

LISTENING DEVICE INSTRUCTIONAL GUIDE

8-Track Player

Activity

WHAT DO YOU SEE? (2 minutes)

- Read out loud the history of the device.
- How would you describe this device to someone who can't see?
- What questions do you have about this device?

WHAT DO YOU HEAR? (4 minutes)

- Listen to music on the device by following the instructions.
- How is this device similar to how you listen to music today?
- How is this device different from how you listen to music today?

WHAT DO YOU THINK? (2 minutes)

- What are the strengths and weaknesses of the device's design?
- Why is this device not popular today?
- How would you change this device to make it better?

History

- 8-track tapes were created in 1964 by the Lear Jet Corporation (an airplane company) and developed for popular use by companies such as Ford (a car company) and RCA (a record company).
- An 8-track player is used for 8-track tapes. It is called an 8-track because the tape has four pairs of stereo tracks of music (a stereo track means separate sound is sent to the left and right speaker so the listener hears "in stereo").
- Inside the sturdy plastic case, magnetic tape moves in a single continuous loop, which makes rewinding impossible.
- Most 8-track tapes held about forty-five minutes of sound. As consumers demanded longer tapes, companies developed sixty-, eighty-, and ninety-minute tapes.
- 8-tracks were used from the late 1960s to the early 1980s.

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Instructions

1. Open the back compartment of the RIGHT SPEAKER, and pull out the POWER and SPEAKER CABLES.
2. Unlatch the top of the box.
3. Open and carefully separate the two speakers from the hinges on the bottom.
4. Connect the POWER CABLE, and select "AC" on the back of the RIGHT SPEAKER.
5. Connect the SPEAKER CABLE to the back of the LEFT SPEAKER (where it says CONNECTOR).
6. Insert the 8-track tape in the left speaker slot with the film facing inside. The tape player will automatically turn on.
7. Adjust VOLUME and TONE as needed.
8. If no music is playing, carefully adjust the tape so it's properly aligned inside the tape deck (move it slightly in/out or up/down). Don't push too hard.
9. Using the CHANNEL button, select channel 1, 2, 3, or 4 to hear different songs on the tape.
10. When finished, remove the tape by gently pulling it out.
11. Unplug the POWER and SPEAKER CABLE, and put them back in the RIGHT SPEAKER compartment.
12. Attach both speakers on the hinges, and close the latch on top.

