

HOME AUDIO SYSTEM

Operating Instructions

Getting Started

Disc/USB Playback

USB Transfer

Tuner

Other Operations

Additional Information

WARNING

To reduce the risk of fire or electric shock, do not expose this apparatus to rain or moisture.

To reduce the risk of fire, do not cover the ventilation opening of the appliance with newspapers, tablecloths, curtains, etc.

Do not expose the appliance to naked flame sources (for example, lighted candles).

To reduce the risk of fire or electric shock, do not expose this appliance to dripping or splashing, and do not place objects filled with liquids, such as vases, on the appliance.

As the main plug is used to disconnect the unit from the mains, connect the unit to an easily accessible AC outlet. Should you notice an abnormality in the unit, disconnect the main plug from the AC outlet immediately.

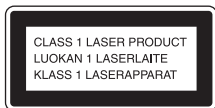
Do not install the appliance in a confined space, such as a bookcase or built-in cabinet.

Do not expose batteries or appliances with battery-installed to excessive heat, such as sunshine and fire.

The unit is not disconnected from the mains as long as it is connected to the AC outlet, even if the unit itself has been turned off.

CAUTION

The use of optical instruments with this product will increase eye hazard.



This appliance is classified as a CLASS 1 LASER product by IEC60825-1:2007. This marking is located on the rear exterior.

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- MPEG Layer-3 audio coding technology and patents licensed from Fraunhofer IIS and Thomson.
- Windows Media is either a registered trademark or trademark of Microsoft Corporation in the United States and/or other countries.
- This product is protected by certain intellectual property rights of Microsoft Corporation. Use or distribution of such technology outside of this product is prohibited without a license from Microsoft or an authorized Microsoft subsidiary.

Table of Contents

Guide to parts and controls4

Getting Started

Hooking up the system
securely7

Setting the clock.....9

Disc/USB Playback

Playing a disc9

Before using the USB device
with this system.....10

Playing a USB device10

Using play mode10

USB Transfer

Transferring music12

Tuner

Listening to the radio15

Other Operations

Adjusting the sound 16

Using the timers 16

Changing the display..... 17

Using optional equipment 17

Deactivating the buttons on the
unit (Child Lock)..... 18

Additional Information

Playable discs 18

Troubleshooting 19

Messages 23

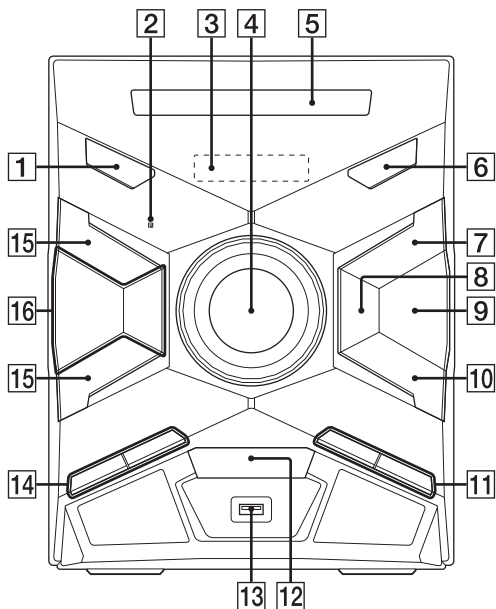
Precautions 24

Specifications 25

Guide to parts and controls

This manual mainly explains operations using the remote control, but the same operations can also be performed using the buttons on the unit having the same or similar names.

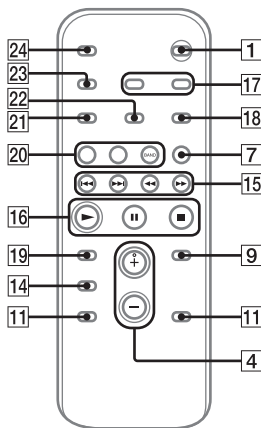
Unit



Note

When pressing the buttons on the unit, press on the printings of the buttons.

Remote control RM-SCU37B



1

I/⏻ (on/standby)

Turn on the system, or set it to standby mode.

2

Remote control sensor

3

Display panel

4

Unit: VOLUME

Remote control: VOLUME +/-

Adjust the volume.

* The VOLUME + button has a tactile dot. Use the tactile dot as a reference when operating the system.

5

Disc tray

6

▲ (open/close)

Insert or eject a disc.

7

FUNCTION

Select a function.

8

REC TO USB

Transfer onto the optional USB device which is connected to the Ψ port.

9

ENTER

Enter the settings.

10

OPTIONS (page 10, 14, 17)

Enter or exit the options menus.

11

📁 +/- (select folder)

Select a folder on an MP3 disc or a USB device.

12

BASS BAZUCA (page 16)

Select the BASS BAZUCA effect.

13

Ψ (USB) port

Connect an optional USB device.

14

Unit: EQ +/-

Remote control: EQ

Select a preset sound effect (page 16).

15

◀◀/▶▶ (rewind/fast forward)

Hold down to find a point in a track or file during playback.

Remote control: ←/→

Select the menu items.

◀◀/▶▶ (go back/go forward)

Select a track or file.

Unit: TUNING +/-

Remote control: +/- (tuning)

Tune to the station you want.

16

Unit: ► **II** (play/pause)

Remote control: ► (play),
II (pause)

Start or pause playback.

To resume playback, press ► **II** or ► .

■ (stop)

Stop playback or transferring.

Press **■** twice to cancel resume playback of the USB device.

17

CLOCK/TIMER SELECT (page 16)

CLOCK/TIMER SET (page 9, 16)

Set the clock and the Play Timer.

18

REPEAT/FM MODE

Listen to a disc, a USB device, a single track or file repeatedly (page 12).

Select the FM reception mode (monaural or stereo) (page 15).

19

CLEAR

Delete the last step from the program list.

20

USB

Select the USB function.

CD

Select the CD function.

TUNER/BAND

Select the TUNER function.

Select the FM or AM band during TUNER function.

21

TUNER MEMORY (page 15)

Preset the radio station.

22

PLAY MODE/TUNING MODE

Select the play mode of an AUDIO CD, MP3 disc or a USB device (page 10, 13).

Select the tuning mode (page 15).

23

DISPLAY

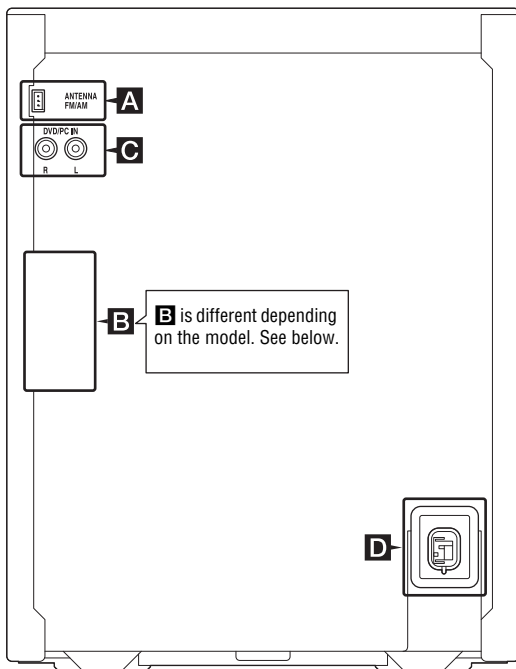
Change the information on the display panel.

24

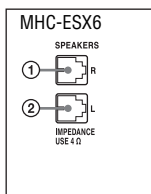
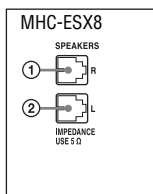
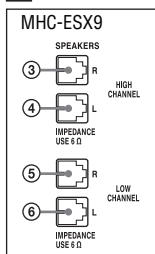
SLEEP (page 16)

Set the Sleep Timer.

Hooking up the system securely



B

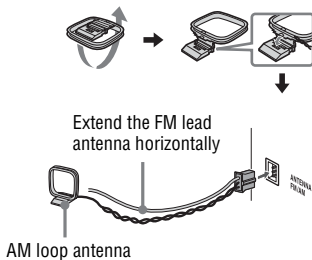


- ① To speaker (right)
- ② To speaker (left)
- ③ To HIGH channel (right)
- ④ To HIGH channel (left)
- ⑤ To LOW channel (right)
- ⑥ To LOW channel (left)

A Antennas

Find a location and an orientation that provide good reception when you set up the antennas.

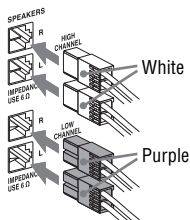
Keep the antennas away from the speaker cords, the power cord and the USB cable to avoid picking up noise.



B Speakers

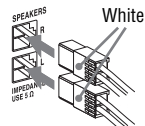
(MHC-ESX9)

Example:



(MHC-ESX8/ESX6)

Example:



Notes

- Be sure to use only the supplied speakers.
- When connecting speaker cords, insert the connector straight into the terminals.

C DVD/PC IN L/R

Use an audio cord (not supplied) to connect the audio output jacks of an audio/video equipment or a computer. The sound is output through this system.

D Power

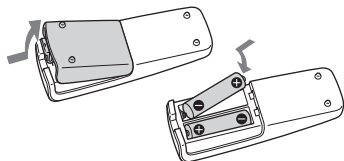
Plug the power cord into a wall socket. The demonstration appears in the display panel. Press I/ON to turn on the system and the demonstration automatically ends. If the supplied adaptor on the plug does not fit your wall outlet, detach it from the plug (only for models equipped with an adaptor).

Note

When you unplug the power cord, it may take awhile before the display turns off.

Inserting batteries

Insert the two supplied R6 (size AA) batteries, matching the polarities shown below.



Notes

- Do not mix an old battery with a new one or mix different types of batteries.
- If you do not use the remote control for a long period of time, remove the batteries to avoid damage from battery leakage and corrosion.

Setting the clock

You cannot set the clock in Power Saving Mode.

1 Press **I/⏻** to turn on the system.

2 Press **CLOCK/TIMER SET**.

If "PLAY SET" appears in the display panel, press **◀◀/▶▶** repeatedly to select "CLOCK", then press **ENTER**.

3 Press **◀◀/▶▶** repeatedly to set the hour, then press **ENTER**.

4 Press **◀◀/▶▶** repeatedly to set the minutes, then press **ENTER**.

Disc/USB Playback

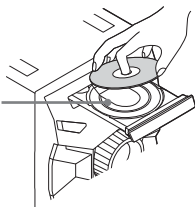
Playing a disc

1 Press **CD**.

2 Press **▲** on the unit to open the disc tray.

3 Load a disc with the label side facing up.

When you play back an 8 cm disc such as a CD single, place it on the inner circle of the tray



4 Press **▲** on the unit to close the disc tray.

5 Press **▶** to start playback.

Notes on playing discs

- (For AUDIO CD) This system can recognize up to 99 tracks.
- (For MP3 disc) This system can recognize up to
 - 999 folders (including root folder).
 - 999 MP3 files.
 - 250 MP3 files in a folder.
 - 8 folders levels (tree structure of files).
- CD-TEXT information is not supported.

Before using the USB device with this system

Check the websites below for the information about compatible USB devices.

For customers in Latin America:

<<http://esupport.sony.com/LA>>

For customers in other countries/regions:






<<http://www.sony-asia.com/support>>

To select the playback source or transferring destination (USB memory select)

If the USB device has more than one memory (for example, internal memory and a memory card), you can select which memory to use as a playback source or transferring destination.

Note

You cannot select a memory during playback or transferring. Make sure to select a memory before starting playback or transferring.



- 1 Connect a USB device to the  port on the unit.
- 2 Press USB.
- 3 Press OPTIONS on the unit when playback is stopped.
- 4 Press /  to select "MEM SEL", then press ENTER.
- 5 Press /  to select the memory you want, then press ENTER.
- 6 Start playback the audio files of the selected memory or start transferring.

Playing a USB device

The audio formats that can be played back by this system are as follows:

- MP3: file extension ".mp3"
- WMA: file extension ".wma"
- AAC: file extension ".m4a", ".mp4" or ".3gp"

If the audio files have the above file extension but are not the respective formats, the system may produce noise or may malfunction.

- 1 Press USB.
- 2 Connect a USB device to the  port on the unit.
- 3 Press .

Notes on USB device

- This system can recognize up to
 - 250 audio files in a folder.
 - 3,000 audio files in a USB device.
 - 1,000 folders in a USB device (including root folder).

Using play mode

Playing in original order (Normal Play)

Press PLAY MODE repeatedly when playback is stopped.

- (blank): play a disc or a USB device
- FLDR*: play all audio files in the folder on a disc or a USB device

* When playing an AUDIO CD, "FLDR" performs the same operation as "(blank)" Play mode.

Playing in random order (Shuffle Play)

Press PLAY MODE repeatedly when playback is stopped.

- SHUF: shuffle a disc or a USB device
- FLDR SHUF*: shuffle all audio files in the folder on a disc or a USB device

* When playing an AUDIO CD, “FLDR SHUF” performs the same operation as “SHUF” play mode.

Note

When you turn off the system, the selected Shuffle Play is cleared and the play mode returns to Normal Play.

Creating your own program (Program Play)

You can make a program of up to 25 steps in the order you want them to be played back.

1 For CD function:

Press CD.

For USB function:

Press USB.

2 When playback is stopped, press PLAY MODE repeatedly until “PGM” lights up in the display panel.

3 (Audio files only) Press +/- repeatedly to select a folder.

If you want to program all files in the folder, press ENTER.

4 Press repeatedly to select the track or audio file you want, then press ENTER.



Selected track
or file number

Total playing time of
program (including
selected track or file)

“--.--” appears when the total playing time exceeds 100 minutes for an AUDIO CD or when you program an audio file.

5 Repeat steps 3 and 4 to program additional tracks or files.

6 Press to start Program Play.

To delete the last step from the program list

Press CLEAR when playback is stopped.

Notes



- (CD function only) The program list is cleared when you open the disc tray.
- (USB function only) The program list is cleared when you:
 - perform the erase operation.
 - remove the USB device.
 - switch the USB memory select.

To cancel Program Play

When playback is stopped, press PLAY MODE repeatedly until “PGM” disappear from the display panel.

Playing repeatedly (Repeat Play)

Press REPEAT repeatedly.

-  : repeat all tracks or audio files
-  1 : repeat a track or audio file

Notes on the USB device

- The playback order for the system may differ from the playback order of the connected digital music player.
- Be sure to turn off the system before removing the USB device. Removing the USB device while the system is turned on may corrupt the data on the USB device.
- You cannot erase audio files and folders in Shuffle Play or Program Play.

USB Transfer

Transferring music

You can transfer music from a disc (AUDIO CD or MP3 disc only) to a USB device.

The audio format of files transferred by this system is MP3.

Notes

- Do not remove the USB device during transferring or erase operations. Doing so may corrupt the data on the USB device or damage the USB device itself.
- MP3/WMA/AAC files are transferred with the same bit rate as the original files.
- When transferring from an AUDIO CD, TUNER, or DVD/PC function, you may select the bit rate before transferring.
- USB transfer and erase operations are disabled while the disc tray is open.

Note on copyright-protected content

The transferred music is limited to private use only. Use of the music beyond this limit requires permission of the copyright holders.

To select the playback source or transferring destination (USB memory select)

See page 10.

To select the bit rate

You can select a higher bit rate to transfer music with better quality.

Use the buttons on the unit to perform this operation.

1 Press OPTIONS.

2 Press   repeatedly to select "BIT RATE", then press ENTER.

- 3** Press **◀◀/▶▶** repeatedly to select the bit rate you want, then press **ENTER**.
- 128 kbps: encoded MP3 tracks have smaller file size and lower audio quality.
 - 256 kbps: encoded MP3 tracks have bigger file size but higher audio quality.

Transferring music from a disc

You can easily transfer all the music on a disc to a USB device (Synchronized Transfer). You can also transfer a single track or audio file during playback (REC1 Transfer).

- 1** Connect a transferable USB device to the ψ port on the unit.

- 2** Press **CD**.

- 3** Load the disc you want to transfer.

- 4** For Synchronized transfer:

When playback is stopped, press **PLAY MODE** on the remote control repeatedly to select the play mode you want.

Notes

- If you start transferring in Shuffle Play (“FLDR SHUF”), the selected play mode changes to “FLDR” automatically.
- If you start transferring in Shuffle Play (except “FLDR SHUF”), Repeat Play or Program Play with no steps, the selected play mode changes to Normal Play automatically.

For REC1 Transferring:

Select the track or MP3 file you want to transfer, then start playback.

- 5** Press **REC TO USB** on the unit. “PUSH ENTER” appears in the display panel.

- 6** Press **ENTER**.

Transferring starts when “DO NOT REMOVE” appears in the display panel.

For Synchronized Transfer:

When the transferring is completed, access to the USB device and the disc stop automatically.

For REC1 Transfer:

When the transferring is completed, the disc continues playback.

Transferring analog audio (Analog Transfer)

You can transfer sound from an analog audio source (other than CD) to a USB device.

- 1** Connect a transferable USB device to the ψ port on the unit.

- 2** Press **TUNER/BAND** or **FUNCTION** repeatedly to select the source you want to transfer.

- 3** Press **REC TO USB** on the unit. “PUSH ENTER” appears in the display panel.

- 4** Press **ENTER**.

The transfer starts when “DO NOT REMOVE” appears in the display panel.

- 5** Start playback the source.

To stop transferring

Press **■**.

To create a new MP3 file

Press REC TO USB during Analog Transfer.

“NEW TRACK” appears in the display panel.

A new MP3 is also created automatically after approximately 1 hour of transfer.

Notes

- When a new MP3 file is created, transfer is disabled for the time being.
- If you press REC TO USB again after a few seconds, a new MP3 file can be created.

Folder and file generation rules

When first transferring to a USB device, a “MUSIC” folder is created directly below the “ROOT” and a transfer mode-oriented folder is created within the “MUSIC” folder. Folders and files are generated within any of the transfer mode-oriented folders as follows.

Synchronized Transfer

Source	Folder name	File name
Audio files	Same as the source	
AUDIO CD	“CDDA0001”*	“TRACK001”*

REC1 Transfer

Source	Folder name	File name
Audio files	“REC1-MP3”	Same as the source
AUDIO CD	“REC1-CD”	“TRACK001”*

Analog Transfer

Source	Folder name	File name
FM	“TUFM0001”*	“TRACK001”*
AM	“TUAM0001”*	
DVD/PC	“EXDP0001”*	

* Folder and file numbers are assigned serially thereafter.

Notes on transferring

- While transferring from an MP3 disc or an AUDIO CD, no sound is output and “HI-SPEED” appears in the display panel.

- CD-TEXT information is not transferred in the created MP3 files.
- Transferring stops automatically if:
 - the USB device runs out of space during transferring.
 - the number of audio files and folders on the USB device reaches the limit for the number that the system can recognize.
 - the function is changed.
- If a folder or file that you are trying to transfer already exists on the USB device with the same name, a sequential number is added after the name without overwriting the original folder or file.
- You cannot open the disc tray, select track or file, pause playback or find a point in the track or file during transferring.
- When transferring music to a Walkman® using “Media Manager for WALKMAN”, be sure to transfer in MP3 format.
- When connecting a Walkman® to the system, be sure to connect after the display “Creating Library” or “Creating Database” on the Walkman® has disappeared.

To erase audio files or folders from the USB device

Use the buttons on the unit to perform this operation.

- 1 Connect a USB device to the USB port on the unit.**
- 2 Press USB when playback is stopped.**
- 3 Press \lll / \ggg or \square +/- repeatedly to select the audio file or folder.**
- 4 Press OPTIONS on the unit.**
- 5 Press \lll / \ggg to select “ERASE”, then press ENTER.**
“FOLDER ERASE” or “TRACK ERASE” appears in the display panel.
- 6 Press ENTER.**
“COMPLETE” appears in the display panel.

Listening to the radio

1 Press **TUNER/BAND** repeatedly to select **FM** or **AM** band.

2 For automatic scanning:

Press **TUNING MODE** repeatedly until “**AUTO**” lights up in the display panel. Then, press **+/-**.

Scanning stops automatically when a station is tuned in, and then “**TUNED**” and “**ST**” (for FM stereo programs only) light up in the display panel.



If “**TUNED**” does not light up and scanning does not stop, press **■** to stop scanning. Then, perform manual tuning (below).

For manual tuning:

Press **TUNING MODE** repeatedly until “**AUTO**” and “**PRESET**” disappear from the display panel. Then, press **+/-** repeatedly to tune to the station you want.

Note

When you tune to an FM station that provides RDS services, information such as the service name or station name is provided by broadcast. You can check the RDS information by pressing **DISPLAY** repeatedly.

Tip

To reduce static noise on a weak FM stereo station, press **FM MODE** repeatedly until “**MONO**” lights up in the display panel.

To change the AM tuning interval

The default setting for AM tuning interval is 9 kHz (or 10 kHz for some areas). You cannot change the AM tuning interval in Power Saving Mode.

Use the buttons on the unit to perform this operation.

1 Press **FUNCTION** repeatedly to select **AM** band.

2 Press **I/O** to turn off the system.

3 Press **TUNING +**, then press **FUNCTION**.

“**9K STEP**” or “**10K STEP**” appears in the display panel.

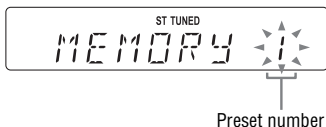
When you change the interval, all the **AM** preset stations are erased.

Presetting radio stations

You can store up to 20 **FM** and 10 **AM** stations as your favorite stations.

1 Tune to the station you want.

2 Press **TUNER MEMORY**.



3 Press **+/-** repeatedly to select the preset number you want, then press **ENTER**.

“**COMPLETE**” appears in the display panel. The station is stored.

To tune to a preset station

Press **TUNING MODE** repeatedly until “**PRESET**” lights up in the display panel. Then, press **+/-** repeatedly to select the preset number you want.

Other Operations

Adjusting the sound

To	Do this
Reinforce the bass and create a more powerful sound	Press BASS BAZUCA on the unit.
Select a preset sound effect	Press EQ repeatedly. To cancel, select "FLAT".

Using the timers

The system offers two timer functions. If you use both timers, the Sleep Timer has priority.

Sleep Timer

You can fall asleep when listening to music. The system turns off after the preset time.

Press SLEEP repeatedly.

To cancel Sleep Timer, press SLEEP repeatedly to select "OFF".

Tip

To check the remaining time before the system turns off, press SLEEP.

Play Timer

Make sure you have set the clock. You can wake up to disc, tuner or USB device at a preset time.

1 Prepare the sound source, then press VOLUME +/- to adjust the volume.

To start from a specific track or file, create your own program (page 11).

2 Press CLOCK/TIMER SET.

3 Press ◀▶ repeatedly to select "PLAY SET", then press ENTER.

4 Set the time to start playback.

Press ◀▶ repeatedly to set the hour/minute, then press ENTER.

5 Use the same procedure as in step 4 to set the time to stop playback.

6 Press ◀▶ repeatedly to select the sound source you want, then press ENTER.

7 Press I/⏻ to turn off the system.

To check the timer setting or activate the timer again

Press CLOCK/TIMER SELECT, press ◀▶ repeatedly to select "PLAY SEL", then press ENTER.

To cancel the timer

Press CLOCK/TIMER SELECT, press ◀▶ repeatedly to select "OFF", then press ENTER.

Notes

- The system turns on before the preset time. If the system is turned on at the preset time or if "STANDBY" flashes in the display panel, the Play Timer will not play.
- Do not operate the system from the time the system turns on until the playback starts.

Changing the display

Changing the display mode

Press **DISPLAY** repeatedly while the system is turned off.

Demonstration

The display changes and the indicator flashes even when the system is turned off.

No display (Power Saving Mode)

The display is turned off to conserve power. The timer and clock continue to operate. You cannot turn on the system by pressing the function buttons.

Clock

The clock display automatically turns to Power Saving Mode after a few seconds.

Changing the illumination brightness

(MHC-ESX9/ESX8 only)

- 1** Press **OPTIONS** on the unit.
- 2** Press **◀◀/▶▶** repeatedly to select "ILLUM", then press **ENTER**.
- 3** Press **◀◀/▶▶** repeatedly to select the setting you want, then press **ENTER**.

To exit the options menu, press **OPTIONS** on the unit.

Viewing information in the display panel

Press **DISPLAY** repeatedly when the system is turned on.

You can view the information as follows:

- For **AUDIO CD**:
 - The elapsed playing time and remaining playing time during playback.
 - The total playing time when playback is stopped.
- For audio files:
 - The elapsed playing time, file name and folder name.
 - The title, artist and album information.

Note

The elapsed playing time of an audio file encoded using a VBR (variable bit rate) is not displayed correctly.

Using optional equipment

- 1** Press **VOLUME** – repeatedly until "VOL MIN" appears in the display panel.
- 2** Connect an optional audio/video equipment to the DVD/PC IN L/R jacks on the unit using an audio analog cord (not supplied).
- 3** Press **FUNCTION** repeatedly to select "DVD/PC".
- 4** Start playing the connected equipment and adjust the volume.

Note

Make sure to turn down the volume to minimum level before connecting or disconnecting the equipment. Otherwise, noise may be generated, the system may malfunction, or “PROTECT EXX” may appear in the display panel (page 19).

Deactivating the buttons on the unit

(Child Lock)

You can deactivate the buttons on the unit (except I/⏻) for preventing misoperation, such as child mischief.

Hold down ■ on the unit for more than 5 seconds.

“CHILD” and “LOCK ON” appear in the display panel.

You can only operate the system using the buttons on the remote control.

To cancel, hold down ■ on the unit for more than 5 seconds until “CHILD” and “LOCK OFF” appear in the display panel.

Note

Child Lock function will be canceled when you disconnect the power cord.

Additional Information

Playable discs

- AUDIO CD
- CD-R/CD-RW
 - audio data
 - MP3 files that conforms to ISO9660 Level 1/Level 2, or Joliet (expansion format).

Notes

- MP3 (MPEG 1 Audio Layer-3) is a standard format defined by ISO (International Organization for Standardization) which compresses audio data. MP3 files must be in MPEG 1 Audio Layer-3 format.
- The system can only play back MP3 files that have a file extension of “.mp3”.

Discs that cannot be played back

- CD-ROM
- CD-R/CD-RW which has the following conditions:
 - Recorded in MP3 PRO format.
 - Recorded in multisession that have not ended by “closing the session”
 - Recorded with an incompatible recording device
 - Poor recording quality
 - Scratches or dirty
 - Finalized incorrectly
- Discs of non-standard shape (e.g., heart, square, star and etc.)
- Discs that have adhesive tape, paper, or sticker attached to them
- Rental or used discs with attached seals where the glue extends beyond the seal
- Discs that have labels printed using ink that feels tacky when touched

Note on DualDiscs

A DualDisc is a two sided disc product which mates DVD recorded material on one side with digital audio material on the other side. However, since the audio material side does not conform to the Compact Disc (CD) standard, playback on this product is not guaranteed.

Music discs encoded with copyright protection technologies

This product is designed to play back discs that conform to the Compact Disc (CD) standard. Recently, various music discs encoded with copyright protection technologies are marketed by some record companies. Please be aware that among those discs, there are some that do not conform to the CD standard and may not be playable by this product.

Notes on playing multisession discs

- This system can play back multisession discs when an MP3 file is contained in the first session. Any subsequent MP3 files recorded in later sessions can also be played back.
- If the first session is recorded in AUDIO CD format, only the first session will be played back.

Troubleshooting

Should you encounter a problem with your system, find your problem in the troubleshooting checklist below and take the corrective action.

If the problem persists, consult your nearest Sony dealer.

Note that if the service personnel changes some parts during repair, these parts may be retained.

If "PROTECT EXX" (X is a number) appears in the display panel

Immediately unplug the power cord, and check the following items.

- Are you using only the supplied speakers?
- Are the + and – speaker cords short-circuited?
- Is anything blocking the ventilation holes of the unit?

After checking the above items and fixing any problems, plug in the power cord again and turn on the system. If the issue persists, consult your nearest Sony dealer.

General

The clock or timer setting is canceled.

- The power cord is disconnected or a power failure occurred. Set the clock (page 9) and timer (page 16) again.

There is no sound.

- Adjust the volume.
- Check the speaker connections (page 7, 8).
- Check the connection of the optional equipment, if any.
- Turn on the connected equipment.

There is severe hum or noise.

- Move the unit away from the source of noise.
- Connect the unit to a different wall outlet.
- Install a noise filter (commercially available) to the power cord.
- Turn off surrounding electrical equipment.

The timer does not function.

- Check the timer setting and set the correct time (page 16).
- Cancel the Sleep Timer function (page 16).

The remote control does not function.

- Remove the obstacles between the remote control and the unit.
- Move the remote control closer to the unit.
- Point the remote control at the unit's sensor.
- Replace the batteries (R6/size AA).
- Move the unit away from the fluorescent light.

“CHILD LOCK” appears when you press any button on the unit.

- Set the Child Lock function to off (page 18).

Speakers

Sound comes from one channel or unbalanced left and right volume.

- Place the speakers as symmetrically as possible.
- Check that the speakers are connected securely and correctly.
- The source being played back is monaural.

There is no sound from a specific speaker.

- Check that the speaker is connected securely and correctly.

Disc player

The disc tray does not open and “LOCKED” appears in the display panel.

- Consult your nearest Sony dealer or local authorized Sony service facility.

The disc tray does not close.

- Load the disc correctly.

The disc does not eject.

- You cannot eject the disc during CD-USB Synchronized Transfer or REC1 Transfer. Press ■ to cancel the transfer, then press ▲ on the unit to eject the disc.
- Consult your nearest Sony dealer.

Playback does not start.

- Wipe the disc clean (page 24).
- Reload the disc.
- Load the disc that this system can play back (page 18).
- Remove the disc and wipe away the moisture on the disc, then leave the system turned on for a few hours until the moisture evaporates.

The sound skips.

- Wipe the disc clean (page 24).
- Reload the disc.
- Move the unit to a place with no vibration (e.g., on top of a stable stand).
- Move the speakers away from the unit, or place them on separate stands. When you listen to a track with bass sounds at high volume, the speaker vibration may cause the sound to skip.

Playback does not start from the first track.

- Set the play mode to Normal Play (page 10).

The folder name, track name, file name and ID3 tag characters do not appear properly.

- Use a disc that conforms to ISO9660 Level 1/Level 2, or Joliet (expansion format).

- The ID3 tag is not Version 1(1.0/1.1) and Version 2(2.2/2.3).
- The character code that can be displayed by this system are as follows:
 - Upper cases (A to Z)
 - Numbers (0 to 9)
 - Symbols (<> * +, \ _)
 Other characters appear as “_”.

USB device

Transferring results in an error.

- You are using an unsupported USB device. Check the information on the websites about compatible USB devices (page 10).
- The USB device is not formatted correctly. Refer to the operating instructions of the USB device on how to format.
- Turn off the system and remove the USB device. If the USB device has a power switch, turn the USB device off and then on again after removing it from the system. Then perform transferring again.
- If the transferring and erase operations are repeated multiple times, the file structure within the USB device becomes fragmented. Refer to the operating instructions of the USB device on how to deal with this problem.
- The USB device was disconnected or the power was turned off during transferring. Delete the partially-transferred file, and perform transferring again. If this does not fix the problem, the USB device may be broken. Refer to the operating instructions of the USB device on how to deal with this problem.

Audio files or folders on the USB device cannot be erased.

- Check if the USB device is write-protected.

- The USB device was disconnected or the power was turned off during the erase operation. Delete the partially-erased file. If this does not fix the problem, the USB device may be broken. Refer to operating instructions of the USB device on how to deal with this problem.

There is no sound.

- The USB device is not connected correctly. Turn off the system and reconnect the USB device.

There is noise, skipping, or distorted sound.

- Turn off the system and reconnect the USB device, then turn on the system.
- The music data itself contains noise, or the sound is distorted. Noise may have entered during the transferring process. Delete the file, and try transferring again.
- The bit rate used when encoding audio files was low. Send audio files with higher bit rate to the USB device.

“READING” is displayed for an extended time, or it takes a long time before playback starts.

- The reading process can take a long time in the following cases.
 - There are many folders or files on the USB device.
 - The file structure is extremely complex.
 - The memory capacity is excessive.
 - The internal memory is fragmented.

“OVER CURRENT” appears.

- A problem has been detected with the level of electrical current from the Ψ port. Turn off the system and remove the USB device from the port. Make sure there is no problem with the USB device.

Erroneous display.

- The data stored in the USB device may have been corrupted, perform the transferring again.
- The character code that can be displayed by this system are as follows:
 - Upper cases (A to Z)
 - Numbers (0 to 9)
 - Symbols (< > * +, \ _)Other characters appear as “ _ ”.

The USB device is not recognized.

- Turn off the system and reconnect the USB device, then turn on the system.
- Check the information on the websites about compatible USB devices (page 10).
- The USB device does not work properly. Refer to the operating instructions of the USB device on how to deal with this problem.

Playback does not start.

- Turn off the system and reconnect the USB device, then turn on the system.
- Check the information on the websites about compatible USB devices (page 10).

Playback does not start from the first file.

- Set the play mode to Normal Play (page 10).

Audio file cannot be played back.

- USB device formatted with file systems other than FAT16 or FAT32 are unsupported.*
- A WMA audio file that is the WMA DRM, WMA Lossless, or WMA PRO format cannot be played back.
- An AAC audio file that is the AAC DRM or AAC Lossless format cannot be played back.
- AAC audio files encoded at 96 kHz cannot be played back.
- In case multiple partitions exist in USB device that is being used, files may not be played back.
- The system can play back to a depth of 8 folders only.

- Files that are encrypted or protected by passwords and etc. cannot be played back.
- Files with DRM (Digital Rights Management) copyright protection cannot be played back by this system.
- The MP3 PRO audio file can be played back as MP3 audio file.

* This system supports FAT16 and FAT32, but some USB device may not support all of these FAT. For details, refer to the operating instructions of each USB device or contact the manufacturer.

Tuner

Severe hum or noise, or stations cannot be received. (“TUNED” or “ST” flashes in the display panel.)

- Connect the antenna properly.
- Change antenna location and its orientation to obtain good reception.
- Connect a commercially available external antenna.
- Consult your nearest Sony dealer if the supplied AM antenna has come off from the plastic stand.
- Turn off surrounding electrical equipment.

To reset the system

If the system still does not operate properly, reset the system to factory default settings.

Use the buttons on the unit to perform this operation.

- 1** Unplug and plug the power cord back in.
- 2** Press **I/⏻** to turn on the system.
- 3** Hold down **FUNCTION**, then press **I/⏻**.

“RESET” appears in the display panel. All user-configured settings, such as preset radio stations, timer, and the clock are reset to factory default setting.

Messages

One of the following messages may appear or flash in the display panel during operation.

CANNOT PLAY

A disc that cannot be played back was inserted.

DATA ERROR

You tried to play back a file that is not playable.

DEVICE ERROR

The USB device could not be recognized or an unknown device is connected.

DEVICE FULL

The memory of the USB device is full.

ERASE ERROR

Erase of the audio files or folders failed.

FATAL ERROR

The USB device was removed during transferring or erase operation, and may have been damaged.

FOLDER FULL

The number of folders has reached the maximum.

FULL

You tried to program more than 25 steps.

HUB NOT SUPPORT

A USB hub is connected.

NoDEVICE

No USB device is connected.

NO DISC

There is no disc on the disc compartment or you have loaded a disc that cannot be played back on this system.

NoMEMORY

The memory selected for playback or transfer has no memory media inserted in the USB device.

NO STEP

All of the programmed steps have been erased.

NO SUPPORT

An unsupported USB device is connected.

NO TRACK

No playable file is loaded in the system.

NOT USE

You tried to perform a specific operation under conditions where that operation is prohibited.

OVER CURRENT

An over current from the Ψ port was detected.

PROTECT

The USB device is write-protected.

PUSH SELECT

You tried to set the clock or timer during timer operation.

PUSH STOP

You tried to perform an operation that can be performed only when the playback is stopped.

READING

The system is reading information of the disc or USB device. Some operations are not available.

REC ERROR

Transferring did not start, stopped partway, or otherwise could not be performed.

SET CLOCK

You pressed CLOCK/TIMER SELECT before the clock is set.

SET TIMER

You pressed CLOCK/TIMER SELECT before the Play Timer is set.

TIME NG

The Play Timer start time and stop time is the same.

TRACK FULL

The number of files has reached the maximum.

UNLOCKED

The disc theft-preventive function is released.

Precautions

When carrying the unit

Perform the following procedure to protect the disc mechanism.

Use the buttons on the unit to perform this operation.

- 1 Press **I/⏻** to turn on the system.
- 2 Press **CD**.
- 3 Remove the disc.
Press **▲** to open and close the disc tray.
Wait until “NO DISC” appears in the display panel.
- 4 Hold down **OPTIONS**, then press **I/⏻** for 3 seconds.
“MECHA LOCK” appears in the display panel.
- 5 Unplug the power cord.

Notes on discs

- Before playing, wipe the disc with a cleaning cloth from the center outward to the edge.
- Do not clean discs with solvents, such as benzine, thinner, or commercially available cleaners or anti-static spray intended for vinyl LPs.
- Do not expose discs to direct sunlight or heat sources such as hot air ducts, nor leave it in a car parked in direct sunlight.

On safety

- Completely disconnect the power cord (mains lead) from the wall outlet (mains) if it is not going to be used for an extended period of time. When unplugging the unit, always grip the plug. Never pull the cord itself.
- Should any solid object or liquid get into the system, unplug the system, and have it checked by qualified personnel before operating it again.
- AC power cord must be changed only at the qualified service shop.

On placement

- Do not place the system in an inclined position or in locations that are extremely hot, cold, dusty, dirty, or humid or lacking adequate ventilation, or subject to vibration, direct sunlight or a bright light.
- Be careful when placing the unit or speakers on surfaces that have been specially treated (for example, with wax, oil, polish) as staining or discoloration of the surface may result.
- If the system is brought directly from a cold to a warm location or is placed in a very damp room, moisture may condense on the lens inside the unit, and cause the system to malfunction. In this situation, remove the disc, and leave the system turned on for about an hour until the moisture evaporates.

On heat buildup

- Heat buildup on the unit during operation is normal and is not a cause for alarm.
- Do not touch the cabinet if it has been used continuously at a high volume because the cabinet may have become hot.
- Do not obstruct the ventilation holes.

On the speaker system

This speaker system is not magnetically shielded, and the picture on nearby TV sets may become magnetically distorted. In this situation, turn off the TV, wait 15 to 30 minutes, and turn it back on. If there is no improvement, move the speakers far away from the TV.

Cleaning the cabinet

Clean this system with a soft cloth slightly moistened with a mild detergent solution. Do not use any type of abrasive pad, scouring powder, or solvent, such as thinner, benzine, or alcohol.

Specifications

Amplifier section

The following are measured at Mexican model:

MHC-ESX9/ESX8:

AC 120 V – 240 V, 60 Hz

MHC-ESX6:

AC 127 V, 60 Hz

Other models:

AC 120 V – 240 V, 50/60 Hz

MHC-ESX9

Power output (rated):

High channel

140 W + 140 W (at 6 ohms, 1 kHz,
1% THD)

Low channel

140 W + 140 W (at 6 ohms, 100 Hz,
1% THD)

RMS output power (reference):

High channel

250 W + 250 W (per channel at
6 ohms, 1 kHz)

Low channel

250 W + 250 W (per channel at
6 ohms, 100 Hz)

MHC-ESX8

Power output (rated):

120 W + 120 W (at 5 ohms, 1 kHz,
1% THD)

RMS output power (reference):

300 W + 300 W (per channel at
5 ohms, 1 kHz)

MHC-ESX6

Power output (rated):

100 W + 100 W (at 4 ohms, 1 kHz,
1% THD)

RMS output power (reference):

180 W + 180 W (per channel at
4 ohms, 1 kHz)

Inputs

DVD/PC IN L/R (audio in L/R):

Voltage 2 V, impedance 47 kilohms

USB section

Supported bit rate

MP3 (MPEG 1 Audio Layer-3):

32 kbps – 320 kbps, VBR

WMA: 48 kbps – 192 kbps

AAC: 48 kbps – 320 kbps

Sampling frequencies

MP3 (MPEG 1 Audio Layer-3):

32/44.1/48 kHz

WMA: 44.1 kHz

AAC: 44.1 kHz

⚡ (USB) port:

Maximum current: 500 mA

CD player section

System

Compact disc and digital audio system

Laser Diode Properties

Emission Duration: Continuous

Laser Output*: Less than 44.6 μ W

* This output is the value measurement at a distance of 200 mm from the objective lens surface on the Optical Pick-up Block with 7 mm aperture.

Frequency response: 20 Hz – 20 kHz

Signal-to-noise ratio: More than 65 dB

Tuner section

FM stereo, FM/AM superheterodyne tuner

Antenna:

FM lead antenna

AM loop antenna

FM tuner section

Tuning range:

87.5 MHz – 108.0 MHz (50 kHz step)

AM tuner section

Tuning range

Latin American models:

530 kHz – 1,710 kHz (10 kHz step)

531 kHz – 1,710 kHz (9 kHz step)

Other models:

531 kHz – 1,602 kHz (9 kHz step)

530 kHz – 1,610 kHz (10 kHz step)

Speakers

Front Speaker

SS-ESX9 for MHC-ESX9

Speaker system

3-way 3-driver speaker system, Bass reflex

Speaker unit

Tweeter: 40 mm, cone type

Woofers: 100 mm, cone type
200 mm, cone type

Rated impedance

High channel: 6 ohms

Low channel: 6 ohms

Dimensions (w/h/d) (Approx.)

250 mm × 390 mm × 256 mm

Mass (Approx.)

5.1 kg

Quantity: 2 pieces

SS-ESX8 for MHC-ESX8

Speaker system

2-way 2-driver speaker system, Bass reflex

Speaker unit

Tweeter: 60 mm, cone type

Woofers: 200 mm, cone type

Rated impedance

5 ohms

Dimensions (w/h/d) (Approx.)

250 mm × 390 mm × 232 mm

Mass (Approx.)

4.3 kg

Quantity: 2 pieces

SS-ESX6 for MHC-ESX6

Speaker system

2-way 2-driver speaker system, Bass reflex

Speaker unit

Tweeter: 60 mm, cone type

Woofers: 160 mm, cone type

Rated impedance

4 ohms

Dimensions (w/h/d) (Approx.)

230 mm × 305 mm × 230 mm

Mass (Approx.)

3.0 kg

Quantity: 2 pieces

General

Power requirements

Mexican model:

MHC-ESX9/ESX8:

AC 120 V – 240 V, 60 Hz

MHC-ESX6:

AC 127 V, 60 Hz

Other models:

AC 120 V – 240 V, 50/60 Hz

Power consumption

MHC-ESX9: 165 W

MHC-ESX8: 100 W

MHC-ESX6: 70 W

Dimensions (w/h/d) (excl. speakers) (Approx.)

240 mm × 308 mm × 246 mm

Mass (excl. speakers) (Approx.)

MHC-ESX9: 3.0 kg

MHC-ESX8: 2.9 kg

MHC-ESX6: 2.8 kg

Supplied accessories

Remote control (1)

R6 (Size AA) batteries (2)

FM lead/AM loop antenna (1)

Design and specifications are subject to change without notice.

<http://www.sony.net/>

COMPACT
disc
DIGITAL AUDIO



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