

Getting Started

This chapter introduces the notebook and gives first-time operating instructions.

1.1 Overview

Thank you for purchasing this notebook computer. Whether you're an enthusiastic beginner or a power user, this notebook has it all. On the road, at the office, or in the comfort of your home, this notebook is the ideal computing companion for all your personal and business needs.

This notebook supports high-end processors, packing the power of a desktop PC into an ultra-slim and lightweight notebook. Combining performance, versatility, and a host of advanced power-management features, it helps you work with unmatched productivity and ease.

This notebook features a modular design and supports multiple configurations with its unique accessory bay. The bay accommodates either a 3.5-inch, 1.44MB removable diskette drive, a PCMCIA type III slot module or a secondary battery pack for more power on-the-go. The removed diskette drive can be used externally by connecting it to the parallel port using an FDD cable.

The easy-to-open modular housing design makes system upgrades easy. The innovative use of latches, grooves, and sliding compartments makes it easy to upgrade the memory and hard disk. The hard disk, diskette drive, keyboard and battery pack are easy to install and remove, thanks to the unique housing.

Ergonomic design features include a keyboard tilt and palm rest. The keyboard tilt supports give a comfortable typing angle. The palm rest, located below the full-size keyboard, provides typing comfort in any work environment. The touchpad, centrally located in the palm rest, responds to precise finger movements, making it easy to control cursor movement under graphical user environments like Windows or OS/2.

This system supports PCMCIA technology with a built-in type II slot. It allows the simultaneous use of one type II and one type III PC cards when the optional PCMCIA slot module is installed in the accessory bay. Hailed in leading industry journals as the technology that will revolutionize portable computing, the PCMCIA interface allows you to use credit-card-sized fax/data modem cards, SRAM cards, 1.8-inch removable hard disks, audio cards, SCSI interface cards and other devices. Thus, you enjoy benefits similar to those of add-on cards in desktop PCs.

Another important feature is the high-performance graphics display using a graphics accelerator and 1MB video RAM. This notebook supports a large DualScan STN color or TFT color LCD, offering excellent display quality and brilliant colors. This notebook can also connect to an external ultra-VGA monitor. You can even connect an LCD projection panel for large-audience presentations. Both DSTN and TFT color models support simultaneous display on the LCD and external video device.

Advanced power management features such as automatic LCD and hard disk power-down, system standby and suspend modes enable this notebook to conserve battery power. The notebook houses up to two battery packs for longer battery operation. It has both visible and audible battery-low warning features that remind you to recharge your battery. The battery is recharged while the notebook is in use with the AC adapter. You can fast charge the battery by powering off the notebook.

This notebook also supports a local-bus architecture to enhance system performance. It also has a special feature called SIR (serial infrared) which allows wireless communication or file transfer with other SIR-"aware" systems.

All of these exciting features are packed into a compact notebook, integrating a modular design philosophy which means upgradeability, flexibility and portability. Read on to find out more about your new computing companion.

1.2 Item Checklist

Remove all items from the carton and save the packing materials for future use. If any of the following items are missing or damaged, contact your dealer immediately.

- The notebook computer
- AC adapter (includes power cord)
- Primary battery pack (Duracell standard)
- Documentation

Optional accessories¹ available include:

- 4-/8-/16-MB RAM modules
- FDD cable
- External numeric keypad
- MS-DOS and application software documentation
- System utilities diskettes²
- PCMCIA fax/data modem card
- External battery charger/discharger
- Additional primary battery pack
- Additional AC adapter
- File transfer (interlink) cable
- PCMCIA Type III slot module
- Secondary Li-Ion battery pack (available 4th quarter, 1995)

¹ Optional accessories may differ from area to area.

² Refer to the README files of the system utilities in their respective subdirectories for information.

1.3 LCD Display

This notebook supports three different LCD display configurations¹ as shown in Table 1-1.

Table 1-1 *LCD Display Configurations*

Type	Size	Resolution
DualScan STN color	10.4-inch	640 x 480, 64K colors, VGA
DualScan STN color	10.4-inch	800 x 600, 256 colors, SVGA
TFT color (active matrix)	10.2-inch	640 x 480, 64K colors, VGA

Open the display by sliding the cover latch to the right as shown in Figure 1-1. Lift the display and tilt it to a comfortable viewing position.

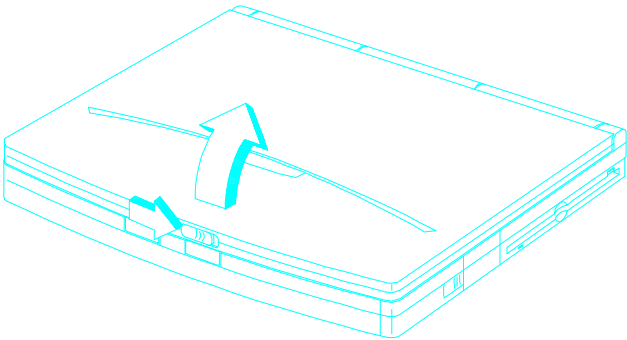


Figure 1-1 *Opening the Display*

¹ LCD display configurations may differ from area to area.

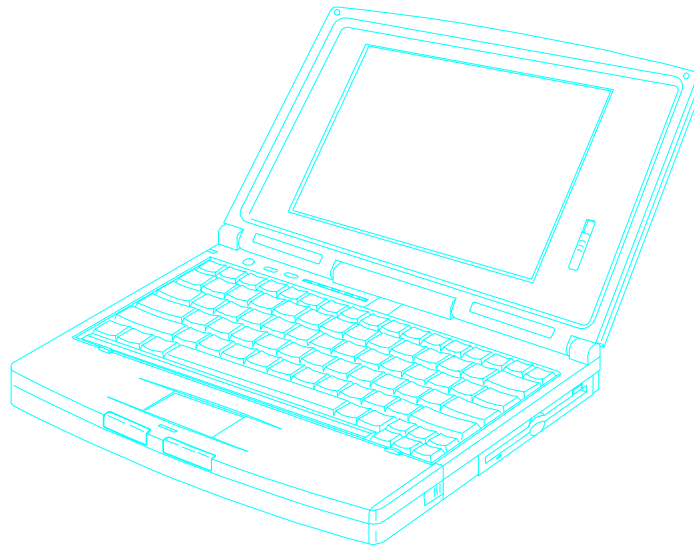


Figure 1-2 The LCD Display

To close the display, fold it down gently until the cover latch clicks into place.



To avoid damaging the display, do not slam it when closing. Do not place any object on top of the notebook when the display is closed.



The LCD power-saving feature turns off the LCD after a preset period of inactivity to reduce power consumption. See section 2.4.1 for details.

1.4 Rear Panel

The peripheral connectors are located in the rear panel as shown in Figure 1-3. Open the port cover to access the CRT, parallel and serial ports. Other ports include the serial infrared, external PS/2 and DC-in ports.

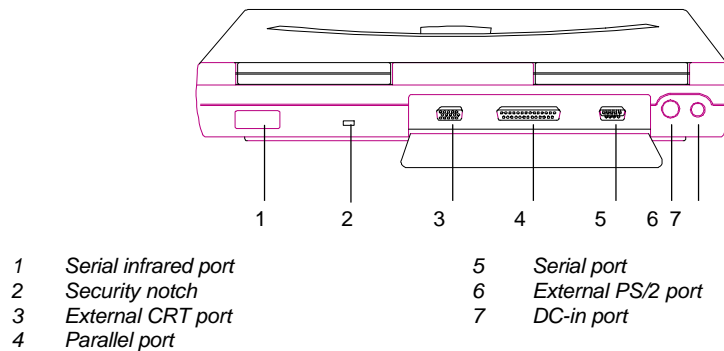







Figure 1-3 Rear Panel

Rear Panel Features

- SIR** *Serial Infrared port* This lets you perform wireless communication with other SIR-"aware" systems.
- LOCK** *Security notch* This connects a computer security lock system.
-  *External CRT port* This connects a VGA or SVGA monitor.
-  *Parallel port* This connects a printer, external FDD, pocket LAN, or other parallel device.
-  *Serial port* This connects a mouse, modem, scanner, or other serial device.
-  *External PS/2 port* This connects an external PS/2-type keyboard, keypad, mouse or trackball.
-  *DC-in port* This connects the AC adapter.

See Chapter 3 for details on how to connect external devices.

Serial Infrared (SIR)

The onboard serial infrared (SIR) port is IrDA-compliant and allows you to perform wireless file transfers and “connect” with other serial infrared devices such as a serial infrared printer.

To transfer files using SIR, line up the SIR ports of the notebook and the other SIR-capable system not more than a meter apart, at an angle of ± 15 degrees for optimal performance.

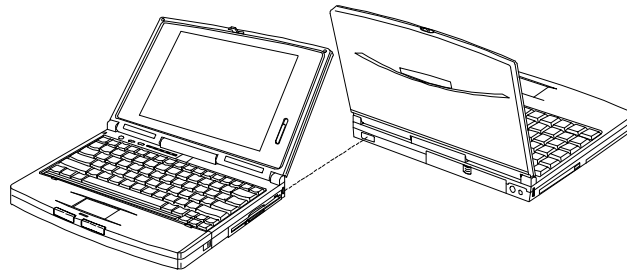
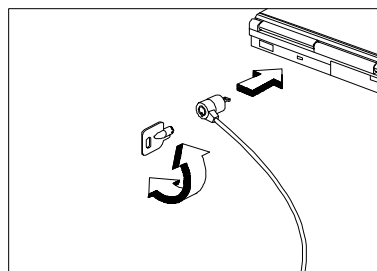


Figure 1-4 Serial Infrared Communication

Run the file-transfer utility¹ on both systems and begin wireless file transfers. See Appendix D for details.

Security Notch

The notebook's security notch lets you physically secure the computer.

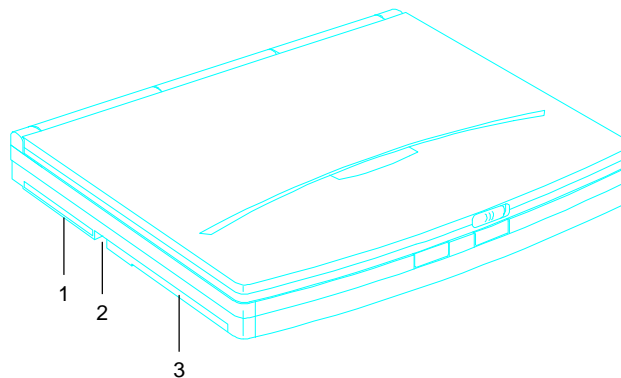


Circle a computer security lock cable around an immovable object such as a table or drawer handle. Insert the lock into the notch and turn the key to secure the lock.

¹ If the file-transfer utility is not preloaded on your hard disk, you have to install it. See Appendix D.

1.5 Left Panel

The left panel has a PCMCIA Type II slot and removable hard disk drive. Figure 1-5 shows the left panel.

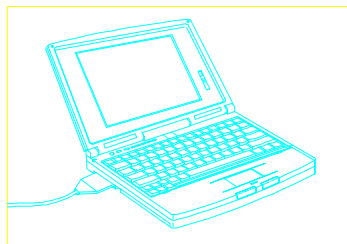


- 1 PCMCIA Type II slot
- 2 Card eject button
- 3 Removable hard disk drive

Figure 1-5 Left Panel

Left Panel Features

PCMCIA



PCMCIA support enables you to use credit-card-sized PC cards similar to add-on cards for desktop computers, thus enhancing the usability and expandability of this notebook. In this slot, you can insert one type I/II card.

The accessory bay found on the right panel allows you to install an additional module that accepts a type III or type II card for greater expandability. See section 1.6 for details.

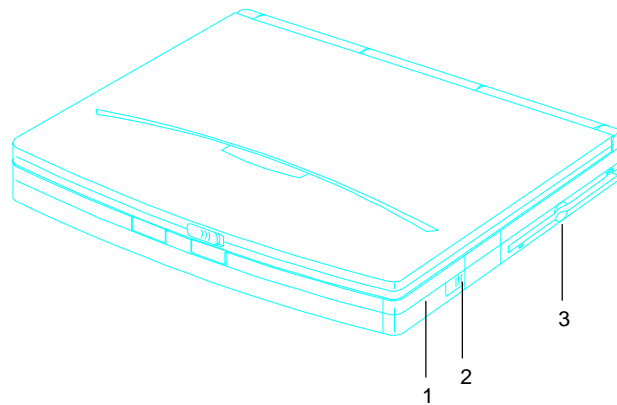
The system supports PCMCIA cards such as fax/data modem, LAN, audio, SCSI cards and ATA drives. Memory cards include flash memory and SRAM. Before using the slot, you need to specify the corresponding PCMCIA driver in the CONFIG.SYS file. The driver initializes and prepares the PCMCIA slots for use. Refer to the PCMCIA driver utility information in Appendix D for more details.

Removable Hard Disk Drive

The notebook supports a high-capacity, 2.5-inch hard disk drive that is easy to upgrade. See section 3.2 for details.

1.6 Right Panel

The battery and accessory bay is located in the right panel. Figure 1-6 shows the right panel.



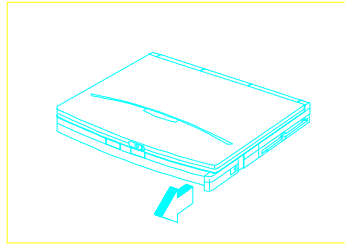
- 1 Primary battery compartment
- 2 Battery cover release latch
- 3 Accessory bay (with a diskette drive module installed)

Figure 1-6 Right Panel

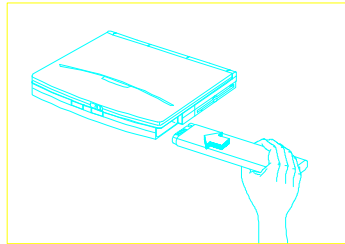
Right Panel Features

Primary Battery Compartment

The primary battery compartment houses the primary nickel metal-hydride (NiMH) battery pack. Follow these steps to install the primary battery pack:



1. Press the battery cover release latch and slide the cover out.



2. Insert the battery pack into the primary battery compartment (with the connector-side up).

3. Replace the battery compartment cover.

Accessory Bay

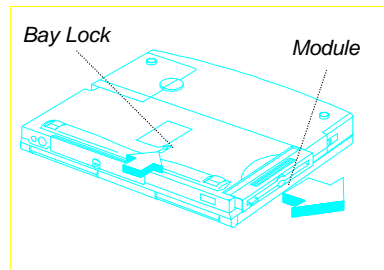
The accessory bay accepts three different interchangeable modules:

- Removable 3.5-inch diskette drive module

Removed FDD can be used as an external FDD by connecting it to the parallel port using the FDD cable.

- Removable PCMCIA slot module (type III slot)
- Secondary battery pack (Lithium-Ion)

To remove a module:



Release the accessory bay lock and pull the module out of the bay.



*Turn the power off or go into suspend mode before installing or removing a module. The system **MUST NOT** be in standby or operating mode when you do this.*

If the accessory bay houses a diskette drive, the Floppy Disk Drive A parameter in Setup is automatically set to [1.44 MB 3.5-inch]. It is automatically set to [None] if the accessory bay houses a PCMCIA slot module or secondary battery pack.

Accessory Bay Modules

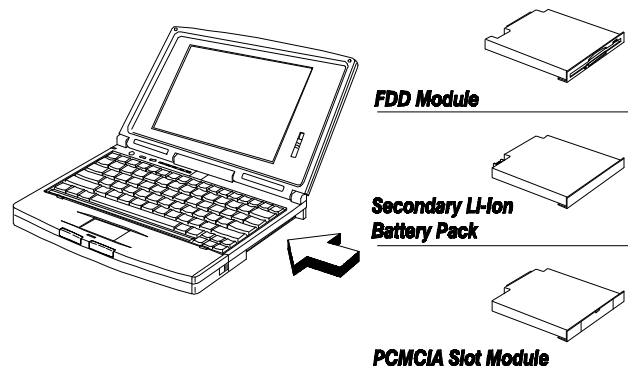
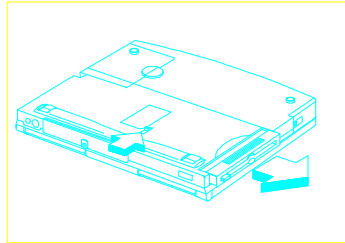


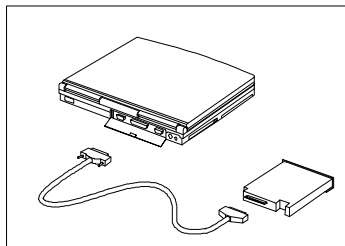
Figure 1-7 Accessory Bay Modules

To connect the diskette drive module externally, follow these steps:



1. Remove the diskette drive module from the accessory bay if one is installed.

If desired, you may install another module into the accessory bay.



2. Connect one end (25-pin) of the FDD cable to the notebook's parallel port and the other end to the diskette drive module.

After system boot-up, the notebook automatically detects the presence of the diskette drive and makes the proper settings in Setup.



The FDD cable is used exclusively with the diskette drive module. Do not use it to connect other modules.

1.7 AC Adapter

The AC adapter accepts input voltage ranging from 100V to 240V at a frequency range of 47Hz to 63Hz. Figure 1-8 shows the AC adapter.

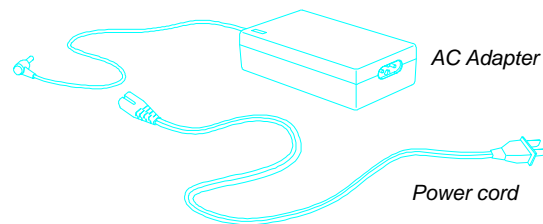


Figure 1-8 AC Adapter

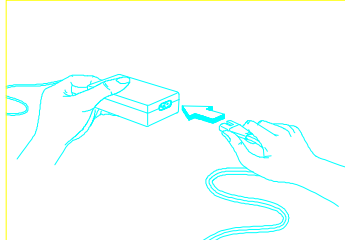
The AC adapter LCD lights up when power is supplied to the AC adapter.



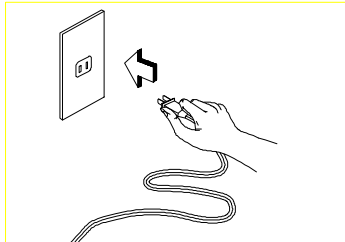
1. *Do not use the AC adapter or the battery pack with other notebooks or any other devices.*
2. *Do not use other AC adapters and battery packs not specifically designed for this system.*
3. *Unplug the AC adapter by pulling on the connector, not the cord. Pulling on the cord may damage the connections inside the connector.*

Connecting the AC Adapter

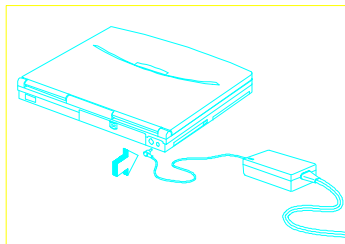
Follow these steps to connect the AC adapter:



1. Plug the power cord into the AC adapter.




2. Connect the power cord to a power outlet.



3. Connect the AC adapter to the notebook.

1.8 Starting the System

Figure 1-9 shows the location of the power on/off switch (). Press this toggle switch to turn the notebook on and off. The power indicator (an LED found to the left of the power switch) lights up when you turn on the notebook.

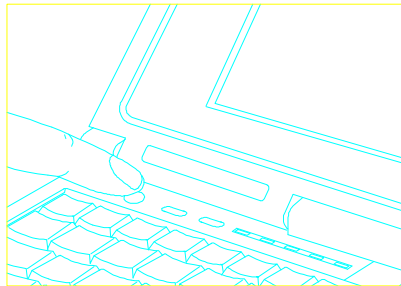


Figure 1-9 Turning On the Power



In some cases, you may need to press harder on the power switch, the suspend and the setup buttons for the desired effect to take place.

The notebook runs a series of power-on self-tests (POST) and displays POST messages. Next, copyright and other messages appear on the screen followed by the DOS prompt C>. If you get an error message or the DOS prompt does not appear, see Chapter 6 for assistance.



Avoid turning the notebook on and off in intervals of less than five seconds between power on and off, as this may damage your hard disk drive.

1.9 Interior Features

Figure 1-10 shows the location of the control buttons and status indicators.

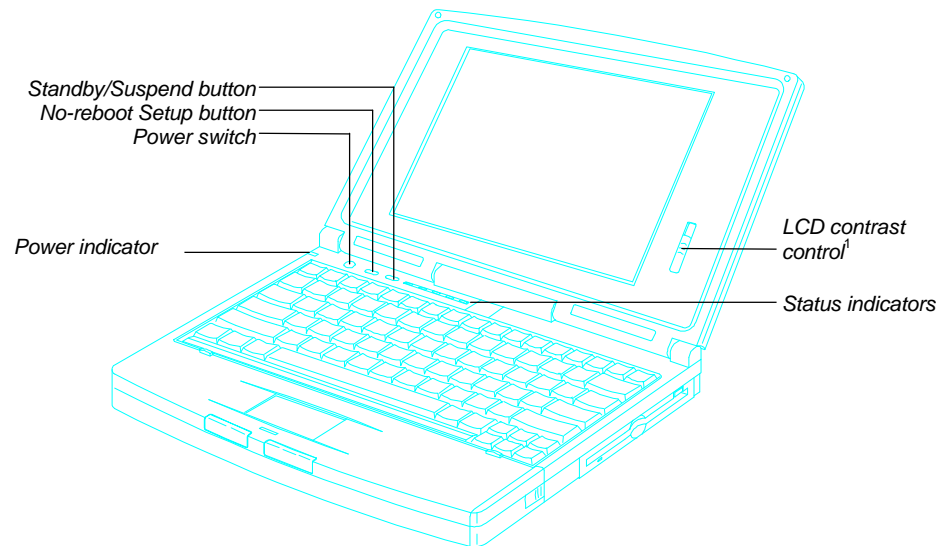












Figure 1-10 Control Buttons and Status Indicators

¹ The TFT model has no contrast control.

Control Buttons

-  *Power switch* This toggles the system power on and off.
-  *No-reboot Setup button* This button enables you to access the Advanced Configuration screens of the Setup utility. This gives you the option of not rebooting when you exit Setup.
-  *Standby/Suspend button* This button enables the notebook to enter standby or suspend mode. See section 2.4 for details on these modes.
-  *Contrast control* This controls the display clarity of the LCD screen (STN color models only)

Status Indicators

-  *Power indicator* This lights up (green) when power is applied to the notebook. It flashes when the notebook is in a battery-low condition.
-  *Standby mode indicator* This lights up when the system is in standby mode.
-  *Hard disk drive activity indicator* This lights up when the system accesses the hard disk drive.
-  *Num Lock indicator* This lights up when the Num Lock function is activated.
-  *Caps Lock indicator* This lights up when the Caps Lock function is activated.
-  *Scroll Lock indicator* This lights up when the Scroll Lock function is activated.

1.10 Keyboard

The keyboard has full-sized keys, including an embedded keypad, separate cursor keys and twelve function keys.

Figure 1-11 Keyboard — U.S. Keyboard

Figure 1-12 Keyboard — U.K. Version


Lock Keys

The keyboard has three lock keys which you can toggle on and off. When you activate a lock key, the corresponding LED lights up.

@	When the Caps Lock indicator is on, all alphabetic characters typed are in uppercase.
[When the Scroll Lock indicator is on, the screen moves one line up or down when you press w or y respectively. Scroll lock does not work with some applications.
]	When the Num Lock indicator is on, the embedded keypad is in numeric mode. The keys function as a calculator (complete with arithmetic operators +, -, *, and /).

Hot Keys

The keyboard also has a number of hot keys or key combinations which allow you to perform special functions.

b-a-c	<i>Warm-Boot hot key</i> This allows you to execute a warm boot.
b-a-	<i>Setup hot key</i> This allows you to access the Setup utility.
Setup button () -r	<i>Battery discharge hot key</i> This enables the rapid discharge of the primary battery pack (NiMH) prior to recharge. The secondary battery pack (Li-Ion), if installed, is not affected.

Embedded Keypad

The embedded keypad, which has functions similar to a desktop numeric keypad, is indicated by smaller characters located in the upper right corner of the keycaps. To simplify the keyboard legend, the cursor-control key symbols are not printed on the keys.

Figure 1-13 Embedded Keypad

Table 1-2 tells how to use the embedded keypad.

Table 1-2 Using the Embedded Keypad

Desired Access	Num Lock On	Num Lock Off
Number keys on embedded keypad	Type numbers in a normal manner.	
Cursor-control keys on embedded keypad	Hold j while using cursor-control keys.	Hold Fn while using cursor-control keys.
Main keyboard keys	Hold Fn while typing letters on embedded keypad.	Type the letters in a normal manner.

Palm Rest and Keyboard Tilt Supports

The palm rest, located below the keyboard, gives you a place to rest your hands while you type.

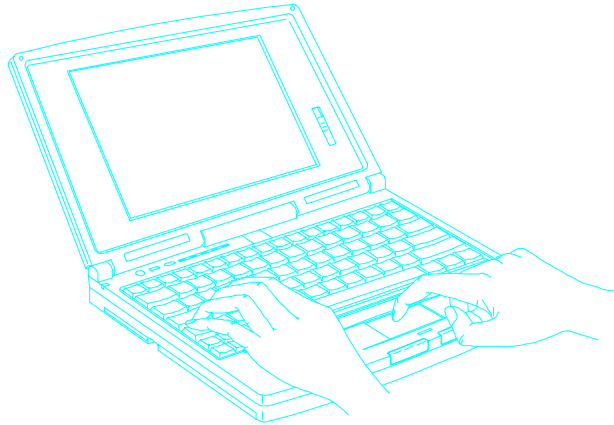


Figure 1-14 Palm Rest

In addition, two foot supports on the underside allows you to tilt the notebook to a more comfortable typing position.

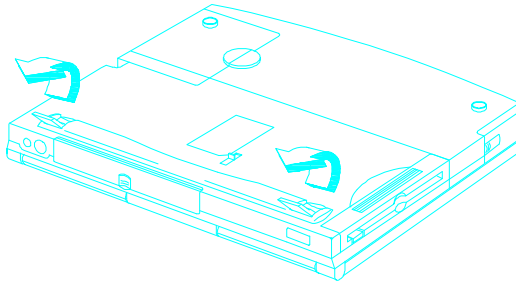


Figure 1-15 Keyboard Tilt Supports

1.11 Touchpad

The touchpad is a PS/2-type mouse-compatible pointing device that senses movement on its surface. This means the cursor responds as you move your finger on the surface of the touchpad. Its central location on the palm rest enables comfortable use for both left and right-hand users.

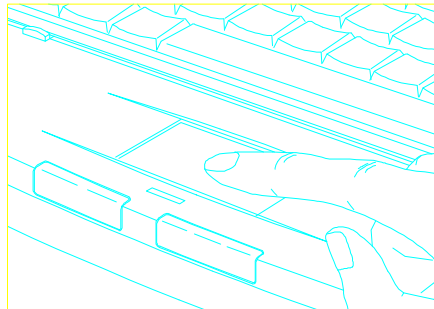


Figure 1-16 Touchpad



The touchpad works with most mouse drivers.

If your notebook did not come with pre-loaded software, remember to install the touchpad driver included in the system utilities diskette(s). The touchpad driver also supports special functions that work uniquely with the touchpad. See Appendix D for details.

Touchpad Basics

The following tips will help you use the touchpad:

1. Move your finger across the touchpad to move the cursor.
2. Press the left and right buttons below the touchpad to do selection and execution functions. These two buttons are similar to the left and right buttons on a mouse. Tapping on the touchpad produces similar results. See Table 1-3.

Table 1-3 Touchpad Functions

Function	Button	Tap
Execution	click twice	tap twice
Selection	click once	tap once
Drag	click and hold to drag the cursor	tap twice and hold to drag the cursor



Keep your fingers dry and clean when using the touchpad.

Keep your fingers clear of the touchpad when typing.

The touchpad is sensitive to finger movements. Hence, the lighter the touch, the better the response. Tapping too hard will not increase the touchpad's responsiveness.

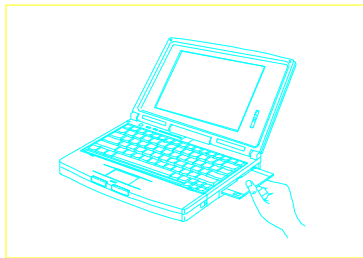
1.12 Using the Notebook for the First Time

Follow these steps when you use the notebook for the first time, to ensure top performance right from the start.

1. Install the battery pack into the notebook.
2. Connect the AC adapter. See section 1.7.
3. Power on the notebook and condition the battery pack. See section 2.3.2 for details.

When the battery is charging, the power indicator turns orange. The power indicator turns off when the battery pack is fully charged.

4. Power on the system when the battery is fully charged. If your notebook has pre-installed software, go directly to item 6;



otherwise, insert MS-DOS diskette #1 into the diskette drive and boot up the system. Follow the instructions to install MS-DOS.

You may also want to install Windows if your package includes it. Insert Windows diskette #1 into the diskette drive and type `A:\SETUP`. Follow the screen instructions to install Windows.

5. Install the zero-volt suspend function.

Zero-Volt (Hibernation) Suspend-to-Disk

The Zero-Volt (Hibernation) Suspend-to-Disk function is a power-saving feature that saves all current status information and images on your hard disk when your notebook enters suspend mode.

If you want to use the zero-volt suspend function, you have to create a partition on the hard disk. Remove the MS-DOS diskette and insert the system utilities diskette into the diskette drive. Type `ASTDK.EXE` in the `ASTDK` subdirectory to automatically reserve a partition¹. Refer to Appendix D for more details.



If you do not install ASTDK, the notebook can only enter standby mode and not suspend mode. Standby mode still consumes power whereas suspend mode consumes none. Data is also lost when power runs out when the notebook is in standby mode.

You can also install the other system utilities. See Appendix D for details.

6. If the notebook displays an error message or if you encounter any problems, see section 6.2 for corrective actions.
7. You may operate the system on AC or battery power. To conserve battery power, you can make use of the different power-saving modes described in sections 2.4.
8. Read through this manual so that you can get the most out of this powerful notebook PC!

¹ For details, refer to the file `README.DOC` in the `ASTDK` subdirectory of the system utilities diskette. Refer also to the 0V suspend utility (`ASTDK`) information in Appendix D.