Cobra®

12 BAND ULTRA

Operating Instructions

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Radar/Laser Detectors

Safety Alert® Traffic Warning Systems

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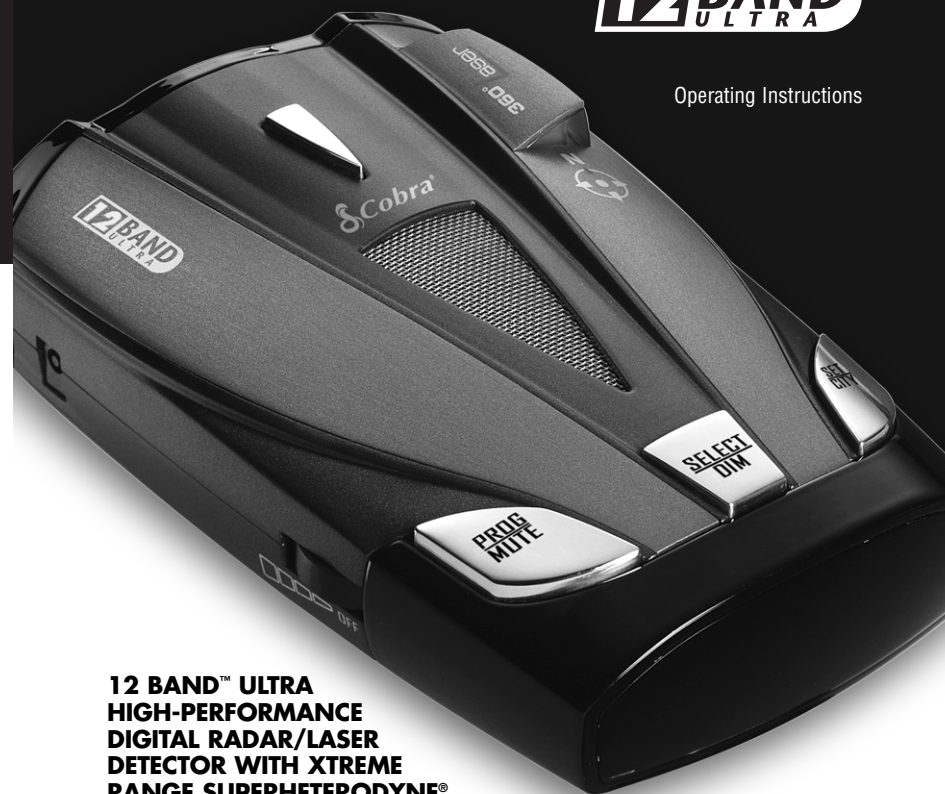please visit our website:
www.cobra.com

**12 BAND™ ULTRA
HIGH-PERFORMANCE
DIGITAL RADAR/LASER
DETECTOR WITH XTREME
RANGE SUPERHETERODYNE®
TECHNOLOGY**

XRS 9730

Printed in China
Part No. 480-234-P
Version A

Important Information

Federal Laws Governing the Use of Radar Detectors
It is not against federal law to receive radar transmissions with your Cobra radar/laser detector. The Communications Act of 1924 guarantees your right to receive radio transmissions on any frequency. Local laws that contravene this Act, while illegal, may be enforced by your local law enforcement officials until and unless they are prohibited from doing so by federal court action.

Safety Alert
Use of this product is not intended to, and does not, ensure that motorists or passengers will not be involved in traffic accidents. It is only intended to alert the motorist that an emergency vehicle equipped with a Cobra Safety Alert transmitter is within range as defined by that product. Please call local fire and police departments to learn if coverage exists in your area.

Safe Driving
Motorists, as well as operators of emergency or service vehicles, are expected to exercise all due caution while using this product, and to obey all applicable traffic laws.

Security of Your Vehicle
Before leaving your vehicle, always remember to conceal your radar detector in order to reduce the possibility of break-in and theft.

Customer Assistance

Customer Assistance
Should you encounter any problems with this product, or not understand its many features, please refer to this owner's manual. If you require further assistance after reading this manual, Cobra Electronics offers the following customer assistance services:

For Assistance in the U.S.A.
Automated Help Desk English only. 24 hours a day, 7 days a week 773-889-3087 (phone).

Customer Assistance Operators English and Spanish. 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. CT Mon. through Fri. (except holidays) 773-889-3087 (phone).

Questions English and Spanish. Faxes can be received at 773-622-2269 (fax).

Technical Assistance English only. www.cobra.com (on-line: Frequently Asked Questions). English and Spanish. productinfo@cobra.com (e-mail).

For Assistance Outside the U.S.A.
Contact Your Local Dealer

A1 English

Controls, Indicators, Connections and Display

Windshield Bracket Release Button

Windshield Bracket Mount

LaserEye
For 360° detection of laser and strobe signals.

Auxiliary Audio Jack

Speaker

12V DC Power Jack

On-Off/Volume Control
Allows user to adjust the volume of the tone and voice alerts.

Program/Mute Button
For manual mute of audio alerts (and to enter programming mode).

Select/Dim Button
Adjusts the display brightness for easy reading (and to scroll through user mode settings while programming).

Set/City Button
For City or Highway modes to reduce false alerts (and to change user mode settings while programming).

Alpha/Numeric Dot Matrix Text Display*
Shows user mode settings, programming instructions, signal strength indication, City/Highway mode indicators, radar, VG-2, Spectre 1 and safety/strobe indicators.

System Ready

* See pages 5 – 27 for more information about display features.

WARNING
Modifications or parts substitutions not approved by Cobra Electronics Corporation may violate FCC Rules and void your authority to operate this equipment.

Product Features

Congratulations! You've made a smart choice by purchasing an ultra high performance digital radar/laser detector from Cobra. Just look at some of the sophisticated features and capabilities your new unit includes:

Xtreme Range Superheterodyne Technology
With super-fast sweep circuitry, XRS provides extra detection range and the best possible advance warning to even the fastest radar guns

Ultra Performance
Provides advanced warning with extra detection range

Detection and Separate Alerts
For radar signals (X, K, Ka and Ku bands, with signal strength indicated), laser signals, Safety Alert signals, Strobe Alert signals, VG-2 signals, Spectre 1 signals

8-Point Compass
Displays direction of travel

LaserEye
For 360° detection of laser and strobe signals

Instant-On Ready
Detects radar guns with "instant-on" (very fast) speed monitoring capabilities

Pop Detection
Detects the latest super-fast instant-on signal pulse radar guns

Voice or Tone Alert
With adjustable volume

DigiView Data Display
With easy-to-read alpha/numeric dot matrix text readout

IntelliShield False Signal Rejection
Reduces falsing in urban areas with Highway mode and three levels of City mode settings

Safety Alert
Traffic warning system distinguishes important safety alerts from other K band signals

Strobe Alert
Emergency vehicle warning system

Manual Mute or Auto Mute
A mute function of audio alerts

IntelliMute
A mute function which automatically reduces false alerts by sensing engine RPMs

Smart Power
A timed power saving function that saves your car's battery

EasySet Programming
User-friendly mode selection and setting with visual guidance

Auxiliary Audio Jack
For external speaker connection

Mounting
Mounts easily on windshield or dashboard

This booklet describes the simple steps for mounting and setting up your detector. It also provides helpful information about how radar and laser guns are used and how you can interpret the alerts you receive.

Order Form

Name

Address (No P.O. Boxes)

City   State/Province   Zip   Country

Telephone

Credit Card Number   Type: ❏ Visa ❏ MasterCard ❏ Discover   Exp. Date

Customer Signature

Item #	Description	U.S. Cost Each	Qty	Amount
420-030-N-001	Straight 12V Power Cord			
420-026-N-001	Coiled 12V Power Cord			
545-139-N-001	Windshield Mounting Bracket			
CLP-2B	Dual Port Power Adapter			

Amount   Shipping/Handling*
$10.00 or less $3.00
$10.01-$25.00 . . . . . $5.50
$25.01-$50.00 . . . . . $7.50
$50.01-$90.00 . . . . $10.50
$90.01-$130.00 . . . $13.50
$130.01-$200.00 . . $16.50
$200.01 plus . . . . . 10% of
purchase

Tax Table
Wisconsin add 5%
Indiana, Michigan, Ohio add 6%
California add 7.25%
Illinois add 9%

*For AK, HI and PR add additional $26.95 for FedEx Next Day or $10.95 for FedEx 2nd Day. Excludes weekends and holidays shipments.
Please allow two to three weeks for delivery in the U.S.A.
Prices subject to change without notice.

U.S. Subtotal

(Tax if Applicable)

Shipping/Handling

Total

Ordering From U.S.A.
Call 773-889-3087 for pricing or visit www.cobra.com.

For Credit Card Orders
Complete and return this order form to fax number 773-622-2269.
Or call 773-889-3087 [Press one from the main menu] 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Central Time, Monday through Friday (except holidays).

Make Check or Money Order Payable To
Cobra Electronics, Attn: Accessories Dept.,
6500 West Cortland Street, Chicago, IL 60707 U.S.A.

To Order Online
Please visit our website: www.cobra.com

Installation •

Where to Mount Your Unit

You will get optimum performance from your detector if you **Mount** it at a point approximately in the center of the vehicle, as low as possible on the front windshield without obstructing the unit's view of the road either to the front or rear. You can also mount it directly on the dashboard.

Windshield Mounting	Dashboard Mounting
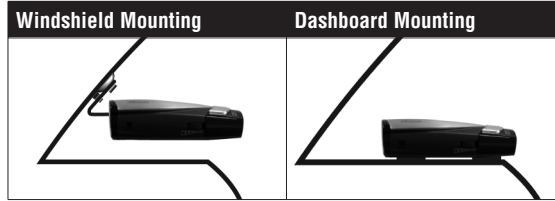
The unit's lens must not be blocked and the LaserEye should have a clear view out the back window to allow 360° detection.
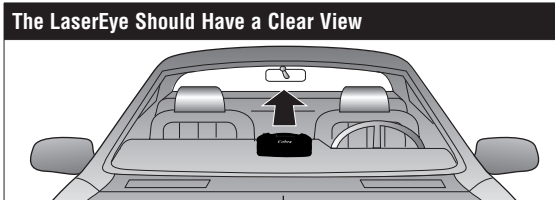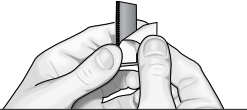
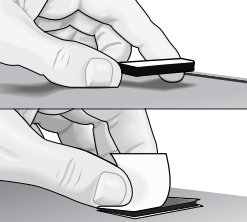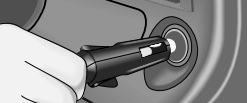| The LaserEye Should Have a Clear View |
| --- |
| |

Radar and laser signals pass through glass but not through other materials and objects. Objects that can block or weaken incoming signals include:

- Windshield wiper blades
- Mirrored sun screens
- Dark tinting at the top of the windshield
- Heated windshields currently available on some vehicles (Instaclear for Ford, Electriclear for GM). Consult your dealer to see if you have this option.

Windshield Mounting

1. Attach the rubber cups to the bracket.	
2. Make sure the rubber cups and your windshield are clean.	
3. Push the bracket firmly onto the windshield.	
4. Attach the detector to the bracket. Check the angle of the unit.	
5. To adjust the angle if necessary, gently push or pull on the bracket to bend it. DO NOT use the detector to bend the bracket.	
6. Plug the power cord into the detector.	
7. Plug the cigarette lighter adapter on the power cord into your vehicle's cigarette lighter.	
8. You can temporarily remove the detector whenever you wish by depressing the bracket release button and sliding it off the bracket.	

Dashboard Mounting

1. Place the detector on the dashboard to find a location where the unit has a clear, level view of the road. The angle CANNOT be adjusted after mounting.

2. Remove the paper backing from one side of the hook-and-loop fastener.

3. Attach the pad to the dashboard at your chosen location and remove the other paper backing.

4. Attach the detector to the hook-and-loop fastener. You can remove and reattach the unit as often as you like.

6. Plug the power cord into the detector.

7. Plug the cigarette lighter adapter on the power cord into your vehicle's cigarette lighter.

Getting Started

**On-Off/Volume Control** Rotate clockwise (away from you)

To Turn On the Unit and Adjust the Audio Volume

Rotate the **On-Off/Volume** control clockwise (away from you).

Tone	Visual Display	Voice
Three beeps	**Testing** **System Ready** The display will then cycle through the user mode settings (city or highway, Intellimute and SmartPower status).	**Testing,** then three beeps **System Ready** **Voice Alert**

Start-up is complete when the display continuously shows the current compass direction (**N**, **NE**, **E**, **SE**, **S**, **SW**, **W** or **NW**) plus single letters indicating current user mode settings (**c** = City mode, City X Beep Off mode and City X+K mode, **h** = Highway mode, **i** = IntelliMute on).

Power On

Testing

System Ready

Voice Alert
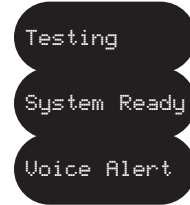
Start-Up Complete

NW   h

NOTE
In some vehicles, power is supplied to the cigarette lighter even while the ignition is off. If this is the case with your vehicle and you have turned the SmartPower off, you should turn off or unplug your detector when parking for lengthy periods. Cobra recommends leaving SmartPower at the factory setting, which is on.

EasySet Programming

All user mode settings on your detector can be changed by using Program mode. When changing the settings, please keep in mind:

- Buttons can have multiple functions.

- All settings will be stored in memory when the power is turned off and recalled when the power is turned back on.

The procedure for using Program mode is shown on page 7.

NOTE
You cannot enter Program mode during an alert. The unit will not detect signals while in Program mode. During programming, if no buttons are pushed for ten seconds, the unit will automatically exit Program mode and save the last settings.

Programming User Modes

The tables on pages 8 through 9 show you how to program all user modes and the settings you can choose from.

NOTE
On the following pages, you will find more detailed explanations of each setting.

See page 15 for instructions on setting the IntelliMute activation point.
See page 17 for instructions on calibrating the compass.
See page 22 for instructions on using SmartPower.

Set/City Button ◉
Press and release
Select/Dim Button ◉
Press and release
◉
Program/Mute Button
Press and hold/Press and release

To Use Program Mode

Press and hold the **Program/Mute** button for two seconds.	**Tone**	**Visual Display**	**Voice**
	Three beeps	**Program** will appear. `PROGRAM` Then brief programming instructions will scroll through the display three times.	**Start Program**
While the programming instructions are scrolling, press and release the **Select/Dim** button to cycle through the user modes.	One beep with each button press	As each mode is displayed, the current setting for that mode will be shown.	None
With the user mode you wish to change displayed, press and release the **Set/City** button to change the setting. To move to the next selection, press the **Select/Dim** button again.	One or two beeps, depending on your selection	The setting you select will be shown.	Current setting
When you have finished programming any or all of the user modes, press and release the **Program/Mute** button to exit Program mode. Or simply wait ten seconds without pushing any buttons.	One beep	When you exit Program mode, the new setting will automatically be saved and **EXIT PROGRAM** and **Settings Saved!** will appear. `EXIT` `Settings` `PROGRAM` `Saved!`	**Exit Program**

This EasySet programming menu lists all of the modes and settings you can choose from after you have entered Program mode as described on page 7.

EasySet Programming Menu

Mode	Tone or Voice	Visual Setting	Result
Set City mode default*	Two beeps	**City X**	A single beep sounds when the signal is first detected.
	One beep	**City X beep Off**	Audio for all X band alerts are blocked until signal strength reaches Level 3.
	One beep	**City X+K**	Combines the City X mode with prevention of K band audio alerts until signal strength reaches Level 2.
IntelliMute mode	Two beeps	**IntelliMute On**	All alerts (except for strobe signals from emergency vehicles) are automatically muted below the engine rev point you set.
	One beep	**IntelliMute Off**	Normal operation.
Set IntelliMute RPMs (not shown if IntelliMute is off)	One beep	**Set IntelliMute** (see page 15 to set activation point)	Allows you to set the engine rev point while using IntelliMute.
AutoMute mode	Two beeps	**AutoMute On**	The audio volume of all alerts will be automatically muted after four (4) seconds for as long as the signal is detected.
	One beep	**AutoMute Off**	All alerts will sound at full volume for as long as the signal is detected.
Set compass	One beep	**Set Compass** (see page 17 to calibrate compass)	Allows you to calibrate the compass.
Pop Detect mode	Two beeps	**Pop Detect On**	The unit will detect Pop signals.
	One beep	**Pop Detect Off**	The unit not will detect Pop signals.

* The settings for these user modes can also be changed with the one button method.
 See description of each user mode (pages 10 and 24) for details.

Mode	Tone or Voice	Visual Setting	Result
VG-2 Detect mode	Two beeps	**VG-2 Detect On**	The unit will detect VG-2 signals.
	One beep	**VG-2 Detect Off**	The unit will not detect VG-2 signals.
VG-2 Audio mode (not shown if VG-2 detect is off)	Two beeps	**VG-2 Audio On**	With VG-2 Detect on, the unit will give audible alerts for VG-2 signals.
	One beep	**VG-2 Audio Off**	With VG-2 Detect off, the unit will give only visual alerts for VG-2 signals.
Spectre 1 Detect mode	Two beeps	**Spectre 1 Detect On**	The unit will detect Spectre 1 signals.
	One beep	**Spectre 1 Detect Off**	The unit will not detect Spectre 1 signals.
Spectre 1 Audio mode (not shown if Spectre 1 detect is off)	Two beeps	**Spectre 1 Audio On**	With Spectre 1 Detect on, the unit will give audible alerts for Spectre 1 signals.
	One beep	**Spectre 1 Audio Off**	With Spectre 1 Detect off, the unit will give only visual alerts for Spectre 1 signals.
SmartPower mode	Two beeps	**SmartPower On**	SmartPower is on.
	One beep	**SmartPower Off**	SmartPower is off.
Ku Band detect mode	Two beeps	**Ku Band On**	The unit will detect Ku Band signals.
	One beep	**Ku Band Off**	The unit will not detect Ku Band signals.
X Band detect mode	Two beeps	**X Band On**	The unit will detect X Band signals.
	One beep	**X Band Off**	The unit will not detect X Band signals.
Set display Dim mode default*	Two beeps	**Display Dim**	Partially dimmed for dusk or night driving.
	One beep	**Display Dimmer**	More dimmed for dusk or night driving.
	One beep	**Display Dark**	Display is off.
Restore factory settings	One beep	**Restore Factory Settings**	Resets user modes and settings to factory default.
Exit program	One beep	**EXIT PROGRAM**	Allows you to exit Program mode.

Settings

Highway/City Mode

Your detector has a **Highway** mode and three different levels of **City** modes: City X, City X Beep Off and City X+K. **City X** mode sounds a single beep when the signal is first detected. **City X Beep Off** mode prevents all X band audio alerts until the signal strength reaches Level 3. **City X+K** mode combines the City X mode with prevention of K band audio alerts until the signal strength reads Level 2. This will reduce false alerts while you are driving in or near urban areas where there are many sources for conflicting X or K band signals such as microwave towers and automatic door openers. The factory setting is Highway. The factory City mode default setting is City X.

Set/City Button
Press and release
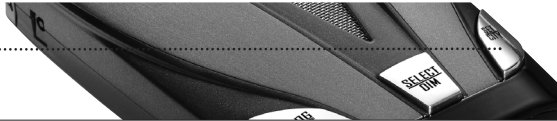
To Change From Highway Mode to City Mode

Press and release the **Set/City** button.	Tone	Visual Display	Voice
	One beep	**c** appears in the display	**City X** or **City X Beep Off** or **City X, K**

City Mode

N W   c

NOTE
When you change to City mode, the unit will enter whichever city default mode is set at the time.

To Change From City Mode Back to Highway Mode

Press and release the **Set/City** button again.	Tone	Visual Display	Voice
	Two beeps	**h** appears in the display	**Highway**

Highway Mode

N W   h

Setting City Default

You can set the default level for City mode (City X, City X Beep Off and City X+K) either in Program mode or directly using the **Set/City** button.

Set/City Button
Press and hold

City X

Press and hold the **Set/City** button

City X+K

City X Beep Off

To Set the City Mode Default Directly Using the Set/City Button

| Press and hold the **Set/City** button.	Tone or Voice	Visual Display
	One beep each time the display cycles	Cycles — see chart above
Release the **Set/City** button to select the current display as default.	None	**City X Beep Off**, **City X+K** or **City X**

To Set the City Mode Default Using Program Mode
(See Page 7 For Instructions on Using Program Mode)

In Program mode, go to City.		
	One beep	**City X Beep Off**	**City X Beep Off**
	One beep	**City X+K**	**City X, K**
	Two beeps	**City X**	**City X**

City X Beep Off   **City X+K**   **City X**

City X   City X+K   City X
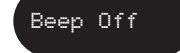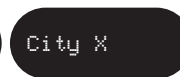
Beep Off
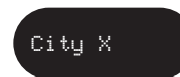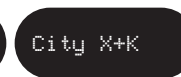
Muting an Alert

Your detector allows you to quickly turn off an **Audio Alert** by momentarily pressing the Program/Mute button. If you press the Program/Mute button a second time during the Alert, the Audio Alert will be turned back on.

Program/Mute Button ◉ ....
Press and release

To Turn Turn Off or On an Audio Alert Using the Program/Mute Button

Press and release the **Program/Mute** button.	Tone	Visual Display
	None	None

Auto Mute Mode

Auto Mute will automatically reduce the audio volume of all alerts after four seconds for as long as the signal is detected. The factory setting for Auto Mute is on.

To Turn Auto Mute Off or On Using Program Mode
(See Page 7 For Instructions on Using Program Mode)

In Program mode, go to Auto Mute.	Tone	Visual Display	Voice
	One beep	Auto Mute Off	Auto Mute Off
	Two beeps	Auto Mute On	Auto Mute On

Auto Mute Off   Auto Mute On

AutoMute Off   AutoMute On

Voice Alert and Tone Alert Modes

You can set your detector to sound alerts and confirm user settings with either a **Voice** or a **Tone**. The factory setting for Alert mode is Voice.

To Select Voice or Tone Mode Using Program Mode
(See Page 7 For Instructions on Using Program Mode)

In Program mode, go to Voice/Tone.	Tone	Visual Display	Voice
	One beep	Tone	Tone Alert
	Voice Alert	Voice	Voice Alert

Auxiliary Audio Jack

The **Auxiliary Audio Jack** can be used to connect an external speaker in environments with high ambient noise levels. The internal speaker will be disconnected.

Auxiliary ◉ Audio Jack

IntelliMute

IntelliMute is a unique new feature that allows you to avoid alerts you don't need to hear because you are stopped or moving slowly. By sensing the "revs" (RPMs) of your engine, **IntelliMute** knows when you are at low speed and automatically mutes alerts (except for strobe signals from emergency vehicles).

Before IntelliMute will work, you must set an activation point for your engine's revs (see page 15). Whenever the revs are below that point, IntelliMute will begin muting. The activation point will be stored in memory and recalled each time the power is turned on. An **i** will appear in the display when IntelliMute is on. The factory setting is IntelliMute off.
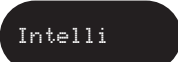
NOTE
IntelliMute may not work with some vehicles because it cannot sense the engine's revs. In such cases, you can reduce unwanted audio alerts by using Auto Mute and City mode when appropriate.

To Turn IntelliMute On or Off Using Program Mode
(See Page 7 For Instructions on Using Program Mode)

In Program mode, go to IntelliMute.	Tone	Visual Display	Voice
	Two beeps	**IntelliMute On**, then **i** appears in the display	**IntelliMute On**
	One beep	**IntelliMute Off**	**IntelliMute Off**

IntelliMute On   **IntelliMute Off**

N W i h   Intelli
Intelli   Mute
Mute   Off
On

What to Remember While Using IntelliMute

IntelliMute works with all City and Auto Mute modes.

Whenever engine revs are below the activation point, an arrow pointing down will appear in the display. Above the activation point, an arrow pointing up will appear.

Below Activation Point   Above Activation Point

N W i h   N W i h
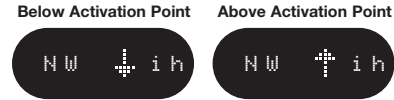
If, for any reason, the unit stops sensing your engine's revs, IntelliMute will indicate an error and automatically turn off.

The rev point you set will be stored in the unit's memory when power is turned off and recalled each time the power is turned on.

NOTE
The rev point must be reset if you use your detector in a different vehicle.

NOTE
When initially choosing your IntelliMute activation point, a setting of approximately 300 to 600 RPMs above idle is recommended. You can reset the activation point at any time to fit your individual preferences and driving style.

Setting the IntelliMute Activation Point

Your detector must be installed in your vehicle.

CAUTION
Do not attempt to set the rev point while driving. Your vehicle should be parked and idling.

IntelliMute must be turned on before setting the activation point.

Set/City Button ◎·········

Select/Dim Button ◎·········

Program/Mute Button ◎·········

To Set the IntelliMute Activation Point Using Program Mode
(See Page 7 For Instructions on Using Program Mode)

In Program mode, go to Set IntelliMute.	**Tone**	**Visual Display**	**Voice**
	None	Set IntelliMute	None
Press and release the **Set/City** button to begin setting IntelliMute RPMs.	Two beeps	Press SET at desired RPMs…	Set Engine Revs
Rev your engine to the level you wish to set. Rev the engine slightly above idle and hold revs steady for two seconds.	None	None	None
At the desired rev level, press and release the **Set/City** button.	Three beeps	IntelliMute Set!	IntelliMute Set
Press and release either the **Select/Dim** button to proceed to the next user mode or the **Program/Mute** button to exit the Program mode.	None	None	None

Setting IntelliMute RRMs

Set Intel...   PressSET...   Intelli Mute Set!

NOTE
If the unit is unable to sense usable pulses within three seconds or if you do not set a rev point within 20 seconds of beginning these steps, IntelliMute will indicate an error and automatically turn off.

IntelliMute Not Set   IntelliMu... Please tr...

IntelliMute Off   Intelli Mute Off

Tone	Visual Display	Voice
One beep	IntelliMute not set Please try again	IntelliMute not set Please try again
One beep	IntelliMute Off	IntelliMute Off
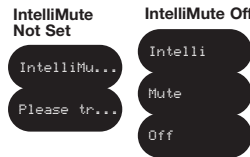
Compass

Your detector includes an internal 8-point **Compass** that will continuously display your current direction of travel: N, NE, E, SE, S, SW, W, or NW.

N NW NE W 8-Point Compass E SW SE S
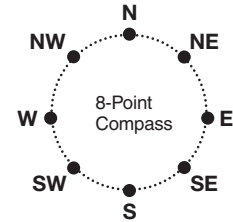
Calibrating the Compass

NOTE
Before using it for the first time, you must calibrate the compass to provide accurate indications of direction. See page 7 for instructions on using the Program mode to select Set Compass.

Calibration allows the compass electronics to measure and store information about the magnetic fields generated by your vehicle.

The compass will remain accurately calibrated as long as your detector is mounted in the same place in your vehicle. If you change the location where the unit is mounted or move it to another vehicle, you must recalibrate the compass.

The compass temporarily may not provide accurate readings if you are inside a building or enclosure, or are close to a large metal tractor/trailer, truck, or train. Once you are away from such a location, the compass will work correctly again.

NOTE
When the instructions direct you to drive in two circles, a large parking lot is the most convenient place to do so. It does not matter what direction your vehicle is pointing when you start the circles, which direction you go to make the circles, and it does not have to be exactly two circles. You do NOT have to make perfect circles. You can drive in any pattern, as long as you make two complete turns. Four three-point turns, two small squares, or any two complete loops will work as well as two circles. It does not matter what size the circles are, if your speed is constant, or how fast you make the circles [but less than two minutes]. Please be careful when making the circles and watch for other traffic.