REPLACING HANDLES

The weakest mechanical part on the portable Sony could be the handle that puts the VTR in play and record. The biggest hassle in replacing them is waiting in line at Sony for the parts which must come by cause from Japan. The plastic handles are simply extensions of metal shafts which engage the proper switches. By grasping the broken end of the plastic handle with a pair of pliers and pulling firmly, the handle can be removed. To replace it, put a few drops of epoxy cement on the inside of the replacement handle and, if necessary, a few long shavings from a wooden matchstick to insure a snug fit, and firmly push the new handle back onto the shaft. Be careful not to use too much epoxy in order to avoid its spilling out and fouling some other part of the machine.

CHANGING A FUSE

Fuses seldom, if ever, blow out just for the hell of it, so if your fuse goes, look for the cause (bad battery wire, battery charger, or battery charger cable bad, etc.) before you replace the fuse. If you find the cause or if none is apparent, then it’s time to replace the fuse, which Sony has conveniently placed under 8 screws and the top deck assembly.

Remove the reels from the deck.

Remove the plastic head cover (the head cover is the silver colored piece with the "Sony" name plate and the hole, for the 'minutes' counter. It just snaps on and off of the 250 volt fuses for AV3400—NOT SLOW BURN FUSES. )

Remove the brown colored screws that hold the grey deck to the rest of the portable unit.

Remove the 6 brown colored screws that hold the grey deck to the rest of the portable unit. The plug that goes from the battery charger (AC adaptor) into the deck is not supposed to be played with, but they’re not portable...yet.

Replace escutcheon and roller assembly. The only thing to watch for is to see the silver colored spacers that sit between the screw holes nearest the feed reel, and the grey deck are in place. As you’re taking the deck off, you may mistake these spacers for screws and replace them. But they should be easily visible and they are very important. They keep the escutcheon from rubbing against the reel assembly as it turns.

PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE

Cleaning and degaussing (de-magnetizing) the heads and the rest of the tape path are the two most important and essential parts of PM. Keeping an eye out for loose screws is also a good idea as well. In the case of the esutcheon that is used to keep the drum assembly in place, it should be kept in mind that all of these adjustments (focus, beam, target, Vertical Linearity, Vertical Height, Vertical Center and horizontal center) are not meant to be fooled around with because this camera wasn’t designed that way. There are cameras where those adjustments are external and are supposed to be played with, but they’re not portable...yet.

SETTING UP THE CAMERA

After long use, especially in low light, you may end up with what’s called a "sticky" vidicon—one that retains after images. Or, you may find that there is a ‘bleached' effect on the camera in bright sunlight even when the F stop is as high as it will go. If either of these cases occurs, the beam and target voltages in the camera should be adjusted. There are precise, electronically measured settings for both beam and target but both can also be adjusted by the eye with relative effectiveness.

The Beam adjustment controls the intensity of the beam of electrons in the tube and functions as a brightness control. The Target controls the sensitivity of the face of the vidicon and is analogous to a contrast control. Both Beam and Target effect the overall sensitivity of the camera.

The optimum adjustment for the beam is accomplished by turning the adjustment knob located just below the feed reel assembly. #3 amp., 250 volt fuses for AV3400—NOT SLOW BURN FUSES.

Replace esutcheon and roller assembly. The only thing to watch for is to see the silver colored spacers that sit between the screw holes nearest the feed reel, and the grey deck are in place. As you’re taking the deck off, you may mistake these spacers for screws and replace them. But they should be easily visible and they are very important. They keep the esutcheon from rubbing against the reel assembly as it turns.

The last adjustments you may want to make are the ones which effect the size and shape of the picture. These adjustments are best made with a test chart that gives accurate indications of linearity, height and center. Some expert help would be advisable here since charts differ and fouling up these adjustments can throw the camera out electronically as well as optically. For the brave or experimentally minded, these adjustments are located in the 4 holes parallel to the beam and focus holes. Starting from the eyepiece end of the camera and working forward the adjustments are: Vertical Linearity, Vertical Height, Vertical Center and horizontal center.

It's good to keep in mind that all of these adjustments (focus, beam, target, Vertical center, etc.) are not meant to be fooled around with because this camera wasn’t designed that way. There are cameras where those adjustments are external and are supposed to be played with, but they’re not portable...yet.

Our Tools Are Extensions Of Our Body
Our Bodies Are Extensions Of Our Mind
Our Mind Is Continuously Relating To And Through The Molecular Mass Surrounding Each Fiery Glow Of Energy

Vigilant Love