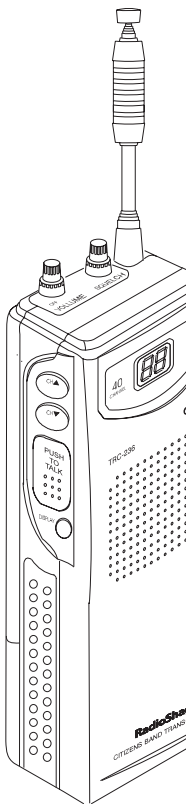


# TRC-236

## 40-Channel 5-Watt CB Walkie Talkie

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with LED Display



Please read before using this equipment.



**RadioShack®**

# FEATURES

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Your RadioShack TRC-236 40-Channel 5-Watt CB Walkie Talkie with LED Display is a portable, two-way radio you can carry almost anywhere. You can use your TRC-236 around the house, in your office, or in your car or boat. You can also use it on fishing trips, or at your business for supervisory, security, or warehouse personnel.

Your TRC-236 has the following features:

**2-Digit LED Display** — lets you easily see the selected channel number.

**Automatic Display Dimmer** — the channel display automatically brightens when you press most buttons. Then, after a few seconds, it dims to save battery power.

**High/Low Power Switch** — lets you increase the transmitted signal strength to increase the TRC-236's range, or decrease it to save battery power.

**Telescoping Antenna with Center-Loading Coil** — provides excellent reception and transmission.

**Adjustable Squelch** — helps to eliminate noise between transmissions.

**Battery Test Button and Battery Indicator** — lets you check the batteries' condition to find out if they need replacing.

**Built-In Modulation Limiter Circuit** — automatically adjusts to a variety of voice levels to ensure a clear transmission.

**Automatic Noise Limiter (ANL) Circuit** — reduces noise caused by nearby electrical equipment such as motors or automotive ignition systems.

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**Power/Charging Jack** — lets you power your TRC-236 from an AC or DC power source, so you can use the TRC-236 without draining the batteries. And, lets you charge nickel-cadmium batteries without removing them from the TRC-236.

**Note:** To power your TRC-236 with internal batteries, you need eight AA alkaline batteries or ten nickel-cadmium rechargeable batteries (not supplied).

We recommend you record the TRC-236's serial number here. The serial number is located on the walkie talkie's back panel:

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## FCC INFORMATION

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) does not require you to have a license to operate this walkie talkie. However, the FCC does require that you read and know Part 95 of *FCC Rules*. These rules apply to the operation of a Class D CB. We have provided a copy of these regulations with your TRC-236.

Internal adjustments and/or modifications can lead to illegal operation as defined by Part 95 of *FCC Rules*. Such illegal operation can lead to very serious consequences.

To be safe and sure:

- Never open your TRC-236's case.
- Never modify your TRC-236.

Your TRC-236 might cause TV or radio interference even when it is operating properly. To determine whether your TRC-236 is causing the interference, turn off your TRC-236. If the interference goes away, your TRC-236 is causing it. Try to eliminate the interference by:

- Moving your TRC-236 away from the TV or radio
- Contacting your local RadioShack store for help

**Warning:** Do not open your TRC-236 to make any internal adjustments. Any internal adjustments should be made only by authorized service personnel.

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# POWERING THE CB

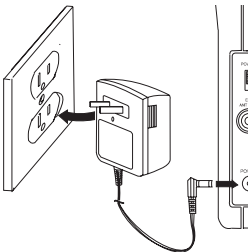
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You can power your TRC-236 from any of these sources (none supplied):

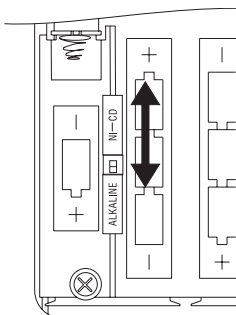
- Eight AA alkaline batteries with the two supplied dummy batteries
- Ten rechargeable AA nickel-cadmium batteries
- 12-volt vehicle battery power using a fused power cord
- Standard AC power using a power supply

## USING THE POWER JACK AND ALKALINE/NI-CD SWITCH

The **POWER** jack lets you connect an external power source (such as your vehicle's battery power or AC power), or connect a battery charger to charge nickel-cadmium batteries while they are in the TRC-236.



The TRC-236 also has a slide switch (**AL-KALINE/NI-CD**) inside the battery compartment that you must set correctly, depending on what power source you are using and whether or not you want to charge rechargeable batteries while they are in the TRC-236.



- Set it to **ALKALINE** before you connect an external power source (vehicle battery power or AC adapter) to the **POWER** jack or while you are using internal batteries (alkaline or rechargeable).
- Set it to **NI-CD** *only* when you connect a battery charger to the **POWER** jack to charge the installed rechargeable batteries.

**Warning:** To avoid injuring yourself or damaging the TRC-236, connect a battery charger to the **POWER** jack *only* when nickel-cadmium batteries are installed (see “Recharging Nickel-Cadmium Batteries” on Page 10). Never try to recharge non-rechargeable batteries. They could get very hot and explode.

**Note:** You can connect an external power source for power regardless of the type of batteries you installed.

## USING BATTERIES

You can power the TRC-236 from eight AA alkaline batteries (such as RadioShack Cat. No. 23-552) with the two supplied dummy batteries, or 10 rechargeable AA nickel-cadmium batteries (such as Cat. No. 23-125).

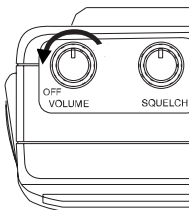
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## Cautions:

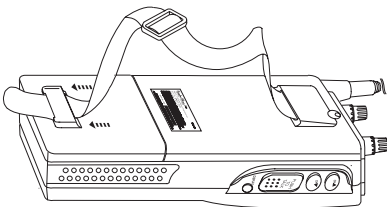
- Always use fresh, or freshly charged, batteries of the required size and recommended type.
- Do not mix old and new batteries, different types of batteries (standard, alkaline, or rechargeable nickel-cadmium), or rechargeable batteries of different capacities.

Follow these steps to install the batteries.

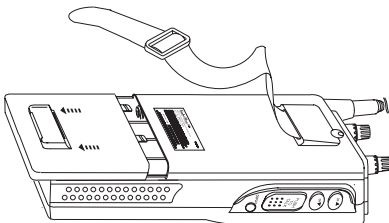
1. If the TRC-236 is on, turn **OFF/VOLUME** fully counterclockwise until it clicks to turn it off.



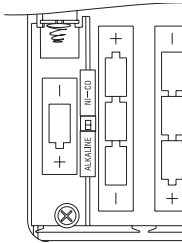
2. Slide the strap on the back of the TRC-236 through the buckle and the battery compartment cover to remove it.



3. Slide the battery compartment cover in the direction of the arrows to remove it.

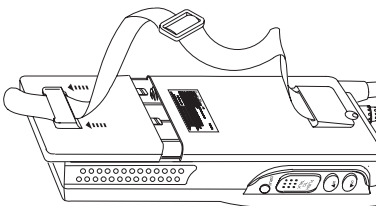


- 
4. Be sure **ALKALINE/NI-CD** inside the battery compartment is set to **ALKALINE**.
  5. Put eight AA alkaline batteries and the two supplied dummy batteries, or ten AA nickel-cadmium batteries into the battery compartment, as indicated by the polarity symbols (+ and -) marked inside.



**Note:** Before you use the TRC-236 with nickel-cadmium batteries, you need to charge the batteries (see “Recharging Nickel-Cadmium Batteries” on Page 10).

6. Slide the strap on the back of the TRC-236 through the battery compartment cover to reattach it.



7. Replace the battery compartment cover.

### **Cautions:**

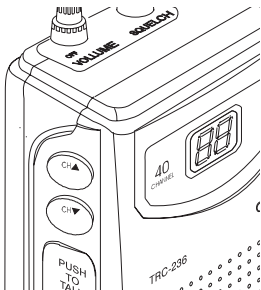
- If you will not be powering the TRC-236 from internal batteries for several months, remove the batteries.
- Dispose of old batteries promptly and properly.

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## Testing the Battery Power

1. Turn on the TRC-236 by rotating **OFF/VOLUME** clockwise until it clicks.
2. Hold down **BATT TEST**. If the indicator lights, there is enough battery power to operate the CB. If the indicator is dim or does not light, replace or recharge the batteries.



## Recharging Nickel-Cadmium Batteries

You can use a battery charger, Cat. No. 23-249 (not supplied), to charge or recharge nickel-cadmium batteries while they are inside the TRC-236's battery compartment.

Do not use the TRC-236 while you are charging the nickel-cadmium batteries.

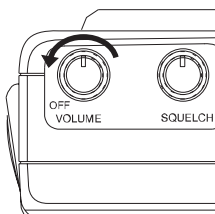
### Cautions:

- Use only the recommended battery charger to recharge the batteries in the TRC-236. Other chargers could damage your TRC-236 or the batteries.
- Be careful not to overcharge nickel-cadmium batteries.
- To prevent damage to rechargeable nickel-cadmium batteries, never charge them in an area where the temperature is above 90°F (32°C) or below 40°F (4.5°C).

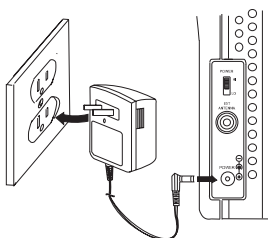
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Follow these steps to charge nickel-cadmium batteries in the TRC-236.

1. If the TRC-236 is on, turn **OFF/VOLUME** fully counterclockwise until it clicks to turn it off.



2. Set **ALKALINE/NI-CD** inside the battery compartment to **NI-CD** (see "Using the Power Jack and Alkaline/NI-CD Switch" on Page 6).
3. Connect the battery charger's 5.5 mm outer diameter/2.1 mm inner diameter barrel plug to the **POWER** jack on the side of the TRC-236, then plug the battery charger's plug into a standard AC outlet.



It takes about 24 hours to charge new or fully discharged nickel-cadmium batteries. Subsequent charges take about 16 to 18 hours.

4. When charging is complete, unplug the battery charger's plug from the AC outlet. Then disconnect the battery charger's barrel plug from the **POWER** jack.
5. If the TRC-236 is on, turn **OFF/VOLUME** fully counterclockwise until it clicks to turn it off. Then set **ALKALINE/NI-CD** to **ALKALINE**.

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**Note:** You can use an external charger (such as Cat. No. 23-134, not supplied) to recharge the nickel-cadmium batteries. After removing the batteries from the TRC-236, follow the instructions that come with the external charger.

**Important:** Your TRC-236 is capable of using nickel-cadmium batteries. At the end of the batteries' useful life, they must be recycled or disposed of properly. Contact your local, county, or state hazardous waste management authorities for information on recycling or disposal programs in your area. Some options that might be available are: municipal curbside collection, drop-off boxes at retailers such as your local RadioShack store, recycling collection centers, and mail-back programs.

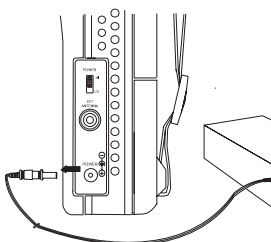
## **USING VEHICLE BATTERY POWER**

You can power your TRC-236 from your vehicle's cigarette-lighter socket with an optional 12-volt DC fused power cord (such as Cat. No. 270-1533).

### **Cautions:**

- You must use a DC fused cord that supplies 12 volts and delivers at least 1200 milliamps of vehicle power. Its center tip must be set to positive, and its plug must correctly fit the TRC-236's **POWER** jack. The recommended fused cord meets these specifications. Using a fused cord that does not meet these specifications could damage the TRC-236 or the fused cord.

- 
- When you finish using the TRC-236, unplug the fused cord from the cigarette-lighter socket before you disconnect it from your TRC-236.



1. If the TRC-236 is on, turn **OFF/VOLUME** fully counterclockwise until it clicks to turn it off.
2. Be sure **ALKALINE/NI-CD** inside the battery compartment is set to **ALKALINE**.
3. Insert the power cord's 5.5 mm outer diameter/2.1 mm inner diameter barrel plug into the **POWER** jack.
4. Plug the power cord's other end into your vehicle's cigarette-lighter socket.

**Note:** If the TRC-236 does not operate when you use the DC power cord, unplug the cord from the cigarette-lighter socket and clean any ashes or debris from the socket. If your TRC-236 still does not work, check the fuse in the DC power cord and replace it if necessary.

## USING AC POWER

You can power your TRC-236 from standard AC power using an optional AC-to-12 V DC power supply (such as Cat. No. 22-504) and an optional DC fused power cord (such as Cat. No. 270-1533).

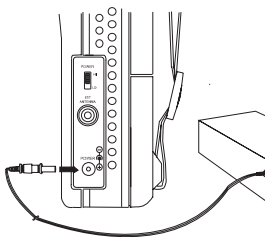
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## Cautions:

- The power supply must be able to deliver 12 volts and at least 1200 milliamps of power. The recommended power supply meets these specifications. Using a power supply that does not meet these specifications could damage the TRC-236 or the power supply.
- You must use a DC fused cord that supplies 12 volts and delivers at least 1200 milliamps of power. Its center tip must be set to positive, and its barrel plug must correctly fit the TRC-236's **POWER** jack. The recommended fused cord meets these specifications. Using a fused cord that does not meet these specifications could damage the TRC-236 or the fused cord.
- To help prevent an electrical short, unplug the DC fused cord's plug from the AC adapter's power socket before you unplug the cord's barrel plug from the TRC-236.

Follow these steps to connect the TRC-236 to AC power.



1. If the TRC-236 is on, turn **OFF/VOLUME** fully counterclockwise until it clicks to turn it off.

- 
2. Connect the DC fused cord's 5.5 mm outer diameter/2.1 mm inner diameter barrel plug to the TRC-236's **POWER** jack.
  3. Be sure **ALKALINE/NI-CD** inside the battery compartment is set to **ALKALINE**.
  4. Plug the DC fused cord's other end into the power supply's power socket.
  5. Plug the power supply into a standard AC outlet, then turn on the power supply.

**Note:** If the TRC-236 does not operate when you use the DC fused cord, turn the power supply off, unplug the cord from the power supply's power socket, then clean any debris from the socket. If your TRC-236 still does not work, check the fuse in the DC fused cord and replace it if necessary.

## **CONNECTING AN OPTIONAL ANTENNA**

Your walkie talkie comes with a telescoping antenna that is ideal for most applications. However, the walkie talkie's **EXT ANTENNA** jack makes it easy to connect other types of antennas, too. For mobile or base station use, you might want to connect an optional external antenna. Your local RadioShack store carries a wide selection of external mobile or outdoor base-station antennas. Choose the one that best meets your needs.

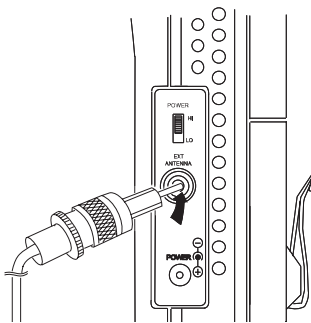
When deciding on a mobile or base-station antenna and its location, consider the following:

- The location of the antenna should be as high as possible.

- 
- The antenna and antenna cable should be as far as possible from sources of electrical noise (appliances, other radios, and so on).
  - The antenna should be vertical for the best performance.

**Note:** When connecting an optional antenna, always use 50-ohm coaxial cable, such as RG-58 or RG-8. For lengths over 50 feet, use RG-8 low-loss dielectric coaxial cable. If the coaxial cable's connector does not fit into the **EXT ANTENNA** jack, you might also need a PL-259-to-phono antenna plug adapter, such as Cat. No. 278-208. Your local RadioShack store carries a wide variety of coaxial antenna cable and connectors.

Follow the installation instructions supplied with the antenna, route the antenna cable to the TRC-236, then connect it to the **EXT ANTENNA** jack.



### **Cautions:**

- Do not run the cable over sharp edges or moving parts.
- Do not run the cable next to power cables or other CB antenna cables.
- Do not run the cable through a vehicle's engine compartment or other areas that produce extreme heat.
- Follow all cautions and warnings included with the antenna.

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**Warning:** When installing or removing a base station CB antenna, use extreme caution. If the antenna starts to fall, let it go! It could contact overhead power lines. If the antenna touches the power line, contact with the antenna, mast, cable or guy wires can cause electrocution and death! Call the power company to remove the antenna. DO NOT attempt to do so yourself.

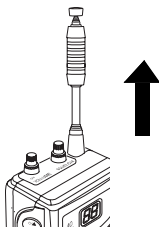
# OPERATION

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Before you use your TRC-236, we recommend you read “CB Operation Tips” on Page 22, which contains information to help you use it effectively and courteously.

## RECEIVING TRANSMISSIONS AND ADJUSTING SQUELCH

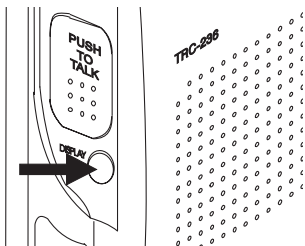
1. If you did not connect an external antenna, fully extend the TRC-236’s telescoping antenna and hold the TRC-236 so the antenna is vertical.



**Caution:** Unless an external antenna is attached, if you do not fully extend the antenna, the TRC-236’s efficiency is reduced.

2. Turn on the TRC-236 by turning **OFF/VOLUME** clockwise until you hear a click and a hissing sound.

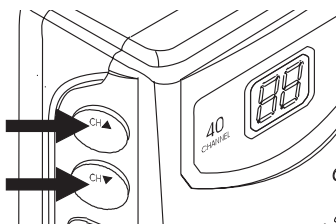
**Note:** When you tune a channel, the channel’s number appears or flashes on the display for several seconds then fades, to save battery power. To continuously display the channel number, press and hold **DISPLAY** on the side of the TRC-236.



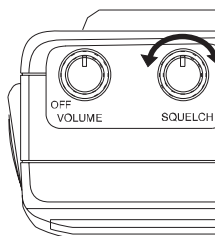
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To redisplay the channel number for several seconds, simply press and release **DISPLAY**.

3. Repeatedly press **CH s** to select higher channels, or **CH t** to select lower channels. To move rapidly through the channels, hold down **CH s** or **t**.



4. Adjust **OFF/VOLUME** to a comfortable listening level.
5. Adjust **SQUELCH** to cut out the background noise. Wait until there is no signal on the channel, then slowly turn **SQUELCH** clockwise until the background noise stops.



**Note:** Do not turn **SQUELCH** too far clockwise because you might also cut out weak signals.

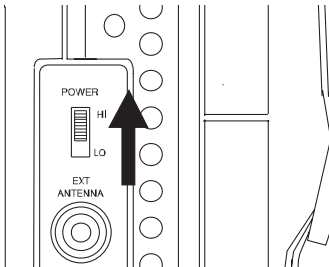
6. To turn off the TRC-236, turn **OFF/VOLUME** toward **OFF** until it clicks.

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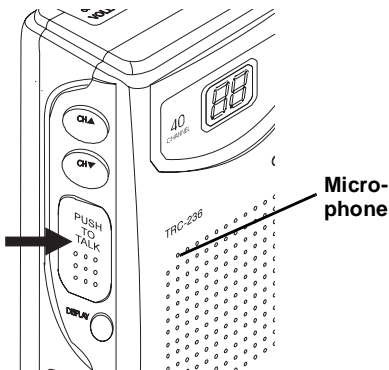
## TRANSMITTING

1. Follow Steps 1–5 in “Receiving Transmissions and Adjusting Squelch” on Page 18.
2. To increase the transmitted signal strength and increase the TRC-236’s range, set **POWER HI/LO** on the side of the TRC-236 to **HI**.



To decrease the transmitted signal strength and save battery power, set **POWER HI/LO** to **LO**.

3. Hold the TRC-236 2 to 3 inches from your mouth. Hold down **PUSH TO TALK** on the side of the TRC-236 and speak in a normal voice into the microphone.



When you finish speaking, release **PUSH TO TALK**.

**Note:** Do not speak too loudly when transmitting. It does not make your signal any stronger, and might distort your transmission.

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**Important:** Channel 9 is reserved for motorist assistance and for reporting emergency information about accidents, hazardous road conditions, and so on. If you are using Channel 9, always give emergency messages priority.

4. To turn off the TRC-236, turn **OFF/VOLUME** toward **OFF** until it clicks.

# CB OPERATION TIPS

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The following tips will help you get the most enjoyment from your TRC-236.

## COMMON USES FOR A CB RADIO

### Business Uses

- Truck drivers and delivery personnel can learn road and traffic conditions and get assistance in locating destinations. A walkie talkie is also good company on those “long hauls.”
- On construction crews, a walkie talkie quickly pays for itself when you are calling for additional materials or coordinating the activities of different work crews.
- For security officers, a walkie talkie is more than a convenience — it is a must for both safety and efficiency.

### Personal Uses

- Keep in touch with home while driving to work, to the store, or to a social activity. Let your family know you are tied up in traffic or that you will stop by the store on the way home.
- If you are a two-car (or more) family, walkie talkies are great for communicating with family members while they are in their cars.
- Contact friends or neighbors — find out “what’s happening” or plan a get-together.
- Ever have car trouble or run out of gas on the highway? What an assurance it is to be able to radio for assistance.

- Camping, fishing, and other sports are more fun with a walkie talkie. Locate a friend or find out “what’s cooking” back at camp.

## USING COMMON 10-CODES

Citizen’s band operators have largely adopted the 10-codes for standard questions and answers. Their use permits faster communication and better intelligibility in noisy areas.

This table lists the codes adopted by the Associated Public Safety Communications Officers (APCO).

Code	Meaning
10-1	Cannot understand your message.
10-2	Your signal is good.
10-3	Stop transmitting.
10-4	Message received and understood.
10-5	Relay information to _____.
10-6	I am busy.
10-7	Out of service.
10-8	In service.
10-9	Repeat last message.
10-10	Negative (No).
10-11	_____ in service.
10-12	Stand by.
10-13	Report _____ conditions.
10-14	Information.

Code	Meaning
10-15	Message delivered.
10-16	Reply to message.
10-17	En route.
10-18	Urgent.
10-19	Contact _____.
10-20	My location is _____.
10-21	Call _____ by telephone.
10-22	Cancel last message.
10-23	Arrived at the scene.
10-24	Assignment complete.
10-26	Estimated time of arrival is ____.
10-30	Use caution.
10-31	Pick up.
10-33	Emergency traffic. Clear the channel.
10-34	The time is _____.

**Note:** Although this table lists the 10-codes' meanings in the form of a statement, they can also be phrased as questions (10-6: Are you busy?, 10-20: What is your location?).

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## CB COURTESY

- Wait for a pause in someone else's transmission before you ask for a break.
- If you do not receive an answer to your call after a second attempt, sign off and wait several minutes before trying again.
- Do not hold down **PUSH TO TALK** when you are not talking. (This is called *dead keying*.)
- Assist callers with directions, information about road conditions, and any other reasonable requests.

## MAXIMUM RANGE

The maximum range and quality of CB transmissions vary depending on these conditions:

- Amount of power in the batteries
- The surrounding terrain — mountains and tall buildings limit the range
- Weather conditions
- The number of nearby CBs operating on the same channel

To ensure maximum range, always keep fresh alkaline batteries or fully charged nickel-cadmium batteries in your TRC-236 when using battery power.

# TROUBLESHOOTING

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If your TRC-236 is not working as it should, follow these suggestions to see if you can eliminate the problem. If you cannot, take it to your local RadioShack store for assistance.

Symptom	Suggestion
Weak, bad, or no reception.	Ensure the TRC-236 is turned on.
	Ensure the volume is turned up.
	Ensure the telescoping antenna is fully extended or an external antenna is attached to the TRC-236's <b>EXT ANTENNA</b> jack.
	Ensure the batteries are not weak (see "Testing the Battery Power" on Page 10).
	Ensure you are not pressing <b>PUSH TO TALK</b> .
Trouble with transmission	Ensure the telescoping antenna is fully extended or an external antenna is attached to the TRC-236's <b>EXT ANTENNA</b> jack.
	Ensure you are fully pressing <b>PUSH TO TALK</b> .
	Ensure the batteries are not weak (see "Testing the Battery Power" on Page 10).

# MAINTENANCE

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Your RadioShack TRC-236 40-Channel 5-Watt CB Walkie Talkie with LED Display is an example of superior design and craftsmanship. The following suggestions will help you care for your TRC-236 so you can enjoy it for years.



Keep the TRC-236 dry. If it gets wet, wipe it dry immediately. Liquids might contain minerals that can corrode the electronic circuits.



Handle the TRC-236 gently and carefully. Dropping it can damage circuit boards and cases and can cause the TRC-236 to work improperly.



Use and store the TRC-236 only in normal temperature environments. Temperature extremes can shorten the life of electronic devices, damage batteries, and distort or melt plastic parts.



Keep the TRC-236 away from dust and dirt, which can cause premature wear of parts.



Wipe the TRC-236 with a damp cloth occasionally to keep it looking new. Do not use harsh chemicals, cleaning solvents, or strong detergents to clean the TRC-236.

Modifying or tampering with the TRC-236's internal components can cause a malfunction and might invalidate your TRC-236's warranty and void your FCC authorization to operate it. If your TRC-236 is not performing as it should, take it to your local RadioShack store for assistance.

# SPECIFICATIONS

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## Receiver

Frequency Coverage ...	26.965 – 27.405 MHz
Sensitivity (Max.) .....	0.5 $\mu$ V at 10 dB (S+N)/N
Adjacent Channel Rejection .....	45 dB
Squelch .....	Adjustable from 1 $\mu$ V to 1 mV
Audio Output (10% THD) .....	400 mW
Current Drain .....	85–300 mA

## Transmitter

Frequency Coverage ...	26.965 – 27.405 MHz
Power Input (at 12V DC):	
High .....	5 W
Low .....	2 W
Power Output:	
High .....	2.5 W
Low .....	1 W
Spurious Emission .....	–67 dB
Type of Modulation .....	A3
Frequency Tolerance .....	0.003%
Telescoping Antenna Impedance .....	50 $\Omega$
Antenna Length .....	47 In. (119.0 cm)
Current Drain:	
High .....	650 mA
Low .....	450 mA
Dimensions (HWD) .....	7 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> × 2 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub> × 2 In. (190 × 70 × 50 mm)
Weight .....	14.1 oz (399 g)

Specifications are typical; individual units might vary. Specifications are subject to change and improvement without notice.

# NOTES

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## Limited Ninety-Day Warranty

This product is warranted by RadioShack against manufacturing defects in material and workmanship under normal use for ninety (90) days from the date of purchase from RadioShack company-owned stores and authorized RadioShack franchisees and dealers. EXCEPT AS PROVIDED HEREIN, RadioShack MAKES NO EXPRESS WARRANTIES AND ANY IMPLIED WARRANTIES, INCLUDING THOSE OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE, ARE LIMITED IN DURATION TO THE DURATION OF THE WRITTEN LIMITED WARRANTIES CONTAINED HEREIN. EXCEPT AS PROVIDED HEREIN, RadioShack SHALL HAVE NO LIABILITY OR RESPONSIBILITY TO CUSTOMER OR ANY OTHER PERSON OR ENTITY WITH RESPECT TO ANY LIABILITY, LOSS OR DAMAGE CAUSED DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY BY USE OR PERFORMANCE OF THE PRODUCT OR ARISING OUT OF ANY BREACH OF THIS WARRANTY, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, ANY DAMAGES RESULTING FROM INCONVENIENCE, LOSS OF TIME, DATA, PROPERTY, REVENUE, OR PROFIT OR ANY INDIRECT, SPECIAL, INCIDENTAL, OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES, EVEN IF RadioShack HAS BEEN ADVISED OF THE POSSIBILITY OF SUCH DAMAGES.

Some states do not allow the limitations on how long an implied warranty lasts or the exclusion of incidental or consequential damages, so the above limitations or exclusions may not apply to you.

In the event of a product defect during the warranty period, take the product and the RadioShack sales receipt as proof of purchase date to any RadioShack store. RadioShack will, at its option, unless otherwise provided by law: (a) correct the defect by product repair without charge for parts and labor; (b) replace the product with one of the same or similar design; or (c) refund the purchase price. All replaced parts and products, and products on which a refund is made, become the property of RadioShack. New or reconditioned parts and products may be used in the performance of warranty service. Repaired or replaced parts and products are warranted for the remainder of the original warranty period. You will be charged for repair or replacement of the product made after the expiration of the warranty period.

This warranty does not cover: (a) damage or failure caused by or attributable to acts of God, abuse, accident, misuse, improper or abnormal usage, failure to follow instructions, improper installation or maintenance, alteration, lightning or other incidence of excess voltage or current; (b) any repairs other than those provided by a RadioShack Authorized Service Facility; (c) consumables such as fuses or batteries; (d) cosmetic damage; (e) transportation, shipping or insurance costs; or (f) costs of product removal, installation, set-up service adjustment or reinstallation.

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

RadioShack Customer Relations, Dept. W, 100 Throckmorton St., Suite 600, Fort Worth, TX 76102

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