

LISTENING DEVICE INSTRUCTIONAL GUIDE

Boombox

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

- The boombox was invented in 1966 by Phillips, a Dutch technology company that also developed the compact cassette.
- The name boombox comes from the volume of the speakers ("boom") and the device's square shape ("box").
- The boombox became popular in the United States in the late 1970s because it was portable and it could play the radio and cassette tapes at a loud volume.
- In large cities like New York and Los Angeles in the 1980s, young people used boomboxes to play hip hop, which was a new sound and often included dancing and rapping in the streets.
- As technology changed in the 1980s and 1990s, boomboxes adapted to play compact discs in addition to cassette tapes and radio. Microphones, additional speakers, and turntables (record players) could also be plugged into the boombox.

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Instructions

LISTEN TO A CASSETTE TAPE

1. Remove the POWER CABLE from the BATTERY COMPARTMENT on the back.
2. Plug the cable in the AC INPUT and power source.
3. Push the STOP/EJECT ■ button to open the cassette lid.
4. Insert a cassette tape by sliding it against the inside of the lid. Carefully close the lid. If the lid does not close, remove the tape and turn it around to the correct position.
5. Find FUNCTION, select TAPE.
6. Press PLAY ► to play the cassette tape.
7. Adjust VOLUME, TONE, and BALANCE as needed.
8. Press REWIND I◀◀ or FAST-FORWARD ▶▶I to skip ahead or behind on the cassette tape.
9. When finished, press STOP/EJECT ■ to stop and eject the cassette tape.

LISTEN TO THE RADIO

1. Carefully lift the radio antenna off the clip and extend it outwards.
2. Find FUNCTION, select RADIO.
3. Find BAND, choose AM or FM.
4. Move the TUNING dial to find a radio frequency.
5. Adjust VOLUME, TONE, and BALANCE as needed.
6. When finished, move the mode to TAPE to turn OFF.

