ATARI® 7800™ ProSystem

Owner's Manual

Table of Contents

Your ATARI 7800 ProSystem 1

Installing the TV/Game Switch Box 2-5

Setting Up the Console 6, 7

Inserting a Game Cartridge 8

Using the 7800 Pro-Line™ Controllers 9

To Start Play 10, 11

Returning your TV Set to Television Program Viewing 12

Maintaining your ATARI 7800 ProSystem 12

Troubleshooting Checklist 12

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7800 ProSystem
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ATARI

Your ATARI 7800 ProSystem

Congratulations on your purchase of one the most exciting video game systems available. This state-of-the-art system features:

- Superior graphics and challenging game play
- Free Pole Position II game
- A full line of advanced software
- Convenient pause control
- Modern, sleek design
- Pro-Line precision game controllers
- Home computer expandability

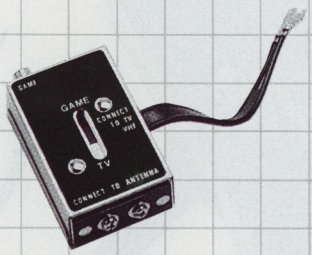
Your ATARI 7800 ProSystem plays all ATARI 2600™ cartridges without a separate adaptor. Just insert a cartridge and play! The 7800 ProSystem also lets you use all controllers that are compatible with the ATARI 2600 VCS™ console. We suggest you read this Owner's Guide thoroughly before setting up your ATARI 7800 ProSystem.

When you remove your ATARI 7800 ProSystem from the box, you will find:

- 7800 ProSystem Console
- Two Pro-Line Game Controllers
- TV/Game Switch Box
- Power Adapter
- TV Connector Cable
- Printed Warranty Card

Take a moment now to fill out your printed warranty purchase card and register your unit with Atari.

Note: The metallic label on your ATARI 7800 is covered with a protective coating. To remove the plastic, simply peel it off.



Installing the TV/Game Switch Box

Your TV/Game Switch Box allows you to change from television viewing to video game play and back by simply sliding a switch. The switch box is easy to install. Find the picture that looks the most like the back of your TV set and follow those instructions. All you need is a screwdriver.

If Your Television Has Four Screws Only:

A. Disconnect the twin-lead wire from your television and attach it to the ANTENNA screw terminals on the TV/GAME Switch Box.

B. Connect the twin-lead wire from the TV/GAME Switch Box to the VHF antenna terminals on your television set.

If you do not have a flat twin-lead antenna wire, you may need to buy an "impedance-matching transformer" (also called a "balun coil"). It is also available at a nominal cost from your local TV and stereo stores.

By attaching a TV/GAME Switch Box to each television in your home, you can easily move your ATARI 7800 ProSystem from room to room. Extra TV/GAME Switch Boxes may be purchased separately.

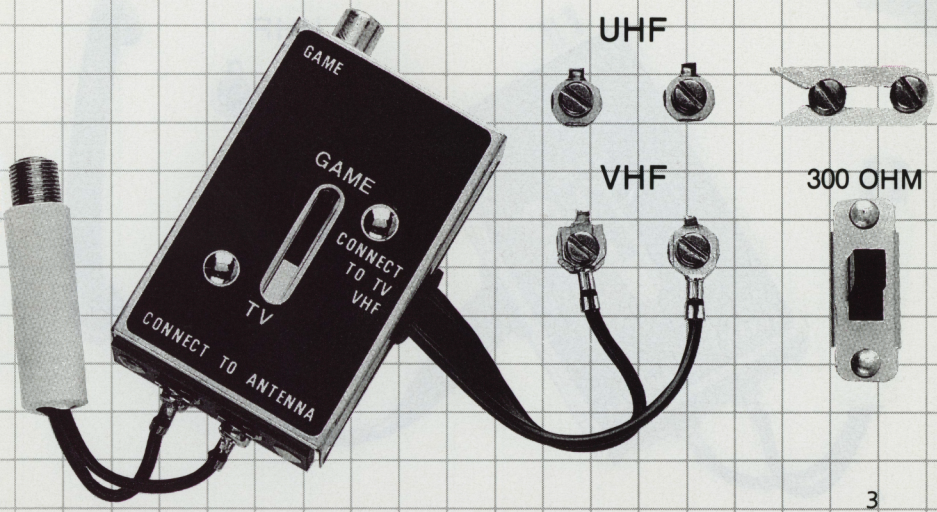
If Your Television Has a U-Shaped Slider or a Slide Switch:

A. Move the U-shaped slider to make connection between the two screws. Or, push the slide switch to the side marked "300 ohm" or "300 Ω ."

B. If you have a round antenna cable:

- Disconnect the cable from your television.
- Screw the cable into the impedance-matching transformer.
- Attach the impedance-matching transformer to the ANTENNA screw terminals on the TV/GAME Switch Box. Or if you have a flat twin-lead antenna wire:
- Disconnect it from the television and attach it to the ANTENNA screw terminals on the TV/GAME Switch Box.

C. Connect the short twin-lead wire from the TV/GAME Switch Box to the VHF antenna terminals on your television set.



Installing the TV/Game Switch Box

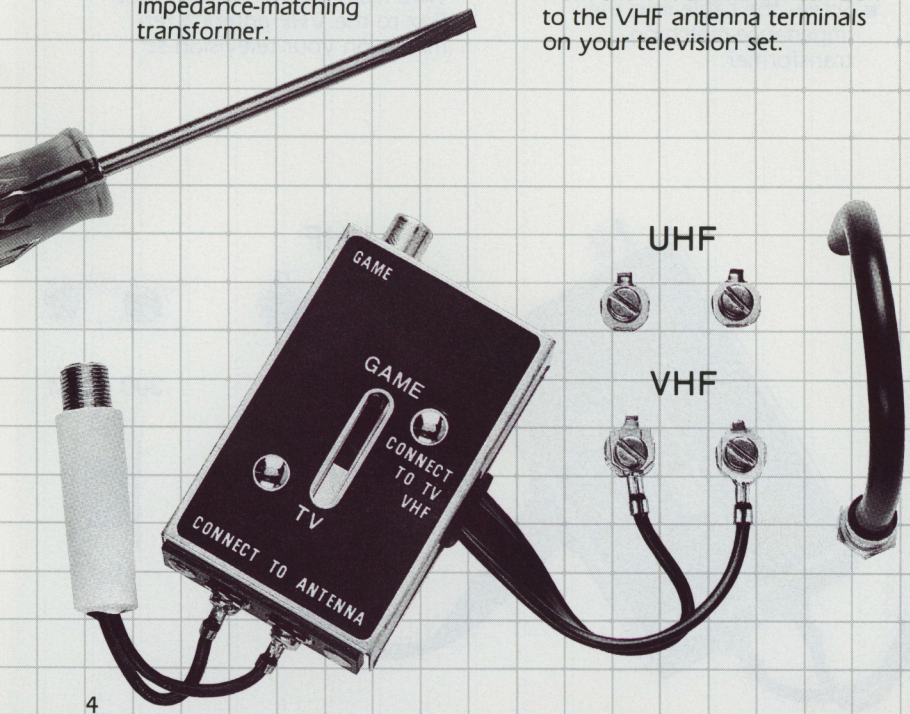
If Your Television Has a Short Round Cable:

A. Attach the television's short loose-hanging cable to the connector next to it on your television.

B. If you have a round antenna cable:

- Disconnect the cable from your television.
- Screw the cable into the impedance-matching transformer.
- Attach the impedance-matching transformer to the ANTENNA screw terminals on the TV/GAME Switch Box. Or, if you have a flat twin-lead antenna wire:
- Disconnect it from the television and attach it to the ANTENNA screw terminals on the TV/GAME Switch Box.

C. Connect the twin-lead wire from the TV/GAME Switch Box to the VHF antenna terminals on your television set.



If Your Television is Connected to Cable TV:

Disconnect the Cable TV Antenna from your TV and connect it to the TV/GAME Switch Box using the method appropriate to your application. Once properly connected your TV/GAME Switch Box can remain in your antenna system.

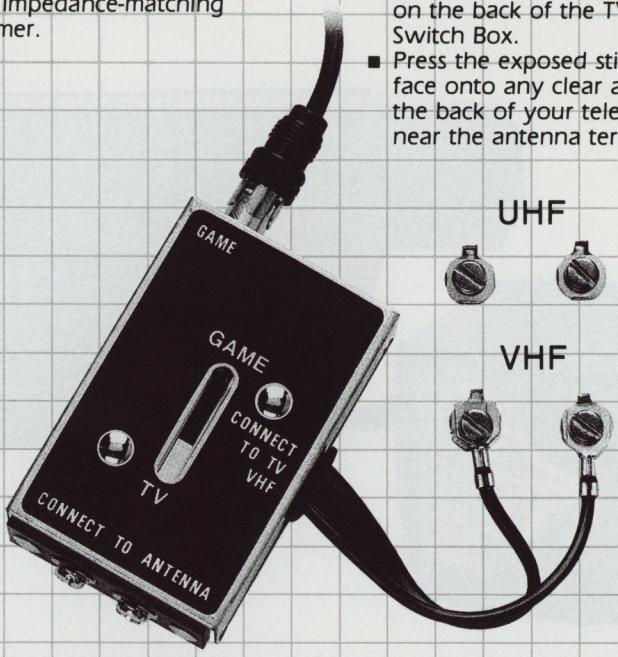
Note: Your Cable TV company may have already supplied you with an impedance-matching transformer.

Plug the Game Cable from the back of your ATARI 7800 ProSystem into the TV/GAME Switch Box at the GAME connector.

The TV/GAME Switch Box can remain attached to your television antenna without bothering your television program reception.

The TV/GAME Switch Box can be attached permanently to the back of your television set.

- Peel off the protective paper on the back of the TV/GAME Switch Box.
- Press the exposed sticky surface onto any clear area on the back of your television, near the antenna terminals.



Setting Up the Console

1. Check the channel selector switch on the back of the console to be sure it is set to the ■ position.
2. Set your television channel selector to Channel 3. If Channel 3 is broadcasting in your area, set the television channel selector switch to Channel 2 and change the channel selector switch on the console to the ● position.
3. Plug the Power Adapter cable jack into the POWER connector at the back of the console.
4. Plug the Power Adapter into any convenient 120-volt AC electrical wall outlet.

Important: Use only the Power Adapter packed with your ATARI 7800. Use of any other power supply could damage the console.

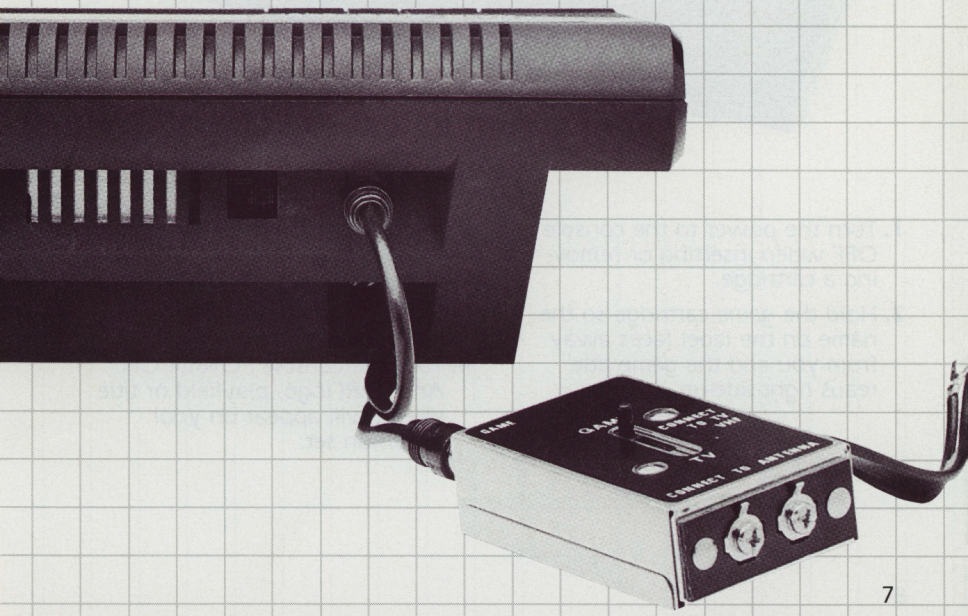
5. Attach TV Connector Cable to console and TV/Game Switch Box.

6. Turn your television set on and set the volume control to a comfortable level.

7. Press the POWER ON/OFF button on the front left side of the console to ON. A red light (LED) glows when the POWER is ON.

8. If your television set has an automatic fine-tuning control, turn it off and manually fine-tune it for the best picture. However, if your television set will not receive color unless the automatic fine-tuning is on, leave it on.

Note: Always turn the POWER OFF when the game is not in use.



Inserting a Game Cartridge

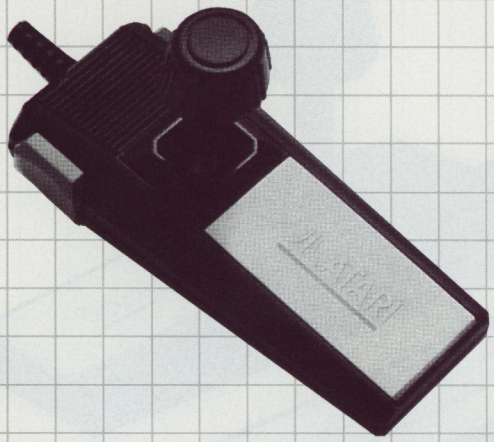
1. Turn the power to the console OFF when inserting or removing a cartridge.
2. Hold the game cartridge so the name on the label faces away from you and the game title reads right-side-up.
3. Insert the game cartridge into the slot at the center of the console. Be sure the cartridge fits firmly in the slot but DO NOT FORCE IT IN.
4. Turn the console POWER ON. An ATARI logo, playfield or title screen will appear on your television set.

Using the 7800 Pro-Line Controllers

The ATARI 7800 ProSystem includes two advanced controllers designed for comfortable and responsive gameplay. These controllers provide eight directions of control. Their function for each game is explained in the manual for the particular game you are playing.

Plug the controllers into the jacks at the front of the console. Use the left jack for one-player games; use both jacks for two-player games. Each jack is designed to fit the controller only one way. Be sure the connection is firm, but do not try to force it in.

Each controller has two fire buttons. For most games, the right and left fire buttons perform the same functions, and you can use whichever is most comfortable. For more realistic play in some games, however, these buttons are capable of independent functions. Consult your game manual for instructions on how to use the controllers and fire buttons for the particular game you are playing.



To Start Play

After inserting a game cartridge, turn the console POWER ON to view the game title screen and, with most cartridges, to see an example of game play. Press any fire button on the left joystick to start the game at the current game option. To change the current game option while the title screen is up, push the joystick in the direction indicated below or press SELECT on your console to display the menu.

While the menu is displayed, push your joystick in the following directions to change the game options:

- Joystick Right: Increase Difficulty
- Joystick Left: Decrease Difficulty
- Joystick Up: Increase Number of Players
- Joystick Down: Decrease Number of Players

Note: This joystick technique applies to ATARI 7800 ProSystem games and controllers only. For all others, consult the manual for the game you are playing.

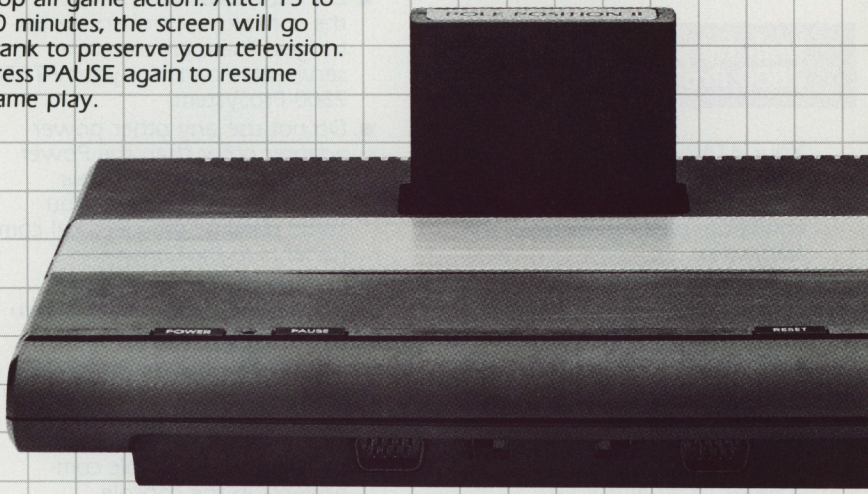
Or, press SELECT on the console while the menu is displayed to rotate through the game options.

Press the fire button on your controller or press RESET on the console to start a game with the displayed settings.

During game play, press RESET to start a new game. Press SELECT to display the menu.

Press PAUSE on the console to stop all game action. After 15 to 30 minutes, the screen will go blank to preserve your television. Press PAUSE again to resume game play.

Some ATARI 2600 VCS games use the LEFT and RIGHT DIFFICULTY switches. When a difficulty switch is moved to the left, the game becomes more difficult. Some ATARI game cartridges use these two switches for other functions. Many games don't use them at all.



Returning Your TV Set to Television Program Viewing

- Press the console POWER switch OFF.
- Change the TV/Game Switch on the Switch Box to TV.
- Turn on the automatic fine-tuning if you turned if off.

Maintaining Your ATARI 7800 ProSystem

Your ATARI 7800 ProSystem will bring you many years of enjoyment. To keep it in good working condition, please remember the following:

- Always turn the POWER switch OFF when your ATARI 7800 ProSystem is not in use.
- Do not force a game cartridge into the cartridge slot.
- Do not spill liquids on your console, cartridges, or controllers.
- Do not lift your 7800 console or 7800 controllers by the connecting wires. You could bend or crimp the wires and break the internal insulation.
- Be careful not to drop the console, controllers, or game cartridges.
- Do not expose the console, controllers, or game cartridges to extreme heat.
- Do not disassemble or alter the console, controllers, or cartridges. There are no user-serviceable parts for your ATARI 7800 ProSystem.
- Do not use any other power adapter other than the Power Adapter packed with your ATARI 7800 ProSystem. You could damage the electrical components in the console.
- Unplug the Power Adapter from the electrical outlet when not in use.
- Do not use any TV switch box other than the TV/Game Switch Box packed with your ATARI 7800 ProSystem. You could damage the electronic components in the console.
- Clean the exterior surface of the console with a soft and slightly damp cloth (use water only).

Troubleshooting Checklist

The following list is supplied to help you troubleshoot any possible problems in setting up your ATARI 7800. Always disconnect the Power Adapter before checking any electrical connections.

Symptom

- Game picture and playfield are fuzzy or the sounds are distorted.

Probable Cause and Remedy

- TV/Game Switch Box not correctly connected to television antenna.
- Television set not fine-tuned for the best picture. Make sure the automatic fine-tuning is off and manually fine-tune for the best picture. However, if your television receives color only when the fine-tuning is on, leave it on.
- Interference on Channel 3. Change console channel selector switch to ●, and change television channel selector to 2.

Symptom

- No game sounds.

Probable Cause and Remedy

- Turn up the volume on your television set. Tune in channel 2 (or 3) properly.

Symptom

- Title screen or playfield image does not appear on the screen.

Probable Cause and Remedy

- Console POWER switch not ON.
- Game cable not properly plugged into TV/Game Switch Box.
- Power jack not connected to the console.
- TV/Game Switch Box not correctly connected to television antenna.
- Game cartridge not properly inserted.
- Power Adapter not plugged into wall outlet.
- Interference on Channel 3. Change channel selector switch to ● and change television channel selector to 2.

Symptom

- No regular television program viewing.

Probable Cause and Remedy

- Television antenna not correctly connected to TV/Game Switch Box.
- TV/Game Switch Box set to GAME. Change to TV.

Note: Your ATARI 7800 is engineered to eliminate phosphor memory or "burn in" of the playfield and score digits on your television screen. We suggest, however, these precautions:

- Turn down the contrast of your television set.
- Turn the ATARI 7800 OFF when not in use.

Compliance with FCC Regulations

To comply with Federal Communications Commission* (FCC) regulations, and to keep your ATARI 7800 ProSystem from interfering with television reception on nearby television sets, please observe the following:

- Do not install a longer antenna cable from the TV/Game Switch Box to the antenna connection on your television set. The antenna cable supplied with the TV/Game Switch box is the correct length that complies with FCC regulations.
- Do not connect the antenna output cable on your TV/Game Switch Box directly to any television antenna or Cable TV outlet.
- Do not attach loose wires to your television antenna terminals when you are using the ATARI 7800.

*This equipment generates and uses radio frequency energy, and if it is not installed properly, it may cause interference to radio and television reception. It has been type tested and found to comply with the limits for a Class B computing device in accordance with the specifications in Subpart J of part 15 of FCC Rules, which are designed to provide reasonable protection against such interference in a residential installation. If this equipment does cause interference to radio or television reception, which can be determined by turning the equipment off and on, try to correct the interference by one more of the following methods:

- Reorient the receiving antenna.
- Relocate the computer with respect to the receiver.
- Plug the computer into a different outlet so that the computer and receiver are on different branch circuits.

If necessary, consult the dealer or an experienced radio/television technician for additional suggestions. You may find the following booklet prepared by the Federal Communications Commission helpful: "How to Identify and Resolve Radio-TV Interference Problems."

This booklet is available from the U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402, Stock No. 004-000-00345-4.

Warning: This equipment has been certified to comply with the limits for a Class B computing device, pursuant to Subpart J of Part 15 of FCC Rules. Only peripherals (computer input/output devices, terminals, printers, etc.) certified to comply with the Class B limits may be attached to this computer. Operation with non-certified peripherals is likely to result in interference to radio and TV reception."

If a cable is attached to the expansion interface connector, it must be a shielded cable (Atari part number C025465-001) in order to insure FCC compliance. Use of a non-shielded cable will void FCC certification.

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