

dot & pals

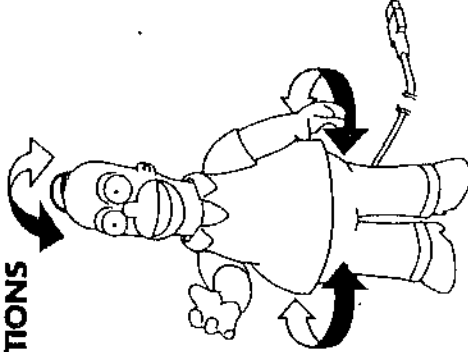
Homer

Your desktop sidekick

INSTRUCTIONS

Your Homer Simpson Dot Pal is the ultimate desktop sidekick! Homer will interact with most popular applications while you work and play on your personal computer and have something to say about it!

A dual format CD-ROM for plug-and-play installation is included for personal computers running Windows® 98, ME, 2000 or Mac OS 9.0 and higher. A calendar application is included that lets Homer remind you of important dates.

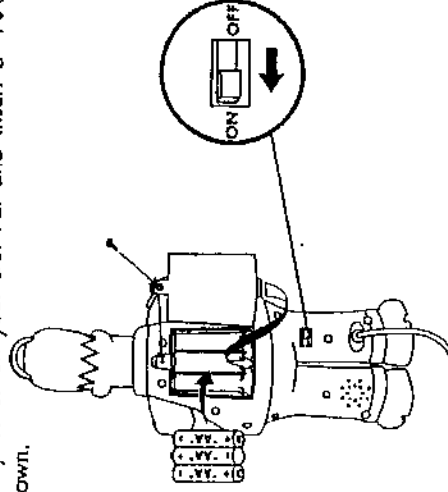


Please read and follow the setup instructions below and get ready for some Homer-active fun!

ASSEMBLY BY AN ADULT IS REQUIRED

INSERTING BATTERIES

Open the battery cover on your Dot Pal and insert 3 "AA" batteries as shown.



Ages 6 and up
Asst. No. 10010
Stock No. 10011

Playmates

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Replace the battery cover and screw. Please make sure the switch on the back of the figure's leg is set to the ON position.
*NOTE: if your Dot Pal is moving slowly or not at all, but is still playing audio, the batteries should be replaced.

Battery Warning:

- do not use rechargeable batteries;
- non-rechargeable batteries are not to be recharged;
- different types of batteries or new and used batteries are not to be mixed;
- only batteries of the same or equivalent type as recommended are to be used;
- batteries are to be inserted with the correct polarity;
- exhausted batteries are to be removed from the toy;
- the supply terminals are not to be short-circuited.

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

PC with an available USB port
Windows® 98, ME or 2000
Pentium 200 MHz or higher processor
32 MB of RAM
40 MB of hard-disk space
CD-ROM or DVD-ROM drive

Mac with an available USB port
Mac OS 9.0 or higher
Power PC or higher processor
32 MB of RAM
40 MB of hard-disk space
CD-ROM or DVD-ROM drive

Optional:

28.8K or higher speed modem and Internet connection
Sound card and speakers, or USB speakers

CD-ROM INSTALLATION

Note: CD-ROM must be installed and handled by an adult. Please use and store the disc with care.

Insert the Dot Pals setup disk into your CD-ROM drive.

If you have the Auto Run feature enabled on your CD-ROM the installation will begin automatically. If not, simply run the setup application from the CD-ROM.

Follow the instructions on-screen during the installation.

(Note: On the Mac version, click the Vise Installer screen to continue the installation.)

During the installation you will be prompted to plug the USB cable into an available USB port.

COMPATIBLE APPLICATIONS

Your Homer Dot Pal will recognize and respond to activity in the following popular applications:

Windows

Word 2000
Outlook 2000
Quicken 2000
Works 6.0

Excel 2000
PhotoShop 5.0
Internet Explorer 5.0
Outlook Express 4.5

Power Point 2000

Illustrator 9.0

Netscape 5.0

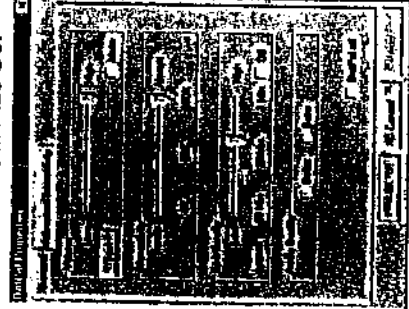
Outlook Express 4.5

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Mac OS
Word 98
Outlook 98
Internet Explorer 5.0
Excel 98
Illustrator 9.0
Netscape 5.0
Power Point 98
PhotoShop 5.5
Outlook Express 4.5

CONTROL PANEL

You can control the interaction of Your Dot Pal using the Control Panel. This is found on the Task Bar in Windows or under Control Panels in Mac OS.



TURNING YOUR DOT PAL ON / OFF

If you wish to turn your Dot Pal off you can do this with the switch on the back of the leg of the figure. You may also turn off your Dot Pal using the software control panel. For Homer to work properly, make sure that the switch on the figure is ON and the control panel has the Dot Pal ON.

VOLUME CONTROL

You can control the volume of your Dot Pal by dragging the volume control to the desired level. You can also check the volume by clicking on the "test" button to randomly play a file. You may also mute the volume by clicking on the "mute" box.

INTERACTIVITY CONTROL

You can globally control the level of interactivity for your Dot Pal and the supported applications by dragging the control to the desired level from "Rarely" to "Always."

SPONTANEITY CONTROL

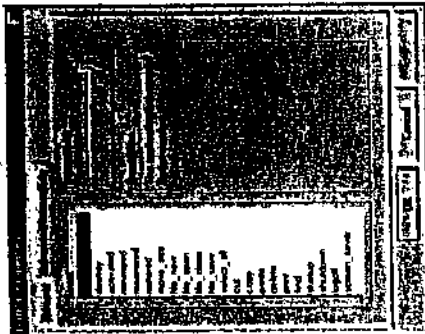
This control will select how often you would like your Dot Pal to randomly say something while your computer is running regardless of whether there is any input from the keyboard or mouse. You may also turn this feature off by clicking on the "Off" box to put a check there.

AUDIO QUALITY

In most cases this should be left on the "Better" setting. If you are running a machine that is close to the minimum system requirements for the Dot Pal you may want to choose the "Safer" setting to reduce the risk of errors in playback.

ADVANCED INTERACTIVITY

In this section of the control panel you may individually adjust the level of interactivity for a specific type of event for the applications supported.



CALENDAR APPLICATION

Included in the CD-ROM installation is a calendar application that will let your Homer Dot Pal remind you of important dates like Birthdays, Anniversaries, meetings, appointments, reminders and major Holidays.

You can find the calendar on the Start menu under Dot Pals or in the Dot Pals folder.

Click on the "New Event" button to begin entering activities in your Dot Pal calendar.

Use the pull-down features to schedule a reminder and when Homer should notify you before the event.

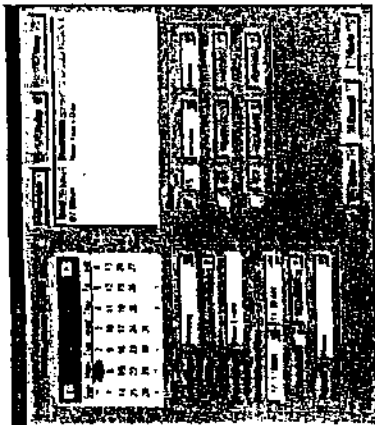
You can name the event by typing in the "Description" text field.

To delete an event, select it in the window and click on the "Delete" button.

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SOFTWARE UPDATES

You may check periodically for software updates for your Homer Dot Pal including new vocabulary, interactive content and desktop utilities at the Playmates Toys website - www.playmatestoy.com.

UNINSTALLING YOUR DOT PAL

From the Start menu go to the SETTINGS section and select the CONTROL PANEL folder and open the ADD/REMOVE PROGRAMS property window.

From the list you see there, select the "Dot Pal Homer Uninstall" item and click the "Add/Remove" button and follow the directions. Before re-starting your machine you should also follow the same procedure for the "Dot Pal Software Uninstall" and the "Dot Pal USB Drivers" items. When you have successfully uninstalled all three items, restart your machine.
(For Mac OS user - Under CONTROL PANELS go to the EXTENSIONS MANAGER and disable all the Dot Pal items by "unchecking" them under the **Control Panel**, **Extensions**, and **Startup** sections. Then restart your machine.)

*NOTE: if after installing your Dot Pal you install new supported software (like Office 2000,) you may need to uninstall and then re-install your Dot Pal using the supplied CD-ROM in order to take advantage of the compatibility with the newly installed applications.

TROUBLESHOOTING

If your Dot Pal is not functioning properly, please check the following:

- Check to see that the USB cable is plugged into an available USB port.
- Try plugging the USB cable into a USB port on the computer itself rather than a hub or peripheral type port.
- Make sure the switch on the back of the leg of the Dot Pal is set to the ON position.
- Make sure the "Dot Pal off" and "Mute" boxes on the Control Panel do not have checks in them.
- Try unplugging the USB cable from the USB port, wait 10 seconds, and then plug it back in.
- Check and replace the 3 "AA" batteries in the back of the Dot Pal.

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For Windows 2000 users:

- During the installation of your Dot Pal, you may see a message asking for "CD-ROM Disk 1," or "The file DOTPAL.SYS on Disk 1 is needed." If necessary, click on the "Browse" button to point the system to the DOTPAL.SYS file on your CD-ROM drive, otherwise click "OK" to proceed with the installation.
- When using your Dot Pal with Microsoft Excel 2000 under Windows 2000, opening Excel and immediately exiting may cause your Dot Pal to appear to quit working. Restarting your system will correct this.

For technical support or questions regarding your Dot Pal, please send e-mail to: toys@playmatestoy.com.

Caring for your Homer Simpson Dot Pal

- To clean the figure, wipe with a damp cloth only.
- Do not immerse the Dot Pal in water

This device complies with Part 15 of the FCC Rules. Operation is subject to the following two conditions: (1) this device may not cause harmful interference, and (2) this device must accept any interference received, including interference that may cause undesired operation.

WARNING: Changes or modifications to this unit not expressly approved by the party responsible for compliance could void the user's authority to operate the equipment.

NOTE: This equipment has been tested and found to comply with the limits for Class B digital device, pursuant to Part 15 of the FCC rules. These limits are designed to provide reasonable protection against harmful interference in a residential installation. This equipment generates, use and can radiate radio frequency energy and, if not installed and used in accordance with the instructions, may cause harmful interference to radio communications.

However, there is no guarantee that interference will not occur in a particular installation. If this equipment does cause harmful interference to radio or television reception, which can be determined by turning the equipment off and on, the user is encouraged to try to correct the interference by one or more of the following measures:

- ☐ Reorient or relocate the receiving antenna.
- ☐ Increase the separation between the equipment and receiver.
- ☐ Connect the equipment into an outlet on a circuit different from that to which the receiver is connected.
- ☐ Consult the dealer or an experienced radio/TV technician for help.

The Responsible party information:

Playmates Toys Inc., 611 Anton Blvd., Suite 600, Costa Mesa, CA 92626.
Tel: (714) 428-2000