Introduction

As the owner of the new PrimeFinder™ remote control, you can now take full advantage of all the amazing programming and services available from PRIMESTAR®. For example, PrimeFinder™ will let you Hyper-Surf® to the programming of your choice, such as Sports News & Information, Variety, or Living & Learning. And there's much more.

PrimeFinder™ is also a 4-in-1 “universal remote control” which you can use to operate your PRIMESTAR® receiver, TV set, VCR/Laser Disc Player, and one Auxiliary Component (CD player, stereo receiver). In fact, you may no longer need other remote controls because PrimeFinder lets you operate your entire home entertainment system.

Take a moment to review the features of PrimeFinder™ and the programming instructions in this manual. You'll notice that PrimeFinder™ offers many innovative features. And you'll find that it's easy to use because we designed it after listening to the suggestions of PRIMESTAR® customers like you.

Then sit back and enjoy a better way to watch TV!

About this manual

For your convenience, this manual is divided into the following eight chapters:

1. Setting Up PrimeFinder™
2. General Key Descriptions & Functions
3. PRIMESTAR® Services Key Descriptions & Functions
4. Programming PrimeFinder™
5. Operating your VCR/Stereo Components with PrimeFinder™
6. Special Features & Functions
7. Troubleshooting
8. Home Entertainment Set-Up Codes

Chapter 1. Setting Up PrimeFinder™

PrimeFinder™ requires four (4) new AAA alkaline batteries. To install the batteries:

1. On the back of PrimeFinder™, push down on the tab and slide the battery cover off.
2. Match the + and - marks on the batteries to the + and - marks in the battery case, then insert the batteries.
3. Slide the battery cover back into place.
4. Test the unit by pressing POWER. If the batteries are inserted correctly, the indicator light will blink.

NOTE: Removing the batteries will not require you to reprogram PrimeFinder™.

Chapter 2. General Key Descriptions & Functions

The drawing to the left and the descriptions below will help you identify all the general control keys on PrimeFinder™ and their functions. Use the drawing to locate each control key, then refer to the following descriptions.

1. MODE

PrimeFinder™ can operate four different entertainment components: PRIMESTAR® receiver, TV, VCR/Laser Disc Player and one Auxiliary component (CD player, stereo receiver/amplifier). The MODE key allows you to switch control of PrimeFinder™ from one component to another. When PrimeFinder™ is operating your PRIMESTAR® receiver, it is in PRIMESTAR® mode. When PrimeFinder™ is operating your VCR, it is in VCR mode, etc. (See diagram).

To operate your PRIMESTAR® receiver, simply press and release the MODE key until the - indicator light is lit. Press MODE again to select the TV Mode and so on. Each mode is indicated by one of the four indicator lights at the top of PrimeFinder™ (see “INDICATOR LIGHTS” below).

NOTE: In order to operate a TV, VCR, CD player or other home entertainment component with PrimeFinder™, that component must be operable by an infrared remote control. If any of your components did not originally come with its own infrared remote control device, chances are you will not be able to operate it with PrimeFinder™.

2. INDICATOR LIGHTS

These four lights tell you which component PrimeFinder™ is operating...
- When the - indicator light is lit, PrimeFinder™ is in PRIMESTAR® mode and operates your PRIMESTAR® receiver.
- When the TV indicator light is lit, PrimeFinder™ is in TV mode and operates your TV set.
- When the VCR indicator light is lit, PrimeFinder™ is in VCR mode and operates your VCR or Laser Disc Player.
- When the AUX indicator light is lit, PrimeFinder™ is in AUX mode and operates your CD player or stereo receiver/amplifier.

3. POWER

The POWER key serves as the on/off switch for your PRIMESTAR® receiver and other entertainment components. If you press the POWER key, PrimeFinder™ will send the power signal for the current mode. If you hold the POWER key for three seconds it will turn all the other components on or off.

4. MENU

Many VCRs, televisions and other entertainment components have on-screen menus to let you select certain features and functions. To see the menu of a selected component, simply press the MENU key. Use the VOL +/- keys to move up/down through the menu. Use the VOL +/- keys to move right/left through the menu. To return these keys to their original functions, follow the on-screen menu instructions for your component.

5. VOL +/- and CH +/-

The VOL +/- and CH +/- keys are primarily used to change volume level and channel selection, respectively. As described above, they are also used to navigate through on-screen menus.

If you are controlling a stereo receiver in the AUX mode, pressing CH +/- will change your preset stations up and down. If you are controlling a CD Player in the AUX mode, pressing CH +/- will operate Disk Skip +/-.

For more information on controlling entertainment components, see Chapter 6.

6. MUTE

The MUTE key silences the audio of the selected entertainment component.

7. NUMBER KEYS

The NUMBER keys (0-9) are the numeric entry keys for each entertainment component.
Chapter 3. Service Key Descriptions & Functions

The keys described in this chapter are used to select and view PRIMESTAR® programming services through your PRIMESTAR® receiver. They will operate your PRIMESTAR® receiver regardless of which mode is selected.

9 PROGRAM BLOCK KEYS

Use the NEWS, VARIETY, MUSIC, FAMILY, LIVING, MOVIES, SPORTS, SPANISH, AUDIO and Cinema Program Block keys to quickly access program blocks of your PRIMESTAR® channel line-up. Each key selection will tune the receiver to the first channel in the selected program block.

NOTE: When using the Program Block keys, be sure to keep your PRIMESTAR® pointed at your PRIMESTAR® receiver until the category you've selected appears on your screen. This may take a few seconds.

10 SATLocal

If you use cable TV service or an antenna to receive local broadcast stations, press the SATLocal key to switch from your PRIMESTAR® receiver to your antenna or cable service.

11, 12 & 13 PrimeCinema® Pay-per-View Purchase

These keys let you easily order a PrimeCinema® pay-per-view movie or event. To order, simply follow these three steps:

1. Press the CINEMA key (see key #11 on diagram) to HyperSurf to the PrimeCinema® preview channel (122), where you can see what's playing on all the PrimeCinema® channels.
2. Tune to the PrimeCinema® channel that's showing the movie or event you want to see.
3. Press the BUY key (see key #12 on diagram) to order your PrimeCinema® movie or event. After you've ordered, press the ENTER key (see key #13 on diagram) to confirm your selection.

14 VIEW

The VIEW key displays information about the program currently showing on the selected channel, such as the name of the program, start time, time remaining, rating, etc. A second press of the VIEW key will clear the information.

15 NEXT

The NEXT key displays information about the program showing next on the selected channel, such as the program start time. A second press of the NEXT key will clear the information.

16 LAST

The LAST key accesses the last or previously viewed channel.

Chapter 4. Programming PrimeFinder™

In order to operate your home entertainment components (PRIMESTAR® receiver, TV, VCR, Laser Disc Player, Auxiliary Component) with PrimeFinder™, you must first program PrimeFinder™ to recognize these components. This takes just a few minutes by following the easy instructions below.

STEP 1: Finding the Setup Codes for your Home Entertainment Components

To turn to Chapter 8: Home Entertainment Set-Up Codes to find the brand names of your components. The brands are listed in alphabetical order. You will use these codes to program PrimeFinder™. Write your codes below for easy reference.

TV Codes
VCR/Laser Disc Player Codes
Aux Codes
PRIMESTAR®

STEP 2: Programming PrimeFinder™ to operate your TV:

1. Press and release the MODE key until the PRIMESTAR® indicator light blinks twice. Now, press and hold the MODE key until the TV indicator light blinks twice. Release the MODE key. The TV indicator light will continue to blink twice every two seconds to indicate that PrimeFinder™ is in the programming mode.

2. Using the codes from the "SETUP CODES FOR TELEVISIONS" section of Chapter 8, enter the first of the three-digit code for your brand of TV. Upon entering the first digit of your three-digit code, the TV indicator light will stop blinking and remain lit. If you enter the three-digit code correctly, the light will blink three times.

NOTE: If you do not enter the code correctly, or if you enter an invalid code, PrimeFinder™ will return to the programming mode and the TV indicator light will blink twice every two seconds. Return to Step 2 and try programming PrimeFinder™ again. If no key is pressed within 1 minute, PrimeFinder™ will terminate the programming mode and restore the product codes that were in place before programming was entered.

AIM PrimeFinder™ at your TV and press POWER. Your TV should turn on.

NOTE: If your TV does not respond, repeat steps 2-3, trying each code listed for your brand.

Remember, to operate your TV with PrimeFinder™, first press the MODE key until the TV indicator light is lit.

STEP 3: Programming PrimeFinder™ to operate your VCR or Laser Disc Player:

1. Turn on your VCR and insert a tape. If you are setting up a Laser Disc Player, turn on the Laser Disc Player and insert a disc.

2. Press and release the MODE key until the VCR indicator light blinks twice. Now, press and hold the MODE key until the VCR indicator light blinks twice. Release the MODE key. The VCR indicator light will continue to blink twice every two seconds to indicate that PrimeFinder™ is in the programming mode.

3. Using the codes from either the "SETUP CODES FOR VCRs" or "SETUP CODES FOR LASER DISC PLAYERS" sections of Chapter 8, enter the first three-digit code for your brand of VCR or Laser Disc Player. Upon entering the first digit of your three-digit code, the VCR indicator light will stop blinking and remain lit. If you enter the three-digit code correctly, the light will blink three times.

NOTE: If you do not enter the code correctly, or if you enter an invalid code, PrimeFinder™ will return to the programming mode and the VCR indicator light will blink twice every two seconds. Return to step 3 and try programming PrimeFinder™ again. If no key is pressed within 1 minute, PrimeFinder™ will terminate the programming mode and restore the product codes that were in place before programming was entered.

AIM PrimeFinder™ at your VCR or Laser Disc Player and press POWER. Your VCR or Laser Disc Player should turn off. If your original VCR or Laser Disc Player remote control does not have a POWER key, press PLAY. Your VCR or Laser Disc Player should start to play. NOTE: If your VCR or Laser Disc Player does not respond, repeat steps 2-3, trying each code listed for your brand.

Remember, to operate your VCR or Laser Disc Player with PrimeFinder™, first press the MODE key until the VCR indicator light is lit.

STEP 4: Programming PrimeFinder™ to operate your CD Player or Receiver:

1. Turn on your CD Player, Receiver, or Amplifier, if you are programming a CD Player, turn on your CD Player and insert a Compact Disc.

2. Press and release the MODE key until the VCR indicator light blinks twice. Now, press and hold the MODE key until the AUX indicator light blinks twice. Release the MODE key. The AUX indicator light will continue to blink twice every two seconds to indicate that PrimeFinder™ is in the programming mode.

3. Using the codes from either the "SETUP CODES FOR AMPLIFIERS", "SETUP CODES FOR RECEIVERS", or "SETUP CODES FOR CD PLAYERS" sections of Chapter 8, enter the first three-digit code for the component you wish to program. Upon entering the first digit of your three-digit code, the AUX indicator light will stop blinking and remain lit. If you enter the three-digit code correctly, the light will blink three times.

NOTE: If you do not enter the code correctly, or if you enter an invalid code PrimeFinder™ will return to the programming mode and the AUX indicator light will blink twice every two seconds. Return to step 3 and try programming PrimeFinder™ again.

AIM PrimeFinder™ at your Receiver or Amplifier and press POWER. Your Receiver or Amplifier should turn off. If you are setting up a CD Player, PrimeFinder™ at your CD Player and press PLAY. Your CD Player should play your disc. NOTE: If your Receiver/Amplifier or CD Player does not respond, repeat steps 2-3, trying each code listed for your brand.

Remember, to operate your Receiver, Amplifier, or CD Player with PrimeFinder™, first press the MODE key until the AUX indicator light is lit.

RESET/RESTORE FUNCTION

To reset all codes to their original factory settings:

1. Press and hold the MODE key until any of the indicator lights blinks twice. Release the MODE key. The indicator light will continue to blink twice every two seconds to indicate that PrimeFinder™ is in the programming mode.

Chapter 5. Operating a VCR, CD Player and other components with PrimeFinder™

You must program PrimeFinder™ before you can use it to operate any of your home entertainment components. For instructions on programming PrimeFinder™, refer to Chapter 4.

VCR & Laser Disc Player

1. Insert a tape or disc into your VCR or Laser Disc Player and turn the unit on. If your VCR or Laser Disc Player already holds a tape or disc you want to watch or record, you can turn it on and PrimeFinder™. See Step 2 on the reverse side.
Chapter 3. Service Key Descriptions & Functions

The keys described in this chapter are used to select and view PRIMESTAR® programming services through your PRIMESTAR® receiver. They will operate your PRIMESTAR® receiver regardless of which mode is selected.

PROGRAM BLOCK KEYS

Use the NEWS, VARIETY, MUSIC, FAMILY, LIVING, MOVIES, SPORTS, SPANISH, AUDIO and CINEMA Program Block keys to quickly access program blocks of your PRIMESTAR® channel line-up. Each key selection will tune the receiver to the first channel in the selected program block.

NOTE: When using the Program Block keys, be sure to keep PrimeFinder® pointed at your PRIMESTAR® receiver until the category you've selected appears on your screen. This may take a few seconds.

1. Press the CINEMA key (see key #11 on diagram) to Hyper-Step® to the PrimeCinema® preview channel (122), where you can see what's playing on all the PrimeCinema® channels.

2. Press the BUY key (see key #12 on diagram) to order PrimeCinema® movie or event. After you've ordered, press the ENTER key (see key #13 on diagram) to confirm your selection.

VIEW

The VIEW key displays information about the program currently showing on the selected channel, such as the name of the program, start time, time remaining, rating, etc. A second press of the VIEW key will clear the information.

NEXT

The NEXT key displays information about the program next on the selected channel, such as the program start time. A second press of the NEXT key will clear the information.

LAST

The LAST key accesses the last or previously viewed channel.

Chapter 4. Programming PrimeFinder®

In order to operate your home entertainment components (PRIMESTAR® receiver, TV, VCR/Laser Disc Player, Auxiliary Component) with PrimeFinder®, you must first program PrimeFinder® to recognize these components. This takes just a few minutes by following the easy instructions below.

STEP 1: Finding the Setup Codes for your Home Entertainment Components

Turn to Chapter 8: Home Entertainment Setup Codes to find the brand names of your components. The brands are listed in alphabetical order. You will use these codes to program PrimeFinder®. Write your codes below for easy reference.

TV Codes

VCR/Laser Disc Player Codes

AUX Codes

PRIMESTAR®

STEP 2: Programming PrimeFinder® to operate your TV:

1. Press and release the MODE key until the PRIMESTAR® indicator light blinks twice. Then, press and hold the MODE key until the TV indicator light blinks twice. Release the MODE key. The TV indicator light will continue to blink twice every two seconds to indicate that PrimeFinder® is in the programming mode.

2. Using the codes from the "SETUP CODES FOR TELEVISIONS" section of Chapter 6, enter the first of the three-digit numbers for your brand of TV. Upon entering the first digit of your three-digit code, the TV indicator light will stop blinking and remain lit. If you enter the three-digit code correctly, the light will blink three times.

NOTE: If you do not enter the code correctly, or if you enter an invalid code, PrimeFinder® will return to the programming mode and the TV indicator light will blink every two seconds. Return to step 2 and try programming PrimeFinder® again. If no key is pressed within 1 minute, PrimeFinder® will terminate the programming mode and restore the product codes that were in place before programming was entered.

Remember, to operate your TV with PrimeFinder®, first press the MODE key until the TV indicator light is lit.

STEP 3: Programming PrimeFinder® to operate your VCR or Laser Disc Player:

1. Turn on your VCR and insert a tape. If your VCR is set up as a Laser Disc Player, turn on the Laser Disc Player and insert a disc.

2. Press and release the MODE key until the TV indicator light blinks once. Next, press and hold the MODE key until the VCR/Laser Disc Player mode is selected twice. Release the MODE key. The VCR/Laser Disc Player mode will continue to blink twice every two seconds to indicate that PrimeFinder® is in the programming mode.

3. Use the codes from either the "SETUP CODES FOR VCRs" or "SETUP CODES FOR LASER DISC PLAYERS" sections of Chapter 8, enter the first three-digit code for your brand of VCR or Laser Disc Player. Upon entering the first digit of your three-digit code, the VCR/Laser Disc Player mode will stop blinking and remain lit. If you enter the three-digit code correctly, the light will blink three times.

4. NOTE: If you do not enter the code correctly, or if you enter an invalid code, PrimeFinder® will return to the programming mode and the VCR/Laser Disc Player mode will blink every two seconds. Return to step 3 and try programming PrimeFinder® again. If no key is pressed within 1 minute, PrimeFinder® will terminate the programming mode and restore the product codes that were in place before programming was entered.

Remember, to operate your VCR or Laser Disc Player with PrimeFinder®, first press the MODE key until the VCR/Laser Disc Player mode is lit.

STEP 4: Programming PrimeFinder® to operate your CD Player or Receiver:

1. Turn on your CD Player, Receiver or Amplifier. If you are programming a CD Player, turn on your CD Player and insert a Compact Disc.

2. Press and release the MODE key until the VCR indicator light blinks twice. Next, press and hold the MODE key until the AUX indicator light blinks twice. Release the MODE key. The AUX indicator light will continue to blink twice every two seconds to indicate that PrimeFinder® is in the programming mode.

3. Use the codes from either the "SETUP CODES FOR AMPLIFIERS", "SETUP CODES FOR RECEIVERS", or "SETUP CODES FOR CD PLAYERS" section of Chapter 8, enter the first three-digit code for the component you wish to program. Upon entering the first digit of your three-digit code, the AUX indicator light will stop blinking and remain lit. If you enter the three-digit code correctly, the light will blink three times.

4. NOTE: If you do not enter the code correctly, or if you enter an invalid code, PrimeFinder® will return to the programming mode and the light indicator will blink twice every two seconds. Return to step 3 and try programming PrimeFinder® again. If no key is pressed within 1 minute, PrimeFinder® will terminate the programming mode and restore the product codes that were in place before programming was entered.

Remember, to operate your Receiver/Amplifier or CD Player with PrimeFinder®, first press the MODE key until the AUX indicator light is lit.

Chapter 5. Operating a VCR, CD Player and other components with PrimeFinder®

You must program PrimeFinder® before you can operate any of your home entertainment components. For instructions on programming PrimeFinder®, refer to Chapter 4.

VCR & Laser Disc Player

1. Insert a tape or disc into your VCR or Laser Disc Player and turn the unit on. If your VCR or Laser Disc Player already holds a tape or disc you want to watch or record on, you can turn it on with PrimeFinder®. See Step 3 on the reverse side.
Chapter 6. Special Features And Functions

PrimeFinder™ offers a number of features to give you added convenience and control.

BATTERY SAVER

If the same key is pressed for more than two minutes, PrimeFinder™ will automatically shut itself off. This helps protect battery life if the unit is stuck between the cushions of a chair or sofa.

LOW BATTERY STATE

When batteries become low on power, PrimeFinder™ will respond with 5 light flashes for every key press. Your VCR, CD Player, and Auxiliary component settings will be retained upon removal of batteries.

SCAN MODE CODES

If your TV, VCR or Auxiliary component does not respond to PrimeFinder™ after trying all of the codes listed for your brand, you can quickly scan through all the listed codes to find the correct code for a particular component. For example, to search for your TV code:

1 Turn on your TV.

2 Press and release the MODE key until the PRIMESTAR indicator light blinks once. Now, press and hold the MODE key until the TV indicator light blinks twice. Release the MODE key. The indicator light will continue to blink twice every two seconds to indicate that PrimeFinder™ is in the programming mode.

3 Aim PrimeFinder™ at your TV and press POWER. If your TV turns off, press and release the MODE key to lock in your setup code. If your TV does not turn off, press CH+ to select the next available code and press POWER again. Continue to slowly press CH+ and then POWER until your TV turns off. Once your TV turns off, DO NOT PRESS CH+ again, press and release the MODE key to lock in your setup code.

NOTE: Remember, if you need to search for your VCR or Auxiliary components code, repeat steps 2-3, making sure that the appropriate indicator light is lit before beginning the search. If no key is pressed within 1 minute, PrimeFinder™ will terminate the programming mode and restore the product codes that were in place before programming was entered.

Chapter 7. Troubleshooting

If you are having problems with PrimeFinder™, first check this list of common problems and their solutions. If you still have the problem, call the PRIMESTAR Help Line at 1-800-PRIMESTAR.

PROBLEM: The indicator lights are not simultaneously when you press a key or the indicator lights blink three times whenever you press a key.

SOLUTION: PrimeFinder™ does not operate your home entertainment component.

Try all of the codes listed for your brand of home entertainment component in Chapter 6. Make sure the home entertainment component you are setting up is able to be operated with an infrared remote control.

PROBLEM: PrimeFinder™ is not performing commands properly.

SOLUTION: Try all of the codes listed for your brand of home entertainment component in the "List of Codes" section. Many setup codes may allow a degree of operation. However, any setup code will work correctly with your home entertainment component.

PROBLEM: You have a combination TV/VCR and are having trouble programming it.

SOLUTION: Try the VCR setup code for your brand. However, some combination units will require both a TV code to operate the volume and a VCR code for other functions.

PROBLEM: Your VCR is not responding.

SOLUTION: To prevent accidental recording, you must press the REC button two.

PROBLEM: The CH+ keys do not work with your RCA television.

SOLUTION: Due to RCA design (1983-1987), only the original remote control will control these functions.

PROBLEM: You have problems changing channels in your TV mode.

SOLUTION: If your original remote control requires an ENTER button when changing channels, press the ENTER key on PrimeFinder after you enter the channel number.

PROBLEM: You want to store PrimeFinder™ to original factory settings and to clear the memory of all setup codes.

SOLUTION: Make sure you are aiming PrimeFinder™ at your home entertainment component and that you are within 15 feet from using PrimeFinder.

Press and hold the MODE key until the RST indicator blinks twice. Release the MODE key. You can now enter 10 seconds to indicate that PrimeFinder™ is in the programming mode. Once Code 0-0-0-1, this will reset PrimeFinder™ to the original factory settings.