

WHL ID	#5		
Manufacturer	Sony		SONY
Model	WM-7		
Nick	R2-D2		
Band	Pioneers		
Year	1982		80's
Made in	Japan		
Initial price	36000 ¥		Now 515 \$

Battery	2AA	
Battery life	5h (with 2AA)	
Colors	black silver	
Dimensions	79.6*134*31.1 mm (332 cm³)	
Weight	410 gr	
Orientation	standing/portrait	
Window	yes	
Frame	metal	
Case	metal	
Carry	case	
Expandable	no	
External compartment	no	
Head	Bi-azimuth adjustable	
Drive	3 motor	
Tape selector	Manual switch	
Waterproof	no	
Frequency range	40-15000@1,@2,@4 Hz	
Power output	2x25 mW	
Speaker	no	
Tape mechanism	MT-WM7-23	

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DC in yes
Record by input no
Record by int mic no
Cue no
Balance (L/R) no
Equalizer no
Bass no
Auto volume no
Auto reverse yes
Anti rolling no
AMS no
Blank skip no
Logic control yes
Hold lock yes
Noise reduction Dolby B
Indicator led
Radio no
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Type Supra-aural
Remote control yes
Dual jacks no
Wireless no
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The first ever Walkman to have auto reverse and (basic) inline remote control unit. It is one of the most complex of all the Walkman models, and the only one model ever to be released with 3 motors. Only one motor is used for tape transport though.

With the WM-7 came several new functions: it was the first with full electronic (logic) controls, auto-reverse, Dolby B noise reduction and a "hold" function that blocked all the keys when set.

The designers used a DC-DC converter to step up the voltage, as with the TC-D5. The converter was bulky, so it was placed in a space next to the battery holder. This allowed the Walkman to be powered by 2 AA batteries only.

Operation was simple. Providing the safety switch was not set to "hold", pressing either of the two play keys would start the tape in the direction desired. Two LED indicators showed both the tape direction and the battery condition. Winding in either direction could be initiated instantly without damage as all movements were synchronised electronically.

The remote control was a "first" and worked using a special pair of headphones which contained a control unit in line with the cable. The stop and reverse functions could be triggered from this device. The system operated by open-circuiting either the left or the right headphone channel. Because of this, the WM-7 could only be used with an amplifier or loudspeaker system with a special adaptor. Inserting or removing a regular 3.5mm jack will stop any operation.

The WM-7 introduced some new and interesting features, at the cost of massive complexity. It's amazing how soon many of these features became available on lower cost, mid-range models.

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Additional notes Nickname because of the noisy mechanism.
Total current without cassette: 140 150 140 140

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Also known WM 7 WM_7 WM7 WM-7



Three video thumbnails are displayed horizontally. The left thumbnail shows a silver Sony Walkman WM-7 with a cassette tape inserted, overlaid with the text 'part 1' and 'I'm a robot'. The middle thumbnail shows a person's hands holding a silver Sony Walkman WM-7, overlaid with the text 'SONY WALKMAN WM-7 ISSUES'. The right thumbnail shows a silver Sony Walkman WM-7 with a cassette tape inserted, overlaid with the text 'SONY WALKMAN WM 7'.

