Dear Stereo Fan

Your new “Technics” FM/AM stereo receiver was manufactured and assembled under exacting quality control standards. The incorporation of the latest advances in design and the use of the most modern components assure outstanding performance with superb sensitivity and tonal quality. A few minutes of your time, wisely spent reading carefully through this instruction booklet, will assure you of getting the maximum benefit of this fine component’s potential.

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ACCESSORIES

FM feeder antenna ............................................... 1

PRODUCT SERVICE

WARNING CONCERNING REMOVAL OF COVERS
This set should be serviced by qualified technicians only. No service information is provided for customers. Should your “Technics” product ever require servicing, refer to the Directory of Authorized Service Centers or your franchised “Technics” dealer for detailed instructions.

LOCATION OF SERIAL NUMBER
You will find the serial number located at the back of the unit.

MAINTENANCE OF EXTERNAL SURFACES

To clean, use a soft, dry cloth. If the surfaces are extremely dirty, use a soft cloth soaked in a detergent (such as used for washing dishes; diluted to 1/5 or 1/6 strength), and then wring the cloth well. Wipe once again with a soft, dry cloth. Never use chemicals such as alcohol, paint thinner and benzine, nor a chemically-treated cloth to clean this unit because the finish may be damaged or lose its luster.

BEFORE OPERATION

Use a 6 screwdriver to set the voltage selector (on the rear panel) to the voltage setting for the area in which the set will be used.
Note that this unit will be seriously damaged if this setting is not made correctly.
TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

POWER AMPLIFIER SECTION

Rated minimum sine wave RMS power output
20 Hz～20 kHz
both channels driven
0.04% total harmonic distortion
125W per channel (8 ohms)
125W per channel (4 ohms)

1 kHz continuous power output
both channels driven
0.04% total harmonic distortion
135W per channel (8 ohms)
135W per channel (4 ohms)

Total harmonic distortion
0.04% at rated power (20 Hz～20 kHz, 8 ohms, 4 ohms)
0.015% at half power (20 Hz～20 kHz, 8 ohms)
0.025% at half power (20 Hz～20 kHz, 4 ohms)
0.005% at half power (1 kHz, 8 ohms, 4 ohms)

Inter modulation distortion
0.04%

Frequency response
5 Hz～90 kHz, -1 dB

S/N (IHF, A)
112 dB

Residual hum and noise
0.4 mV

Damping factor
50 (8 ohms)
25 (4 ohms)

Input sensitivity and impedance
1V/100 kilohms
Load impedance
MAIN or REMOTE 4～16 ohms
MAIN + REMOTE 8～16 ohms

PREAMPLIFIER SECTION

Input sensitivity and impedance
PHONO 2.5mV, 47 kilohms
AUX 150mV, 47 kilohms
PLAYBACK TAPE 1 180mV, 47 kilohms
TAPE 2 150mV, 47 kilohms
REC/PLAY 180mV, 47 kilohms

Phono max. input voltage
200mV (1 kHz RMS)

S/N (IHF, A)
PHONO 83 dB
AUX 97 dB

Frequency response
PHONO RIAA standard curve ±0.2 dB
20 Hz～20 kHz +0 dB
-0.3 dB
10 Hz～40 kHz -1 dB

AUX

Tone controls
BASS 50 Hz, +12 dB～-12 dB
MIDDLE 1 kHz, +7 dB～-7 dB
TREBLE 20 kHz, +12 dB～-12 dB

Low filter
100 Hz, -6 dB/oct.
High filter
7 kHz, -6 dB/oct.

Loudness control (-30 dB)
50 Hz, +9 dB

Muting
-20 dB

Output voltage and impedance
PRE OUT
rated 1V/3.9 kilohms
REC OUT TAPE 1
150mV
TAPE 2
150mV
REC/PLAY
30mV/80 kilohms

Acoustic controls (at tone “0” position)
LOW BOOST
100 Hz, +6 dB
HIGH BOOST
10 kHz, +6 dB

FM TUNER SECTION

Frequency range
88～108 MHz

Sensitivity
10.3 dBf (1.6uV IHF ’58)

50 dB quieting sensitivity
MONO 13.2 dBf (2.5uV IHF ’58)
STEREO 36.2 dBf (35.4uV IHF ’58)

Total harmonic distortion
100 Hz 0.15% (MONO), 0.3% (STEREO)
1 kHz 0.1% (MONO), 0.2% (STEREO)
6 kHz 0.3% (MONO), 0.4% (STEREO)

S/N
77 dB (MONO), 73 dB (STEREO)

Frequency response
20 Hz～18 kHz, +0.2, -0.8 dB

Alternate channel selectivity
80 dB
Capture ratio
1.0 dB

Image rejection at 98 MHz
85 dB
IF rejection at 98 MHz
100 dB
Spurious response rejection at 98 MHz
100 dB
AM suppression
60 dB
Stereo separation
45 dB (1 kHz), 35 dB (10 kHz)
Leak carrier
-70 dB (19 kHz), -50 dB (38 kHz)

Antenna terminals
300, 75 ohms

AM TUNER SECTION

Frequency range
525～1605 kHz

Sensitivity
30μV, 25μV/m

Selectivity
35 dB

Image rejection at 1000 kHz
50 dB
IF rejection at 1000 kHz
45 dB

GENERAL

Power consumption
223W

Power supply
50/60 Hz, 110/120/220/240V AC

Dimensions (W × H × D)
582 × 177 × 38.3 mm

Weight
19 kg, 41.9 lb.
1 Power switch (POWER)
Note: Speakers may be damaged if connection cords to a record player, tape deck, etc. are connected or disconnected with power switch on.

2 Speaker selectors (SPEAKERS)
For selection of speaker systems connected to "MAIN" or "REMOTE" terminals on rear panel. Push button inward (I— II) to select the desired speaker system.

3 Power indicators (POWER LEVEL)
These are indicators which electronically show the peak output level of this unit with an extremely fast response time.
These indicators can be used to watch continuous signal changes, such as in music signals.
If the impedance of the speaker systems is 8Ω, the
indicators show the actual standard value; if the impedance is 16Ω, the actual value is one-half of that shown; and, if the impedance is 4Ω, the actual value is twice the indicated value.

If main and remote speaker systems are used at the same time, impedance will change according to the following equation:

\[
\text{Total impedance} = \frac{1}{\frac{1}{R} + \frac{1}{R}}
\]

Where: \( R \) = impedance of speakers used

4 Power display switch (POWER DISPLAY)
   This switch is used to turn the power indicators on and off.

5 Power display range selector (POWER DISPLAY RANGE)
   This selector is used to select the sensitivity of the power indicators.
   When the output is small, set this selector to the "X0.1" position. The indicated value will then be one-tenth of the actual value.

6 Safety/program/FM stereo indicators (SAFETY/PROGRAM/FM STEREO)
   SAFETY:
   Usually remains indicated; not illuminated if an abnormal condition in output circuitry is detected. (If not illuminated, refer to page 8.)
   PROGRAM:
   When the program source is selected by the input selector, the one of these indicators which corresponds to the selected program source will also illuminate.
   FM STEREO:
   This indicator automatically illuminates when an FM stereo broadcast is being received.

7 FM multiplex filter selector (FM MPX FILT)
   Set to the "IN (REC)" position when recording an FM stereo broadcast to a tape deck with low-frequency recording bias.
   When set to the "IN (REC)" position, the "beat" sound generated by the 38 kHz sub-carrier signal of the FM broadcast and the recording bias of the tape deck will be eliminated.

8 FM high-blend switch (FM HI-BLEND)
   Set to the "ON" position if the noise in the high-sound range is excessive when listening to an FM stereo broadcast.
   When this switch is set to the "ON" position, the noise in the high range, which is comparatively more annoying, is mixed in the left and right channel without acoustically disturbing the stereo feeling, and the noise is reduced.

9 Signal-strength meter (SIGNAL)
   This meter shows the strength of the antenna input level. The point of best reception for both FM and AM is where the indication is farthest to the right.

10 FM center-tuning meter (FM TUNING)
   This meter indicates the optimum tuning point for best reception, with least distortion, of FM broadcasts.
   After tuning by referring to the signal-strength meter, adjust the tuned position so that the indication needle of this meter is at the center position.
   Note that this meter will also indicate the center position when the broadcast is completely detuned.

11 Tuning control (TUNING)
   Tune to the desired broadcast while referring to the signal-strength meter and the FM center-tuning meter.

12 Volume control (VOLUME)
   This control is used to adjust the volume level.

13 Input selector (SELECTOR)
   AM:
   Set to this position for reception of AM broadcasts.
   FM AUTO:
   Set to this position for reception of FM broadcasts.
   PHONO:
   Set to this position to listen to phono discs.
   AUX:
   Set to this position to use equipment connected to the auxiliary input terminals ("AUX") on the rear panel of this unit.

14 Tape-monitor selector (TAPE MONITOR)
   TAPE 1:
   Set to this position to playback or monitor the sound from tape deck 1.
   SOURCE:
   Set to this position to listen to phono discs or radio broadcasts and to record from tape deck 1 and/or 2.
   TAPE 2:
   Set to this position to playback or monitor the sound from tape deck 2.
   Notes:
   - Tape deck 1 is the tape deck connected to the tape deck 1 terminals ("TAPE 1") on the rear panel of this unit.
   - Refer to page 8 for detailed information concerning tape monitoring.

15 Recording-mode selector (REC MODE)
   TAPE 1+2:
   Set to this position for recording from tape deck 1 to tape deck 2.
   SOURCE:
   Set to this position for recording phono disc sound or radio broadcasts to tape deck 1 and/or tape deck 2.
   TAPE 2+1:
   Set to this position for recording from tape deck 2 to tape deck 1.
   Note: Tape deck 1 is the tape deck connected to the tape deck 1 terminals ("TAPE 1") on the rear panel of this unit.

16 FM muting switch (FM MUTING)
   Set this switch to the "ON" position to eliminate the characteristic noise between stations when tuning to an FM broadcast.
   In an area where reception is poor because signal strength is weak, such as in mountainous regions, the broadcast signal might also be eliminated (at the "ON" position). If so, set this switch to the "OFF" position for reception. Between-station noise might be heard at the "OFF" position, however, so the volume level should be reduced when tuning to the broadcast.

17 Mode selector (MODE)
   STEREO:
   Set to this position to listen in stereo.
   MONO:
   Set to this position to listen monaurally. The left and right sounds will be mixed, and the same sounds will be heard from both speakers. Set to this position to listen to an FM stereo broadcast which is very noisy.
Balance control (BALANCE)
To balance the left and right volume level, set the mode selector® to the "MONO" position, and use this control to balance the sound so that it seems to be heard from the position half way between the speakers.

Loudness switch (LOUDNESS)
It is usually difficult for human ears to clearly hear low-range sound when the volume level is low. When listening at a low volume level, therefore, this switch can be set to the "ON" position to compensate for this, making sound more dynamic and powerful.

Muting switch (MUTING)
When this switch is set to the "-20 dB" position, the output level will be reduced to 1/10th, making it useful for temporary reduction of the volume level, without disturbing the setting of the volume control, such as when changing discs, etc. It is also possible, when listening at a low volume level, to set it to the "-20 dB" position and thereby make more delicate adjustments of the volume level than at the "0 dB" position.

Acoustic control switch (ACOUSTIC CONTROL)
This is the switch used to turn on and off the adjustment function of the tone controls® and the boost/filter selectors®. When this switch is set to the "OFF" position, characteristics are "flat" regardless of the settings of these controls, and they will not function.

Boost/filter selectors (BOOST - FILTERS)
These selectors can be used to select the characteristics of change of the low-range sound and high-range sound adjusted by using the tone controls®. These selectors function only when the acoustic control switch® is on.

BOOST:
When the "LOW" switch is set to the "BOOST" position, low-range sound is emphasized ("boosted") in the 100 Hz range. When the "HIGH" switch is set to the "BOOST" position, high-range sound is emphasized in the 10 kHz range. The amount of actual emphasis will differ depending upon the settings of the bass and treble tone controls®, but the maximum level of the emphasized range will be the same as when the tone controls® are set to their maximum position (+5). When listening to music with a strong beat, such as rock, set both switches ("LOW" and "HIGH") to this position.

OFF:
When the switches are set to this position, the boost and filter functions are turned off.

FILTER:
When the "LOW" switch is set to the "FILTER" position, low-range sound of 100 Hz and lower is cut. When the "HIGH" switch is set to the "FILTER" position, high-range sound of 7 kHz and higher is cut. Set the "LOW" switch to this position to eliminate low-range noises such as motor rumble, and set the "HIGH" switch to this position to eliminate high-range noises such as tape "hiss" noise, etc.

Tone controls (BASS/MID RANGE/TREBLE)
The bass control is for adjustment of low-range sound, the mid-range control for mid-range sound, and the treble control for high-range sound.

Headphones jack (PHONES)
Use headphones with an impedance of 4—16Ω.
**CONNECTION NOTES**

**CONNECTION OF AN FM ANTENNA**

For best reception of FM broadcasts, select an FM antenna with the best characteristics for the area in which the unit is to be used.

**Included antenna**

The included antenna is easy to install and is suggested for use until a permanent antenna is installed especially for FM. An antenna especially for FM should be installed in order to obtain the best reception characteristics of which this unit is capable.

**Antenna exclusively for FM reception**

(1) **Selection**

A) In areas where very strong broadcast signals are received (where the transmitting antenna can be seen), use an outside antenna with 3~5 elements.

Where signals are strong:
an antenna with 3~5 elements

B) In areas where weak broadcast signals are received (in mountainous regions or between tall buildings), use an outside antenna with 5 elements or more.

Where signals are weak:
an antenna with 5 elements or more

Consult with your dealer for detailed advice concerning the number of elements the antenna should have.

(2) **Connection wire from the antenna**

Two types of wire are most commonly used for connection from the antenna: 300Ω parallel feeder wire and 75Ω coaxial cable (type 3C-2V or 5C-2V). For best resistance to external interference noise, the use of 75Ω coaxial cable is suggested.

(3) **Impedance matching**

If it is impossible to make a direct connection with 75Ω coaxial cable from the antenna, a matching transformer should be installed, as close to the antenna itself as possible.

(4) **Connection**

A) If 300Ω parallel feeder wire is used.

B) If 75Ω coaxial cable is used.

(5) **Location of antenna**

Install the antenna:

A) Where it will receive FM broadcast signals directly; not in the “shadow” of a building.

Correct location avoids multi-path reception.

Note: Multi-path reception is the distortion which results from the reception of two types of signals: those reflected from nearby buildings, mountains, etc., and those received directly from the broadcasting station.
**CONNECTION NOTES**

**B) Away from busy roads, and away from neon signs.**

Avoid from noise sources!

**C) At least 4m (13 ft.) above the ground (except in mountainous regions, etc.).**

Signals not received if too low.

**D) At least 3m (10 ft.) away from a metal roof or other antennas.**

Metal roof

At least 3m (10 ft.) away

**E) To avoid danger, away from electric power lines.**

Danger close to power lines

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**THE AM ANTENNA**

If an outside AM antenna is installed (in mountainous regions or between reinforced-concrete buildings), install it in a location away from utility poles, high-voltage power lines, high buildings and busy roads.

Away from utility poles, high-voltage lines, etc.

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**THE PRE OUT/MAIN IN TERMINALS**

These terminals are used when this unit is to be used independently as a pre-amplifier or as a main amplifier. Remove the connection pins only when this unit is used as a preamplifier or main amplifier. Be sure the power switch is "OFF" before removing the connection pins.

**TO USE THIS UNIT AS A PRE-AMPLIFIER**

Connect the pre-amplifier output terminals ("PRE OUT") of this unit with the input terminals ("INPUT") of the main amplifier, using shielded wires to make the connection.

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**TO USE THIS UNIT AS A MAIN AMPLIFIER**

Connect the main input terminals ("MAIN IN") of this unit with the output terminals ("OUTPUT") of the pre-amplifier, using shielded wires to make the connection.
TAPE RECORDING AND
TAPE-TO-TAPE RECORDING

TAPE RECORDING

When the recording-mode selector® is set to the "SOURCE" position, the signal source selected by the input selector® is emitted from the tape deck 1 or 2 recording output terminals ("REC OUT").

1. Set the recording-mode selector® to the "SOURCE" position.
2. Set the input selector® to the position corresponding to the program source to be recorded.
3. Adjust the recording level of the tape deck, and begin the recording.

TAPE-TO-TAPE RECORDING

If two tape decks are connected, recordings can be made from one deck to the other.

- To record from tape deck 1 to 2, or from 2 to 1:
  1. Set the recording-mode selector® to the "TAPE 1" position.
  2. Prepare tape deck 1 (or tape deck 2) for playback, and tape deck 2 (or tape deck 1) for recording, and begin the tape-to-tape recording.
  To record from tape deck 2 to tape deck 1, set the recording-mode selector® to the "TAPE 2" position.

- To listen to phon disc or radio broadcast while recording from tape to tape:
  By setting the tape-monitor selector® to the "SOURCE" position, it is possible to listen to phon disc or a radio broadcast while recording from tape to tape.

TAPE MONITORING

If the tape deck to be used is the three-head type, tape monitoring is a method to listen to, and thus confirm, the material being recorded.

When the tape-monitor selector® is set to the "SOURCE" position, the incoming sound can be heard immediately prior to recording. When it is set to the "TAPE 1" or "TAPE 2" position, the sound can be heard immediately after it is recorded.

Use the tape-monitor selector®, therefore, to confirm that the source sound is being recorded correctly, by switching back and forth between the "SOURCE" position and the "TAPE 1" or "TAPE 2" position.

IF THE "SAFETY" INDICATOR IS NOT ILLUMINATED

If an abnormal condition is detected in the output circuitry, the protection circuitry will function, and this indicator will no longer illuminate. If this occurs, turn off the power switch®, and check to determine the trouble, as described below.

Release the speaker selectors® to the off position (▲ ▼), and turn on the power switch®.

If the indicator illuminates:

The problem is not in this unit. Check for probable causes, such as shorts between positive (Θ) and negative (Ω) speaker connection terminals or improper impedance of the speaker systems.

Note concerning speaker impedance:

If main and remote speaker systems are used at the same time, their impedance should be 8 Ω or more. If only the main or the remote are to be used separately, their impedance should be 4 Ω or more.

If the indicator does not illuminate:

The problem is in this unit. Turn off the power switch®, and request your dealer or service center to inspect and repair it.

DESCRIPTION OF THE AUTOMATIC SPEAKER-IMPEDANCE-COMPARATOR CIRCUITRY

1. This unit employs unique automatic speaker-impedance-comparator circuitry to deliver optimum amplifier power output at the following recommended speaker loads.

   MAIN OR REMOTE 4 ohms or greater
   MAIN + REMOTE 8 ohms or greater

2. Only one set of speakers should be connected to each speaker terminal at one time and external accessories such as a switching device, monitors, etc. should not be connected as this will defeat the function of the circuit, causing possible fire or electric shock due to excessive temperature.

3. During initial set-up or when changing speakers, be sure to turn the speaker switch or power switch "OFF" first and then make the necessary connections. Check for proper polarity and then turn the speaker switch or power switch "ON". It is important that this sequence be observed for the proper operation of the automatic speaker-impedance-comparator circuitry.
ACOUSTIC CONTROLS

This unit has three separate tone controls (for bass, mid-range and treble), plus boost/filter selectors which can be set for immediate emphasis of the sound.

(1) Characteristics of change: tone controls

(2) Characteristics of change: tone controls and boost/filter selectors combined

FOR LONG AND SAFE USE OF THIS UNIT

1. Use an ordinary household AC power source
   1) Use from an AC power source high voltage, such as for air conditioners, is very dangerous.
      Be extremely careful not to make a connection to the electrical outlet for a large air conditioner or central-heating unit which uses high voltage, because there is the possibility of fire.
   2) A DC power source cannot be used.
      Be sure to check the power source carefully, especially on a ship or other place where DC is used.

2. Connection and disconnection of the power cord plug
   1) Wet hands are dangerous.
      A dangerous electric shock may result if the plug is touched by wet hands.
   2) Don't pull the power cord.
      Always grasp the plug; never pull the cord itself.
Connections of SA-800A to other equipment

- **AM antenna**
  - Use 8~12 m (26~39 ft.) of vinyl-covered wire horizontally at the window.
  - Be sure the mesh wire contacts the clamp.
  - Cartridge output voltage: 1~10 mV
  - Applicable cartridge types: Moving-magnet, Moving-coil and high-output moving-coil cartridges.
  - **4-channel multiplex output terminal**
    - Multiplex output terminal for FM broadcasts expected in future.
    - AM stereo output terminal ("AM STEREO OUT")
  - Refer to page 7 operation instructions for detailed information.

- **PRE OUT/MAIN III terminals**
  - "PRE OUT" terminals are for connecting to a recording equipment.
  - "MAIN III" terminals are for connecting to a power amplifier.

- **SWITCHED outlet**
  - Connected equipment is turned on and off by power switch of this unit.
  - Power is available regardless of power switch of this unit; connect equipment with power consumption of 150W or less.

- **Speaker cord connections**
  - Remove outer covering (insulation).
  - Insert wire and tighten the screw completely.
  - Core wire should not be visible.

- **Impedance**
  - MAIN or REMOTE
  - 5~750Ω

- **Connection wiring**
  - As thick as possible:
  - 20m (66 ft.) Maximum length

- **Note**
  - Tape deck 1
    - If the tape deck has a DIN (recording/playback) terminal, a DIN cord (separate purchased) can be connected for recording and playback by using only one cord.

- **Remote speaker**
  - For connection to second pair of speakers.

- **SA-800A**

Printed in Japan  8758 M0 SQX5015
Operation (Follow all steps in numbered order.)

To listen to radio broadcasts
- Set to "FM" (FM Auto) and set to "STI" for AM broadcasts.
- Set "SOURCE" to "FM AUTO" for FM broadcasts.
- Set volume control to low position (0-1) for easier tuning.
- Set volume control to medium position (2-4) for better sound.
- Adjust volume level (V)
- Tune to desired station.
- Set "MODE" to "STEREO" for stereo broadcasts.
- Set "MODE" to "PHONO" for phono discs.

To listen to phono discs
- Set "MODE" to "STEREO".
- Set "MODE" to "PHONO".
- Place disc on turntable.
- Adjust volume level (V)

To listen to tape
- Set "MODE" to "STEREO".
- Place tape on tape deck.
- Adjust volume level (V)

- To use equipment connected to "AUX" terminals
- When listening through headphones

Steps required for all operations
- Set "INPUT SELECTOR" to "AUX".
- Set "TAPE MONITOR" to "SOURCE".
- When listening through headphones, set "INPUT SELECTOR" to "AUX".
- When using equipment connected to "AUX" terminals, set "INPUT SELECTOR" to "AUX".

Notes:
1. Push "MAIN" button (A) to set volume control to "MAX" terminals on front panel.
2. Set to "TAPE 1" to playback sound from tape deck connected to "TAPE 1" terminals on front panel.
3. After performance is finished, power supply of all equipment should be turned off.

Actual performance is finished, power supply of all equipment should be turned off!
3. AC outlets on rear panel
   1) Any equipment connected here should have specified power consumption or less.
   These outlets are exclusively for the connection of other audio equipment, such as a tape deck. Be sure the power consumption of each does not exceed wattage specified near the AC outlets.
   2) Never connect other electrical appliances such as an iron or toaster. If appliances with a large power consumption are connected, an unexpected accident might occur as a result of overheating.

4. Never attempt to repair or reconstruct this unit.
   A serious electric shock might occur if this unit is repaired, disassembled or reconstructed by unauthorized persons, or if the internal parts are accidentally touched.

5. For families with children
   Never permit children to put anything, especially metal, inside this unit. A serious electric shock or malfunction could occur if articles such as coins, needles, screwdrivers, etc. are inserted through the ventilation holes, etc. of this unit.

6. Turn off after use.
   If the unit is left for a long time with the power on, this will not only shorten its useful operation life, but may also cause other unexpected trouble.

7. If water is spilled on the unit
   Be extremely careful if water is spilled on the unit, because a fire or serious electric shock might occur. Immediately disconnect the power cord plug, and consult with your dealer.

8. Place the unit where it will be well ventilated, and away from direct sunlight.
   Place this unit at least 10 cm (4") away from wall surfaces, etc., and away from direct sunlight. Be careful that curtains and similar materials do not obstruct the ventilation holes.

9. Keep the unit away from stoves, etc.
   Heat can damage the external surfaces as well as internal circuits and components.

10. Avoid spray-type insecticides.
    Insecticides might cause cracks or "cloudiness" in the cabinet and plastic parts of this unit. The gas used in such sprays might, moreover, be ignited suddenly.

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If trouble occurs
If, during operation, the sound is interrupted or indication lamps no longer illuminate, or if abnormal odor or smoke is detected, immediately disconnect the power cord plug, and contact your dealer or an Authorized Service Center.