

TANDY®
Multi-Pak Interface
for Color Computer 2

Owner's Manual

Cat. No. 26-3124



The FCC Wants You to Know . . .

This equipment generates and uses radio frequency energy. If it is not installed and used properly, that is, in strict accordance with the manufacturer's instructions, it may cause interference to radio and television reception. It has been type tested and found to comply with the limits for a Class B computing device in accordance with the specifications in Subpart J of Part 15 of FCC Rules, which are designed to provide reasonable protection against such interference in a residential installation. However, there is no guarantee that interference will not occur in a particular installation. If this equipment does cause interference to radio or television reception, which can be determined by turning the equipment off and on, the user is encouraged to try to correct the interference by one or more of the following measures :

- reorient the receiving antenna
- relocate the computer with respect to the receiver
- move the computer away from the receiver
- plug the computer into a different outlet so that computer and receiver are on different branch circuits.

If necessary, the user should consult the dealer or an experienced radio/television technician for additional suggestions. The user may find the following booklet prepared by the Federal Communications Commission helpful : **How to Identify and Resolve Radio-TV Interference Problems**. This booklet is available from the United States Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402, Stock No. 004-000-00345-4.

Warning : This equipment has been certified to comply with the limits for a Class B computing device, pursuant to Subpart J of Part 15 of FCC Rules. Only peripherals (computer input/output devices, terminals, printers, etc.) that are certified to comply with the Class B limits may be attached to this computer. Operation with non-certified peripherals is likely to result in interference to radio and TV reception.

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VI. STATE LAW RIGHTS

- The warranties granted herein give the original CUSTOMER specific legal rights, and the original CUSTOMER may have other rights which vary from state to state.

Important Note !

Be sure your Color Computer and the Multi-Pak Interface are both turned **OFF** before you connect or disconnect the two units. Also be sure all power is OFF before inserting or removing any Program Paks. Damage to the Color Computer, the Multi-Pak Interface, or Program Pak may occur if the power is **ON**.

Multi-Pak Interface Owner's Manual

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Features

1

Tandy's Color Computer Multi-Pak Interface is a welcome addition to the color computer family. With it, you can connect up to four color computer Program Paks™ or interface controllers to your computer at once. Then, when you're ready to change from one program pak to another, simply select another *slot*.

Frequently used program paks will no longer have to be removed and reinserted for use. You can use them over and over without having to change the setup or continually change cartridges.

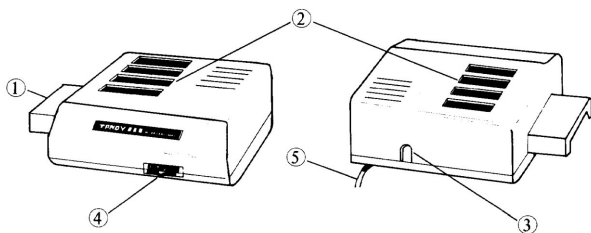


Figure 1. Color Computer Multi-Pak Interface

- ① **Color computer connector.** Insert this connector into the program pak slot on your color computer.
- ② **Program pak slots (4).** Insert your program paks into these slots. Slot 1 is toward the front, slot 4 is to the rear.
- ③ **Power switch.** Press in on this switch to turn the power ON. Never insert a program pak into the multi-pak interface when the power is on. Make sure the power for the Multi-Pak and Color Computer is turned OFF when connecting or disconnecting the multi-pak to the color computer.
- ④ **Program pak selector switch.** When you want to use a program pak that is in a specific slot, set this switch to the appropriate number.
- ⑤ **AC power cord.** Connect this to a standard AC outlet or an approved power strip, such as the Plug-In Power Strip (61-2619) or Line Filter (26-1451).

Setting up 2

To use the Color Computer Multi-Pak Interface, you'll need a Tandy Color Computer, television set, and a Tandy color computer program pak.

Before making any connections to the color computer or the multi-pak interface, be sure the power to all units is OFF !

To connect the multi-pak interface :

1. Make sure all equipment is turned OFF.
2. Locate the program pak cartridge slot on the right side of the color computer. Carefully align the multi-pak interface's computer connector with the cartridge slot. Gently slide the connector into the computer's recessed cartridge receptacle.

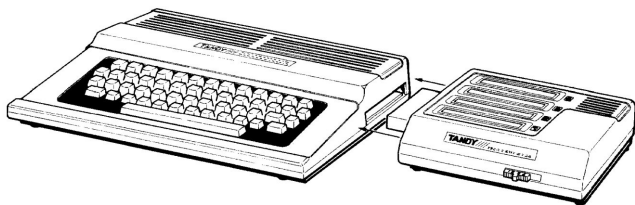


Figure 2. Color Computer and Multi-Pak Interface Connection

3. Plug the power cords (color computer and multi-pak interface) into an AC outlet or power strip.

Do not power up the color computer or multi-pak interface yet !

The multi-pak interface system is now ready for use.

When you need to disconnect the multi-pak interface from the color computer, turn the equipment OFF. Then, gently separate the two units.

Getting started 3

The color computer multi-pak interface has four slots reserved for program paks. It doesn't matter which slot you select to insert a particular program pak. However, the disk interface pak must be inserted into slot 4 (the rear slot). Just make sure that the system is turned *off* before you insert a program pak.

This means, for instance, that a Color Computer Disk System, a Deluxe RS-232C Program Pak, and a game cartridge can be connected to the color computer system at once. However, you'll only be able to use one device or cartridge at a time.

The cartridge should slide smoothly into the receptacle which is recessed into the color computer multi-pak interface case. If you have difficulty inserting the cartridge, it may be backward. Do not force a program pak into a slot.

To power up the multi-pak system :

If your program pak uses a printer, turn the printer on first. If the cartridge does not use a printer, make sure the printer power is off.

1. Turn all peripherals (disk drive, etc.) ON.
2. Turn the multi-pak ON.
3. Turn the computer ON.

Reverse the procedure to turn off the power.

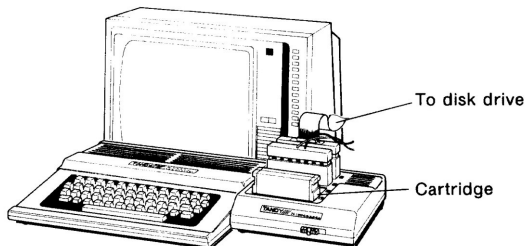


Figure 3. Arrangement of units

Selecting a slot via hardware

Slot selection on the multi-pak interface can be performed via *hardware* (actually moving the switch) or *software* (by POKEing a memory location from BASIC).

To manually select a program pak slot, set the program pak selector switch to the number (1,2,3 or 4) which corresponds to the appropriate slot.

If your slot selection does not switch immediately, press the RESET button on the rear panel of your color computer.

You do not need to turn off the system to change from one program pak to another—just move the selector switch (and press the color computer's RESET button, if necessary. You must always press RESET when selecting the disk interface pak which must be inserted in slot 4).

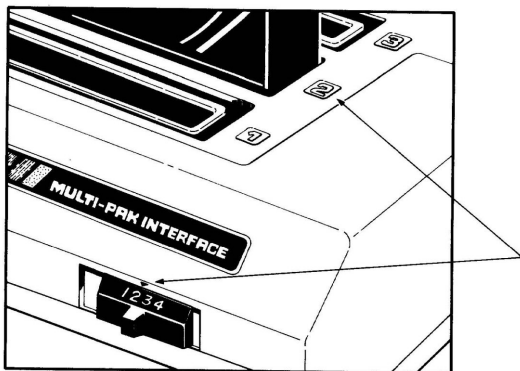


Figure 4. Switch-to-slot selection

Selecting a slot via software

You can select a slot with your color computer using software. To do this, you'll need to use the POKE command. (See *Getting Started With Color BASIC* for details.)

Slot selection is controlled by memory location 65407. The value to be "poked" can be determined from the following:

poke 65407, 51, Disable RomPak.

Address	Value	Slot
65407	0	1
65407	17	2
65407	34	3
65407	51	4

For example, to select slot 3, you would enter BASIC and type at the OK prompt:

POKE 65407, 34 (ENTER)

Remember that you must be in BASIC before using POKE. To enter BASIC on power-up, set the slot selector switch to a number which specifies an empty slot before turning on the power or pressing RESET.

Once a slot has been selected through BASIC, the slot selector switch will have no effect on slot selection, unless you press RESET.

Troubleshooting and maintenance

4

Your multi-pak interface should provide you with years of reliable service. However, if you do have or suspect problems with the unit, check the "Symptom and Cure" table below. If you can't find a solution, take the multi-pak interface to your nearest Radio Shack Computer Center or store for prompt service.

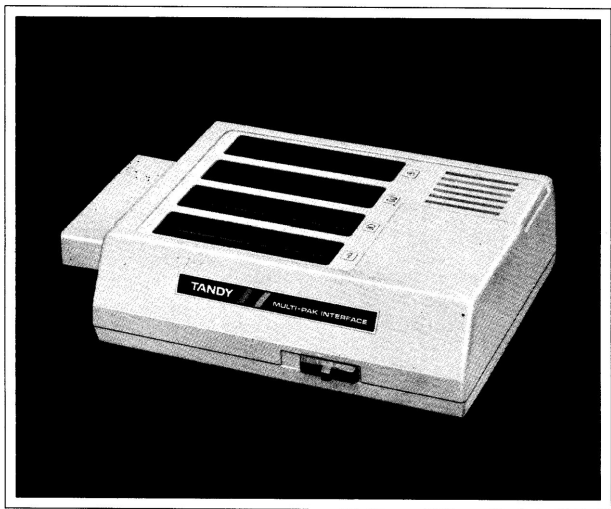
Symptom	Cure
One program pak does not work.	The program pak is defective. Try another program pak in the same slot to find out if it is the multi-pak interface or the program pak that is causing the trouble.
None of the program paks work.	The power cord may be improperly connected or the power has not been turned on. Check that the cord is properly connected and that the power is ON.
The wrong program is run after you've inserted a program pak.	Selector switch is not set to the appropriate position.

Do not insert any foreign objects (such as your fingers) into a program pak slot.

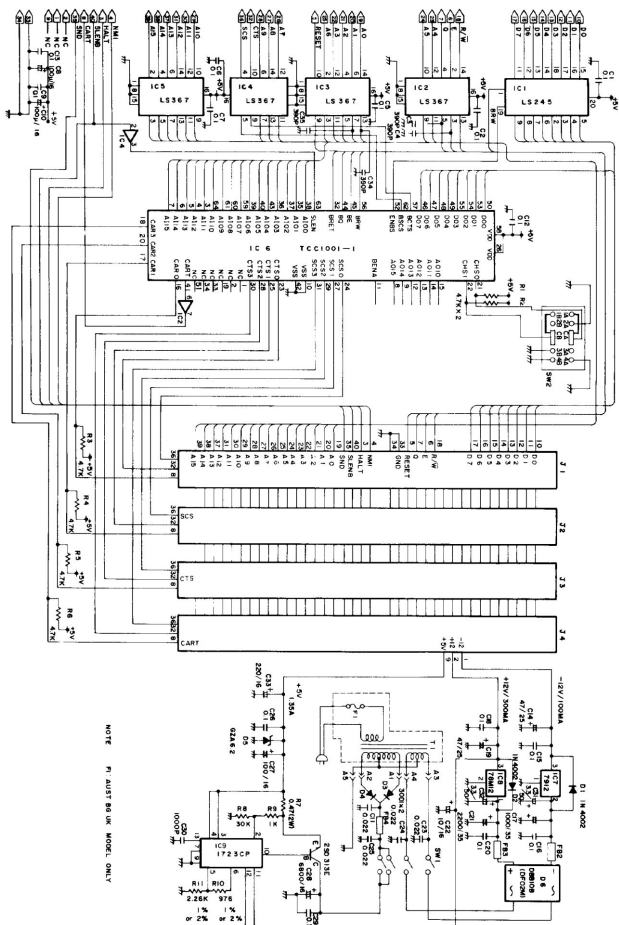
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Schematic Diagram



SERVICE POLICY

Radio Shack's nationwide network of service facilities provides quick, convenient, and reliable repair services for all of its computer products, in most instances. Warranty service will be performed in accordance with Radio Shack's Limited Warranty. Non-warranty service will be provided at reasonable parts and labor costs.

Because of the sensitivity of computer equipment, and the problems which can result from improper servicing, the following limitations also apply to the services offered by Radio Shack:

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2. If any Radio Shack computer equipment has been modified so that it is not within manufacturer's specifications, including, but not limited to, the installation of any non-Radio Shack parts, components, or replacement boards, then Radio Shack reserves the right to refuse to service the equipment, void any remaining warranty, remove and replace any non-Radio Shack part found in the equipment, and perform whatever modifications are necessary to return the equipment to original factory manufacturer's specifications.
3. The cost for the labor and parts required to return the Radio Shack computer equipment to original manufacturer's specifications will be charged to the customer in addition to the normal repair charge.

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