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## RadioShack Pro-197

# RadioShack Pro-197 Radio Scanner User Manual

Model: Pro-197

## INTRODUCTION

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This manual provides instructions for the proper setup, operation, and maintenance of your RadioShack Pro-197 Radio Scanner. This base/mobile scanner offers advanced digital voice decoding capabilities and a range of features for monitoring various radio transmissions. Please read this manual thoroughly before operating your device.

## SAFETY INFORMATION

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Observe the following safety precautions to prevent damage to the scanner or injury to yourself.

- **Power Source:** Use only the specified power adapter. Incorrect voltage can damage the unit.
- **Antenna:** Ensure the antenna is securely connected. Do not operate without an antenna for extended periods.
- **Environment:** Avoid exposing the scanner to extreme temperatures, humidity, dust, or direct sunlight.
- **Cleaning:** Disconnect power before cleaning. Use a soft, dry cloth. Do not use liquid cleaners or aerosols.
- **Servicing:** Do not attempt to service the unit yourself. Refer all servicing to qualified personnel.

## PACKAGE CONTENTS

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Verify that your package contains the following items:

- RadioShack Pro-197 Radio Scanner
- AC Power Adapter
- Telescopic Antenna
- User Manual

## PRODUCT OVERVIEW

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Familiarize yourself with the main components and controls of your Pro-197 scanner.

### Front Panel



This image displays the front panel of the RadioShack Pro-197 Radio Scanner, featuring the large display screen, the numeric keypad, and various control buttons and knobs for operation.

- **Display:** Shows frequency, channel information, and menu options.
- **Keypad:** Used for entering frequencies, channel numbers, and menu navigation.
- **Function Buttons:** Three buttons located under the display, whose purpose changes based on the current screen, with on-screen text help.
- **Volume Knob:** Adjusts audio output level.
- **Squelch Knob:** Adjusts the threshold for signal reception, eliminating static.
- **Navigation Pad:** Used for scrolling through lists and making selections.

## Rear Panel Connections

The rear panel typically includes connections for the antenna, power input, and auxiliary ports for external speakers or computer connectivity.

## SETUP

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Follow these steps for initial setup of your Pro-197 scanner.

1. **Connect the Antenna:** Screw the supplied telescopic antenna into the antenna jack on the rear of the scanner. Ensure it is finger-tight.
2. **Connect Power:** Plug the AC power adapter into the DC IN jack on the rear of the scanner, then plug the adapter into a standard AC outlet.
3. **Power On:** Press the POWER button to turn on the scanner. The display should illuminate.

## OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

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This section details how to operate your Pro-197 scanner, including programming and utilizing its key features.

### Basic Scanning

Once powered on, the scanner can begin scanning pre-programmed channels or user-defined frequencies. Refer to the on-screen prompts and the function buttons for initiating and controlling scan operations.

### Programming Frequencies

The Pro-197 allows storage of up to 1,800 frequencies. Programming can be done manually or via computer software.

- **Manual Programming:** Use the keypad to enter frequencies directly. This method can be complex due to the scanner's advanced features.
- **Computer Programming:** For easier and more efficient programming, it is highly recommended to use compatible computer software (e.g., Win500) and a programming cable. Websites like Radio-Reference.com offer extensive databases of frequencies and support forums.

### V-Scanner Memory

The scanner features 21 V-scanner memory banks, providing a total capacity to store over 39,000 objects (channels, talkgroups, etc.). This allows for organized storage and quick recall of different scanning configurations.

## S.A.M.E. (Specific Area Message Encoding)

The Pro-197 includes S.A.M.E. reception capabilities, enabling the scanner to receive localized weather and emergency alerts specific to user-set counties. This feature helps ensure you receive relevant warnings without unnecessary alerts from distant areas.

## Trunking Systems

The Pro-197 is designed to trunk all three popular system types, allowing it to follow conversations on complex trunked radio systems used by public safety and other organizations.

## MAINTENANCE

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Proper care will ensure the longevity and optimal performance of your scanner.

- **Cleaning:** Use a soft, dry, lint-free cloth to clean the exterior of the scanner. Do not use abrasive cleaners, solvents, or strong chemicals.
- **Storage:** When not in use for extended periods, store the scanner in a cool, dry place, away from direct sunlight and extreme temperatures.
- **Antenna Care:** Periodically check the antenna connection for tightness and ensure the antenna is not bent or damaged.

## TROUBLESHOOTING

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If you encounter issues with your scanner, refer to the following table for common problems and solutions.

Problem	Solution
Scanner does not power on.	Check that the AC power adapter is securely connected to both the scanner and a working electrical outlet. Ensure the power button is pressed.
Poor reception or static.	Verify the antenna is properly connected and undamaged. Adjust the squelch control. Ensure you are using an appropriate antenna for the frequency band you are trying to receive. Move the scanner away from sources of interference.
Difficulty programming frequencies.	Manual programming can be complex. Consider using computer programming software (e.g., Win500) and a compatible programming cable. Consult online resources like Radio-Reference.com for detailed guides and community support.
No audio from speaker.	Check the volume level. Ensure no headphones are plugged into the headphone jack.

## SPECIFICATIONS

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Technical specifications for the RadioShack Pro-197 Radio Scanner.

Feature	Detail
Model Number	Pro-197

Feature	Detail
Brand	RadioShack
Connectivity Technology	Auxiliary, USB
Tuner Technology	Digital
Power Source	Corded Electric
Radio Bands Supported	AM/FM (Note: Scanner supports a much wider range of frequencies)
Item Weight	2.69 pounds
Package Dimensions	14.3 x 8.1 x 4.2 inches
UPC	040293019341
Memory Capacity	1,800 frequencies; 21 V-scanner memory (over 39,000 objects)

## WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

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For warranty information, technical support, or service inquiries, please refer to the official RadioShack website or contact their customer service department. Keep your purchase receipt as proof of purchase for any warranty claims.