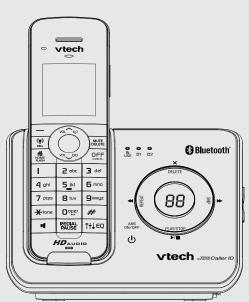


User's manual

www.vtechphones.com





Models: DS6421-2/DS6421-3/ DS6421-4



Congratulations

on purchasing your new VTech product. Before using this telephone, please read the **Important safety instructions** on page 105 of this manual.

This manual has all the feature operations and troubleshooting necessary to install and operate your new VTech telephone. Please review this manual thoroughly to ensure proper installation and operation of this innovative and feature rich VTech product. For support, shopping, and everything new at VTech, visit our website at www.vtechphones.com. In Canada, please visit www.vtechcanada.com.



The ENERGY STAR® program (www.energystar.gov) recognizes and encourages the use of products that save energy and help protect our environment. We are proud to mark this product with the ENERGY STAR® label indicating it meets the latest energy efficiency guidelines.

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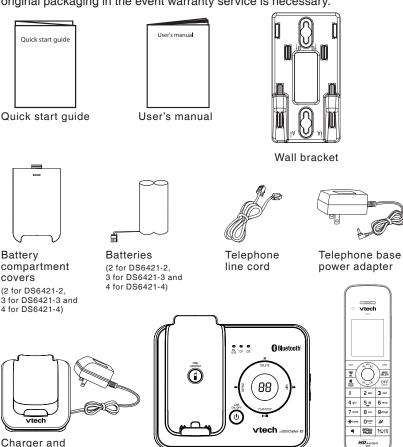
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Parts checklist

Your telephone contains the following items. Save your sales receipt and original packaging in the event warranty service is necessary.



(1 for DS6421-2, Telephone base 2 for DS6421-3 and 3 for

(2 for DS6421-2, 3 for DS6421-3 and 4 for DS6421-4)

Handsets



DS6421-4)

power adapter

To purchase a replacement battery or power adapter, visit our website at www.vtechphones.com or call 1 (800) 595-9511. In Canada, go to www.vtechcanada.com or dial 1 (800) 267-7377.

Installation

Install the telephone base close to a telephone jack and a power outlet not connected to a wall switch. For optimum range and better reception, place the telephone base in a central and open location.

When using a Bluetooth wireless technology enabled cell phone with this telephone, make sure the cell phone is within 15 feet of the telephone base to maintain a reliable connection between the cell phone and telephone base.

This product may be shipped with a protective sticker covering the handset and/or telephone base display. Remove it before use.

Avoid placing the telephone base too close to:

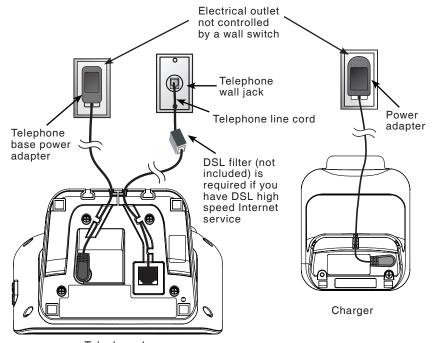
- Communication devices such as personal computers, computer routers, television sets, VCRs, wireless routers (wireless broadband, Wi-Fi, or 802.11) or other cordless telephones.
- Excessive heat sources.
- Noise sources such as a window with traffic outside, motors, microwave ovens, refrigerators, or fluorescent lighting.
- Excessive dust sources such as a workshop or garage.
- Excessive moisture.
- Extremely low temperature.
- Mechanical vibration or shock such as on top of a washing machine or work bench.

Telephone base and charger installation

Install the telephone base and charger(s) as shown below.

Make sure that the electrical outlet is not controlled by a wall switch.

If you subscribe to digital subscriber line (DSL) high-speed Internet service through your telephone line, you must install a DSL filter between the telephone line cord and the telephone wall jack. The filter prevents noise and caller ID problems caused by DSL interference. Contact your DSL service provider for more information about DSL filters.



Telephone base

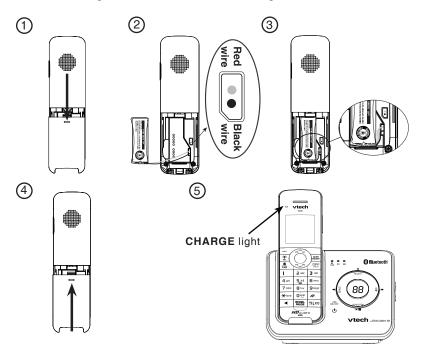


- Use only the power adapters supplied with this product. To order a replacement, visit our website at www.vtechphones.com or call 1 (800) 595-9511. In Canada, go to www.vtechcanada.com or dial 1 (800) 267-7377.
- The power adapters are intended to be correctly oriented in a vertical or floor mount position. The prongs are not designed to hold the plug in place if it is plugged into a ceiling, under-the-table or cabinet outlet.

Battery installation

Install the battery as shown below.

- 1. If the battery compartment cover is on the handset, press the indentation and push the cover down to remove.
- 2. Plug the battery connector securely into the socket inside the handset battery compartment, matching the color-coded label.
- 3. Place the battery with the label **THIS SIDE UP** facing up and the wires inside the battery compartment.
- 4. Align the cover flat against the battery compartment, then slide it towards the center of the handset until it clicks into place.
- 5. Charge the handset by placing it in the telephone base or charger. The **CHARGE** light is on when the handset charges.



- note
- If the handset will not be used for a long time, disconnect and remove the battery to prevent possible leakage.
- To purchase a replacement battery, visit our website at www.vtechphones.com or call 1 (800) 595-9511. In Canada, go to www.vtechcanada.com or dial 1 (800) 267-7377.

Battery charging

Once you have installed the battery, the screen indicates the battery status (see the table below). If necessary, place the handset in the telephone base or charger to charge the battery. For best performance, keep the handset in the telephone base or charger when not in use. The battery is fully charged after 16 hours of continuous charging. See the table on page 92 for battery operating times.

If the screen is blank, you need to charge the handset without interruption for at least 10 minutes to give the handset enough charge to use the telephone for a short time. When the battery is low, the handset shows **Low battery** and a flashing ①. If you are on a call in low battery mode, the handset beeps every minute.

The following table summarizes the battery charge indicators and actions to take.

Battery indicators	Battery status	Action
The screen is blank or shows Place in charger and [] flashes.	Battery has very little or no charge and the handset cannot be used.	Charge without interruption until the screen shows HANDSET X (at least 30 minutes).
The screen shows Low battery and flashes.	Battery has enough charge to be used for a short time.	Charge without interruption until the screen shows HANDSET X (at least 30 minutes).
The screen shows HANDSET X.	Battery is charged.	To keep the battery charged, place it in the telephone base or charger when not in use.

After you install your telephone or power returns following a power outage, the handset will prompt you to set the date and time. For instructions, see **Set date/time** on page 31. To skip setting the date and time, press **OFF/CLEAR** or **BACK**.

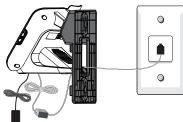


Installation options

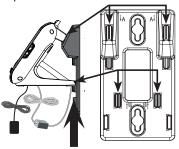
Your telephone base is ready for tabletop use. If you want to mount your telephone on a wall, use the provided wall bracket to connect with a standard dual-stud telephone wall mounting plate. If you do not have this mounting plate, you can purchase one from many hardware or consumer electronics retailers. You may need a professional to install the mounting plate.

Tabletop to wall mount installation

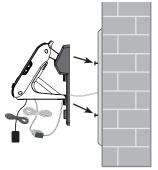
 Plug the power cord and telephone line into the telephone base. If you are using DSL filter, plug the other end of the telephone line into the filter. Route the telephone line cord (or DSL filter) through the wall mount bracket hole.



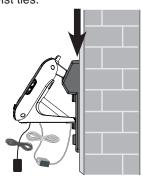
 Position the telephone base as shown below. Insert the extended tabs (marked B) of the wall bracket into the slots on the back of the telephone base (marked B). Push the telephone base down until it clicks securely in place.



 Plug the telephone line cord (or DSL filter) into the wall jack. Plug the power adapter into a power outlet not controlled by a wall switch.

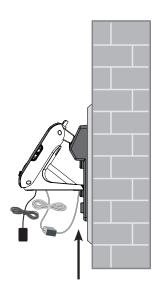


 Align the holes on the bracket with the standard wall plate and slide the bracket down until it locks securely. Bundle the telephone line cord and power adapter cord neatly with twist ties.



Wall mount to tabletop installation

- If the telephone line cord and power adapter cord are bundled, untie them first.
- Slide the black wall bracket up and remove it from the wall plate. Unplug the telephone line cord (or DSL filter) from the wall. Unplug the power adapter from the power outlet.
- 3. Slide the telephone base up and remove it from the wall bracket.
- 4. See Telephone base and charger installation on page 3.



Handset layout

CHARGE light

On when the handset is charging in the telephone base or charger.

SOFTKEYS

Press to select a menu item displayed above the key. While in a menu, press to select an item, or save an entry or setting.

(P)/CELL

Press to make or answer a cell call (page 42).

During a cell call, press to answer an incoming call when you hear a call waiting alert (page 42).

Flashes quickly when there is an incoming cell call. Flashes slowly when a cell call is on hold.

治/HOME/FLASH

Press to make or answer a home call (page 40).

During a home call, press to answer an incoming call when you hear a call waiting alert (page 42).

Flashes quickly when there is an incoming home call. Flashes slowly when a home call is on hold.

1

While reviewing a caller ID log entry, press repeatedly to add or remove 1 in front of the telephone number before dialing or saving it in the directory (page 68).

Xtone

Press to switch to tone dialing temporarily during a call if you have pulse service (page 46).

1

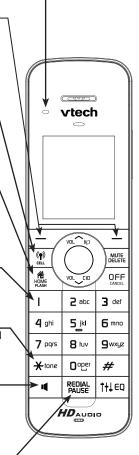
Press to make or answer a home call using the handset speakerphone (page 40).

During a call, press to switch between speakerphone and handset (page 45).

REDIAL/PAUSE

Press to review the redial list (page 49).

While dialing or entering numbers into the directory, press and hold to insert a dialing pause (page 60).



Handset layout (continued)

^/VOL/₩

While in a menu, press to scroll up.

During a call, press to increase the listening volume (page 45).

When the handset is not in use, press to enter the directory (page 61).

MUTE/DELETE

While on a call, press to mute the microphone (page 45).

While reviewing the caller ID log, directory or redial list, press to delete an individual entry (page 70, page 63 and page 50 respectively).

Press to delete digits when predialing (page 40).

While entering or editing a directory entry, press to erase a digit or character.

OFF/CANCEL

During a call, press to hang up (page 40).

While the handset is ringing, press to silence the ringer temporarily (page 45).

<u>Press and hold</u> while the telephone is not in use to erase the displayed messages (**XX Missed calls** and **Download dir aborted**).

While in a menu, press to exit without making changes or <u>press and hold</u> to return to idle mode.

VOL/CID/~

While in a menu, press to scroll down.

During a call, press to decrease the listening volume (page 45).

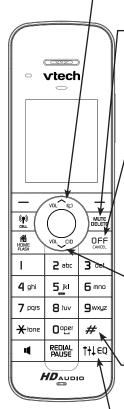
When the handset is not in use, press to review the caller ID log (page 67).

#

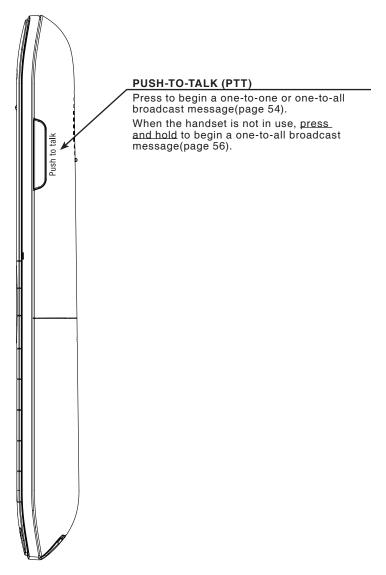
While reviewing a caller ID log entry or a directory entry, press repeatedly to show other dialing options (page 68 and page 62 respectively).

†|↓EQ

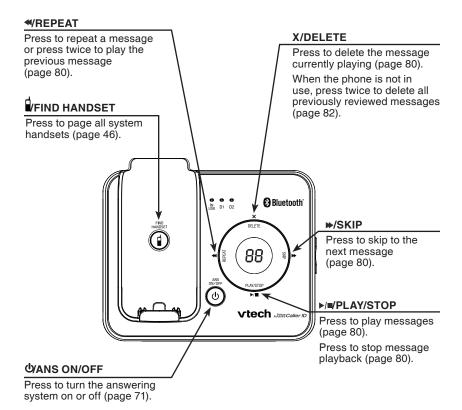
During an outside call, intercom call, message or announcement playback, press to change the quality of the audio to best suit your hearing (page 47).



Getting started Handset layout



Telephone base layout

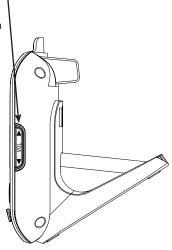


Telephone base layout (continued)

▼ VOL ▲

Press to adjust the volume during playback (page 80).

When the phone is not in use, press to adjust the telephone base ringer volume (page 79).



IN USE light

On when the handset is in use.

Flashes when another telephone sharing the same line is in use or on hold.

Flashes quickly when there is an incoming home call, transfer or intercom.

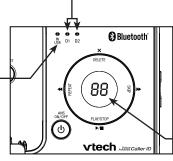
D1/D2 lights

On when the telephone base is paired and connected with a Bluetooth device.

Flashes while pairing a Bluetooth device, or when there is an incoming cell call.

Message window

Shows the number of messages and other answering system information (page 83).



Handset main menu

To enter the main menu:

- 1. Press MENU when the handset is not in use.
- Press → or to highlight a handset feature menu, then press SELECT to enter that menu.

To return to the previous menu, press **OFF/CANCEL**. To return to idle mode, press and hold **OFF/CANCEL**.

Play messages - Playback messages from the answering system.



Directory - store and search for names and numbers.



Intercom - make intercom call to a system handset.



Answering sys - record memos and change your answering system settings.



Caller ID log - review the caller ID history or delete all caller ID log entries.



Bluetooth - set up and manage your Bluetooth enabled devices.



Handset main menu (continued)

Ringers - set up ringers for the home and cell lines.



Settings - change your telephone settings.



Set date/time - set up the date and time of your telephone.



Website - displays the VTech website address.



Introducing Bluetooth

Your new **DS6421** telephone system with Bluetooth wireless technology has the following features:

- Pair up to four Bluetooth enabled devices (cell phones or headsets) with the telephone base.
- Connect a maximum of two cell phones to make and receive cell calls.
 Only one cell phone can be active on a call at a time.
- Connect one Bluetooth enabled headset for making and receiving home calls.
- Conference cell and home calls.
- Make and receive calls using your cell phone plan while utilizing the ease and comfort of your home telephone system.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- After plugging in the telephone base, wait at least 20 seconds before connecting a Bluetooth device. The screen shows Bluetooth system busy if you try to connect too soon.
- Refer to the user's manual of your Bluetooth enabled cell phone or headset for more information about how that device uses Bluetooth connectivity.
- Bluetooth wireless technology operates within a short range (a maximum of approximately 30 feet) from the telephone base. Keep connected cell phones and headset within this range.
- If your cell phone has poor reception in your home, the DS6421 cannot improve the reception. However, if there is a location in your house with better reception, you can leave your cell phone at that location while you use the DS6421 cell line. In order for this to work, the telephone base must be within 30 feet of the cell phone.
- Charge your cell phone while it is connected to the telephone base.
 Your cell phone's battery will discharge faster while it is connected to the telephone base via Bluetooth wireless technology.
- Monitor your cell phone's usage because minutes are deducted from your cellular plan for the duration of all cell calls.

Refer to the **Bluetooth setup** section (page 17) to learn how to set up and manage your Bluetooth enabled device(s). Refer to the **Telephone operation** section (page 40) on how to operate your Bluetooth devices with your new **DS6421** telephone system with Bluetooth wireless technology. Refer to the **Troubleshooting** section (page 95) if you experience difficulty using the telephone system.

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Glossary of terms

Below are some terms used in this user's manual to help you become familiar with using your Bluetooth enabled devices and your new **DS6421** telephone system.

Active device slots - the Device list has two active slots for two cell phones, or one cell phone and one headset. When a device in the list is active it will have a D1 or D2 in front of the device name. In order to use a Bluetooth device on a call, it must be in an active slot and be connected.

Bluetooth cell phone - refers to a Bluetooth enabled cellular telephone.

Cell line - the telephone line associated with your cell phone service. On your DS6421/6401 handset, press (¶)/CELL to use the cell line.

Connected - when you pair a Bluetooth device to the DS6421/6401 it is placed in a active slot and automatically connected. When a device is connected a 1 and/ or 2 will display after

on the handset screen and the D1 and/or D2 light on the telephone base will be on. If a device loses its' connection to the telephone base, it must be reconnected before you can use the device with the DS6421/6401.

Disconnected - when a device is disconnected a 1 and/or 2 will display after on the handset screen and the **D1** and/or **D2** light on the telephone base will be on.

Discoverable mode - before a Bluetooth enabled device can be paired, it must be set to this mode. When pairing your cell phone, the telephone base will be set to this mode. When pairing a headset, the headset must be set to this mode. Depending on the manufacturer, this mode is sometimes referred to as **Find Me** or **Visibility**.

Home line - your conventional telephone land line. On your **DS6421/6401** handset, press **⚠/HOME/FLASH** to use the home line.

Paired devices - once Bluetooth enabled devices have been paired with the telephone base, they will appear in the device list. A maximum of four devices can be paired with the telephone base.

Pairing - this refers to the process of Bluetooth enabled devices registering device information with each other. The telephone base must be paired with a Bluetooth enabled cell phone or headset before the Bluetooth device can be used. Depending on the manufacturer, this is also referred to as **Bonding**.

PIN - by default, the PIN is **0000** for the telephone base and for most Bluetooth devices. PIN information must be exchanged between Bluetooth devices before they can be used. This is also known as a **Passkey** or **Passcode**.

Bluetooth setup

To use a Bluetooth enabled cell phone or headset with your **DS6421**, you must first pair and connect your Bluetooth device(s) with the telephone base. All **DS6421/6401** handsets can be used to make or answer on the cell phone line.

Bluetooth wireless technology operates within a short range (30 feet). When you pair a Bluetooth cell phone or Bluetooth headset to the telephone base, move closer to the telephone base to maintain sufficient signal strength.

Add a cell phone

Before you begin, make sure that you have cellular coverage and your Bluetooth enabled cell phone is not connected to any other Bluetooth device.

Refer to your cell phone user's manual to learn how to search for or add new Bluetooth devices.

To pair and connect a cell phone:

- 1. Press MENU on the handset when it is not in use.
- Press
 ✓ or
 ✓ to highlight Bluetooth, then press
 SELECT.
- 3. Press SELECT to choose Add device, then press SELECT to choose Add cellular. The screen displays Please wait... followed by 1. If cell is connected to BT device, please disconnect it.
 - If there are already four paired devices on the device list, the 4th device on the device list will be automatically removed, regardless of whether the new device pairing is successful or not (page 24).
 - If there are already two active devices on the device list with prefix D1: or D2:, the handset shows Only 2 devices can be ready for connection. You are prompted to deactivate an active device.
- Press NEXI. The screen displays 2. Place cell phone next to base.
 - All devices that are connected to the telephone base are disconnected until the pairing process is completed.









Add a cell phone (continued)

 Press NEXT to turn on the telephone base discoverable mode. The screen displays Set cell to search base: VTech DS6421 discoverable PIN: 0000. Promptly turn on the Bluetooth feature of your cell phone and search for or add new devices.



 Your cell phone may require a passcode. In this case the handset screen displays Check cellular. ENTER PASS CODE. Enter the cell phone passcode into the handset and press SET to save.



- Enter the PIN of the telephone base (the default PIN is 0000) into your cell phone to continue the pairing process. The handset displays Adding Cell Phone A to device list... on the screen.
- 7. When a device is successfully connected, the handset displays **Cell Phone A** is added and connected to base. You hear a confirmation tone. The corresponding status icon (§ 1 or § 2) displays. The corresponding device light on the telephone base (D1 or D2) turns on.

If you have trouble pairing your cell phone, it may not be compatible with your DS6421. Check the Bluetooth compatibility list at www.vtechphones.com.



- The pairing process may take up to one minute. If the pairing process fails, try again.
- The steps for the pairing process may vary for different cell phones. If this happens, follow the prompts on your cell phone and your DS6421 to complete the pairing process.
- If you put the handset back in the telephone base or charger while pairing, the pairing is cancelled and the handset returns to idle mode.

Add a headset

Before you begin, make sure that your Bluetooth enabled headset is not connected to any other Bluetooth device. Refer to your headset user's manual to learn how to search for or add new Bluetooth devices.

To pair and connect a headset:

- 1. Press MENU on the handset when it is not in use.
- 2. Press vor to highlight Bluetooth, then press SELECT.
- 3. Press ✓ or ∧ to highlight **Add device**, then press SELECTI.
- Press or to highlight Add headset, then press SELECT. The screen displays If headset is connected to cell, please disconnect it.
 Press NEXT.
 - If there is another headset already active, the screen will show Only 1 headset in device list can be ready for connection and prompt you to replace an existing paired device (page 24).
 - When you already have two active devices, the handset shows Only 2 devices can be ready for connection. The telephone base will deactivate another headset from active slot automatically.
- 4. Press NEXT. The screen displays PIs set headset to discoverable mode, then press NEXT.
 - All devices that are connected to the telephone base are temporarily disconnected.
- The screen displays Searching for Bluetooth headsets... Set your headset to discoverable mode (refer to the user's manual of your headset).
- When the screen displays the found devices, press or to highlight your headset and then press NEXT.
- Enter the PIN of your headset. The PIN for most Bluetooth devices is 0000 (refer to the user's manual of your headset). Then press NEXT.







NEXT



BACK NEXT



