CCD-FX420/FX425 I**T-50**9

SERVICE MANUAL



US Model CCD-FX420/FX425 Canadian

Model CCD-FX420

Video 8 Handycam

For MECHANISM ADJUSTMENTS, refer to the "8 mm Video MECHANICAL ADJUSTMENT

MANUAL IV" (9-973-199-11).

A MECHANISM

Remote commander is available as a unit. But as individual parts the battery case lid of commander is only avaiable.

CCD-FX420/FX425 is based on model CCD-FX300/FX310/FX311.

In this service manual, only the differences from CCD-FX300/FX310/FX311 are mentioned. When servicing, see the CCD-FX300/FX310/FX311 service manual(9-973-275-11) with this.

SPECIFICATIONS

Video camera recorder		Color temperature Minimum illumination	AUTO	
System			2 lx	
Cyclose		Illumination range	2 lx to 100,000 lx	
Video recording system			(0.2 to 9294 footcandles)	
1,000 1000 ang 0).	Rotary two heads, Helical scanning	Recommended illum		
	FM system		More than 100 lx	
Audio recording sys	•		(9 footcandles)	
	Rotary head, FM system	Aperture correction	Automatic	
Video signal	NTSC color, EIA standards		With backlight adjustment	
Usable cassette	8 mm video format cassette			
Tape speed	SP mode: Approx. 1.43 cm	4		
	(¹⁹ / ₃₂ inch)/sec.	Input and output	it connector	
	LP mode: Approx. 0.72 cm			
	(⁵ /16 inch)/sec.	Video output	Phono jack, 1 Vp-p, 75 ohms	
	(playback only)	A	unbalanced sync negative	
Recording time	SP mode: 2 hours (P6-120)	Audio output	Phono jack	
Playback time	SP mode: 2 hours (P6-120)		Output: -7.5 dBs, (at output impedance 47 kilohms)	
-	LP mode: 4 hours (P6-120)		impedance less than	
Fast forward/rewind	d time		1 kilohms	
	Approx. 6 min. 30 sec. (P6-120)	RFU DC OUT	Special minijack, 5 V DC	
Image device	CCD (Charge Coupled Device)	Earphone jack	Minijack, 8-ohm impedance	
Viewfinder	Electronic viewfinder	Remote C jack	Stereo mini-minijack	
	(black and white)	MIC jack	Minijack,66 dBs, low impedance	
Lens	Combined 10 × power zoom lens	into juon	with 2.5 to 3 V DC output, impedance	
	f=6.1 to 61 mm (1/4 to 21/2 inches)		6.8 kilohms	
	Approx. 44 to 440 mm (1 ³ /4 to	Microphone power of	putput jack	
	17 ³ / ₆ inches) converted into the		Special minijack, 5 V DC	
	focal length of a 35-mm still		 Continued on next page 	
	camera. F 1.6 to 2.4 with macro			
	Filter diameter: 37 mm (11/2 inches)		D CAMERA RECORDE	
	TTL autofocus system inner focus		I LAMITKA KELUKUEN	
<u> </u>	wide macro system inter focus			
·	wide macro system		\sim	
-				



SECTION 1 GENERAL

This section is extracted from instruction manual. (CCD-FX425)

Chapter 1: Getting Started Charging and Installing the Battery Pack

Before you can use this camcorder, you need to charge and install the battery pack.

Charging the Battery Pack



1 Plug the AC power adaptor into a wall outlet.

2 Align the flat side of the battery pack with the lines on the AC power adaptor and the battery pack.

3 Push down and slide the battery pack in the direction of the arrow.

4 Set the VTR (DC OUT)/CHARGE selector to CHARGE.

Required charging time:

Type of battery pack	NP-55 (supplied)	NP-77H NP-77HD	NP-77	NP-66H	NP-55H
Required charging time	70	160	140	120	80

(approx. minutes using AC-V25)

When charging is finished, the charge indicator will go out.

Important!

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Use the battery completely before recharging!

Before you recharge the battery, make sure the battery has been used (discharged) completely. Excessive charging may reduce the charging capacity of the battery.

To use up the battery, remove the video cassette and set the POWER switch to CAMERA with the battery attached, and leave the carncorder until the C indicator appears blinking and a red lamp blinks in the viewfinder.

Video equipment cannot be operated while charging the battery pack.

- The POWER lamp will remain it for a while even if the battery pack is removed and the power cord is unplugged after charging the battery pack. This is normal.
- . If the POWER lamp does not light, set the VTR (DC OUT)/CHARGE selector to OFF and
- disconnect the power cord. After about one minute, reconnect the power cord and set the VTR (DC OUT)/CHARGE selector to CHARGE again. AC-S10 AC sower adaptor:

Option AC-S10 AC power

This adaptor has a function which allows you to confirm that the battery is completely discharged and ready to be recharged to its full capacity.

Installing the Battery Pack

When you have finished-charging the battery, install the battery pack as follows:



- Align the flat side of the battery pack with the white line on the camcorder.
- 2 Make sure that the arrow on the battery pack is close to the top of the camcorder.
- 3 Push down and slide the battery pack in the direction of the arrow.
- Notes
 Make sure the battery is securely installed so that it does not fall off. If the battery is not installed properly, the camcorder will not record accurately.
 You can use the AC power adaptor as a power source when recording indoors.
 - You can use the AC power adaptor as a power source when record

Removing the battery pack

Slide the BATT switch in the direction of the arrow, and at the same time, slide out the battery pack to the left.



Battery life and remaining capacity

A fully charged battery pack lasts for:

Type of battery pack	NP-55 (supplied)	NP-77H/ NP-77HD	NP-77	NP-66H	NP-55H
Battery life	60	150	120	110	75

(approx. minutes. continuous recording when used indoors)

To check the remaining battery capacity, set the POWER switch to CAMERA, set the STANDBY switch up and press TAPE/BATT CHECK.



TAPE/BATT CHECK

The decreasing black bar indicates decreasing battery power. After the black bar disappears the C_{a} indicator will appear and blink and a red lamp will also blink in the viewfinder. When they blink rapidly, replace the battery pack.



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Notes • The battery life indicator of the carncorder may indicate a different remaining capacity from that of the NP-77HD battery pack.

. Charge the battery pack when the black bar of the battery life indicator decreases quickly.

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Inserting a Tape

Make sure that the battery pack or another power source is attached.



Preventing Accidental Erasure

Slide the red tab closing the window to prevent accidental recording. To re-record on the tape, slide the tab opening the window.

If you try to record with the red mark exposed, the \bigotimes and \triangleq indicators flash in the viewfinder and beeps sound for about 5 seconds.



Notes on handling tapes

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Don't insert anything in the small holes on the rear of the cassette. These holes are used to sense the type and thickness of tape, or if the red mark is exposed or covered, etc. Store tapes in their cases and keep them in an upright position to prevent intrusion of dust and uneven winding.

Adjusting the Viewfinder Lens



Using the viewfinder as a sports finder

Your camcorder is equipped with a Sports Finder. You can use the viewfinder as the sports finder by turning the viewfinder adjustment ring.

What is a sports finder?

Since this finder has a long focal length, you can monitor the picture while your eye is at a distance from the eyecup. The sports finder is convenient when moving around to shoot scenes.

Setting the viewfinder to the sports finder position Turn the viewfinder adjustment ring clockwise completely.

Returning from the sports finder position to the normal viewfinder position

Turn the adjustment ring counterclockwise until the word "STBY" that appears in the viewfinder comes into sharp focus.

When storing your camcorder

Turn the viewfinder barrel to the front.





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Installing the Lithium Battery

To keep birth dates in the camcorder's memory and to activate the clock, the lithium battery must be installed.



Lithlum battery life

The battery will last for approximately 1 year in normal operation. When the lithium battery becomes weak, the \clubsuit indicator will blink in the viewfinder screen for about 5 seconds when you set the POWER switch to CAMERA. In this case, replace the battery with a Sony CR2025 or Duracell DL-2025. Use of any other battery may present a risk of fire or explosion.

When replacing the lithium battery, keep the battery pack or other power source attached. Otherwise, resetting the date, time and birth dates will be necessary.

Changing the lithium battery

Remove the lithium battery holder from the camcorder, and pull out the lithium battery and insert a new one.

WARNING The battery may explode if mistreated. Do not recharge, disassemble, or dispose of it in fire.

Cautions • Keep the lithium battery out of the reach of children. Should the battery be swallowed, immediately consult a doctof. • Do not hold the battery with metallic tweezers, otherwise a short-circuit may occur.

Setting the Date and Time



Correcting the date and time settings Repeat steps 3 to 6.

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Installing the Lithium Battery/ Setting the Date and Time

Storing a Birth Date in Your Camcorder

When you preset your child's birth date in your camcorder, you can put your child's age in years and months on your tape. You can also preset the date of an event. Once you enter the birth date of your child, the clock inside your camcorder will automatically update age of your child. You can superimpose the age anytime on your recording. You can preset up to three birth dates or events.

Before you begin

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Before you store a birth date in your carncorder, make sure that power source is connected, that the lithium battery is installed and that the date is correctly set.

How to store birth date

To store a birth date in your camcorder, see the following example and procedure. Example: Store "Aug. 3, 1987" in memory 2.







If you missed the correct number with DATE (+)

Keep pressing DATE (+). The indicator changes as follows:

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Year: 1900 \rightarrow 1901 \cdots \rightarrow Current year

\uparrow

Current year – (minus) 99 \leftrightarrow
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Month: JAN. \rightarrow FEB. $\cdots \rightarrow$ DEC. $\rightarrow \cdots$

Day: $1 \rightarrow 2 - - - \rightarrow 31$

Correcting/changing the setting

Follow the procedures from step 1 again.

Advancing the digits faster

Keep DATE (+) pressed.

Presetting the year before 1900

- 1 After step 5 on page 12, keep pressing DATE (+) until the current year is displayed.
- 2 Press DATE (+) again.
- The year goes back 99 years.
- (example: $1993 \rightarrow 1894$) 3 Go to step 6 above.
- 0 00 10 step 0 20040.

When in 2000

"--- --1901" is displayed in step 3 on page 12. After that, it advances every year as "1902, 1903,".

Now it's ready for recording!

Chapter 2: Basic Camera Operation How to Record

Before you record one-time events, make a trial recording to make sure that your camcorder is working properly. Keep the lens clean, or the focus cannot be adjusted properly.

It is very easy to start recording scenes.



In the viewfinder you can see a black and white picture of what you are recording and information that indicates what the camcorder is now doing.

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Automatic recording

With the PROGRAM AE switch set to the green position, all the camera functions are on automatic (i.e. auto iris, auto white balance, auto focus) and the shutter speed is set at normal (1/60 second).

Note about covering the camcorder

Do not use marine packs, sports packs, or rain jackets to cover the camcorder. The camcorder will focus on the front class of the packs or transparent plate of the lacket.

To stop recording momentarily

Press START/STOP again. "STBY" appears in the viewfinder. The camcorder beeps twice when you have BEEP turned on.

When you have finished recording

Turn the STANDBY switch down and slide the POWER switch to OFF.

Ejecting the tape

Make sure that you have attached the battery pack or other power source to the camcorder.

- 1 Press the small blue button on the EJECT switch, and at the same time push EJECT in the direction of the arrow.
- 2 Take out the tape.
- 3 Close the cassette holder by pressing the area marked PUSH on the cassette compartment.

Caution!

Please remember that you can only use 8-mm format video tapes with this camcorder. You will be able to record tapes in SP (standard play) mode only and play back tapes in both SP and LP (long play) modes.

Checking the time remaining on the tape

Press TAPE/BATT CHECK.





After pressing TAPE/BATT CHECK, the time remaining may not be indicated for about 20 seconds. When the time remaining is less than about 5 minutes, the indicator displays the minutes remaining.



When "5 min" lights, the 20 indicator appears in the viewfinder and blinks.

Note on the tape length indicator

. The camcorder must be in the recording or playback mode when the TAPE/BATT CHECK is pressed to find out the time remaining. In the playback mode, however, the indicator does not indicate the minutes remaining.

. The tape length indicator does not change while using EDITSEARCH.

Using Zooming Features

You can create a professional-looking home video using these sepcial effects; zoom, close-up, fade-in and fade-out.

Zooming

Zooming is a recording technique that lets you change the size of the subject in the scene. Use "Zoom-in (telephoto)" for dramatic close-ups, and "zoom-out (wide-angle)" for panoramic long shots. You can also use zooming to focus manually or to decide on a shooting angle. For more professional-looking recordings, use zooming sparingly.



To zoom



Two-level Speed Zooming

The camcorder's power zoom button offers two-level speed zooming. Press it firmly for high speed zooming and softly, for relatively slow zooming.

Press the T side of the power zoom button for telephoto (subject appears closer) and the W side for wide-angle (subject appears farther away).

Focusing in Macro

Even small subjects such as flowers, insects, and images in photographs, can literally fill the screen using focus in macro.

1 Bring the camcorder as close as necessary to obtain the desired subject size.

- 2 Press the W side of the power zoom button until the indicator in the viewfinder stops at the W end.
- Note You can shoot a subject that is at least 1 m (about 39% iches) away from lens surface in the telephoto position.

Playing Back a Tape

You can use this camcorder as a VCR by connecting it directly to your TV for playback. After you connect this camcorder to your TV, use the Remote Commander for convenient control of the camcorder.

If Your TV Has Only an Antenna Input

Use the supplied RFU adaptor to connect your camcorder to your TV. Before connecting, make sure that the TV is turned off to prevent speaker damage. If your TV has audio/ video inputs, see page 33.



To connect your camcorder to a TV that is already connected to a regular TV (VHF) antenna, you need to:

- 1 Unplug the antenna cable from your TV first.
- Plug in the tail end of the RFU adaptor marked OUT to the antenna input of your TV. Re-wire the antenna cable you unplugged to the RFU adaptor jack marked ANT. This way, you can switch between TV broadcasting and your home video playback without re-wiring.
- 2 Connect the RFU adaptor to the camcorder.
- 3 Connect the AC power adaptor to a wall outlet.
- 4 Set the channel selector on the RFU adaptor (and your TV channel) to 3 CH or 4 CH of the VHF channel, whichever is not active (vacant) in your area.
- 5 Attach the connecting plate of the AC power adaptor to the camcorder.
- 6 Make sure the CHARGE/VTR selector on the AC power adaptor is set to VTR position.
- Note When you want to switch to a regular TV program, set the CHARGE/VTR selector to OFF or turn off the power on the carncorder.

Notes on the AC power adaptor

Video equipment cannot be operated unless the selector is changed to VTR (DC OUT) position.
 Keep the adaptor away from video equipment if video operation is disturbed.

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Plaving Back a Tape

How to Play Back a Tape



To stop playback, press 🗋 (STOP) To rewind the tape, press **44** (REW). To advance the tape rapidly, press >> (FF).

When you have finished playback

- 1 Eject the tape, see page 15.
- 2 Slide the POWER switch to OFF.
- 3 Set the VTR (DC OUT)/CHARGE selector on the AC power adaptor to OFF.

Using the Remote Commander



When you slide the switch in the direction of the arrow, all the buttons will become inoperable to prevent any misoperation should you accidentally press the buttons. ■► SLOW and DATA SCREEN buttons You can use the functions of these buttons only with the Commander.



Battery life In normal operation, batteries last up to six months. If the carncorder does not operate properly, the batteries might be exhausted. Replace both batteries with new ones.

To avoid damage from possible battery leakage

Remove the batteries when you will not use the Commander for a long time.

When you connect the receiver of a remote control kit When you connect the receiver of a remote control kit (not supplied) to the REMOTE @ control connector, be sure to set the B REMOTE COMMANDER switch on the battery mounting surface of the camcorder to OFF.

Getting the Most out of Your Battery Pack

How to Prepare the Rechargeable Battery Pack

Have sufficient battery pack power to do 2 or 3 times as much recording than you have planned.

"Battery life" indicated in this manual is measured by the continuous recording time of the camcorder, placed at room temperature using a fully-charged battery.

Battery life is shorter in cold climates.

Battery efficiency is decreased and the battery will be used up more quickly.

Set the STANDBY switch of the camcorder down when not recording to save battery power.

> A smooth transition between scenes can be made even if recording is stopped and started again. While positioning the subject or selecting an angle, or looking through the viewfinder lens, the lens moves automatically inside the carncorder and the battery is used. The battery is also used when a tape is inserted or removed.

When the Rechargeable Battery Pack Should Be Replaced

When the CC indicator and red lamp in the viewfinder change from slow blinking to rapid blinking while you are recording. Turn off the power switch of the camcorder and replace the battery pack.



Notes on Charging

Before using the battery pack, charge it sufficiently. A brand-new battery pack is not charged.

Make sure you use up the battery before recharging.

- If recording is completed before the CC indicator appears in the viewfinder, it is recommended that you remove the tape, set the POWER switch to CAMERA, turn the STANDBY switch up, and leave the camcorder on until the CC indicator binks rapidly.
- When you use the AC-S10 AC power adaptor, the DC-S10 car battery charger or BC-S10 portable battery charger, you can discharge the battery with their discharging function.
 Repeated charging without using up the battery may
- cause lowering of battery capacity. However, the original battery capacity can be recovered if you fully discharge (use up) and charge the battery again.

Recharge the battery pack after long storage.

If the battery pack is fully charged but not used for a long time (about 1 year), it becomes discharged. Charge it again but in this case the battery life will be shorter than normal. After several charging and discharging cycles, the battery life will recover its original capacity.

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Keep the Terminals Clean

If the terminals (metal parts on the back) are not clean, the battery duration will be shortened.

> When the terminals are not clean or when the battery pack has not been used for a long time, install and remove the battery pack from time to time. This will improve the contact condition. Also, wipe the + and - terminals with a soft cloth or paper.

Notes on the Rechargeable Battery Pack

Why the battery pack heats up?

During charging or recording, the battery pack heats up. This means energy has been generated and chemical change has occurred inside the battery pack, and this is not dangerous.



How to care for the battery pack

- Remove the battery pack from the camcorder after using it, and keep it in a cool place. When the battery pack is in the camcorder, a small amount of current flows to the camcorder even if it's turned off. This gradual discharge shortens battery life.
- The battery pack is always discharging even when it is not in use after charging. Thus, it is recommended you charge the battery right before using.

How to use the switch on the battery pack

This switch is provided so that you can remember the charging condition. Set the switch to the "no mark" position when charging is completed. Set the switch to the "red mark" position when the battery is used up.



How many times can the battery pack be recharged?

The battery pack can be fully charged and discharged about 500 times under normal temperatures.

If the CC indicator blinks rapidly just after turning on the camcorder with a fully charged battery pack, the battery pack should be replaced with a new fully charged one.

Recommended temperatures during charging

Charging under temperatures ranging from 10°C to 30°C (50°F to 85°F) is recommended. Lower temperatures require a longer charging time.

Be sure to observe the following

- To prevent an accident caused by a short circuit, do not allow metal objects such as a necklace to touch the battery terminals. Carry the battery pack attaching to the terminal cover.
- · Keep the battery pack away from fire.
- · Keep the battery pack dry.
- · Do not open nor convert the battery pack.
- Do not expose the battery pack to any mechanical shock.



Chapter 3: Advanced Camera Operation Connecting Alternative Power Sources

You can choose any of the following power sources for your carncorder: battery pack (see page 6), house current, and $12\prime\!24$ V car battery.

The appropriate power source for you to choose depends on the place where you want to use your carncorder.

Place	Power source	Accessory to be used	
Outdoors	Battery pack	Battery pack NP-55 (supplied), NP-77H/77HD, NP-77, NP-66H or NP-55H	
Indoors	House current	AC power adaptor AC-V25 (supplied), AC-V30 or AC-S10	
In the car	12 V or 24 V car battery	DC pack DCP-77	

Note on power sources

Disconnecting the power source or removing the battery pack during recording or playback may damage the inserted tape. In this case, supply the power again immediately.

Using House Current

The supplied AC-V25 AC power adaptor is required.



- 1 Align the flat side of the AC Power Adaptor with the white line on the camcorder, and push down and slide it in the direction of the arrow.
- 2 Connect the AC power adaptor to a wall outlet.

3 Set the VTR (DC OUT)/CHARGE selector of the AC power adaptor to VTR (DC OUT).

To remove the AC power adaptor

Remove it in the same way as you do with the battery pack. See page 7.

- Notes on the AC power adaptor
 - Before attaching the AC power adaptor to the video equipment, remove the battery pack from the AC power adaptor.
 - Video equipment cannot be operated unless the VTR (DC OUT)/CHARGE selector is changed to VTR (DC OUT).
 - The POWER lamp will remain lit for a while even if the unit is unplugged after use. This is normal.
 - If the POWER lamp does not light, set the VTR (DC OUT)/CHARGE selector to OFF and disconnect the power cord. After about one minute, reconnect the power cord and set the VTR (DC OUT)/ CHARGE selector to VTR (DC OUT) again.
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Using Car Battery

The DCP-77 DC pack (not supplied) is required.



- 1 Align the flat side of the DC pack with the white line on the camcorder, and push down and slide it in the direction of the arrow.
- 2 Connect the cord of the DC pack to the cigarette lighter socket of a car (12 V or 24 V).

To remove the DC pack

Remove it the same way as you do with the battery pack. See page 7.

- Options BC-77, BC-S10 portable battery charger:
 - You can charge a battery pack on 100 240 V AC. BC-S10 has a discharging function, so you can charge a battery pack whether or not it is used up.
 - DC-S10 car battery charger with discharging function:
 - You can charge a battery pack through the cigarette lighter socket.

Camera Recording

In the previous chapter "Basic Camera Operation", you learned the basic recording operations. This section shows you how to record the date or time, record an age, re-record a picture and more.

Recording the Date or Time

Date or time can be superimposed on your recording.



During camera recording or when in standby mode, press DATE for date indication or TIME for time indication.

The date or time displayed in the viewfinder is recorded with the picture.

To stop recording date or time

Press DATE or TIME again. The picture recording continues.

Putting an Age on Your Tape

Here's how to put the age of your children in your video while recording.



Note You cannot add the age later during playing back or editing.

To stop recording the age

Press AGE/EVENT until the indicator goes out.

To change the display while recording

Press AGE/EVENT until the indicator you want to record is displayed. Recording of the indicator you select starts when 1, 2, or 3 goes out.

To cancel the stored birth date

- Perform steps 1 to 4 in "Storing a Birth Date in Your Camcorder" on page 12, to select the memory number to be canceled.
- 2 Press TIME (NEXT) twice. The month indicator blinks.
- 3 Press DATE (+) until "--- --" appears.
- 4 Press TIME (NEXT).
- The birth date is deleted from the memory and is not displayed when you press AGE/ EVENT.

About memory back-up

The camcorder uses the lithium battery on the bottom to keep the birth date in memory. The lithium battery life is approximately 1 year.

When you connect the camcorder to a TV during recording

If you do not use the data-screen function by the Remote Commander, the age indication will appear on the TV screen when the 1, 2, or 3 indicator goes out in the viewfinder and recording starts.

For Low-position Recording

You can also record from low position to get an interesting recording angle.



Set the viewfinder to the sports finder position (page 9) and turn it for the low position recording. (It can be turned 180 degrees.)

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Checking the Last Portion of a Scene You Just Recorded (Rec Review)

You can check the last portion of a scene you just recorded without changing the setting of the POWER switch using EDITSEARCH.



Note on using EDITSEARCH

When you raise the viewfinder and use EDITSEARCH, hold the viewfinder with your thumb to prevent movement.



Checking Recording in the Viewfinder (EDITSEARCH)

You can check the recorded picture in the viewfinder using EDITSEARCH. Sound cannot be monitored.



To stop playback

Release EDITSEARCH.

To monitor the sound while viewing the playback picture in the viewfinder

- 1 Connect an earphone to the @ (earphone) jack.
- 2 Press the small green button and slide the POWER switch to PLAYER.
- 3 Press < to rewind the tape and press 🗆 where you want to stop.
- 4 Press ▷ to start playback.

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Re-recording on a Previously Recorded Portion (EDITSEARCH)

You can reshoot a scene over the last recorded portion using EDITSEARCH. The previously recorded portion will be erased.

1	Set the STANDBY switch up.	in the second se
2	Look in the viewfinder and find the point from where you want to begin recording by: Keep pressing the + side of EDITSEARCH continuously to advance the picture at a normal playback speed, or the – side to reverse the picture.	+ EDITSEARCH-G
3	At the desired point, release EDITSEARCH.	
4	Press START/STOP. Recording begins from the point you released EDITSEARCH A smooth transition between scenes can be made after the pre-recorded portion even if STANDBY is turned down and turned up, or even if the power is turned off and on again.	

To pause recording

Press START/STOP again.

To stop recording

Set the STANDBY switch down.

Helpful Hints for Recording

If the tape reaches near the end during recording

The BXR indicator and the red lamp in the viewfinder and the camera recording/battery lamp on the camcorder blink slowly. When the tape reaches its end, blinking becomes rapid and beeps sound for about five seconds (if BEEP is set to ON).

Notes on recording

- To record from the beginning of the tape, run the beginning of the tape for about 15 seconds before recording. This will avoid missing the starting point when the tape is played back.
- When moving from indoors to outdoors, or vice versa, turn STANDBY up and point the camcorder at a white object for about 10 seconds so that the white balance is properly adjusted.

Note on standby mode

If you leave the camcorder in the standby mode for 5 minutes or more, the camcorder will be automatically turned off. To resume the standby mode, turn STANDBY down and turn it up again. To start recording, press START/STOP directly.

Note on light sources

If you are shooting a subject in bright conditions just after shooting in a dark place, the picture may not appear in the viewfinder. In this case, point the camcorder in the other direction.

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Camera Recording

Inserting a Scene in the Middle of a Recorded Tape

You can insert a scene in the middle of a recorded tape by setting the starting point and ending point. A previously recorded portion will be erased.



To cancel the ZERO MEM

Press ZERO MEM.

- Note The picture may be distorted at the ending point when played back.
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Recording with an External Microphone

You can connect an external microphone (not supplied) to the MIC jack. This jack also accepts a "plug-in-power" microphone.

Attach the microphone to the accessory shoe of the camcorder.

If the microphone has two plugs, connect the DC IN plug to the RFU DC OUT jack on the camcorder.



Note When recording with an external microphone, wind noise is not muted.

Connecting a Wired Remote Control Unit

When you connect a wired remote control unit or editing controller (not supplied) to the **C** REMOTE control connector, you can operate your camcorder from a distance.



About & (LANC)

ℭ stands for Local Application Control Bus System. The ℭ connector is used for controlling the tape transport of video equipment and peripherals connected to it. This connector has the same function as the connectors indicated as CONTROL L or REMOTE.

Manual Adjustments

The camcorder's automatic functions offer you worry-free operation under most shooting conditions. But in some circumstances, manual adjustment is better for effective recording. You can manually maintain focus and compensate for backlighting with this camcorder. Some shooting situations may call for using some items manually, while others may call for using them automatically.

The previous manual settings are retained, as long as you do not remove the battery, even if you set the POWER switch to OFF.

Maintaining Focus

Your camcorder may automatically refocus on a subject other than the desired subject. In such cases, use the PUSH FOCUS

HOLD button to keep the desired subject in focus. PUSH

FOCUS HOLD

Hold down the PUSH FOCUS HOLD button. The focus is maintained and the midicator is displayed while you hold down this button.

Compensating for Backlighting

In this camcorder, the exposure is automatically controlled. However, when shooting a subject that is backlit, that is, if the light source is coming in from the back of the subject, use the BACK LIGHT button to get natural exposure.



After shooting

Be sure to release this adjustment condition by pressing BACK LIGHT again. (The ID indicator goes out.)

Otherwise, the picture will be too bright under normal lighting condition.

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Using Program AE (Auto Exposure)

When you use the PROGRAM AE (Auto Exposure) function, you can give a "portrait" effect (the object is in focus and the background is out of focus) or capture high-speed action with "sports" mode or "high speed shutter" mode. Select from three types of mode referring to the following table.

To choose best programmed AE mode

When shooting: Select: · A still subject such as person or a flower · Zooming in a subject in the telephoto mode å · A subject behind such obstacle as a net (Portrait mode) · Outdoor sports scene such as football, tennis or golf ٠. · A landscape in a moving car (Sports mode · A golf swing or a tennis match with the tennis ball captured clearly Playing back certain scenes with high speed movements in a clear, sharp picture (High speed shutter mode)

Selecting the PROGRAM AE Mode



To resume the automatic mode

Set the PROGAM AE switch to the green position.

Notes

 When recording under fluorescent, sodium, or mercury lamp, the brightness of the recorded picture may vary, or the color of the recorded picture may become unnatural.

The shutter speed in each PROGRAM AE mode is as follows:
 Portrait mode – between 1/60 and 1/2000
 Sports mode – between 1/60 and 1/500
 High speed shutter mode – 1/4000
 Advid

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Fade-in and Fade-out

You can fade-in or fade-out to give your recording a professional appearance. When fading-in, the picture will gradually appear from black or mosaic. The sound will also gradually increase.

When fading-out, the picture will gradually fade to black or mosaic. The sound will also decrease.



Note on the FADER button

Each time you press FADER, the fade indicator changes as follow:

No indicator \rightarrow FADER (black fade) \rightarrow M. FADER (mosaic fade)

When fading-in

2



When fading-out



To cancel the fade-in/out function

Before pressing START/STOP, press FADER again.

Playing Back

In the earlier section (page 17) we explained the basic connection to your TV with the RFU adaptor. In this section we discuss several other ways of connecting to your TV.

Connecting a TV with Audio/Video Inputs

There are several ways to connect your carncorder to your TV. If your TV has audio/video inputs, use an A/V cable. Before connecting, make sure that your TV is turned off to prevent speaker damage. If your TV has only an antenna input, see page 17.



- -910MS:920MS supplied) /V connecting cable
- Use an A/V cable to connect your TV and camcorder:

 [a] If your TV is a stereo type, use the VMC-910MS/920MS A/V connecting cable (not supplied).

[b] If your TV is a monoaural type, use the VMC-710M/720M A/V connecting cable (not supplied).

- 2 Connect the AC power adaptor to a wall outlet.
- 3 Attach the AC power adaptor to the carncorder.
- 4 Set the VTR (DC OUT)/CHARGE selector on the AC power adaptor to VTR (DC OUT).

Playing Back

Connecting to a TV via a VCR

If your TV has no AUDIO/VIDEO input jacks

Disconnect the antenna connection between the TV and the VCR, and connect the RFU adaptor to the VHF/UHF input of the TV and VHF/UHF output of the VCR.



The RFU adaptor used in the illustration is RFU-90UC.

If your TV has AUDIO/VIDEO input jacks

9

Connect Audio and Video from the carncorder to the VCR instead of to the TV. Set the input selector of the VCR to LINE, if available.



Signal flow

Playing Back a Tape in Various Speeds

The supplied wireless Remote Commander is useful to control the camcorder from a distance. When using it, be sure to set the B REMOTE COMMANDER ON/OFF switch to ON.

To make the same indications in the viewfinder on the TV (only on the Commander)

Press DATA SCREEN. To turn the indications off, press it again, This DATA SCREEN on TV will tell you which playback mode you are using.





To view the still picture (playback pause)

Press II during playback. II appears in the viewfinder. To resume normal playback, press ▷ or II.

Note

When the still picture mode lasts for 5 minutes or more, the camcorder automatically enters the stop mode.

To view the picture at 1/5 speed (slow playback) (only on the Commander)

Press IF during playback .

IP appears in the viewfinder.

Note

To resume normal playback, press ▷. When slow playback lasts for 1 minute or more, the playback at the normal speed starts automatically.

To locate the desired scene (picture search)

Keep pressing ◀◀ or ►► during playback or in the still picture mode. ⊕ or ⊕ appears in the viewfinder. To resume normal playback, release the button.

To locate the desired scene quickly (skip scan)

Press ◄◄ during rewinding or ►► during advancing the tape rapidly. ⊕ or ⊕ appears in the viewfinder. To resume normal playback, press >.

About the playback picture

During the various playback modes, streaks appear on the screen.

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Playing back

Using the Tape Counter

During recording or playback, the digits on the counter indicate the actual recording or playback time.

To count the whole tape

Press COUNTER RESET at the beginning of the tape so that the counter shows "0:00:00". Write down the counter reading at a particular point so that you can easily find that point later by referring to the tape counter.

To return to a preset point

20





Notes on the tape counter and the ZERO MEM button

Something must be recorded on the tape in order for the tape counter to function.

- The tape counter will not work on blank tape.
- . The counter reading and the point of the tape may not correspond exactly. Use the counter as a guide. There will be a time lag of several seconds especially when you repeat fast-forward running/
- rewinding and play back the tape recorded in LP and SP modes mixed.

. The ZERO MEM mode is cancelled automatically once the tape is rewound or sent forward to the point where you pre-registered.

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Editina

Editing Tapes with a VCR

You can edit a tape with an additional C 8mm, I Betamax or WHS VHS format VCR.



How to connect

Make connections using the appropriate A/V cable (such as Sony VMC-710M/720M for monaural VCR or VMC-910MS/920MS for stereo VCR) and set the CHARGE/VTR selector on the AC power adaptor to VTR. Set the input selector of the VCR to LINE, if available.

Playing back/Editing



Editina

How to edit



6 Press II PAUSE on the camcorder and VCR simultaneously to start editing.

Editing more scenes

21

Repeat steps 4 to 6.

To stop editing momentarily

Press II PAUSE on the recording VCR.

To stop editing

Press
STOP on both VCRs.

If you use the DATA SCREEN function

The indicators displayed on the TV screen will also be recorded. If you don't want to record these indicators, press DATA SCREEN on the Commander.

Using of the EDIT switch

When you set EDIT to the direction of the arrow (EDIT ON), you can keep picture and sound deteriorations resulting from editing to the minimum. Avoid using the edited tape for multiple generations of editing. After editing, be sure to set this switch in the opposite direction of the arrow (EDIT OFF).

Chapter 4: Additional Information Maintenance Information

Moisture Condensation

If the camcorder is brought directly from a cold place to a warm place, moisture may condense inside the carricorder, on the surface of the tape or on the lens. In this condition, the tape may stick to the head drum and be damaged or the unit may not operate correctly. To prevent possible damage under these circumstances, the camcorder is furnished with moisture sensors. However, take the following precautions.

If moisture condenses inside the unit



Moisture is present inside the camcorder when:

- The D indicator in the viewfinder blinks.
- When the tape is inserted, the **≜** indicator also blinks.
- · Several beeps sound continuously for five seconds when the BEEP switch is set to ON and the tape is inserted.
- In such cases, no functions except for tape ejection work.
- Eject the tape, turn off the camcorder and leave it with the cassette holder open for at least 1 hour.
- The camcorder can be used again if the II indicator does not appear when the power is turned on again.

If moisture condenses on the surface of the tape

- Moisture is present on the surface of the tape when:
- The
 indicator blinks inside the viewfinder when the
- tape is inserted and a tape transport button (\triangleright , \blacktriangleleft , etc.) is pressed.
- · Several beeps sound continuously for about five seconds when the BEEP switch is set to ON.
- 尜
- In such cases, no functions except for tape ejection work.

Eject the tape and let the camcorder and the tape sit for at least 1 hour. The tape can be used again if the
indicator does not appear when the tape is inserted and a tape transport button is pressed.

If moisture condenses on the lens

No caution indicators will appear, but the picture becomes dim. Turn off the power and don't use the camcorder for at least 1 hour.

How to prevent moisture condensation

When bringing the camcorder from a cold place to a warm place, put the camcorder in a plastic bag and allow it to adapt to room conditions over a period of time.

- - 1 Be sure to tightly seal the plastic bag containing the camcorder. 2 Remove the bag when the air temperature inside it has reached the temperature surrounding it (after about one hour).

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Maintenance Information

Video Head Cleaning



Slight contamination Critical contamination

To ensure a clear picture, clean the video heads periodically

When playback pictures become noisy or hardly visible, the video heads may be contaminated. In such cases,

- 1 Clean the video heads with the Sony V8-25CLH cleaning cassette (not supplied), referring to its instructions.
- 2 After cleaning, check if the picture is clear by recording or playing back with an ordinary tape.
- 3 If the picture is still noisy, repeat cleaning. (Do not repeat cleaning more than 5 times.)
- Caution Do not use a commercially available wet-type cleaning cassette. It may damage the video heads.
- Note If the V8-25CLH cleaning cassette is not available in your area, consult your Sony service facility.

Viewfinder Cleaning

To clean the viewfinder



To reattach the eyecup



Tips for Better Camera Recording

How to Achieve Better Camera Recording

Take a good posture for shooting

For hand-held shots, it is important to hold the camcorder properly.

- Hold the carncorder firmly and secure it with the grip belt so that you can easily manipulate the carncorder with your thumb.
- Place your right elbow firmly against your side.
- Place your left hand under the camcorder to support it. When adjusting the focus manually, make sure the camcorder does not move.
- Stand opposite to the subject and take a comfortable stance.
- Place your eye firmly against the viewfinder eyecup.
- You can easily determine the horizontal plane by using the viewfinder frame as a reference.

Use a tripod

If you have a tripod for a still camera, you can also use it with the camcorder. If a tripod is not available, try placing the camcorder on a tabletop or any other flat surface of suitable height.

Caution

When attaching a tripod not manufactured by Sony, the length of the camera mounting screw must be less than 6.5 mm. Otherwise the screw may damage the inner part of the camera.



Less than 6.5 mm

(7/32 inches)



Tips for Better Camera Recording

Plan ahead

If you are going to edit the tape after recording, shoot the scene a little longer to make the editing easier.

Lighting

Shoot with the sun behind you.

When the light source is behind the subject, or in the following situations, the subject will be recorded too dark and the background too light.

- . The subject is indoors and there is a window behind the subject.
- · Bright sources such as fluorescent or incandescent lamps are included in the scene.
- You are shooting a person wearing white or shiny clothes in front of a white background. In this case, the face will be recorded too dark.

Use video light in the dark

To get the best colors, you must maintain a sufficient light level.

Photography lamps or halogen lamps are recommended. For best results, use of Sony video lights, since their weight and low heat output levels allow safe and direct connection to the camocrder.

Do not point the light at the camcorder. The high heat from the light may warp the casing of the camcorder.

For detailed instructions on proper use of the light, read its instruction manual.

Using Your Camcorder Abroad

Each country has its own electricity system and TV color system. Before using your carncorder abroad, check the following points.

Power Sources

You can use your camcorder in any country with the supplied AC power adaptor within 110 V to 240 V AC, 50/60 Hz.

Use a commercially available AC plug adaptor, if necessary, depending on the design of the wall outlet.



AC plug adaptor

Difference In Color System

This camcorder is an NTSC system based camcorder. If you want to view the playback picture on a TV, it must be an NTSC system based TV. When you want to use a PAL-M system based TV, you will need NTSC/PAL-M transcoder. Check the following alphabetical list.

NTSC system countries

Bahama Islands, Bolivia, Canada, Central America, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Jamaica, Japan. Korea, Mexico, Peru, Surinam, Taiwan, The Philippines, U.S.A., Venezuela, etc.

PAL system countries

Australia, Austria, Belgium, China, Denmark, Finland, Germany (former West Germany), Great Britain, Holland, Hong Kong, Italy, Kuwait, Malaysia, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Singapore, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, etc.

PAL M system country

Brazil

PAL N system countries Argentina, Paraguay, Uruguay

SECAM system countries

Bulgaria, France. Guiana, Hungary. Iran, Iraq, Monaco, Poland. former Soviet Union, etc.

Precautions

Camcorder operation

- Operate the camcorder on 6.0 V (battery pack) or 7.5 V (AC power adaptor).
- · For DC or AC operation, use the accessories recommended in this manual.
- Should any solid object or liquid fall into the casing, unplug the camcorder and have it checked by qualified personnel before operating it any further.
- Do not hold the camcorder by the viewfinder or the microphone.
- · Avoid rough handling or mechanical shock. Be particularly careful of the lens.
- . Keep the lens cap on the lens when not using the camera.
- · Do not wrap up the camcorder and operate it since heat may build up internally.
- · Keep the camcorder away from strong magnetic fields or mechanical vibration.
- Do not let sand get into the camcorder.
- When you use the camcorder on a sandy beach or dusty place, protect it from the sand or dust. Sand or dust may cause the camcorder to malfunction and sometimes the malfunction cannot be repaired.
- · Do not let the camcorder get wet.
- Keep the camcorder from rain or sea water. It may cause malfunction and sometimes the malfunction cannot be repaired.

Camcorder care

- When the unit will not be used for a long time, disconnect the power source and remove the tape. Periodically turn on the power, operate the camera section and player section and play back a tape for about 3 minutes.
- Clean the lens with a soft brush to remove dust. If there are fingerprints on it, remove them
 with a soft cloth. Clean the camcorder body with a dry, soft cloth, or a soft cloth lightly
 moistened with a mild detergent solution. Do not use any type of solvent which may damage
 the finish.

AC power adaptor

Charging

- Repeated charging while some capacity remains causes a lowering of battery capacity. However, the ordinal battery capacity can be recovered if you use the battery completely and charge it fully again.
- Charge the battery on a flat place without vibration.
- The battery will get hot during charging. But it is normal.

Do not continuously recharge a charged battery pack as that will cause the battery pack efficiency to deteriorate.

Charging temperature

The temperature range for charging is 5°C to 35°C (41°F to 95°F). However, to prevent maximum battery efficiency, the recommended temperature range when charging is 10°C to 30°C (50°F to 86°F).

Others

- The model for USA or Canada: One blade of the plug is wider than the other for the purpose
 of safety and will fit into the power outlet only one way. If you are unable to insert the plug
 tillv into the outlet. contact your dealer.
- Unplug the unit from the wall outlet when not in use for a long time. To disconnect the cord (mains lead), pull it out by the plug. Never pull the cord itself.
- Do not operate the unit with a damaged cord or if it has been dropped or damaged.
- Do not bend the AC power cord forcibly, or put a heavy object on it. This will damage the cord and may cause a fire or an electrical shock.
- Be sure that nothing metallic comes into contact with the metal parts of the connecting plate. If it does, a short may occur and the unit may be damaged.
- Always keep the metal contacts clean.
- Do not disassemble the unit.
- Do not apply mechanical shock or drop the unit.
 While the unit is in use, particularly during charging, keep it away from AM receivers and
- video equipment because it will disturb AM reception and video operation.

 While the unit is in use, it gets hot. But this is normal.
- Do not place the unit in locations where it is;
- -Extremely hot or cold
- -Dusty or dirty
- ---Very humid
- -Vibrating

If any difficulty should arise, unplug the unit and contact your nearest Sony dealer.

Identifying the Parts

For details on the use of each part, refer to the pages indicated in the circle.



1 POWER switch

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CAMERA: for camera recording PLAYER: for playing back or editing tapes OFF: power off

2 @ REMOTE control connector (stereo mini-minijack) @

3 (earphone) jack (minijack)

4 START/STOP button

5 STANDBY switch

6 EDITSEARCH (and 🗟 recording review) button 🕲 🕲

7 Power zoom (MACRO) button (

8 Built-in microphone

9 EJECT (cassette eject) knob Ø

10 Cassette holder

11 Lithium battery holder

12 Grip belt



13 Tape transport buttons ④ ▷ PLAY (playback) ▶ FF (fast-forward) REW (rewind) STOP (stop) PAUSE (pause)

14 Lens cap

15 VIDEO output jack (phono jack) 🔀

16 RFU DC OUT (RFU adaptor DC output) jack (special minijack)

17 AUDIO output jack (phono jack) 3

18 MIC jack (PLUG IN POWER) (mono mini-jack)

19 Remote control sensor (

20 EDIT switch 🕲

21 Hook for shoulder strap

Identifying the Parts



22 Accessory shoe

у Л

23 Remote control sensor (P)
24 PUSH FOCUS HOLD button (P)
25 Tripod receptacle (bottom)
26 FADER button (P)
27 BACK LIGHT button (P)
28 DATE (+) button (P) (P)
29 TIME (NEXT) button (P)
20 AGE/EVENT button (P)
30 AGE/EVENT button (P)
31 PROGRAM AE selector (P)
33 Hook for shoulder strap





34 Viewfinder

 35
 Camera recording/battery lamp (*)

 36
 COUNTER RESET button (*)

 37
 ZERO MEM button (*)

 38
 TAPE/BATT CHECK button (*)

 39
 Viewfinder adjustment ring (*)

 40
 Eyecup

 41
 BEEP ON/OFF switch (*)

 42
 T REMOTE COMMANDER ON/OFF switch (*)

 43
 Battery mounting surface

Identifying the Parts

Wireless Remote Commander



- 1 ▷ PLAY (play back) button 3
- 2 A REW (rewind) button 3
- 3 C STOP button

4 II PAUSE button 6

- 5 DATA SCREEN button*
- 6 HOLD switch*
- 7 START/STOP button
- 8 FF **>>** (fast forward) button (
- 9 Power zoom button
- 10 SLOW (slow playback) button* G

Note

The * indicates the functions which are operable only with the commander.

Indicators inside the Viewfinder

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- [a] Focus is maintained (18-)
- [b] BACK LIGHT is pressed (3)
- [c] PROGRAM AE setting (2, 4, 1)
- [d] Power zoom indicator
- [e] FADER mode
- [f] "Exchange battery" (CD)

battery or tape"

[i] Playback mode (LP)

- [g] Moisture has condensed (III)
- [h] Lights up during recording When flashing: "Exchange
- [q] Age
- [r] Date or Time
 - (s) "Replace lithium battery" (&)

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- [j] Tape transport mode [k] Tape counter
- Remaining time of tape (1)
- [m] ZERO MEM is pressed
- [n] "Exchange tape or no tape
- inside" (🖄 🖓)
- [0] "Trouble has occurred" (♠) "Clean video heads" (O)
- [p] Remaining capacity of a battery