Radio Shack

TRS-80

MINI DISK

Catalog Numbers 26-1160/26-1161

Operator's Manual

INTRODUCTION

The TRS-80 Mini Disk (see Figure 1) is a small version of a floppy disk. It allows vast storage space and much quicker access time than storage tape. The number 1 disk will contain about 80,000 bytes of file space and each additional Disk will contain 89,600 bytes of file space. The Disk system uses its own set of commands which permits manipulation of files and expanded abilities in file use.

To use the TRS-80 Mini Disk, you need a 16K Level II BASIC TRS-80 microcomputer or a 16K Level I BASIC TRS-80 microcomputer which has been modified to Level II BASIC. You will also need the TRS-80 Expansion Interface that is distributed under three part numbers (the difference in the three part numbered units is the amount of additional RAM they provide).

NOTE

You receive an Interconnect Cable only with Catalog Number 26-1160. Additional Mini Disk drives (Catalog Number 26-1161) do not have independent cables.
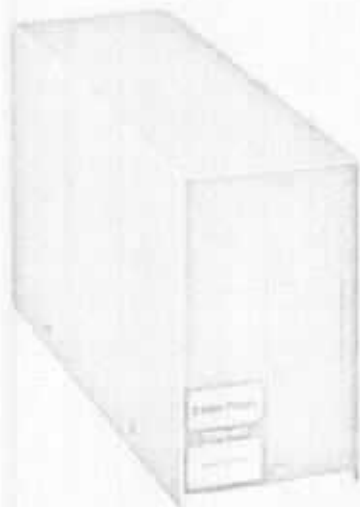
CONNECTION

The ribbon type interconnect cable (see Figure 2) you received with your Mini Disk (26-1160) is designed to connect to your TRS-80 Expansion Interface, to your TRS-80 Mini Disk and to a maximum of three other Mini Disk drives (26-1161). Pins have been selectively removed from the cable's Mini Disk connectors such that connector number 1 must be connected to Mini Disk drive number 1. Connector number 2 must connect to drive number 2 and so on.

The number 1 drive must be used in the system but, any combination of additional Disk drives is acceptable. The numeric designation of the drive (1, 2, 3 or 4) is determined by its position on the cable as illustrated.

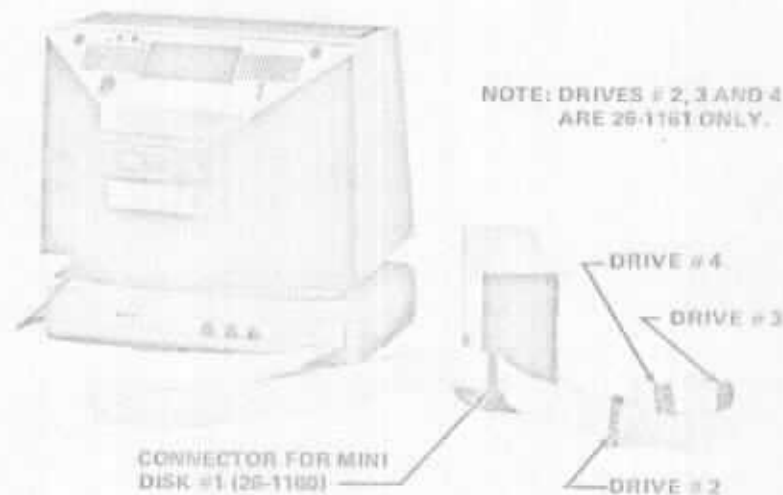The TRS-80 Mini Disk's AC connector must be plugged into a 120 VAC, 60 Hz outlet.

FIGURE 1 Mini Disk.

NOTE: DRIVES # 2, 3 AND 4 ARE 26-1161 ONLY.

DRIVE #4

DRIVE #3

CONNECTOR FOR MINI DISK #1 (26-1160)

DRIVE #2

FIGURE 2 Interconnect between the Mini Disk and the TRS-80 Expansion Interface.

POWER APPLICATION

The power switch for the Mini Disk is a two-position toggle switch located on the rear of the unit. Power is ON when the lever is in the "up" position.

PARALLEL OPERATION

Mini Disk drive number 1 must be Radio Shack Catalog Number 26-1160 which includes a cable and a set of termination resistors required for proper operation. Additional Disk drives (Catalog Number 26-1161) do not have the cable nor the termination resistors. The additional drives differ from drive number 1 only in the lack of the termination resistors.

NOTE
The Diskette must be inserted as shown in Figure 3.

During operation, the motors of all of the drives will turn on and off simultaneously. Only one drive may be written-to or read-from at any given time. A read or write operation is indicated by a head loading "click" and illumination of the LED of the selected drive.

Before any read or write operation, the motors will have been turning for at least one second to ensure the Diskette is rotating at the proper speed.
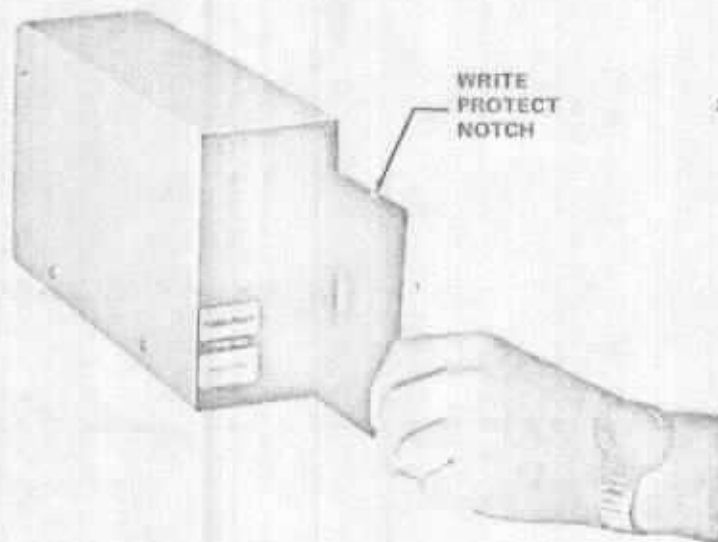
CARE OF DISKETTES

Handle, insert and store Diskettes very carefully. Creases, bends, scratches, dust and oil contamination will cause data errors and may damage the drive. Experience has proven that users tend to get lax in handling Diskettes when they begin to use the system on a routine basis. To prevent consequent data problems, avoid developing a lax attitude.

Diskettes may be protected from the possibility of undesired recording of data (you may want to use some of your data for read only) by application of a gummed tab over the "write protect notch" as shown in Figure 3. An uncovered write protect notch will allow writing to the Diskette.

DISKETTE TRACKS (see Figure 4)

Information is written-to and read-from sectors on the Diskette. There are 35 tracks which are concentric circles of data and location information. Each track is divided into ten equal sectors. Each sector contains 256 bytes of information. Track 00 (zero) is the outermost circle and track 34 is the innermost circle.
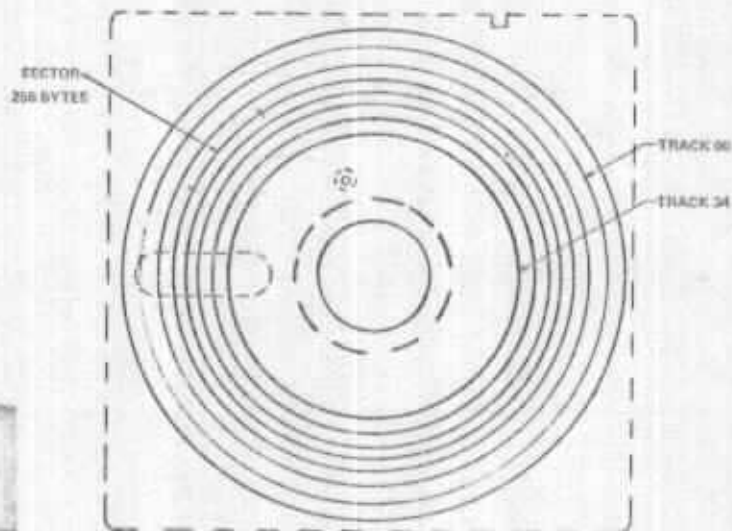
FIGURE 3 Inserting the Diskette.

FIGURE 4 Diskette Tracks.

PROGRAMMING INFORMATION

Information pertaining to programming Disk BASIC is contained in the Mini Disk System User's Manual. The Disk, of course, must be used under the control of system programming described in that publication — Disk operation being quite complex. The tapes, etc, provided with the Mini Disk to generate Disk BASIC, are described therein.

MAINTENANCE

No preventive maintenance is necessary but, be careful with the interconnect cable and connectors since most malfunctions are due to connector problems.

SERVICE

For service or repair, you must return your Mini Disk to your local Radio Shack store.

LIMITED WARRANTY

Radio Shack warrants for a period of 90 days from the date of delivery to customer that the computer hardware described herein shall be free from defects in material and workmanship under normal use and service. This warranty shall be void if this unit's case or cabinet is opened or if the unit is altered or modified. During this period, if a defect should occur, the product must be returned to a Radio Shack store or dealer for repair. Customer's sole and exclusive remedy in the event of defect is expressly limited to the correction of the defect by adjustment, repair or replacement at Radio Shack's election and sole expense, except there shall be no obligation to replace or repair items which by their nature are expendable. No representation or other affirmation of fact, including but not limited to statements regarding capacity, suitability for use, or performance of the equipment, shall be or be deemed to be a warranty or representation by Radio Shack, for any purpose, nor give rise to any liability or obligation of Radio Shack whatsoever.

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