

# Owner's Manual

ELECTRONICALLY TUNED AM/FM RECEIVER,

CD CHANGER CONTROLLER,

CUSTOM MADE FOR

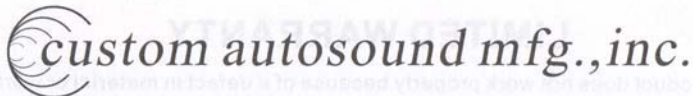
“THE GREAT CLASSIC VEHICLES!”



- × CD CHANGER CONTROLLER
- × ELECTRONICALLY TUNED
- × NIGHT ILLUMINATED
- × FRONT/REAR FADER
- × LEFT/RIGHT BALANCE CONTROL
- × HIGH POWER 240 WATTS (60x4)
- × 12AM 18FM STATION MEMORY
- × RCA PRE-AMP OUTPUTS
- × POWER ON/OFF & VOLUME CONTROL
- × AUTO-ANTENNA POWER LEAD
- × SWITCHABLE USA/EURO FREQUENCY SELECTOR
- × AUXILLARY INPUT

**CONCOURS  
USA-6**


*custom autosound mfg.*  
INNOVATIVE AUDIO



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## Introduction

Thank you for your purchase of a  Custom Autosound radio.

This factory made AM/FM CDC receiver is specifically designed and manufactured for your classic special interest vehicle. It is a reflection of over 25 years of customer feedback regarding preferred features, vehicle compatibility, cosmetics and quality components.

The quality of the components and various parts that are used in our radios were developed in a California audio research laboratory. The laboratory researched and assembled the finest affordable CD-C controller, radio tuner and amplifier sections.


Custom Autosound and its staff own over 16 classic special interest cars and trucks. These vehicles are used for research and development, car shows, meets and much personal pleasure. We find that our custom radios only sound as good as the speakers they are matched with and a quality installation.

We also manufacture a full line of rear and dual front and dual voice coil speaker assemblies to fit in the original speaker areas, rear and overhead speaker assemblies and custom radios for over 300 different year groups and makes of classic vehicles plus Secretaudio for streetrods and customs.

Your Custom Autosound authorized dealer has information regarding our speakers and special speaker assemblies, as well as information regarding custom radios for cars other than yours.

Again, we thank you for your purchase! You have increased the value and "Driving Pleasure" of your classic without damaging the originality.

Regards,  
Carl Sprague  
President

 Custom Autosound

It is advised that you do not return defective units to your dealer. There is generally no "exchange" e. g. (as is standard Electronics Industry Policy). Also, most dealers do not have radio technicians, test benches, etc. and a return to factory through a dealer can extend turn-around times by weeks!

Please call Custom Autosound requesting technical assistance if a problem occurs. We will gladly trouble shoot/advise step by step.

If your unit is in need of repair, please ship it to us, UPS preferably. We will repair or replace and return ASAP! Normal turn around time is 7 business days plus shipping time.

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Fullerton, CA 92833

800-8888637  
714-773-1523 Fax  
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# General Installation

Thank you for your purchase of this Custom Autosound product!

Owner-Installer: Please review installation instructions and owner's manual.

Keep in mind that your radio and/or speakers are custom equipment designed specifically for your year vehicle. It should be handled carefully and installed preferably by an auto radio specialist. We suggest that you "Bench Test" the unit before installation, as we do, prior to shipment. This is to insure that the equipment functions properly before the time is spent for installation. This way, if a careless installation occurs and the unit becomes "fried" or some other possible damage, the installer is responsible. Shipping damage does occasionally occur. If you should suspect shipping damage, please contact the delivery company at once.

Please read the owners manual thoroughly before using your radio.

It is recommended that you disconnect the negative lead from the battery before installing any electronic equipment in your vehicle. Reconnect when wiring is complete.

First, you will need to remove the original knobs, bezels and shaft nuts. Unplug the main wire harness and speaker leads from the back of the radio. Disconnect antenna lead and remove mounting strap from the back of the radio. The radio is now ready to be removed from the dash. Check the original radio for signs of water or oil damage from leaks. If leaks are present, do not install the new radio. Water, oil or any other liquid damage is not covered under the new radio warranty.

## REAR MOUNTING STRAP OMISSION VOIDS WARRANTY!

Attach the rear mounting strap to rear of radio. Install the radio from behind the dash. Now attach the mounting strap to the dash or firewall using an existing bolt or screw. Now install any outer custom trim bezel, if one was furnished for this application and attach shaft nuts to secure the radio in the dash. Once the radio is centered and secured, you can install the knobs.

Please refer to wiring instructions on page 4&5.

Plug in antenna lead. On speaker hook up make sure the positive lead goes to the positive terminal and the negative lead to the negative terminal of the speakers. A minimum of one speaker is required for this stereo radio. **DO NOT CONNECT ANY TWO SPEAKER LEADS TO EACH OTHER OR TO VEHICLE GROUND.** Radio damage will occur. If less than four speakers are used, tape off remaining speaker leads to prevent a short.

Plug in or wire the red power wire to a switched 12volt source. Plug in or wire the orange memory wire to a constant 12volt source. Wire the black ground wire to a clean, solid chassis point or original ground wire from the factory radio.

Good Listening! Audio quality only as good as speaker quality!

## **Power and Speaker Connections** (Refer to Wiring Diagram on page 5.)

### **A-Main Power-Red Wire B+**

Connect the RED wire(B+)to an accessory fuse that is switched OFF when the key switch is in the OFF position and is switched ON when the key switch is switched to the ON or accessory position.(This does not apply to cars with 6volt system)

### **B-Memory Back-Up-Orange Wire B+**

Connect the orange wire (memory B+) to an accessory fuse that is always ON regardless of the position of the key switch. The lead supplies power to the program memory and the clock circuit when the USA-6 is switched off.(This does not apply to cars with 6volt system)

### **C-Power Antenna(Auto-Antenna)-Yellow Wire**

This wire can be connected to the positive switch terminal of the relay for the auto antenna (if your car is equipped)or to the remote on switch of the amplifier or booster(if equipped).

NOTE: DO NOT connect this wire to a negative position or to any device that requires high current. Otherwise the radio may fail or become "fried" .If your car is not equipped with an auto antenna, leave this wire sealed and do not allow it to short to any other positions.

### **D-Ground Wire-Black**

Connect the black ground wire to any clean paint and contaminant free area of vehicle chassis.

NOTE: Proper grounding is essential for optimum performance of your radio.

### **E-Speaker Wires**

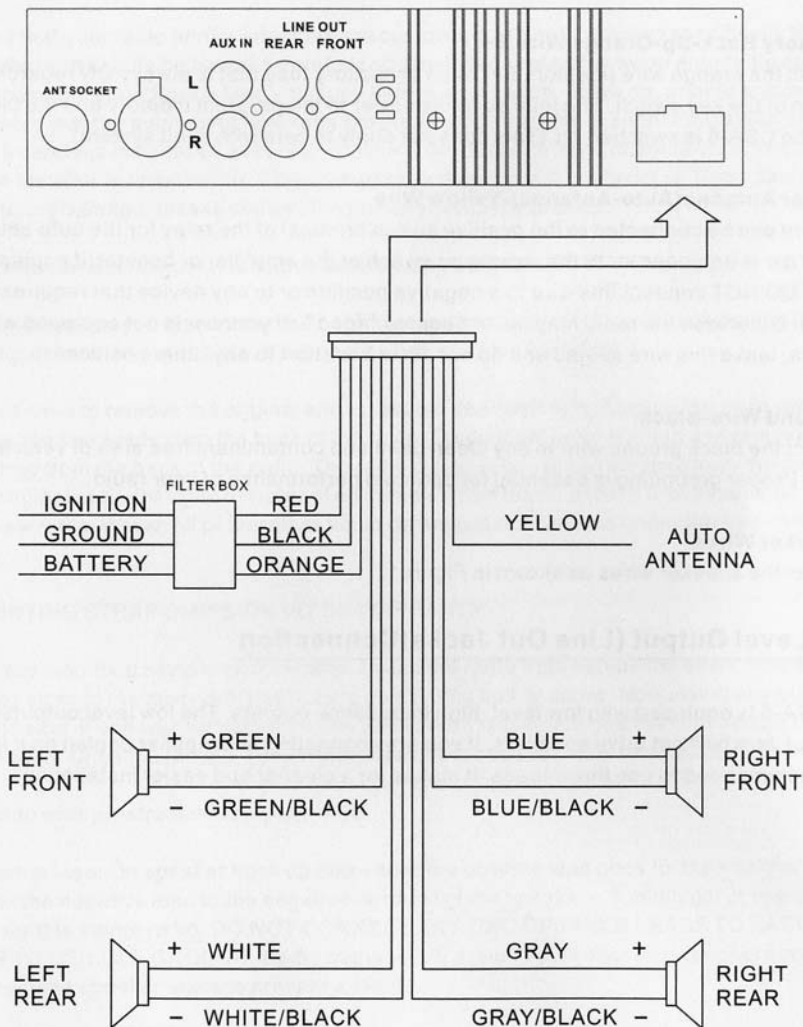
Connect the speaker wires as shown in Figure1.

## **Low Level Output (Line Out Jacks)Connection**

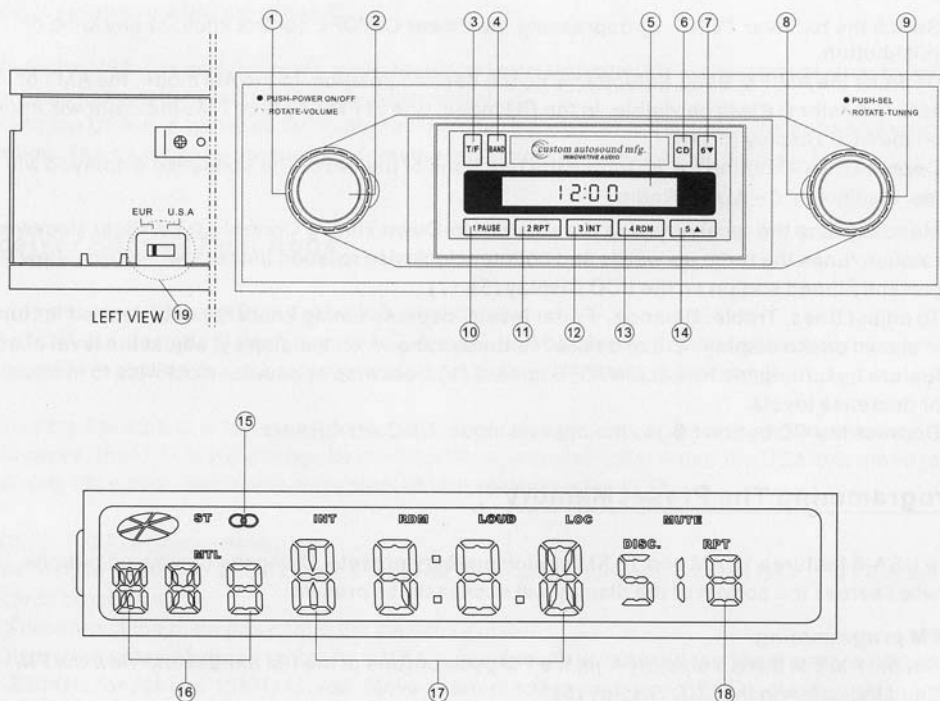
The USA-6 is equipped with low level, high impedance outputs. The low level outputs(RCA type Line Out Jack)will not drive speakers. If you are connecting an amplifier or plan on it in the future it is recommended to use these leads. It makes for a cleaner and easier installation.

# WIRING DIAGRAM

FIGURE 1.



## CONTROLS AND DISPLAY



- |   |                                     |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| 1. POWER ON/OFF CONTROL   | 10. CD PLAY/PAUSE/RADIO PRE-SET 1   |
| 2. VOLUME FUNCTION CONTROL                                      | 11. CD TRACK REPEAT/RADIO PRE-SET 2 |
| 3. TIME/FREQUENCY RECALL BUTTON                                 | 12. CD TRACK INTRO/RADIO PRE-SET 3  |
| 4. AM/FM1/FM2 BAND SELECT BUTTON                                | 13. CD RANDOM/RADIO PRE-SET 4       |
| 5. CLOCK/FREQUENCY DISPLAY                                      | 14. CD DISC UP/RADIO PRE-SET 5      |
| 6. CD-IN/AUX -IN/RADIO CHANGE BUTTON                            | 15. FM STEREO MODE INDICATOR        |
| 7. CD DISC DOWN/RADIO PRE-SET 6                                 | 16. FM/AM BAND INDICATOR            |
| 8. PUSH-SELECT FUNCTION CONTROL                                 | 17. FREQUENCY/CLOCK DISPLAY         |
| 9. MANUAL UP-DOWN TUNE /TIME<br>ADJUST CONTROL/CD TRACK UP/DOWN | 18. PRESET CHANNEL NUMBER DISPLAY   |
|   | 19. USA/EURO FREQUENCY SELECTOR     |

## Receiver Basic Operation

NOTE: New Electronic control shafts allow instant 'ON' function by depressing any button on radio.

1. Switch the receiver "ON" by depressing the Power ON/OFF control knob, or any knob or pushbutton.
2. Depress the AM/FM Band Selector( 4 )to the desired position. In the AM mode, the AM1 or AM2 Indicator (16)will be visible. In the FM mode, one of FM1,FM2 or FM3 indicator will appear on the LCD Display (5)(16)
3. Depress the CD button ( 6 )to toggle the functions of the radio. The sequence displayed will be: Radio→CDC→AUX→Radio.
4. Manually tune the receiver using the Manual Up-Down Tuning Control ( 9 ).A slight clockwise rotation tunes the radio up-wards and counter clockwise rotation tunes down-wards. View the currently tuned station on the LCD Display (5)(17).
5. To adjust Bass, Treble, Balance, Fader levels, depress tuning knob( 9 ) until desired feature is shown on the display . When desired feature is shown on the display, adjust the level of each feature by turning the Power ON /OFF control (1) clockwise or counter clockwise to increase or decrease levels.
6. Depress the CD button ( 6 ) to the desired mode: CDC,AUX,Radio

## Programming The Preset Memory

The USA-6 features 12 AM and 18 FM station memory presets. Using the numbered buttons located across the bottom of the display will access these presets.

### **A-FM programming**

1. Set the AM/FM Band Selector( 4 )in the FM position(one of the FM bands) and view the FM Band Indicator on the LCD Display (5).
2. Select the station desired by using the Manual UP-Down Tuning Control ( 9 ).
3. Depress one of the 6 preset buttons for approximately 5 seconds. Then the sound will fade out momentarily and return again. The station is now programmed at that button and the Preset Channel will appear on the LCD display(5).
4. Repeat above 2-3 steps to program another station on another button. Repeat above steps until 6 stations are programmed in FM2 and 6 in FM3 for a total of 18 stations.

### **B-AM Programming**

1. Repeat the steps 2-3 above but with the AM/FM Band Selector ( 4 ) in the AM band.
2. Repeat above 2-3 steps until you program 6 stations in the AM1 and AM2 bands on each button.

## Digital Display

The USA-6 features a multi-mode liquid crystal digital display (5) .It will perform as follows under various operating conditions (Page 7).

1. When the USA-6 is switched OFF and/or ignition key is switched OFF, the internal circuitry will continue to keep the stations that you have preset.
2. When the USA-6 is switched ON in the radio mode, the display will indicate the currently tuned station. The time can be recalled by pressing the Time/Frequency recall button ( 3 ).

## Receiver Special Functions

### 1. Automatic Mono/Stereo(Built-In)&Stereo Indicator

The built-in Automatic Mono/Stereo(FMO-Frequency Modulation Optimizer) is used to improve stereo FM reception in weak signal areas without manually changing the mode.

When the FM station is too weak to receive a clear stereo signal, and noise and interference increases, the USA-6 will change its mode to Mono automatically. When the USA-6 is tuned to a strong FM signal, the Stereo Indicator (15)will appear on the LCD.

### 2. USA/EURO Frequency selection

This feature is used to select how the radio receives signals for either in the USA or a European style of broadcast.

(1)Disconnect the main power and the memory power.

(2)Move the channel space switch to “USA” position. This changes the channel space to 200KHz for FM and 10KHz for AM. Move channel space switch to “EUR” position to change the channel space to 50KHz for FM and 9KHz for AM.

## CD Changer Operation

1. With CD magazine in place in changer, press the CD button( 6 ).The receiver will go into CD mode.
2. To select a disc, press CD up(14)or CD down( 7 )until the desired disc number is shown on the right side of the LCD display(5).
3. To skip to the next track, turn knob ( 9 ) clockwise. To go to the previous track, turn knob ( 9 ) counter clockwise.
4. To repeat play the current track, press(11).RPT will show on the LCD display.
5. To RANDOM play tracks on the disc, press(13).This will play tracks randomly on the current disc. RDM will show on the LCD display.
6. To play only the first 10 seconds of each track on the current disc, press (12).INT will show on the LCD display. To turn INTRO off press(12) again.
7. To change the mode to RADIO, press the CD button( 6 ).

## **AUX IN put Operation**

This feature is for connecting an optional portable audio device such as: CD/MP3/T.V./DVD/Satelite radio etc. The USA-6 radio comes with an Input cable that can plug directly into a headphone connector on a portable device. If this is not the style of connector on your portable device, you may need to purchase the appropriate cables or parts separately.

Once you have connected your portable device to the USA-6, turn on the USA-6 and the portable device.

1. Depress the CD button ( 6 ) on the USA-6. "AUX" will be visible on the LCD display.
2. Adjust the Volume( 1 ) on the USA-6 to the desired level. If the volume level of the radio and the portable device are not the same, you may need to adjust the volume level of the portable device.
3. Control your portable device in the way you normally would. The portable device should be playing through the speakers in your vehicle

## **Setting The Time**

The following procedure must be preformed with the radio ON.

1. With the unit on, press and release the Time/Frequency Recall Button ( 3 ) so the time is displayed.
2. Press the Time/Frequency Recall Button ( 3 ) for 5 seconds. The hour should be blinking on the display. Release the button and rotate the Manual Tuning Control (10) gently to the right , the Hour will advance. Rotating the Manual Tuning Control ( 9 ) gently to the left, the Hour will decrease.
3. Press and release the Time/Frequency Recall Button ( 3 ) and now the minutes should be blinking on the display. Rotating the Manual Tuning Control ( 9 ) gently to the right, the Minute will advance.  
Rotating the Manual Tuning Control ( 9 ) gently to the left, the Minute will decrease.
4. When finished setting the time, do not touch the radio. The hours and the minutes will stop blinking, the clock will show on the display for 5 seconds, and then will revert back to the radio station display.

## **Noise Suppression**

All CAM Systems are designed for maximum electrical noise rejection. In some installations however, electrical noise may affect the quality of sound reproduction.

The procedures described under Noise is present after installing the USA-6, identify the source of the noise using the descriptions under Sources Of Electrical Noise. To eliminate the noise follow the procedures described under Elimination of the specific noise source.

## **Noise Suppression**

- 1-Check all ground connections. Remove paint away from painted surfaces to secure a good electrical ground.
- 2-Check battery posts. If contacts are corroded or loose, clean and tighten both terminals.
- 3-Check battery or add fluid.
- 4-Check condition of spark plug and distributor leads. Worn or damaged leads will generate noise than can be very difficult to eliminate.

- 5-Check installation of factory noise suppressor(s). Verify that the connections are solid. Refer to the vehicles service manual for nose suppressor location or allow a qualified mechanic to inspect the device(s) for you.
- 6-(Optional) Some professional installers will install a simple L. C. noise filter even if there is no noise present in the system. This is a simple and relatively inexpensive device available at your nearest Autosound dealer or electronic supply store. Most filters designed for car stereos carry a current rating of 3 amps or more. Follow the manufacturer's installation instructions. This filter is installed in the power lines of the car stereo.

## **Sources Of Electrical Noise**

### **Alternator Noise**

This noise is generally a high pitch whine present when engine running. The pitch of the whine will vary as engine rpm varies. Alternator noise usually becomes more apparent with an electrical load to the system. Switching the headlights on usually increases the noise.

### **Elimination**

1. Install an L. C. noise filter (available from your Autosound dealer or your nearby electronic or automotive supply store)in the power lines of your USA-6. This filter should be rated at 3 amps minimum.
2. Start the car's engine. switch on the lights(to accentuate the noise)and switch on the USA-6. If noise is still present, proceed to step 3.
3. Instal an alternator noise filter (available from your Autosound dealer or your nearby electronic or automotive supply store). Follow manufacturer's installation instructions.

### **Antenna Noise**

A static or crackle head through the speakers, usually when the car is running, but sometimes present with the ignition off. If a crackling static if present, follow the steps outlined below to confirm the antenna as the source of the noise.

1. Start the car engine.
2. Switch on the USA-6.
3. Adjust the volume so that noise is audible.
4. Reduce volume setting of the car stereo but do not switch it off. If noise decreases or disappears, the signal is most likely being picked up by the car antenna. If the noise persists after following the steps listed below, proceed to Ignition Noise.

### **Elimination**

1. Test or have tested the antenna lead for any breaks or shorts. Signs of crimping, kinking, fraying or rust usually indicates damage to the cable. Replace the antenna or cable if necessary.

### **Ignition Noise**

A popping or crackling noise heard through the speakers. The noise will vary as the engine rpm varies. The noise will only be present with the engine running.

### **Elimination**

1. Install an L. C. Filter Network in the power lead of the USA-6. The filter should be rated at a minimum of 3 amps.
2. Inspect spark plug and distributor cable for signs of wear or damage. Replace as necessary using resistor cable only. Metal conductor ignition cables increase static interference.

NOTE: Do not use spark plug or distributor noise filters as these can create more problems than they can solve. They decrease the quality of the spark generated by the spark plugs and they may create more static than they eliminate.

### **Accessory Noise**

A popping heard when the lights, turn indicators, windshield wipers, cigarette lighter, etc. are switched on indicate a vehicle wiring deficiency. Most occurrences are minor and present no risk to the stereo system other than the annoyance to the listener. However, severe cases may damage the speakers, minor occurrences can be remedied. A professional must attend to severe occurrences, as they present a threat to not only the stereo system but to the vehicle wiring itself.

### **Elimination**

1. Install an L. C. Filter Network in the power leads of the USA-6. The filter should be rated at a minimum of 3 amps.
2. If the noise persists, consult a professional automotive service technician.

## Trouble Shooting Guide

Problem	Cause	Solution
No Lights, NO Sound	Power Lead: Red Wire not connected or Power not getting to radio	Check fuse in filter box. Check all connections on this wire and verify that radio is getting 12V on this wire.
Lights but No Sound	Power Lead: Orange Wire not connected or power not getting to radio	Check fuse in filter box. Check all connections on this wire and verify that radio is getting 12V on this wire
Lights, Numbers Displayed but No Sound	Problem with a speaker or speaker wire	Verify all speakers used are 4ohm or greater. Verify that none of the speakers are going to ground. Verify that none of the speaker wires are shorting to themselves or ground.
Sound only heard on one side  Noise with Radio Reception	Speaker wires disconnected Balance control set to one side Antenna not fully extended Car underneath Fluorescent lights	Check all connections Adjust balance control to center position Extend antenna to full length. Back vehicle out of garage and test again

## Radio Specifications

### FM Section

Tuner Type.....	PLL	IF Frequency.....	10.7MHz
Frequency Range.....	.87.5-108MHz	Sensitivity.....	2.6V
Image Rejection.....	50dB	S/N Ratio.....	60dB
Quieting Sensitivity.....	4uV	Capture Ratio.....	1.5dB
T.H.D.:.....	.1%	Separation:.....	.35 dB
IF Rejection:.....	.60dB		

### AM Section

Frequency Range:.....	530-1710KHz	IF Frequency:.....	450KHz
S/N Ratio:.....	50dB	Sensitivity:.....	.20uV
Selectivity:.....	25dB		

### Audio Section

Output/Channel:.....	60 Watts	System Power:.....	240 Watts
Response.....	30Hz-18KHz	THD:.....	0.5%

### General

Power Supply:.....	12V DC Negative Ground
Speaker impedance:.....	4-8 ohm
Stand-By Current:.....	.02A
Chassis:.....	200mm (W)×50 mm(H)×115 mm(D)

