EXL 8900

OWNER'S MANUAL

900 MHz Cordless Phone

Long Distance Manager

Uniden®

Welcome

The Uniden® EXL 8900 Series 900 MHz cordless phones are designed and engineered to exacting standards for reliability, long life, and outstanding performance.

Note: Some illustrations in this manual may differ from the actual unit for explanation purposes.

Features

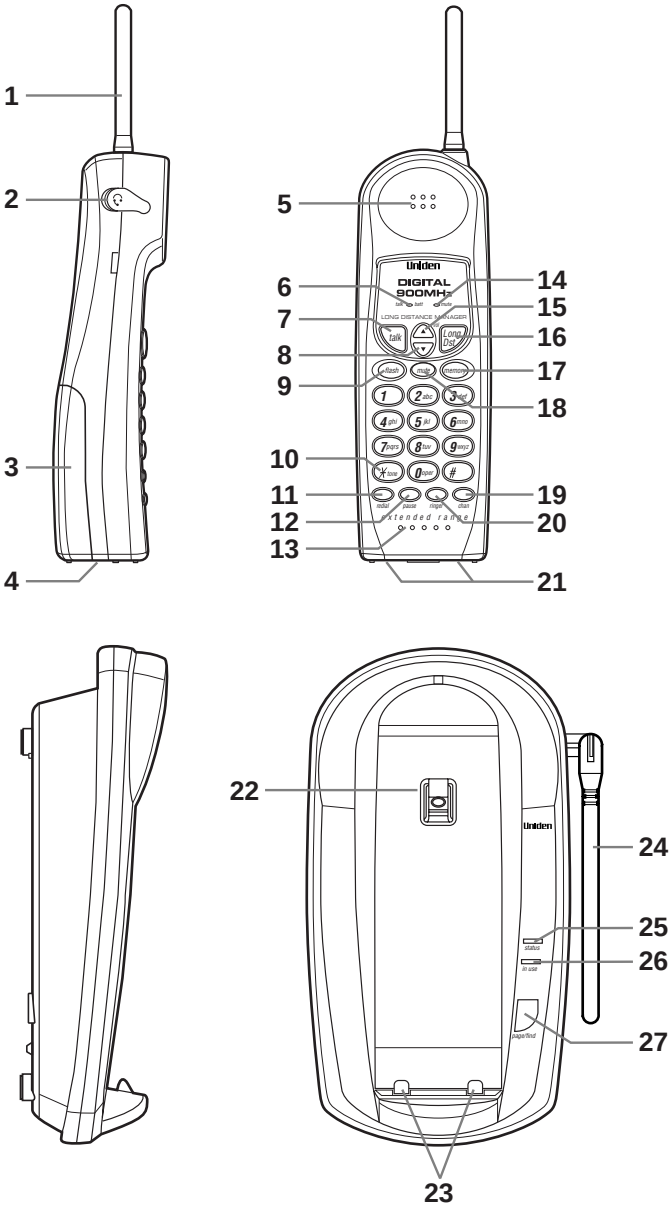
- 900 MHz Extended Range Technology
- Secure Digital Transmission
- Long Distance Manager
- 10-Number Memory Dialing
- Tone/Pulse Dialing
- Handset Volume Control
- 32 Digit Redial
- AutoTalk™
- AutoStandby™
- 7 Hours Talk Time
- Hearing Aid Compatible

The EXL 8900 Series features include AutoTalk and AutoStandby. AutoTalk allows you to answer a call by just removing the handset from the base so you don't have to waste time pushing buttons or flipping switches. AutoStandby allows you to hang up by simply returning the handset to the base.

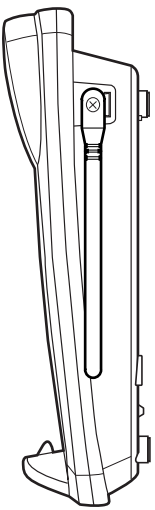
The UltraClear Plus true compander circuitry virtually eliminates background noise. This innovative technology, together with 40 different channels, provides you with the best possible reception during all your conversations.

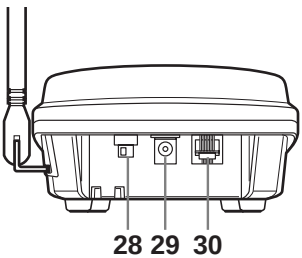
To protect you against misbilled calls which might result from your phone being activated by other equipment, the EXL 8900 Series has Random Code™ digital security which automatically selects one of over 65,000 digital security codes for the handset and base. Also, the AutoSecure™ feature electronically locks your phone when the handset is in the base.

Controls and functions



1. Handset antenna
2. Headset cover
3. Handset battery compartment
4. Handset ring switch
5. Handset speaker
6. Talk/Battery lamp
7. Talk key
8. Volume down key
9. Flash key
10. Tone key
11. Redial key
12. Pause key
13. Handset microphone
14. Mute lamp
15. Volume up key
16. Long Distant key
17. Memory key
18. Mute key
19. Channel key
20. Ringer key
21. Handset contact
22. Handset clip storage
23. Base contact
24. Base antenna
25. Status lamp
26. In use lamp
27. Page/Find key
28. Pulse-Tone switch
29. DC power input
30. Phone jack





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OF YOUR OWNER'S MANUAL

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Read this first

This cordless telephone must be set up before use. Follow these steps;

Step 1 (page 4)

Unpack and check the telephone and accessories.

Step 2 (page 5 to 9)

Next, choose the best location to set up the base unit.

Base unit

Step 3 (page 10 to11)

Then, insert the battery pack into the handset. You have to charge the battery pack for more than 12-15 hours before using the phone.

Handset

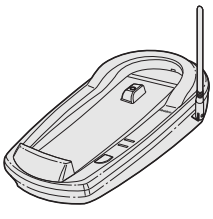
About the digital security code

This cordless telephone uses a digital security code to prevent unauthorized access to your base unit. This security code prevents other cordless handsets from making calls through your base unit. A random security code will be assigned automatically between your base unit and handset when you charge the battery pack for the first time.

If you want to reset the security code, see page 20.

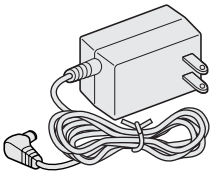
Checking the package contents

Make sure you have received the following items in the package. If any of these items are missing or damaged, contact the **Uniden Parts Department** (see below).

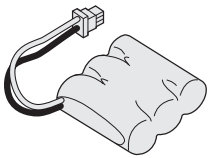


• **Base unit**

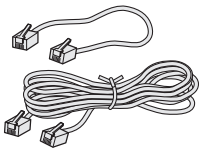
• **Handset**



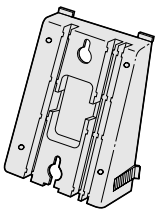
• **AC adapter (AD-420)**



• **Rechargeable battery pack (BT-905)**

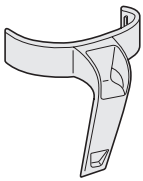


• **Telephone line cord (2)**



• **Wall mount adapter**

- **This Owner's Manual**
- **Precautions and Important Safety Instructions**
- **Registration Card**



• **Beltclip**

Uniden Parts Department

(800) 554-3988
Hours: M-F 8:30 AM to 7:00 PM Central.
We can also be reached on the web at www.uniden.com.

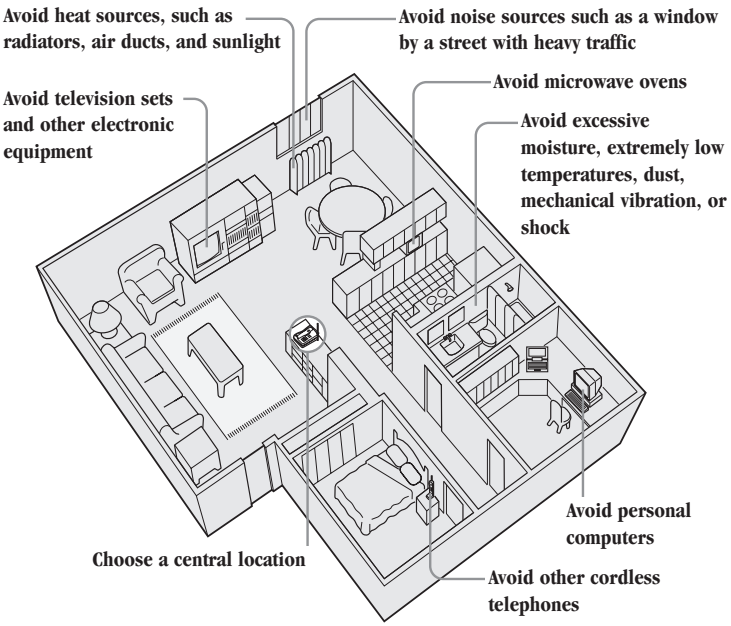
Setting up the base unit

Do the following steps.

- Choose the best location
- Connect the base unit
- Choose the dialing mode

Choose the best location

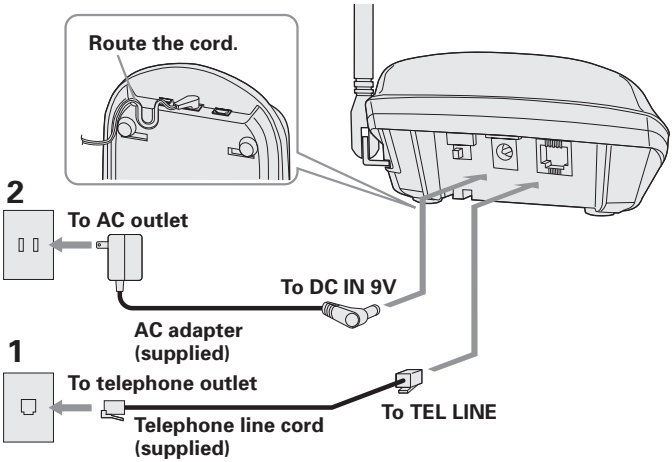
Before choosing a location for your new phone, read the INSTALLATION CONSIDERATIONS included in the PRECAUTIONS AND IMPORTANT SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS brochure. Here are some important guidelines you should consider:



- You should charge your handset for 12-15 hours before using the phone.
- The location should be close to both a phone jack and continuous a power outlet which is not switchable.
- Keep the base and handset away from sources of electrical noise such as motors and fluorescent lighting.
- Be sure there is sufficient space to raise the base antenna fully vertical.
- The base can be placed on a desk, tabletop or mounted on a standard wall plate.

Connect the base unit

If you want to install the base unit on the wall, see page 8.



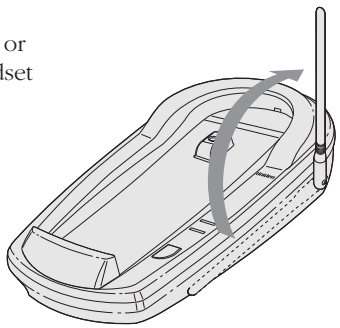
Place the power cord so it does not create a trip hazard, or where it could become chafed and create a fire or electrical hazard.

Use only the Uniden AC adapter supplied with this phone. Do NOT use an outlet controlled by a wall switch.

1 Connect the telephone line cord to the **TEL LINE** jack and to a telephone outlet.

2 Connect the AC adapter to the **DC IN 9V** jack and to a standard 120VAC wall outlet.

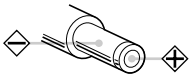
3 Set the base unit on a desk or tabletop and place the handset on the base unit.
Then raise the antenna to a vertical position.



NOTE

Use only the supplied AD-420 AC adapter. Do not use any other AC adapter.

Polarity of the plug



NOTE

Connect the AC adapter to a continuous power supply.

NOTE

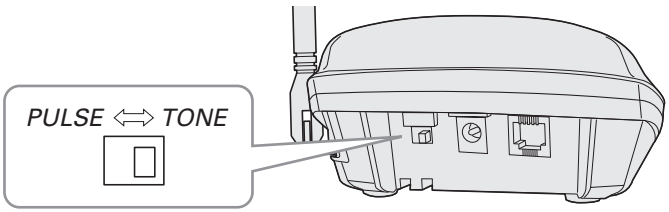
Place the base unit close to the AC outlet so that you can unplug the AC adapter easily.

TIP

If your telephone outlet isn't modular, contact your telephone company for assistance.

Modular

Choose the dialing mode



Depending on your dialing system, set the **TONE/PULSE** switch as follows:

If your dialing system is	Set the switch to
Tone	***TONE***
Pulse	***PULSE***

If you aren't sure of your dialing system

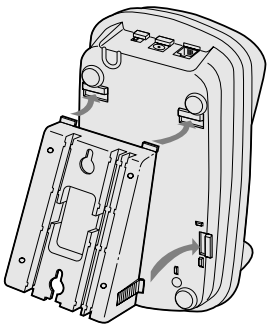
Make a trial call with the **TONE/PULSE** switch set to ***TONE***.
If the call connects, leave the switch as is; otherwise, set to ***PULSE***.

Mounting the base unit on a wall

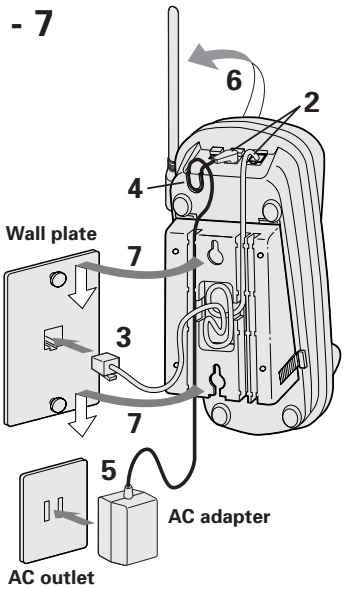
Standard wall plate mounting

This phone can be mounted on any standard telephone wall plate.

1



2 - 7



1 Snap the wall mount adapter into the notches on the base.

2 Plug the telephone line cord to the **TEL LINE** jack and the AC adapter to the **DC IN 9V** jack.

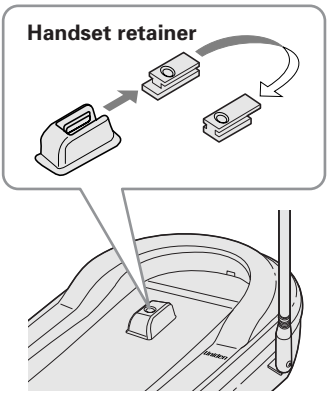
3 Plug the telephone line cord into the telephone outlet.

4 Wrap the AC adapter cord inside the molded wiring channel. Then wrap the cord around the strain relief notch.

5 Plug the AC adapter into a standard 120V AC wall outlet.

6 Raise the antenna to a vertical position.

7 Align the mounting slots on the base. with the mounting posts on the wall. Push in and down until the phone is firmly seated.



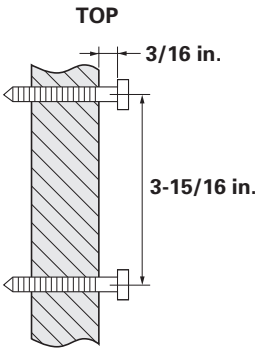
8 On the base unit, pull the handset retainer out of the slot. Rotate it clockwise 180 degrees.

9 Flip the retainer from front to back. Slide it back into the slot so that the lip of the retainer is up and the oval is down. The retainer holds the handset in place,

Direct wall plate mounting

If you don't have a standard wall plate, you can mount your phone directly to the wall. Before doing this, consider the following:

- Avoid electrical cables, pipes, or other items behind the mounting location, that could cause a hazard when inserting screws into the wall.
- Try to mount your phone within 10 - 15 feet of a working phone jack to avoid excessive cord lengths.
- Make sure the wall material is capable of supporting the weight of the base and handset.



1 Insert two mounting screws into the wall, (with their appropriate anchoring device), 3-15/16 inches apart. Allow about 3/16 of an inch between the wall and screwheads for mounting the phone.

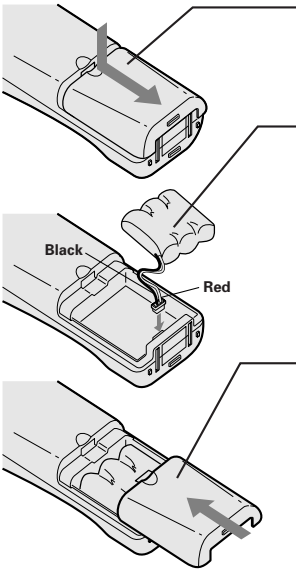
2 Refer to steps 1 through 9 on page 8 - 9 to mount the telephone.

Charging the battery pack

Charge the battery pack for 12-15 hours before you start using your phone.

NOTE

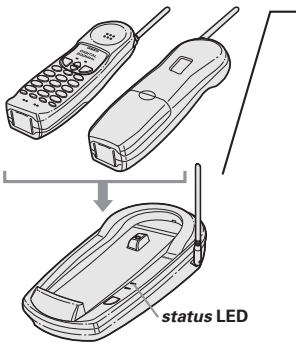
The plastic connectors will fit together only one way. Make sure the battery's connector is properly alighned. Use only the Uniden Battery pack (model BT-905) supplied with your phone.



1 Press the battery cover release.

2 Connect the battery pack connector with the correct polarity (black and red wires), then insert the battery pack into the battery compartment.

3 Slide the battery cover forward until it snaps into place.



4 Place the handset on the base. Make sure that the "***status***" LED of the base unit lights, and charging begins. Charge the battery for at least 12-15 hours. You can place either side up for charging the battery.

Even when the battery pack is not being used, it will gradually discharge over a long period. For optimum performance, be sure to return the handset to the base unit after a telephone call for charging the battery.

Rechargeable batteries have a memory effect that reduces standby and talk time. To avoid this memory effect, on a monthly basis, use the phone until the Battery lamp blinks.
Then charge the battery for 12-15 hours.

Battery use time (per charge)

From fully charged
- Seven hours coutinuous use.
- Seven days when the handset is in the standby mode.

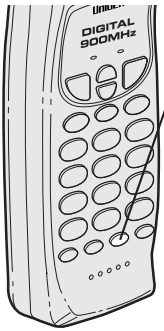
When the battery charge becomes low

When the voltage of battery pack in the handset is very low and needs to be charged, the phone is programmed to eliminate functions in order to save power. If the battery charge becomes low ***talk/batt*** LED blinks. If the phone is in use, the handset beeps. Complete your conversation as quickly as possible and return the handset to the base unit for charging.

Cleaning the battery contacts

To maintain a good charge, it is important to clean all battery contacts on the handset and base unit about once a month. Use a pencil eraser or other contact cleaner.
Do not use any liquids or solvents.

Adjusting the volume control

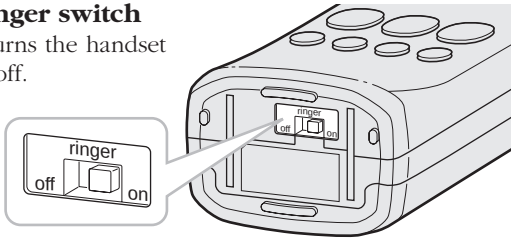


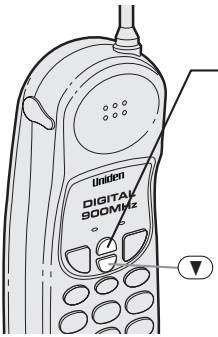
▼ **Ringer Tone and Volume**

1 While the phone is not in use, press *ringer*.

2 The phone has two ringer tones, each with two volume levels.
Press *ringer* until you hear the ringer tone and volume level you want.

▼ **Handset ringer switch**
This switch turns the handset ringer on or off.

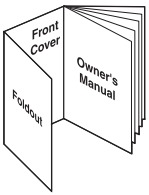




▼ **Setting the Handset Earpiece Volume**

1 While you are on a call, press ▲ or ▼.

2 The phone has four earpiece volume levels, Normal, Medium, High and Loud.
Press ▲ or ▼ until you hear the volume level you want.



Fold out the front cover of this reference guide to use the CONTROLS diagram for reference.

Making and receiving calls

	Handset On Base	Handset Off Base
To answer a call	Pick up the handset.	Press (talk).
To make a call	1. Pick up the handset. 2. Press (talk). 3. Listen for dial tone. 4. Dial a number.	1. Press (talk). 2. Listen for dial tone. 3. Dial a number.
To hang up	Press (talk) or return the handset to the base (Auto standby).	
To redial	1. Pick up the handset. 2. Press (talk). 3. Listen for dial tone. 4. Press (redial).	1. Press (talk). 2. Listen for dial tone. 3. Press (redial).

Using the LDM (Long Distance Manager)

Sign up and Registration

1. Before using the LDM feature, you must register your phone by calling 1-800-458-2682.
2. You will be asked a few simple questions, such as name, address, and phone number.
3. Each month you will receive an itemized bill for calls placed through the LDM service.

Placing a call using LDM

Press (LongDst) key before dialing a long distance (1+) or international (011+) number.

Handset off the base

1. Press (LongDst) and listen for dial tone.
2. Dial a long distance or international phone number.
   You must dial a “1” or “011” when using the LDM feature.
3. To complete, press (talk) or return the handset to the base.

Handset on the base

1. Pick up the handset
2. Press (LongDst).
3. Enter a long distance or international number.
   You must dial a “1” or “011” when using the LDM feature.
4. To hang up, press (talk) or return the handset to the base.

Private Branch Exchange (PBX) dialing

1. Press (talk).
2. Dial out by entering 9 on the keypad, or any sequence of numbers required to access an outside line.
3. Press (LongDst).
4. Dial a long distance or international number.
5. To complete, press (talk) or return the handset to the base.

NOTE

Redial will not function when using the LDM through PBX.

NOTES

- You must dial a "1" or "011" when using the LDM feature.
- **Do NOT USE (LongDst) BUTTON TO DIAL 911 BECAUSE IT WILL NOT ACCESS EMERGENCY SERVICE.**
- Do not use the (LongDst) for placing local calls, contacting your local phone company for repair or customer service, accessing emergency service or for toll free numbers.
- All calls placed through the LDM feature will be charged at the applicable toll rate for the specific call.
- Failure to register will result in lost savings.

Storing a number in memory

NOTE

You have 20 seconds after pressing (mem) to enter the number you wish to store. Otherwise, an error tone will sound.

Your EXL 8900 Series phone has 10 memory locations for storing important telephone numbers.

1 Remove the handset from the base and press (mem). The ***talk*/*batt*** LED flashes and you hear a beep.

2 Enter the phone number you want to store (up to 20 digits).

If you select any keys other than 0-9, (*/tone), (#), (pause) the handset will beep rapidly and no number will be stored.

3 Press (mem) and enter a number (0-9) on the keypad for the memory location you want to use.

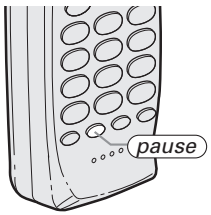
A long beep sounds and the ***talk*/*batt*** LED goes out indicating the number has been stored successfully.

Entering a pause in memory dialing

NOTE

Remember, the phone number you wish to store cannot have more than 20 digits, including a pause. (The (pause) button counts as one digits.)

If you would like to use a phone number stored in memory to access voice mail, for example, you can store a pause in the phone number sequence.



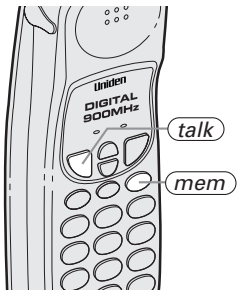
To use this function, follow steps 1 and 2 in "Storing a Number in Memory," then press the (pause) button on the handset to place a pause in the phone number sequence. Follow the remaining steps in the "Storing a Number in Memory" section to complete the operation.

Storing mixed tone/pulse number

If your have selected pulse dialing, you can store a mixed tone/pulse number (up to 20 digits) for memory dialing.

1. Remove the handset from the base and press (mem). The ***talk*/*batt*** LED flashes and you hear a beep.
2. Enter the number to be dialed in pulse mode.
3. Press the (*/tone) button on the handset. The (*/tone) button counts as one digit and also enters a pause.
4. New enter the number(s) to be dialed in tone mode.
5. Press (mem) and a number (0-9) on the keypad for the memory location you wish to use. You will hear a long beep and the ***talk*/*batt*** LED goes out.

Dialing a stored number



To dial a phone number stored in memory, press (talk), then press (mem) and the memory location (0-9). Your phone will dial the stored number.

NOTE

If you select a memory location that does not have a stored number, the handset will beep rapidly and the phone will not dial.

NOTE

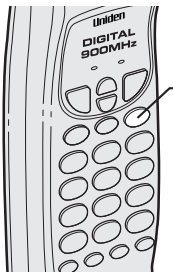
If you press (LongDst) instead of (talk), the LDM will be activated. (See page 14 for details.)

Chain dialing

After dialing a number you may be requested to enter a special access code, for example, when performing a banking transaction.

1. Store the access code into one of the memory locations (0-9).
2. Dial the main number.
3. Press (mem) and the memory location of the access code at the appropriate time.

Erasing a stored number



1. Remove the handset from the base.
2. Press (mem) twice.
3. Select the memory location number (0-9) you want to clear.
   You'll hear a long beep confirming that the number is erased.

Replacing a stored number

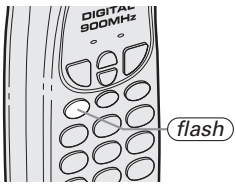
Remember, your EXL 8900 Series phone has 10 memory locations, represented by the numbers (0-9) on the keypad. If you store a phone number in one of these locations, then attempt to store a different number in the same location later, the new number ***will replace*** the previous one.

Selecting a different channel

If you encounter interference while using your phone, you can manually change the phone's channel for clear operation. Interference can come from appliances or other phones in your home. This function works only when the phone is in use.

The (chan) button on the handset allows you to choose between 30 defferent channels. During the course of a conversation, if you hear static or noise, press (chan).
The ***talk***/***batt*** LED flashes, indicating the phone is changing to another channel.

Using the flash button



Use (flash) for accessing services such as call waiting. If you receive a call during your conversation, press the (flash) button on the handset. Press (flash) again to return to the previous call.

NOTE

You must subscribe to Call Waiting service from your phone company to use this feature.

Mute

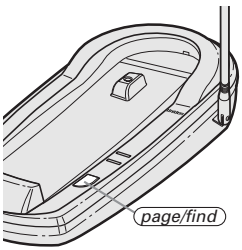
Muting the ringer sound

Press (*mute*) when the telephone rings. The ringer sound is cut off until you receive another call.

Muting the conversation

Press (*mute*) during a telephone call, the sound from the microphone is cut off. To cancel mute, press (*mute*) or (*talk*).

Page/find



To locate the handset while it is not on the base, press (*page/find*) on the base. The handset beeps.

Traveling out-of-range

When you begin to move too far from the base, you will first hear a clicking sound. As you travel further out-of-range, the voice transmission will begin to break up. If you pass the range limits of the base, your call will terminate.

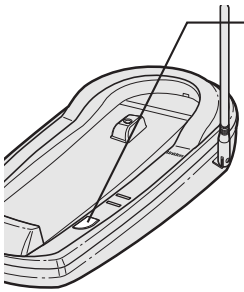
Changing the digital security code

The digital security code is an identification code used to connect the handset and the base unit. Normally, setting the code is not necessary.
The first time you charge your handset, the security code is automatically set. (See page 3.)

In the rare situation that you suspect another cordless telephone is using the same security code, you can change the code.

NOTE

If the handset battery pack is completely discharged or the battery pack removed, the digital security code will be lost. If this happens, a new security code is set automatically the next time the battery pack is charged.



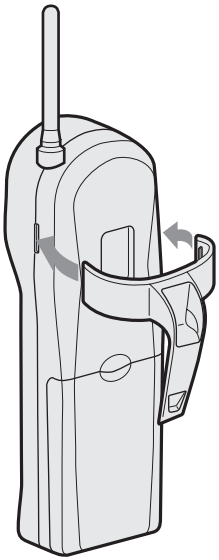
1 Remove the handset from the base unit. Press *page/find*.

2 While the handset is producing the paging sound, place the handset in the base unit. The paging tone stops. Leave the handset on the base longer than 3 seconds. A new random security code is set.

Installing the beltclip

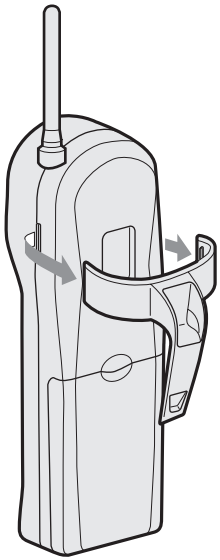
To attach the beltclip

Insert the beltclip into the holes on each side of the handset. Press down until it clicks.



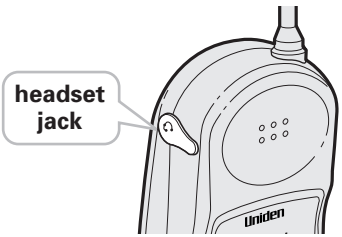
To remove the beltclip

Pull both sides of the beltclip to release the tabs from the holes.



Headset installation

Your phone may be used with an optional headset. To use this feature, simply plug any standard 2.5mm headset plug into the headset jack. Your phone is ready for hands-free conversation.



Note on power sources

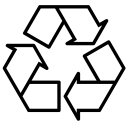
Battery replacement and handling

When the operating time becomes short, even after a battery is recharged, please replace the battery.
With normal usage, your battery should last about one year.
Please contact your place of purchase for a replacement battery.

Power Failure

During the period that the power is off, you will not be able to make or receive calls with the telephone.

RECYCLING NICKEL-CADMIUM BATTERIES



NICKEL-CADMIUM BATTERIES MUST BE DISPOSED OF PROPERLY.

Nickel-cadmium cells are used in the battery pack. Please take your used nickel-cadmium battery packs to a store that recycles nickel-cadmium batteries.

Caution

- Use the specified battery pack.
- Do not remove the battery from the handset to charge it.
- Never throw the battery into a fire, disassemble it, or heat it.
- Do not remove or damage the battery casing.

Maintenance

When slightly dirty
Wipe with a soft, dry cloth.

When very dirty
Wipe with a soft cloth that has been dampened with diluted, neutral detergent. Dry with a dry cloth.

When the charging terminals become dirty
Wipe with a pencil eraser or other contact cleaner.

Caution

Do not use paint thinner, benzene, alcohol, or other chemical products. Doing so may discolor the surface of the telephone and damage the finish.

Troubleshooting

If your phone is not performing to your expectations, please try these simple steps first.

Symptom	Suggestion
The ***status*** light won't come on when the handset is placed in the base unit.	• Make sure the AC adapter is plugged into the base unit and wall outlet. • Make sure the handset is properly seated in the base unit. • Make sure the charging contacts on the handset and base unit are clean.
The audio sounds weak and/or scratchy.	• Make sure that the base unit antenna is in a vertical position. • Move the handset and or base unit to a different location away from metal objects or appliances and try again. • Press (*chan*) to help eliminate background noise. • Make sure that you are not too far from the base.
Can't make or receive calls.	• Check both ends of the base unit telephone line cord. • Make sure the AC adapter is plugged into the base unit and wall outlet. • Disconnect the AC adapter for a few minutes, then reconnect it. • Reset the digital security code (See page 20). • Make sure (*talk*) is pressed.
The handset doesn't ring or receive a page.	• The battery pack may be weak. Charge the battery on the base unit for 12-15 hours. • The handset may be too far away from the base unit. • Place the base unit away from appliances or metal objects. • Reset the digital security code (See page 20).

Specifications

General

The EXL 8900 complies with FCC Parts 15 and 68.

Frequency control:	PLL
Frequency shift keying:	FSK
Operating temperature:	0°C to +50°C (+32°F to +122°F)

Base unit

RX frequency:	902.119 MHz to 905.016 MHz (30 channel)
TX frequency:	924.997 MHz to 927.894 MHz (30 channel)
Power requirements:	9V 210mA (from AC adapter)
Size:	8-21/32 in. (W) x 4-17/32 in. (D) x 2-19/64 in. (H) (220 mm (W) x 115 mm (D) x 58.21 mm (H))
Weight:	Approx. 20.2 oz. (Approx. 572 g)

Handset

RX frequency:	924.997 MHz to 927.894 MHz (30 channel)	
TX frequency:	902.119 MHz to 905.016 MHz (30 channel)	
Power requirements:	Rechargeable Nickel-Cadmium battery pack	
Size (without antenna):	7 in. (W) x 2-17/64 in. (D) x 2 in. (H) (178 mm (W) x 57.6 mm (D) x 51 mm (H))	
Weight:	Approx. 8.6 oz. (244 g) (including battery)	
Battery:	BT-905	
	Capacity	600 mAH, 3.6V
	Talk mode	7 hours TYP
	Standby mode	7 days TYP

Specifications, features, and availability of optional accessories are all subject to change without prior notice.

At Uniden, we'll take care of you!

If you need any assistance with this product, please call our Customer Hotline at

1-800-297-1023

PLEASE DO NOT RETURN THIS PRODUCT TO THE PLACE OF PURCHASE.

Our Uniden representatives will be happy to help you with any matters regarding the operation of this unit, available accessories, or any other related matters.

Thank you for purchasing a Uniden product.
Hours: M-F 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM Central.

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THANK YOU

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