

AudioControl

HOW TO HOOK UP AND ENJOY YOUR

Video Soundtracker One A VIDEO/AUDIO INTERFACE DEVICE (V/A/D)

Congratulations on owning a truly useful and enjoyable American-made, entertainment-enhancing device!

The Audio Control Video Audio Detailer is designed to dramatically improve the audio soundtrack of regular TV, cable TV, satellite reception, Beta and VHS live and pre-recorded cassettes and even laser and capacitance disc systems.

CLERICAL FOREPLAY

BEFORE you begin hookup, locate the sales receipt and warranty card.

The sales receipt is your KEY to exercising your warranty since it is the only proof you have of when you bought the unit. DON'T LOSE IT. Also, it's very valuable for insurance claims, in case you ever get cleaned out.

Look on the back of the V/A D and record the serial number on both your sales receipt and the warranty card. The warranty card calls for comments, so you can wait to send it in until you've played with your V/A D a while.

Also, SAVE THE BOX. Unless you live in a studio apartment, it's worth keeping . . . for return (never!), warranty work (almost never!), moving or even possible resale. If you live in a studio apartment, use the box for a planter, maybe.

HOOKING THE V/A D INTO YOUR HI-FI SYSTEM.

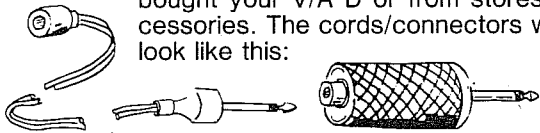
There are two ways to hook up the Audio Control V/A D. The first is if you just have a TV but no video recorders or players or other output gizmos.

- ▷ 1A. Before you attempt to hook your V/A D into your TV earphone jack, CHECK FOR SAFETY. Look on the back of your TV for the UL Approval sticker. If your TV is not UL approved, do not hook your V/A D directly to your TV set because of possible shock hazard. Also, NEVER, NEVER take your TV apart to hook up to the circuitry inside. DON'T DO IT! ZAP CITY!

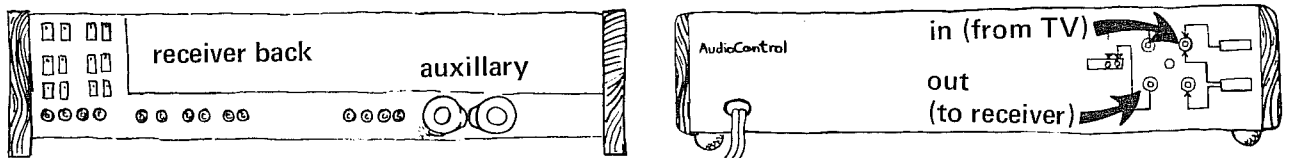
It is dangerous to touch the internal chassis of a TV set because TV sets do not use an isolation power transformer like hi-fi products do. The chassis is "hot" and can cause a hazardous shock if you touch it. TV sets are double isolated with the hot chassis within a safe outer chassis for your protection.

- ▷ 2A. Make sure your TV, hi-fi and V/A D are turned off. Locate the earphone jack on your TV set. It should be on the front or side near the front.

- ▷ 3A. Obtain either a miniature phone plug-to-RCA socket adapter or RCA-type connection cable with a miniature phone jack on the end. These are available for cheap, from the dealer where you bought your V/A D or from stores such as Radio Shack or other places which sell audio accessories. The cords/connectors which adapt miniature phone jacks to regular hi-fi connections look like this:



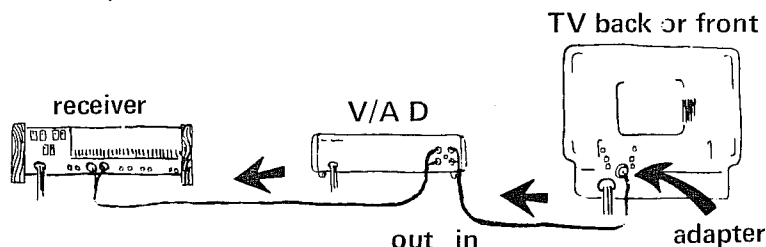
- ▷ 4A. Plug the miniature phone jack end into your TV set's earphone socket.
- ▷ 5A. Plug the RCA-type jack into the socket on the back of the V/A D marked Mono Input. It's the top one of the two on the right side of the back.
- ▷ 6A. Dig around behind your receiver and locate a row of sockets marked things like "Tape," "Tuner," "Phono" etc. Look for the set marked "Aux."



Almost all receivers, integrated amplifiers and pre-amplifiers have Auxillary input sockets. If you don't, refer to Appendix 1 at the end of this sheet.

- ▷ 7A. Take a set of hook-up cords, which are included, and plug them into the "Aux" sockets on the receiver back. Hook the red one to RIGHT, and the black one to LEFT.
- ▷ 8. Now locate the OUTPUT sockets on the back of the Audio Control V/A D.
- ▷ 9A. Plug the other end of the same set of cords into the V/A D's OUTPUT sockets, red to LEFT, and black to RIGHT. Now your receiver and the V/A D should be hooked up. Doublecheck that LEFT V/A D output and LEFT receiver Aux input are connected, ditto for the right.

The completed connections should look like this:

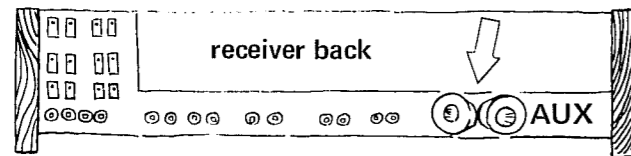


▷10A. Now plug the V/A D into a wall socket or auxilliary socket on the back of the receiver. Your V/A D draws very little current so it is perfectly safe to use a "splitter" if you've run out of places to plug in the unit.

That's it. You can move directly to the section titled

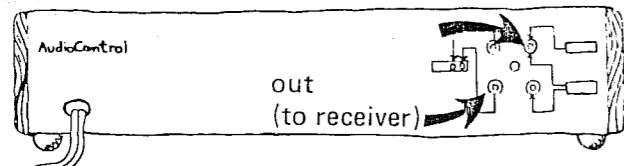
The second hook-up is much the same except it substitutes a nifty modern VCR or other video device for the TV earphone jack.

- ▷1B. Make sure your receiver, the V/A D and video machine are turned OFF.
- ▷2B. Dig around behind your receiver and locate a row of sockets marked things like "tape," "Tuner," "Phono" etc. Look for the set marked "Aux."



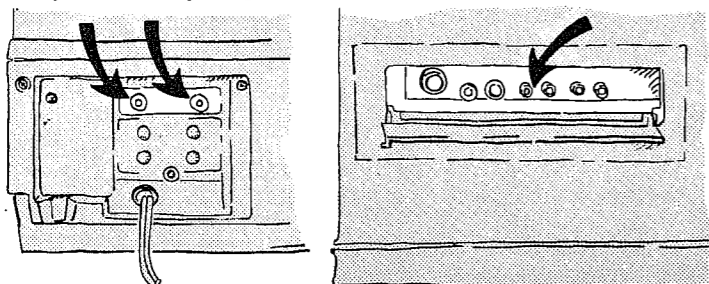
Almost all receivers, integrated amplifiers and pre-amplifiers have an Auxillary input sockets. If you don't, refer to Appendix 1 at the end of this sheet.

- ▷3B. Take a set of hook-up cords, which are included, and plug them into the "Aux" sockets on the receiver back. Hook the red one to RIGHT, and the black one to LEFT.
- ▷4B. Now locate the OUTPUT sockets on the back of the Audio Control V/A D. They're on the left side.



Plug the other end of the same set of cords into the V/A D's OUTPUT sockets, red to LEFT, and black to RIGHT. Now your receiver and the V/A D should be hooked up. Doublecheck that LEFT V/A D output and LEFT receiver Aux input are connected, ditto for the right.

- ▷5B. Now onto the video machine. First locate the Audio Out sockets on the back of the unit. They're normally very close to the video out terminals and other technical stuff, wherever that is.



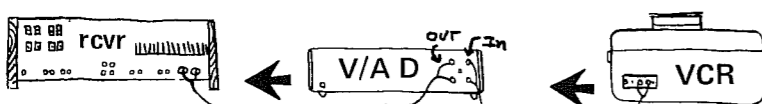
Video recorders, disc players, etc. may have one or two audio outputs. If it has two, your machine is equipped for stereo. If there's just one socket, your player just plays back in mono. Not to worry. That's why your V/A D has a stereo synthesis circuit.

- ▷6B. Connect one or two plugs of a set of hook-up cords to the player's "Audio Out" socket(s), depending on how many your unit has.
- ▷7B. Locate the INPUT sockets on the back of the V/A D. You'll notice there are two, with the top one being used when there is only one corresponding socket on your video machine.

Plug the cord(s) from the video source into the INPUT'S on the V/A D.

NOTE: MAKE SURE THE COLOR OF THE PLUG IN THE VIDEO SOCKET MATCHES THE COLOR OF THE PLUG HOOKED TO THE V/A D. Otherwise you're going to be connecting your video machine up to the air and nothing will happen and you'll unfairly curse our unit and call your dealer names.

The completed connections should look like this:

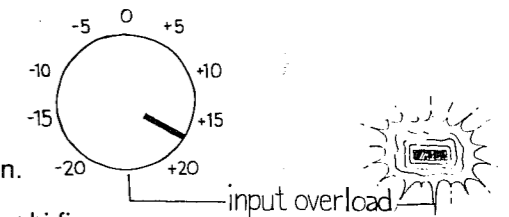


- ▷8B. Now plug the V/A D into a wall socket or auxilliary socket on the back of the receiver. Your V/A D draws very little current so it is perfectly safe to use a "splitter" if you've run out of places to plug in the unit.

TRYING OUT YOUR VIDEO/AUDIO DETAILER.

The V/A D is three signal processing accessories in one.

1. Turn on your video source.
2. Make sure the V/A D power and stereo system are turned on.
3. Switch your receiver input to "Aux"
4. Let's hope sound from your video machine is coming out your hi-fi.
5. Right away you're probably going to be amazed at the improvement, if you've had to suffer with a tinny little TV monitor all these years. No matter what speakers you have, they sound better than the TV's.
6. Check that the tone controls and loudness button on your receiver are set to 0 or not pushed. Turn the volume control to about the 9 o'clock position, barely turned up.
7. Now deftly grab the V/A D Volume knob and rotate it until the Input Overload knob flickers intermittantly.



This is a rather subjective operation. If the light stays on too much, you might overload the circuits; if it isn't on at all, signal-to-noise ratio will suffer. Still, everything will function just fine without constant adjustment.

What you're looking for is maybe a flash every couple seconds during the loudest peaks (DON'T set it for commercials, because they're always louder).

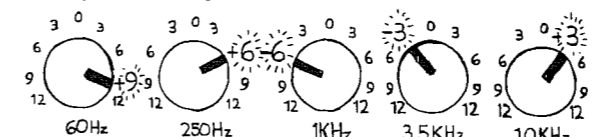
Once set, you won't have to re-adjust this knob unless you change video signal devices. DON'T use it for a volume control.

- 8. Now you can adjust the receiver volume control to a comfortable level.

- 9. Next let's examine the five-band equalizer section.

An equalizer is simply a more complex form of tone control, like the BASS and TREBLE controls on your receiver. The V/A D breaks the audio spectrum into five bands instead of two.

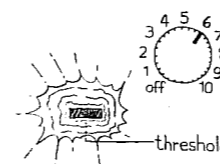
How you set these bands is going to depend on the source and your own personal tastes. Here is a useful "sample" setting from which you can make more adjustments.



While listening to video with a sound track that's representative of your tastes, rotate each control all the way to the left and right and hear for yourself what affect they have on the program material. Don't be afraid to use generous amounts of adjustment if that's what sounds good to you.

Hints:

- Another good setting useful on straight TV reception is the same as above but reverse the 3.5 and 10K settings so 10K is turned down and 3.5K is turned up.
- The midrange control enhances indistinct dialog and vocals. It can also be used to cut "tinny" obnoxious sounds.
- Treble and high treble can take some of the hiss out of old movie sound tracks.
- Bass and mid bass can usually be turned up quite a bit since this area is often lost in transmission and dubbing.
- Adjustments for musical programming may be different than for a dialog-heavy movie.
- Moreover, each movie, cassette, and even TV program can vary. Feel free to tweak anytime you think you can improve the sound.



- 10. Noise Reduction. This circuit constantly acts as a "gate" to intercept hiss from the soundtrack.

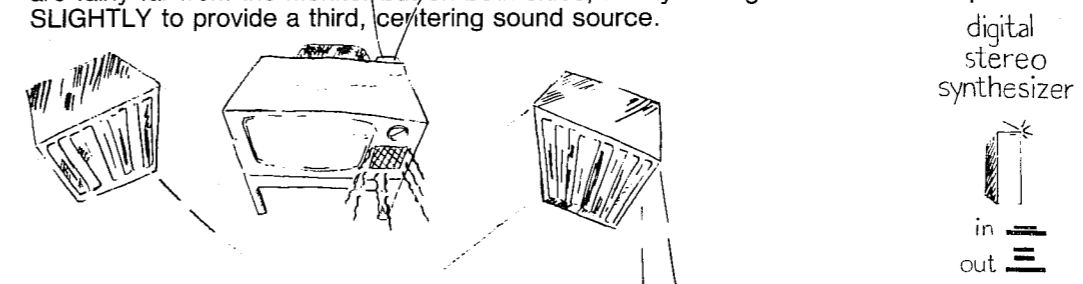
It has it's own level adjustment. Adjust the NR knob until the Threshold LED just flickers intermittantly like the Input Overload LED. Once set this way, you shouldn't have to fiddle with it again. Don't misinterpret the knob to mean that you get more Noise Reduction if you turn it up. It's simply a way of ensuring that the circuit is working to its max.

You can check out its effect by pressing the In/Out button to the right of the level knob. It works most on hissy, scratchy soundtracks, especially when there's no dialog or music, or the sound effects are very low level.

- 11. Digital Stereo Synthesizer. Now all that trouble you went to to match hook-up cords will pay off. Press the circuit button in and note the difference, incredibly so if you listen thru stereo headphones.

Your V/A D has a state-of-the-art digital circuit which splits up the mono soundtrack into dozens of tiny bands and then redistributes them to increase your sense of spaciousness. The effect is truly uncanny.

Make sure your speakers are set up on each side of the video monitor to increase this effect. If your speakers are fairly far from the monitor but on both sides, it may be a good idea to turn up the TV volume control just SLIGHTLY to provide a third, centering sound source.



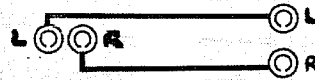
That's all there is to using your Audio Control V/A D.

In general, you'll want to leave the Noise Reduction and Stereo Synthesizer in at all times. The Noise Reduction and Input knobs need only be adjusted initially and when you change video sources. The Five-Band Equalizer can be adjusted to your tastes: set once and forget, or change it for every tape or TV show. It's up to you. Enjoy!

APPENDIX ONE: What to do if you don't have an AUX input on your hi-fi.

Integrated amplifiers and pre-amplifiers have a "tuner" input which will work equally as well. Receivers without "Aux" inputs must be connected through the "tape monitor" circuits as shown.

receiver tape monitor V/AD "out"
"in" or "record"



Using this configuration, make sure that the TAPE MONITOR button is pushed in when using your video machine, and disengaged when listening to regular hi-fi.

For more complicated hook-ups, consult your dealer or call our Customer Service line, (206) 775-8461, 9-4 Pacific Time.

APPENDIX TWO: Specifications

Distortion: Below .05%
Noise: -80dB re 1 volt in and out
Frequency response: 20Hz to 20kHz
Noise Reduction: 14dB depending on program source
Max. input/output: 6 volts RMS
Input impedance: 47k ohms
Output impedance: 150 ohms - to match all components
Size: 17" wide, 2.5" high, 6" deep, standard hi-fi size
Color: Metallic charcoal front, black chassis.

APPENDIX THREE: Conditional warranty.

People are scared of warranties. Lots of fine print. Lots of non-cooperation. Months of waiting around.

Well, don't be scared of this warranty. It's designed to make you rave about us to your friends. It's a warranty that looks out for you and helps you resist the temptation to have your friend "who's good with electronics" try to repair your Audio Control product.

Also, warranties help us keep track of our customers so we can let you know of any modifications, dangers, or improvement. The old factory recall thing. Now, that doesn't mean you are going to get put on a mailing list and weird Aztec porno or free deodorant samples. Your name and address on the warranty are strictly confidential to Audio Control.

So, go ahead and read through your warranty, then enjoy your Video/Audio Detailer for a few days before sending the warranty and any comments.

THE AUDIO CONTROL CONDITIONAL WARRANTY. LEGALESE SECTION.

"Conditional" doesn't mean anything ominous.

The Federal Trade Commission makes all manufacturers use the term to indicate certain conditions you have to meet before they'll honor the warranty.

If you honor these conditions, we will warrant all materials and workmanship on your Audio Control Product for one year from the date you bought it, and will fix or replace it during that time.

Here are the conditions that make this warranty conditional:

1. You have to fill out the warranty card and send it to us within 15 days after you have bought your Audio Control product.
2. You must keep your sales slip or receipt so you have proof of when, and from whom, you bought your Video/Audio Detailer. We're not the only company to require this, so it's a good habit to get into with any hi-fi purchase.
3. Your Audio Control Video/Audio Detailer has to have been originally purchased from an authorized Audio Control dealer. You don't have to be the original owner to take advantage of the one-year warranty, but the date of purchase is still important so be sure you get the sales slip from the original owner.
4. You can't let anybody but someone at our factory nurse your ailing unit back to life. If anyone other than us messes with it, that voids the warranty.
5. The warranty's also not in effect if the serial number has been altered or removed, or if the Audio Control unit is improperly used. Now that sounds like a big loophole, but here's what we mean. Unwarranted abuse is: a) physical damage, (Our consumer products are not meant to prop up bookcases or get hauled around in a tool-case, etc. The Video/Audio Detailer is a home hi-fi unit, not a bash-it-about utility equalizer, so if you bash one up, we can't be responsible), b) improper connection, patch jacks into a line socket or hook it to the speaker terminals on your power amp and we aren't too responsible...high input signals could fry the innards, c) sadistic things you shouldn't do to any electronics such as get them too hot, wet, dirty, etc.

Assuming you conform to numbers 1-4, and it's not all that hard, we get the option of deciding whether to fix your old unit or give you a new one. If we think it's fixable, we get to decide whether it can be fixed at a service center or sent back to the factory. This is the only warranty given by Audio Control. This warranty gives you specific legal rights which vary from state to state. Promises of how well your Audio Control product will work are not implied by this warranty. Other than what we've covered in this warranty, we have no obligation, express or implied. Also, we will not be obligated for direct or indirect consequential damage caused by defect or warranty claim, express or implied, or damage to your system by hooking up the Audio Control Video/Audio Detailer.

Failure to send in the properly completed warranty negates any service claims.

WHAT TO DO IF YOU NEED SERVICE.

Take it back to the store you bought it at. The Audio Control warranty for the Audio/Video Detailer is an "over-the-counter" warranty, that means the dealer just gives you a new one. It's that simple. Then HE gets to hassle sending it back.

If you get any flack from the dealer after you've conformed to 1-4, call us and we'll have words with the dealer.

Unfortunately, you may have bought it mail order or moved to another city or the dealer disappeared one day into Chapter 11.

In that case, contact Audio Control. In writing at P.O. Box 3199, Lynnwood, Washington 98036 (Attn: Service Department). Or by phone at (206) 775-8461.

Make arrangements to have the unit sent back to the factory for service.

In either case, proof of purchase must be included with the unit. (That sales slip or receipt we've been harping about.) And a brief note telling us what's been wrong with the unit. (You'd be surprised how many folks forget to do this.)

The normal service time at the factory is less than three days.

You're responsible for freight or postage for sending it to the factory or service center. (Actually, we recommend UPS emphatically over the Pony Express Postal Service. It's more reliable and faster, too.)

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