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1 RECHARGEABLE APPLIANCES

> CAUTION

Certain rechargers for small nickel cadmium batteries can be damaged if connected to the unit. Two types of equipment are particularly prone to this problem:

1. Small battery operated appliances that can be plugged directly into an AC receptacle for recharging, including flashlights, razors, and night lights.

2. Certain battery chargers for battery packs used in hand power tools, specifically those that have a WARNING label stating that dangerous voltages are present at the battery terminals.

Problems do not occur with the vast majority of battery operated tools, most of which use a separate charger or transformer that plugs into an AC receptacle and produces a low voltage output. If the label on your tool’s AC adapter or charger states that it produces a low voltage AC or DC output (less than 30 volts) you can safely power the charger.

In order to check the performance of your unit before using it, please have the following on hand:

1. A 12 volt DC power source (such as a vehicle battery).

2. A test load such as a lamp or other small appliance that can be plugged into the AC receptacle on the inverter.

Power Source

You will need an 10.4 to 14.4 volt DC power source capable of supplying enough current to run the test load. As a rough guide, divide the wattage of the test load by 10 to get the current (in amperes) that the power source must supply. A fully charged standard automotive battery will work fine.

Before Using Your Inverter

Connecting to the Power Source

Your unit connects directly into the cigarette lighter socket of your car.

STOP WARNING

Do not connect to the power source if flammable fumes are present. Explosion or fire may result.
Quick Checkout (continued)

To connect your inverter to the power source:

1. If the power source is a DC power supply, switch it off.
2. Insert the cigarette lighter plug into your vehicle’s cigarette lighter.

Testing

The inverter will come on automatically. It should supply power to the load. If the inverter does not appear to work properly, refer to the Troubleshooting Guide on page 7.

The location where you should use your unit must be:

- **dry**—Do not use the unit where water can drip or splash on it.
- **cool**—Ambient air temperature should be between 30° and 105° F (0° and 40° C). The cooler the better.
- **ventilated**—Allow at least 1 inch (3 cm) of clearance around the unit for proper air flow. Make sure that ventilation openings on the ends of the unit are not obstructed.

**CAUTION**

To prevent fire, do not cover or obstruct ventilation openings.
**CONTROLS & INDICATORS**

**Powering Up**
To apply power to the CPI190, simply plug in to 12 Volt DC source (cigarette lighter).

**Power/Fault Indicator**
The “fault” indicator of your CPI190 will light whenever the unit detects excessively high or low input voltage, or begins to overheat.

**CAUTION NOTE:** Make sure you unplug inverter from power source before you leave your vehicle.

**AC Output:**
Your CPI190 will deliver 130 watts continuously. *(NOTE: the wattage rating applies to resistive loads.)*

**USB Output:**
5 Volt continuous output.

**Input Voltage**
Your CPI190 will operate from input voltage ranging from 10.4 to 14.4 volts. Optimum performance occurs when the voltage is between 12 and 14 volts.

The inverter will automatically shut down if the input voltage drops below 10.0 ± 0.3 volts. This protects the battery from being over-discharged. The inverter will restart when the input voltage exceeds 12.0 ± 0.3 volts.

The inverter will also shut down if the input voltage increases to 15.5 ± 0.5 volts. This helps protect the unit from damage due to excessive input voltage. Although the inverter is protected in this way, it may still be damaged should the input voltage exceed 16 volts.

**Automatic Shutdown**
The unit will automatically go into thermal shutdown if it becomes overheated due to excessive input voltage, poor circulation or high ambient temperature.
Maintaining Your Inverter

Your CPI190 requires very little maintenance to keep it operating properly. The exterior of the unit should be cleaned periodically with a damp cloth to prevent accumulation of dust and dirt. Keep vents and fans free from dust or debris.

Service

You can receive technical assistance with your unit through one of our customer support services:

- **Automated Help Desk** is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week via e-mail at: productinfo@cobra.com.
- **On-line answers** to frequently asked questions can be found at: www.cobra.com
- **Customer Service Operators** are available at 773-889-3087 Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Central Time.
- **Questions can be faxed** to 773-622-2269.
- **Automated Technical Assistance** is available 24 hours, 7 days a week via e-mail at: productinfo@cobra.com.
- **On-line answers** to frequently asked questions can be found at: www.cobra.com

### Problem/ Symptom  Possible Causes  Solution

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<th>Overload</th>
<th>Reduce the load.</th>
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<td>No output voltage</td>
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**WARNING:** This product contains lead, a chemical known to the State of California to cause cancer and birth defects or other reproductive harm. Wash hands after handling.
If you suspect that your unit requires service, please call 773-889-3087 \textit{BEFORE} shipping it to Cobra®. This will ensure that you receive service as quickly as possible.

If you are asked to send your unit to the Cobra® factory, please follow these steps:

1. Send the complete unit.
2. For warranty repair, enclose some form of proof-of-purchase, such as a photocopy or carbon copy of a sales receipt. If you send the original receipt, it cannot be returned.
3. Enclose a typed or clearly written description of the problem you are having with your unit, plus the name and address where you want the unit returned.
4. Pack the unit securely to prevent damage during transit. If possible, use the original packing materials.
5. Ship prepaid and insured using a traceable carrier such as United Parcel Service (UPS), Federal Express, or first class mail with delivery confirmation. Ship to: Cobra® Factory Service, Cobra Electronics Corporation, 6500 West Cortland Street, Chicago, IL 60707 USA
6. Please allow 3-4 weeks before contacting us about the status of your service. Call 773-889-3087 for assistance.

For each piece of equipment you will be powering with your CPI190, you must determine the battery’s capacity (how long the battery can deliver a specific amount of current). For example, automotive batteries usually provide 25 amperes of current. A battery with a reserve capacity of 180 minutes can deliver 25 amperes for 180 minutes before it is completely discharged.

Calculate the total watt-hours of energy consumption (power $\times$ operating time), then divide the watt-hours by 10 to determine how many 12 volt ampere hours will be consumed.
# SPECIFICATIONS

## Specifications

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**NOTES:** All protection is automatically recovered. To protect the battery, if the unit needs to be restarted after low voltage protection, the voltage of DC input should be above 12V.
Congratulations
Thank you for purchasing the CPI190 Power Inverter from Cobra®. When used properly, your unit will give you many years of reliable service. The operating features include:

- USB 5V/2.4A Output
- AC receptacle
- Low battery shutdown
- Automatic thermal protection/shutdown

How Your Cobra® Power Inverter Works
The Cobra® Power Inverter takes low voltage DC (direct current) power from your automobile or other low voltage power supply and converts it to standard 110 volt AC (alternating current) power like the electrical current you have in your home. Simply by plugging your unit into your vehicle's cigarette lighter socket, you can use many of your household appliances and electronic products in automobiles, RVs, boats, tractors, trucks, and virtually anywhere else.

Customer Assistance
You can receive technical assistance with your unit through one of our customer support services:

- **Automated Help Desk** is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week at 773-889-3087.
- **Customer Service Operators** are available at 773-889-3087 Monday - Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Central Time.
- Questions can be faxed to 773-822-2269.
- **Automated Technical Assistance** is available 24 hrs., 7 days a week via e-mail at: productinfo@cobra.com.
- **On-line answers** to frequently asked questions can be found at: www.cobra.com.

For additional Customer Service information, see page 8-9.

LIMITED 1-YEAR WARRANTY
Cobra Electronics Corporation
6500 West Cortland Street
Chicago, Illinois 60707 USA

Cobra Electronics Corporation warrants that its Cobra® Power Inverter, and the component parts thereof, will be free of defects in material and workmanship for a period of one (1) year from the date of consumer purchase. This warranty may be enforced by the first consumer purchaser, provided that the product is utilized within the U.S.A. Cobra® will, without charge, repair or replace, at its option, a defective inverter upon delivery to the Cobra® Factory Service Department, accompanied by proof of the date of first consumer purchase, such as duplicated sales receipt. You must pay initial shipping charges required to ship the product for warranty service, but the return charges will be at Cobra's expense, if the product is repaired or replaced under warranty. This warranty gives you specific legal rights, and you may also have other rights which vary from state to state.
INTRODUCTION
Nothing Comes Close to a Cobra®

Operating Instructions for Your Cobra 130 Watt Traveler® Power Inverter

MODEL CPI190

For Best Results
Your CPI190 must be used properly in order to provide the best possible results. Please read all instructions carefully before using the unit. Pay special attention to CAUTION and WARNING statements in this manual.

CAUTION statements specify conditions that could cause damage to the unit or other equipment.

WARNING statements identify conditions that could result in personal injury or loss of life.

Cobra® 130W Output Waveform

This unit’s output waveform is referred to as “square wave” or “modified sine wave.” It is a stepped waveform designed to have characteristics similar to the sine wave shape of utility power. A waveform of this nature is suitable for most AC loads (including linear and switching power supplies used in electronic equipment, transformers and motors).

CAUTION

WARNING

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