate some Sony TVs because of the remote commander's signal limitations.
- Do not press TRINITRON TV SYNCHRO PLAY while playing back a video tape. If you do so, the TV's input source will momentarily switch to the TV's tuner.

Playing/searching at various speeds





Playback options	Operation
Fast-forward / rewind	During stop, press ▶▶ FF or ◀◀ REW.
View the picture during fast-forward or rewind	During fast-forward, hold ▶▶ FF down. During rewind, hold ◀◀ REW down.
Play at high speed	During playback or pause, press ⏩ SEARCH or ⏪ SEARCH .
Play in slow motion	During playback or pause, press SLOW+ / –. Press the + / – buttons to change the speed.
Play frame by frame	During pause, press II▶ FRAME to advance the picture one frame. Hold the button down to play one frame each second.
Rewind and start play	During stop, hold ◀◀ ⏪ REW on the unit down and press ▷ PLAY on the unit.

To resume normal playback

Press ▷ PLAY.

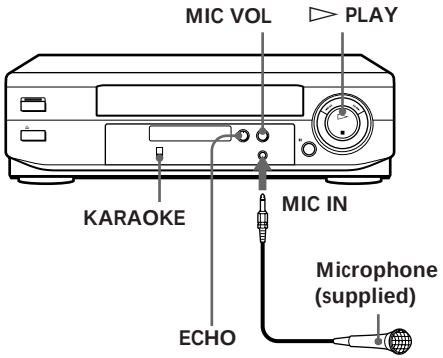
Tip

- If the picture shakes while in the still mode, adjust the picture using ▼/▲ TRACKING NORMAL/SLOW STILL ADJUST.

Notes

- Streaks or snow cannot be eliminated completely in the various playback operations, especially in the slow motion mode.
- The sound is muted during these operations.
- If you press II► FRAME during playback, playback continues at the normal speed but the sound is muted. Press ▷ PLAY to resume normal playback.

Karaoke sing-along



You can sing along with a karaoke videotape played back on this unit.

Before you start...

- Turn on your TV and set it to the video channel.
- Connect the supplied microphone to the MIC IN jack.

Singing along with karaoke video tapes

1 Set KARAOKE to ON.

2 Insert a karaoke video tape.

The unit turns on and starts playing automatically if you insert a tape with its safety tab removed.

3 Press ▷ PLAY (if playback didn't start in step 2).

If you want to playback a specific song, see "Searching with the AMS function" on the next page.

4 Set the ON / OFF switch on the microphone to ON.

Now you can enjoy playing karaoke.

To adjust the microphone volume

Turn the MIC VOL control for the microphone connected to MIC IN.

Setting the MIC VOL control to the centre position provides the best microphone volume.

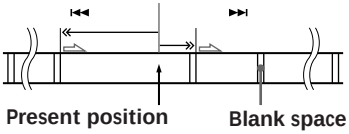
To control the echo effect

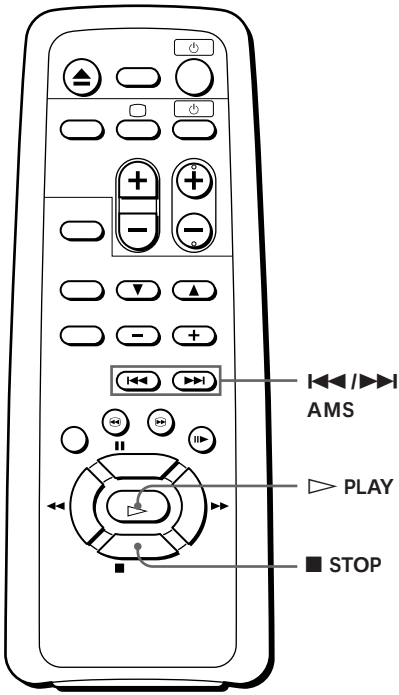
Turn the ECHO control.

To get the best effect, adjust the microphone volume to a slightly higher level than the music volume.

Searching with the AMS function

The AMS (Automatic Music Sensor) function searches for the beginning of the next or previous song by detecting a blank space between songs.





1 Press ■ STOP.

2 Press ⏮ / ⏭ AMS.

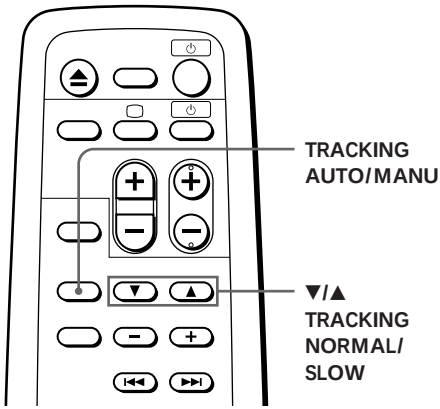
- To locate the beginning of the next song, press ⏭ AMS.
- To locate the beginning of the previous song, press ⏮ AMS.

The unit starts searching and plays back automatically when it locates the beginning of the next or previous song.

Notes

- If the sound is reproduced through a stereo amplifier, turn down the volume of amplifier before operation.
- If feedback occurs, turn down the microphone or TV volume, or move the microphone away from the speakers.
- The AMS may not work correctly when:
  - the tape quality is poor,
  - a song is very short (less than 40 seconds),
  - the interval between songs is very short (less than 6 seconds),
  - a high level sound is recorded between songs or at the beginning of a song,
  - there are low level passages or passages without sound in a song,
  - narration is recorded at the beginning of a song,
  - fade-in or fade-out recording is made on the tape, or
  - AMS starts from the very beginning of the tape or near an interval between songs.

Adjusting the picture



Adjusting the tracking

Although the unit automatically adjusts the tracking when playing a tape, distortion may occur if the tape was recorded in poor condition. If so, manually adjust the tracking.

Press ▼/▲ TRACKING NORMAL/SLOW to obtain the best possible picture. The distortion should disappear as you press one of the two buttons. If you cannot get a clear picture with manual adjustment, press TRACKING AUTO/MANU to return to automatic adjustment.

About OPC

OPC (Optimum Picture Control) automatically improves playback quality by adjusting the unit to the condition of the video heads and tape.

The OPC function automatically works on all types of tapes, including rental tapes and the tapes that were not recorded with OPC.

Notes

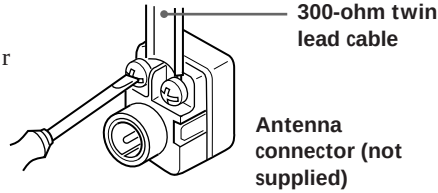
- The auto tracking function works automatically when you play back a tape just after inserting it.
- Sufficient picture quality may not be obtained when playing back tapes recorded on another VCR or tapes in poor condition.
- When a tape recorded with the copyguard system is played back, intermittent distortion may appear in the upper portion of the picture. However, this is not a malfunction of the unit.

General setup information

Attaching an external antenna connector

300-ohm to 75-ohm matching transformer

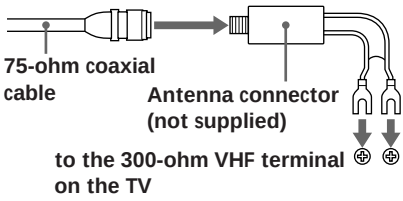
When using a 300-ohm twin lead cable for a VHF/UHF antenna, use an antenna connector (not supplied) to connect the antenna to the unit.



1. Loosen the screws on the antenna connector.
2. Wind the twin leads around the screws on the antenna connector.
3. Retighten the screw.

75-ohm to 300-ohm matching transformer

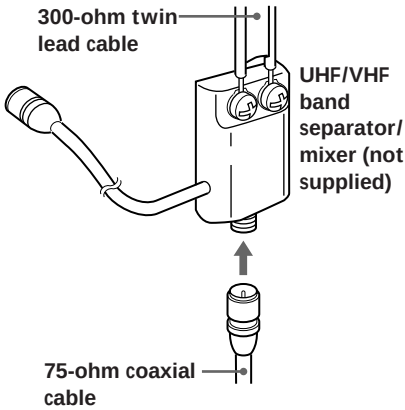
When using a TV with the 300-ohm VHF terminal, use this type antenna connector (not supplied) to connect the 75-ohm coaxial cable to the TV.



1. Connect the 75-ohm coaxial cable to the antenna connector.
2. Attach the 300-ohm Y type terminal to the TV.

Attaching a UHF/VHF band mixer

When using both a 75-ohm coaxial cable and a 300-ohm twin lead cable for a VHF/UHF antenna, use a UHF/VHF band separator/mixer (not supplied) to connect the antenna to the unit.



1. Loosen the screws on the mixer.
2. Wind the twin leads around the screws on the mixer.
3. Retighten the screws.
4. Connect the 75-ohm coaxial cable to the mixer.

Troubleshooting

If you have any questions or problems not covered below, please consult your nearest Sony service facility.

	Symptom	Remedy
Power	The POWER switch does not function.	• Connect the mains lead securely.
	The power is turned on but the unit does not operate.	• Moisture condensation occurs. Turn the power off, unplug the AC power cord and leave the unit to dry for over an hour.
	The unit enters standby mode or turns off automatically.	• The auto safety system is triggered to protect your tape and the unit's mechanism when there is something wrong with the tape or when the mechanism is overloaded. Press POWER to restart the unit. If the unit does not work after pressing POWER again, disconnect the mains lead from the mains. Wait for at least 15 seconds. Then reconnect mains, and press POWER again. If the unit still does not work, please consult your nearest Sony service facility.
Playback	The playback picture does not appear on the TV screen.	• Make sure the TV is set to the video channel. If you are using a monitor, set it to video input.
	The picture is not clear.	• Adjust the tracking with the ▼/▲ TRACKING NORMAL/SLOW buttons. • The video heads are dirty (see the next page). Clean the video heads using a video head cleaning cassette. If a cleaning cassette is not available in your area, have the heads cleaned at your nearest Sony service facility (a standard service charge will be required). Do not use a commercially available liquid-type cleaning cassette other than Sony's, as it may damage the video heads. • The video heads may have to be replaced. Consult your local Sony service facility for more information.
	The picture rolls vertically during picture search.	• Adjust the vertical hold control on the TV or monitor.
	The picture has no sound.	• The tape is defective. Use a new tape.
Others	The microphone sound is distorted.	• The MIC VOL control is set too high.
	No tape can be inserted.	• Check that a tape isn't already in the tape compartment.
	The remote commander does not function.	• Make sure you are pointing the remote commander at the remote sensor on the unit. • Replace all the batteries in the remote commander with new ones if they are weak.
	The unit needs to be cleaned.	• Clean the cabinet, panel, and controls with a dry soft cloth, or a soft cloth slightly moistened with a mild detergent solution. Do not use any type of solvent, such as alcohol or benzine.

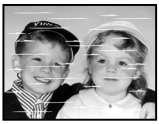
Auto head cleaner

The unit incorporates an auto head cleaner which cleans the video heads when a tape is loaded or unloaded. When the heads are not sufficiently clean, even after a tape has been loaded / unloaded several times, use a video head cleaning cassette.

Symptoms caused by contaminated video heads

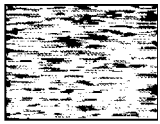
- **Normal picture**

- **Rough picture**



- **Unclear picture**

- **No picture (or black & white screen appears)**



initial contramination → **terminal**

Sapphire tape cleaner

The unit incorporates a sapphire tape cleaner which cleans a video tape when it is loaded. This cleaner can prevent the video heads from contamination by removing dust or mold from a tape with the sapphire edge.

Specifications

System

Format
VHS NTSC standard
Video heads
Double azimuth two heads
Video signal
NTSC color, EIA standards
Tape speed
SP: 33.35 mm / s
EP: 11.11 mm / s
Maximum playback time
9 hrs. in EP mode (with T-180 tape)
Fast-forward and rewind time
Approx. 4 min. 30 sec. (with T-120 tape)

Tuner section

RF output channel
VHF channel 3 or 4
Antenna
75-ohm antenna terminal for VHF / UHF

Outputs

LINE OUT
VIDEO OUT, phono jack (1)
Output signal: 1 Vp-p, 75 ohms, unbalanced, sync negative
AUDIO OUT, phono jack (1)
Standard output: 327 mVrms
Load impedance: 47 kilohms
Output impedance: less than 10 kilohms

General

Power requirements
110 – 240 V AC, 50 / 60 Hz
Power consumption
12 W
Operating temperature
5°C to 40°C
Storage temperature
–20°C to 60°C
Dimensions
Approx. 355 × 100 × 280 mm (w / h / d) including projecting parts and controls
Mass
Approx. 3.8 kg

Supplied accessories

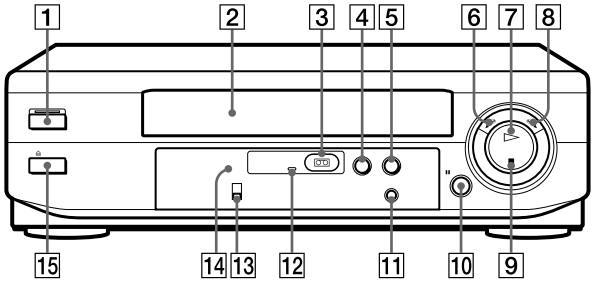
Remote commander (1)
R6 (Size AA) batteries (2)
75-ohm coaxial cable with F-type connectors (1)
Microphone (1)

Design and specifications are subject to change without notice.

Index to parts and controls

Refer to the pages indicated in parentheses ( ) for details.

Front panel



1 POWER switch / indicator

2 Tape compartment

3 Tape operation indicator

4 ECHO control (14)

5 MIC VOL (microphone volume) control (14)

6 ◀◀ REW (rewind) button (11, 12)

7 ▷ PLAY button (10)

8 ▶▶ FF (fast-forward) button (11, 12)

9 ■ STOP button (11)

10 ❚❚ PAUSE button (11)

11 MIC IN (microphone in) jack (14)

12 TV / VTR indicator (9)

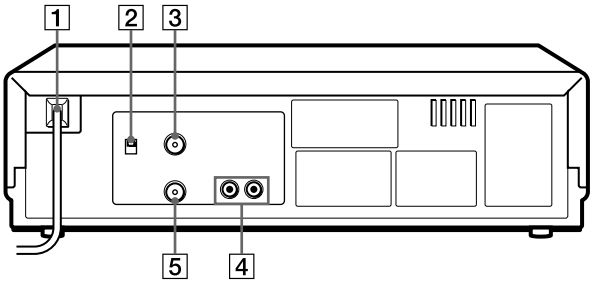
13 KARAOKE switch (14)

14 Remote sensor (5)

15 ⏏ EJECT button (11)

continued

Rear panel



1 AC power cord (6)

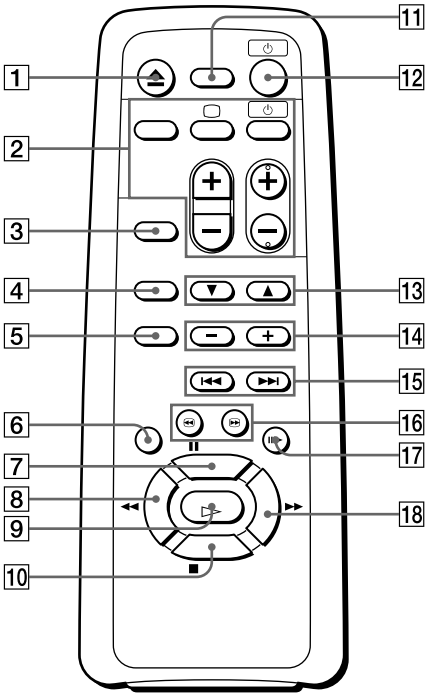
2 RF (Radio Frequency) UNIT switch (9)

3 VHF / UHF IN connector (8)

4 LINE OUT AUDIO / VIDEO jacks (7)

5 VHF / UHF OUT connector (8)

Remote commander



1 ⏏ EJECT button (11)

2 TV control buttons (*Only for TV*) (5)
TV / VIDEO
▭ (TV power)
⏻ (on / standby)
VOL (volume) + / –
PROG (CH) (program (channel)) + / –

3 EFFECT button (*This button doesn't work with this unit.*)

4 TRACKING AUTO / MANU button (16)

5 TV / VTR button (9)

6 AUDIO MONITOR button (*This button doesn't work with this unit.*)

7 ⏸ PAUSE button (11)

8 ◀◀ REW (rewind) button (11, 12)

9 ▷ PLAY button (10)

10 ■ STOP button (11)

11 TRINITRON TV SYNCHRO PLAY button (11)

12 ⏻ (power) switch

13 ▼ / ▲ TRACKING NORMAL / SLOW STILL ADJUST buttons (16)

14 SLOW + / – buttons (12)

15 ⏮ / ⏭ AMS (Automatic Music Sensor) buttons (15)

16 ⏪ / ⏩ SEARCH buttons (11, 12)

17 ⏸▶ FRAME button (12)

18 ▶▶ FF (fast-forward) button (11, 12)

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