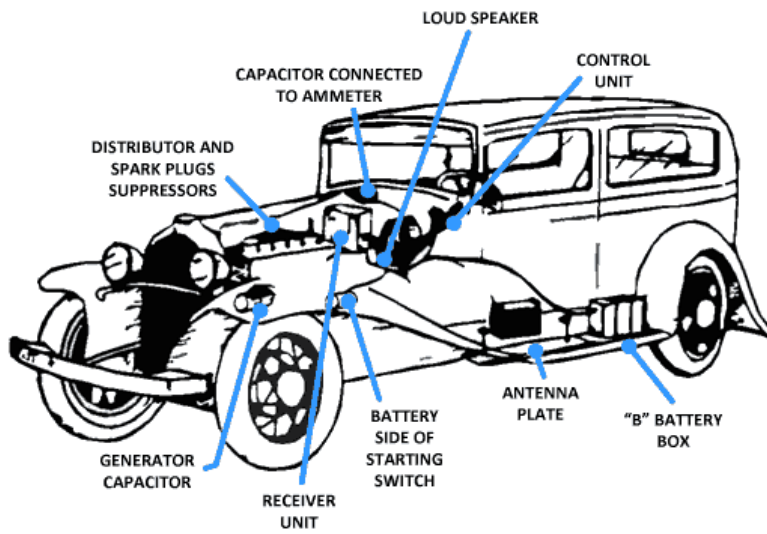


**STEREO 8
INSTALLATION & OPERATING
INSTRUCTIONS**



Classic Auto Radio Service
23502 Shelby Avenue
Port Charlotte FL 33954
1-800-880-1409

INTRODUCTION:

Congratulations, you have one of the most unique and sophisticated radios ever built! It is designed for a long trouble free life and quality sound. Our objective is to preserve all of the original functions and appearance of your radio while providing superior sound using the best of the latest digital technology.

Everything that you can see functions, feels and looks like the original! The more modern features that were not available when your car was new are cleverly improvised so that they are functional and easily accessible, but not visible.

Advisory – Other alterations we make to the original case will not affect the original mounting method. The radio should be installed in the dash per the original manufacturer's specification.

FM operations – You still set your pushbuttons or Rotomatic the same way you always did, but now they can be set for AM or FM stations. If the radio had a signal seeking tuner (Wonderbar, Town & Country, Selectronic, etc.), it will seek on both AM and FM stations. If the radio had an original stereo indicator, it will light on stereo stations. If the radio had a built-in 8 track player, you can play your oldies on it. If the radio had an original balance and/or fader control, they will still function.

Before you begin installation – Be Safe! Disconnect one battery terminal and leave it disconnected until installation is complete. Make sure you are familiar with the options and features programmed into this radio. Locate the antenna jack, the CD inputs and any controls that are mounted where they are only accessible from behind the dash before you mount the radio. If you want to "bench test" the radio use a fully charged battery. DO NOT operate this radio directly from a battery charger. Serious damage may result.

****Be sure your radio voltage and polarity matches your car.****

SPEAKERS:

Speakers – If you only have room for one speaker, use one full range speaker instead of the "dual" speakers made to fit one opening. Because those dual speakers have small cones, they can't produce any bass, and you won't be able to hear stereo separation because they are mounted so close together.

Use one 4 ohm speaker for each channel you want to connect. Make sure it can handle the wattage! Unless you crank it all the way up regularly, 30 or 40 watt RMS ratings should be sufficient. The higher the SPL rating of the speaker, the better it is. Look for an SPL of 88 or better. A good full range speaker should have a frequency range from less than 40 Hz to better than 20 kHz.

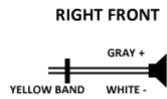
Pay attention to polarity – Speaker terminals will be marked with a + and - , or a red dot on the + terminal. If all speakers are connected to the proper polarity, they will operate in harmony. If they are not properly phased, you will not hear the full fidelity of the radio. Note: This does not mean ground. This is a high power radio in which both speaker lines are driven with high currents. Never allow any speaker lead to become grounded when the radio is on.

Speaker arrangements – If your car is a convertible or station wagon, it may not be possible to mount speakers in the rear. You might consider kick panel speakers, or mounting speakers under the dash where they're out of sight. Pages 4-7 show more possibilities for speaker arrangements.

Wiring – Unless your radio is mono with the speaker built in, it has a 12 pin connector for the speakers and options. The connector has six rows of two wires each. The first 2 rows are for the front speakers. There is a blue and violet pair for the left front speaker and a gray and white pair for the right front speaker. Each front pair will have a yellow band around it. The middle 2 rows are for the rear speakers. There is also a blue and violet pair for the left rear speaker and a gray and white pair for the right rear speaker. Each rear pair will have a green band around it. The last 4 connector positions may have a red (fused) wire. This is for power input. If this wire is not included, your radio has a separate (original) power input that connects directly to a plug in the wiring harness. It may also have a green wire that is used for the dial light. If the green wire is not installed in the 12 pin plug, it is either part of the original power connector, or was not separately supplied originally. The orange wire with the female bullet connector is switched to 12 volts output used for optional CD players, MP3, IPOD or XM receivers. It can also be used to control power antennas. See page 10 for more details.

SPEAKER ARRANGEMENTS:

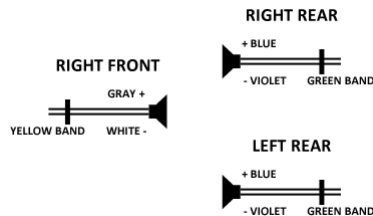
One Speaker – (Mono System)



Often the best choice for "early" T-Birds, Corvettes, and other cars, that did not have openings for more than one speaker. It may be used in early postwar cars where the speaker was inside of the radio case. These radios may not have speaker wires for the unused speakers, and the balance and/or fader controls may not be installed.

- Use a 4 Ohm speaker capable of handling 45 watts.
- Recommended configuration for 6 volt positive ground systems:
- Make sure any unused speaker wires won't contact metal!
- Set the fader control (if applicable) to the front.
- Set balance control to the right channel. This will put the receiver in the "Mono" mode.

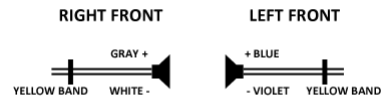
Three Speakers — (12 Volt systems only)



This configuration is used when the car has openings for one front and two rear speakers.

- Use three 4 ohm speakers capable of handling 45 watts each.
- Make sure any unused speaker wires won't contact metal!
- Use the fader control to adjust between the front and rear speakers.
- Use the balance control to adjust left to right.

Two Speakers – (Stereo System)

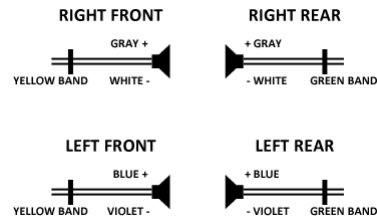


Maximum speaker configuration for 6 volt radio:

Typically, this configuration is used where the car has provisions for only one front and one rear speaker, and the goal is preservation of the original appearance. Use only the front speaker wiring even if one of the speakers will be mounted in the rear.

- Use two 4 ohm speakers capable of handling 45 watts.
- Make sure any unused speaker wires won't contact metal!
- Set the fader control (if applicable) to the front.
- Use the balance control to adjust the volume between the two channels.

Four Speakers — (12 volt systems only)



- Use four 4 ohm speakers capable of handling 45 watts each. Make sure any unused speaker wires won't contact metal!
- Use the fader control to adjust between the front and rear speakers.
- Use the balance control to adjust left to right.

CUSTOMIZING YOUR RADIO:

Band Selection – If your radio has an AM/FM switch, set it for the desired band. If it does not, it will power up in the FM stereo mode the first time it is turned on. To switch to AM, turn the radio off, then back on again. To switch back to FM, turn the radio off, wait 5 seconds, then turn the radio back on.

Tuning – Radios that only have an AM dial will tune the FM band from 88 (low end) to 108 (high end) mHz. Since 1100 kHz is approximately the center of the AM band, it will correspond to about 98 mHz on the FM band you can set your pushbuttons for either AM or FM stations.

Tone – The tone control (usually behind the volume control) provides full bass and treble boost near the center position. Tuning the control towards bass cuts treble, and conversely turning towards treble, cuts bass.

Balance – If your radio originally had a balance control, it will operate normally. If your radio was not so equipped, and it has more than one speaker, a balance control has been added. See page 6 for your option - If an external balance control has been added set it for the most pleasing sound. If an alternate (Alt) control is programmed tune to an FM station and set the tone for the best sound. After you've listened for a few seconds, tune rapidly to the bottom of the dial. The LED in the dial (where applicable) will begin to flash and the last station you were listening to will start playing again. Use the tone control to adjust the balance. When you tune away from the bottom, the radio will resume normal operation, and the tone control will no longer affect balance. If use fader is programmed the original "front/rear" fader will instead control left/right balance. This option is typically used for 2 speaker systems when the radio was originally equipped with a front/rear fader.

Fader – If your radio has more than two speakers, and had an original fader, it will operate normally. If not, a fader has been added. See page 6 for your option. If an external fader has been added, set it for the most pleasing sound. If an alternate (Alt) fader is programmed, tune to an FM station and set the tone for the best sound. After you've listened for a few seconds, tune rapidly to the top of the dial. (The LED in the dial (where applicable) will begin to flash, and the last station you were listening to will start playing again. Use the tone control to adjust the fader. When you tune away from the top of the dial, the radio will resume normal operation, and the tone control will no longer affect the fader function.

If either the **Alt balance or Alt fader** option is used, the settings are permanently stored (until you change them). Every time you turn on the radio, the balance and/or fader values you last set will be reloaded.

TROUBLESHOOTING:

No Sound – Check for good fuse with proper rating. When the radio is turned on, the orange CD wire should have 12 volts present. Radio will "mute" when no station is received. Make sure antenna is plugged in. If all 4 speakers are not connected make sure the balance and/or fader controls are set for the speakers that are connected. If the CD is plugged in, make sure it's not on.

Blows Fuses – Make sure you're using the proper fuse (see page 6). Make sure the battery polarity is not reversed- Check to see if the orange CD wire is shorted. Make sure no speaker wires are grounded or pinched under a seat. If your radio is a signal seeker and the battery is not fully charged, it will blow the fuse when the solenoid tries to activate.

Weak or No Reception – Make sure the antenna is plugged in to the proper jack. Check continuity between the center pin of the antenna plug and the antenna mast. It should read 0 ohms (like a short). Next check continuity between the center pin of the antenna plug and the car body. It should not read (like an open circuit). If you're in a metal building, reception may be limited. Try it outside.

Engine Noise – Usually caused by an ungrounded antenna shield. The base of the antenna must make good contact with the car body. This problem often shows up after a good paint job! Make sure the engine grounding straps are clean and tightly bonded to the frame.

Low Volume – If you're using 8 or 10 ohm speakers, you can't get as much power. Make sure speakers are properly installed. Make sure balance and fader controls are properly adjusted.

Distortion – **Check** to see if your speakers can handle at least 45 watts RMS. Make sure, the speaker pairs are not mixed (i.e. gray front with white rear). Make sure that no speaker is grounded. Every speaker lead should measure about 2-1/2 volts to ground with the radio on and volume low. Resistance in the DC power input wiring can cause the amplifiers to "starve". If distortion seems to increase with volume, measure the voltage on the orange CD wire. If the voltage drops when the volume is raised, it is an indication of resistance between the battery and the radio - usually at the fuse block, but sometimes in the ignition switch.

No Dial Light – Some radios use a separate dial light wire that is typically connected to the dash light dimmer. This is the green wire if it is run through our 12 pin connector. If there is no green wire provided, the dial light should be connected through the original plug and harness.

OPTIONAL ACCESSORIES:

CD Players and XM Receivers – Our radio has two RCA input jacks mounted on it, and one wire in the harness that is associated with these inputs. The orange wire controls the switching of the input jacks. To install a CD changer, XM receiver, or other accessory simply plug the audio outputs into the female RCA jacks provided on the radio.

Connect the orange wire in the accessory power lead. Follow the manufacturer's instructions for installation, and disregard the part about antenna plugs. That's all there is to it!

XM Radio – Follow the manufacturer's instructions for adjusting the audio input level. For example, the audio output level from the XM receivers can be adjusted from the XM controller via the options menu. See the XM instructions for details.

When the accessory is put into the *play mode*, or the XM receiver is turned on, the radio will switch off, and the RCA inputs will become active. If your radio has an LED status indicator, it will be off while the radio is in the auxiliary input mode. The volume, tone, and hardware controls for balance and fader (if present) will be functional in this mode, but if your radio uses alternate software or balance and/or fader controls, they will not be accessible in the auxiliary input mode.

** When the radio is turned off with the radio on/off switch, the accessory will automatically turn off.*

8 Track – If your radio incorporates a factory 8 track player or cassette tape option, it will begin playing as soon as a tape is inserted just as it did originally even if the radio is on the auxiliary input mode when the tape is turned on. The LED status indicator (if present) will be turned off while the tape is playing. The order of priority is tape/auxiliary input/radio.

Caution – The orange wire is a 12 volt control line that is powered directly from the main switch in the radio. It is intended to be an output only. The maximum current it can safely source is 5 Amps continuous. If the orange wire is shorted to ground or if power is applied to the orange wire, serious damage will occur!

STEREO 8 QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE

This Radio Is Built For –

- 12 volt negative ground
(Use 14 A fuse)
- 6 volt negative ground
(Use 10 A fuse)
- 6 volt positive ground
(Use 6 A fuse)
- Other

Other Options Incorporated In This Radio Are –

- North American channel spacing
- European channel spacing

Tone Control –

- Original
- External

Balance Control –

- Original
- External
- Alt*
(Use fader)

Fader Control –

- Original
- External
- Alt*

Speakers –

- 1 Speaker (mono)
- 2 Speakers (stereo)
- 3 or 4 Speakers

Other –

- AM/FM switch
- AM or FM selected by On/Off switch

**Alt operation is explained on page 4*