

CHIPPER

Instruction Manual



The World at a Touch

ADAPTIVATION
INCORPORATED

1-800-723-2783

2225 W. 50th St., Suite 100
Sioux Falls, SD 57105

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INTRODUCTION

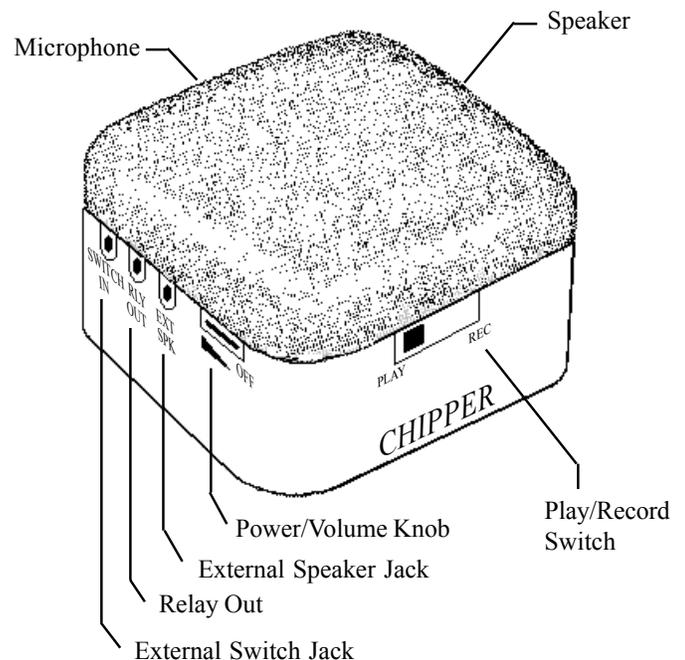
Your Adaptation, Inc. *Chipper* has been designed to provide easy access for individuals with physical or mental disabilities to basic and effective augmentative communication. The *Chipper* will allow one digitized message to be recorded and played back by touching the device itself or by plugging in an external switch such as Adaptation's Taction Pads or Pal Pads. The *Chipper* also has relay activation which will allow you to pair the message with some type of reinforcement such as a battery operated toy. Because the *Chipper* is so easily programmed, its great for promoting interaction in inclusion settings. Feel free to contact Adaptation at any time for assistance with using your *Chipper*.

Operating your *Chipper*

Battery Installation

1. Check to ensure that your *Chipper* is turned off by rotating the Volume/Power knob until the click is felt.
2. With the device lying face down, open the battery compartment cover by removing the single Phillips head screw.
3. Properly insert one 9 volt battery. Adaptation recommends using only Alkaline 9 volt batteries to ensure long battery life.
4. Replace the battery compartment cover and secure with the screw. Take care not to overtighten.

Chipper Diagram



Recording a Message

1. Turn on the power by rotating the VOLUME/POWER knob to mid-position.
2. Slide the PLAY/RECORD switch to the REC position.
3. Press down on the *Chipper* and speak your message clearly, about 12 inches away, into the side of the *Chipper* marked MIC, holding the switch until the message is finished.
4. When finished recording, slide the PLAY/RECORD switch to the PLAY position. Press down on the *Chipper* and your message will play back.
5. To re-record a message simply repeat the above steps.
6. For those individuals who are unable to access the *Chipper*, any external switch may be plugged into the jack marked EXT SWITCH. A message can also be recorded by utilizing an adaptive switch rather than the top of the *Chipper* in steps 3-5.

Note: When you are not using the *Chipper*, we recommend turning off the *Chipper* to prevent accidental activation and to save on battery life.

Relay Operation

The *Chipper* has an internal relay which acts as a switch to activate other battery operated devices or devices operated through an environmental control. The relay will activate for the entire duration of the recorded message. The relay automatically activates when the *Chipper* is activated. There is no need to program or turn the relay on. To add latching and timing capabilities, use a switch-latch-timer box like Adaptivation's Linkswitch. Below are some examples of how to use the relay.

Example1: In this example we will use the relay to activate a toy for the duration of the message. You will need a standard cable connector with 1/8" (3.5mm) male jacks on both ends (available from Adaptivation). One end of the cable connector is plugged into the adapted toy. If your battery operated toy is not already commercially adapted for switch use, then use a Battery Interrupter to easily adapt your toy. The other end of the cable connector is then plugged into jack marked RLY OUT on the *Chipper*. Record an appropriate message. Now to activate the toy, simply press the *Chipper* itself or an external switch and the toy will activate for the length of the message.

Example2: Sometimes activating for the length of the message will not allow for enough time. This example may be useful when you want an adapted device or appliance to stay on for an extended length of time. A commercially available switch-latch-timer, such as Adaptivation's Linkswitch will al-

low for this operation. Lets say we wanted an adapted tape recorder to play for 30 seconds then automatically shut off. Plug the switch-latch-timer's output into the tape recorder and put it in a timing mode for 30 seconds. Then plug the cable connector into the *Chipper* and also to the switch-latch-timer's input. The tape recorder is now ready to activate in a timing mode. A latch effect can easily be done by putting the latch box into a latch mode.

Mounting Options

The *Chipper* has 3 threaded inserts on the bottom side. These inserts can be used to easily mount the *Chipper* to a small triangular plate often found on common mounting aids such as the Magic Arm or E-Mount available from Adaptivation. The *Chipper* also comes with rubber feet to help keep it from sliding. When mounting on a table or other flat surface Velcro or Dual-Lock can be used as an alternate mounting method. If necessary remove the rubber feet to help secure the Velcro.

Since the *Chipper* is square in shape, this makes it very easy to mount multiple *Chippers* next to each other. Simple and affordable communication boards can be made to allow the individual to progress to multiple messages. You may also try combining the *Chipper* with other devices such as Adaptivation's Sequencer which allows a sequence of messages or the FreeHand environmental control. This will allow the individual to have a variety of messages and also have environmental control.

Taction Pads™

Taction Pads (short for "tactile action") are clear, adhesive-backed, touch-sensitive patches that can turn nearly any object or surface into a touch-sensitive 'switch'. Simply touching the object where the Taction Pad is placed causes voice output from your *Chipper*. Used in conjunction with any of Adaptivation's touch activated products, our exclusive Taction Pads let the teacher or therapist choose the best target object when activating an assistive device.

Taction Pads are sensitive to the amount of moisture in the skin. If the skin is too dry, the *Chipper* will not sense that someone is touching the Taction Pads. **Apply hand lotion to remedy this** (Adaptivation uses Nutrogena® Hand Cream). Normally the skin on the pads of the fingers and the palm of the hand is the only skin moist enough to consistently activate the Taction Pad.

Taction Pads are resistant to saliva, urine, and other grime but should be cleaned with mild soap and water as necessary. If a Taction Pad has standing liquid on it, the *Chipper* will sense this and think someone is holding their hand on the Taction Pad. Wipe the Taction Pad dry to avoid this.

There are three different shapes of Taction Pads™,

suitable for different shaped objects; two rectangular (2" x 4") Taction Pads (shapes A and A2), one large rectangular (3" x 5") Taction Pad (shape D), and one skinny strip (24" x 0.1") Taction Pad (shape C). The rectangular shapes are useful for most large, flat surfaces. Shape C is suitable for spiraling around odd-shaped objects. Shape A2 is made especially for small fingers. Taction Pad sets are subject to change without notice.

If a Taction Pad is too large for the surface or object you want to adhere it to, you can trim it to size with scissors. The Taction Pads should be cut on the side farthest from the cord and parallel to the thin lines. You must, however, leave at least two lines on the Taction Pad for it to continue working. Once a Taction Pad™ is stuck to a clean surface, it may be difficult to peel off and stick somewhere else. Taction Pads are extra thick to resist tearing when peeling them off, but they also have extra sticky adhesive to reduce the risk of inadvertent removal. Residue will stick to the Taction Pad if it was originally adhered to clothing or paper products and, therefore, may not stick to another surface or object. Adaptation does not recommend adhering Taction Pads directly to skin.

timing is desired, use a switch-latch-timer-box such as a Linkswitch in conjunction with the *Chipper*.

The *Chipper* is not recording.

- Make sure the *Chipper* is in the REC mode.
- Batteries may be too low.
- If using an external switch, make sure it works.
- If using an external switch, make sure it is plugged into the EXT SWITCH jack.
- Make sure to press down on the *Chipper* or external switch the whole time you are recording, then release when you are done.

Messages have background noise.

- Speak clearly into the side marked MIC, holding the *Chipper* about 12 inches away.
- Batteries may be too low.
- Are you near a source of electrical noise such as air conditioners, electric motors, power lines, etc.

"Click" sound heard at the end of a recorded message.

- Use an external switch instead of *Chipper's* built in switch when recording a message. Play as usual.

Trouble-Shooting

The *Chipper* does not play back.

- Make sure volume knob is turned up.
- Batteries may be too low.
- If external speaker is used, does it work?
- If external speaker is used, make sure the cable is plugged into the EXT SPK jack.
- If external speaker is used, does it need its own power supply?
- Make sure the *Chipper* is in the play mode.
- If using an external switch, does it work?
- If using an external switch, make sure it is plugged into the EXT SWITCH jack.

Relay does not activate.

- Make sure the cable connector is working.
- Make sure the cable connector is plugged into the RLY OUT jack.
- Make sure the adapted device you are trying to operate works. Try plugging a switch directly into the adapted device.

Toy or adapted device only activates for short time.

- The relay in the *Chipper* will only activate for the length or the duration of the message. If latching or

***Chipper*
1 Year Limited Warranty**

Your Adaptation *Chipper* was carefully tested and inspected before it was shipped from the factory. We warrant this product to be free from defects in materials and workmanship under normal use and service for one (1) year from the date of purchase. In the event of a defect in materials or workmanship, we will either repair or replace without charge, at our option, any part which in our judgment shows evidence of such defect within one (1) year of purchase. Taction Pads are warranted for six months from the original date of purchase.

This warranty does not apply if the *Chipper* or Taction Pads have been misused, abused, altered, or tampered with. At the end of the warranty period, Adaptation shall be under no further obligation expressed or implied.

This warranty gives you specific rights, and you may also have other rights which vary from state to state.

For repair service, contact Adaptation's technical dept. to receive a required RMA# (return material authorization number) prior to the return of the device.

Adaptation, Inc.
2225 W. 50th St. Suite 100
Sioux Falls, SD 57105

1(800)-723-2783, (605) 335-4445, Fax: (605) 335-4446, e-mail:
info@adaptation.com, Web Page: www.adaptation.com

Please insure your *Chipper* is clean before returning it to Adaptation for service.

This is not a medical device. It should not be used where incorrect or faulty operation could reasonably be expected to result in injury or worse!