# Owner's Guide



**T9700S** AND **T9700HRT** Platform treadmills

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**C** ongratulations on choosing a VISION FITNESS Treadmill. You've taken an important step in developing and sustaining an exercise program! Your Treadmill is a tremendously effective tool for achieving your personal fitness goals. Regular use of your Treadmill can improve the quality of your life in so many ways...

Here are just a few of the health benefits of aerobic exercise:

- Weight Loss
- A Healthier Heart
- Improved Muscle Tone
- Increased Daily Energy Levels
- Reduced Stress
- Help In Countering Anxiety and Depression
- An Improved Self Image

The key to reaping these benefits is to develop the exercise habit. Your new Treadmill will help you eliminate the obstacles that prevent you from getting in your exercise time. Snow and rain and darkness won't interfere with your workout when you have your Treadmill in the comfort of your home. This Owner's Guide provides you with basic information on starting an exercise program. A more complete knowledge of your new Treadmill will assist you in realizing your goal of a healthy lifestyle.

Service to your Treadmill should only be performed by your VISION FITNESS retailer. Please contact your authorized VISION FITNESS retailer should service be required. If a question or problem arises which cannot be handled by your VISION FITNESS retailer, please contact us:

VISION FITNESS P.O. Box 280 500 South C.P. Avenue Lake Mills, WI 53551 Ph: 1.800.335.4348 Fax: 1.920.648.3373 www.visionfitness.com

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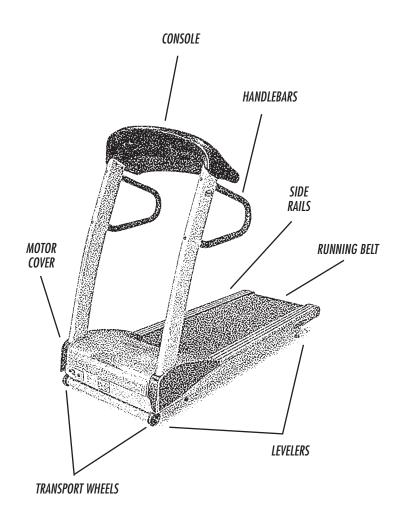
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### **IMPORTANT SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS SAVE THESE INSTRUCTIONS**

When using an electrical product, basic precautions should always be followed, including the following:

Read all instructions before using this exercise product.

# **WARNING!** To reduce the risk of burns, fire, electrical shock or injury

to persons:

- Use this exercise product for its intended use as described in this Owner's Guide. Do not use attachments not recommended by the manufacturer.
- Never drop or insert any object into any opening.
- Do not remove the Treadmill motor covers or roller covers. Service should be performed only by an authorized VISION FITNESS retailer.
- Never operate this Treadmill if it has a damaged cord or plug, if it is not working properly, if it has been damaged, or immersed in water. Return the Treadmill to a retailer for examination and repair.
- Keep the cord away from heated surfaces.
- Do not use outdoors.
- To disconnect, turn the switch to the OFF position, then remove plug from outlet.
- Never place the power cord under carpeting or place any object on top of the power cord, which may pinch and damage it.
- Unplug your VISION FITNESS Treadmill before moving it.

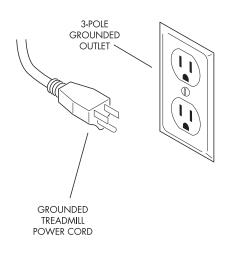
#### CHILDREN

- Keep children off your VISION FITNESS Treadmill at all times.
- When the VISION FITNESS Treadmill is in use, young children and pets should be kept at least 10 feet away.

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#### **POWER REQUIREMENTS**

This product is for use on a nominal 120-volt circuit, and has a grounding plug that looks like the plug illustrated below. An improper connection of the equipment grounding conductor can result in a risk of an electrical shock. Do not modify the plug that was provided with this product. If this plug does not fit into your outlet, have a qualified electrician install the proper outlet. Adapters, extension cords and surge protectors should not be used with this product. Also, a GFI protected receptacle should not be used. It is recommended to use a 20 amp dedicated circuit.



#### OTHER SAFETY TIPS FOR YOUR VISION FITNESS TREADMILL

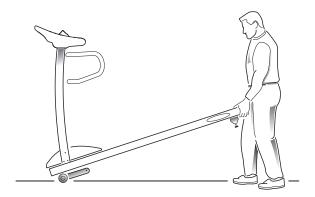
**CAUTION!:** If you experience chest pains, nausea, dizziness or shortness of breath, stop exercising immediately and consult your physician before continuing.

- Do not wear clothing that might catch on any part of the Treadmill.
- Read this Owner's Guide before operating this Treadmill.

#### MOVING YOUR VISION FITNESS TREADMILL

Your VISION FITNESS Treadmill has a pair of transport wheels built into the front legs. To move, firmly grasp the back end of the frame, carefully lift and roll.

**CAUTION:** Our Treadmills are well-built and heavy, weighing up to 300 lbs.! Use care and additional help if necessary.



#### PLACEMENT IN YOUR HOME

It is important that you place your Treadmill in a comfortable and inviting room. Your Treadmill is designed to use minimal floor space. Many people will place their Treadmills facing the TV or a picture window. If at all possible, avoid putting your Treadmill in an unfinished basement. To make exercise a desirable daily activity for you, the Treadmill should be in an attractive setting.

**NOTE:** If you place your Treadmill facing out from a wall, you should leave 3 feet between the wall and the Treadmill to ensure safe operation.

#### LEVELING

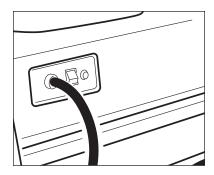
The Treadmill should be level for optimum use. Once you have placed the Treadmill where you intend to use it, raise or lower one or both of the adjustable levelers located on the back of the Treadmill frame. A carpenter's level is recommended. If your Treadmill is not level, the running belt may not track properly. Once you have leveled the Treadmill, lock the levelers in place by tightening the nuts against the frame.

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#### POWER

ALL MODELS

Ensure that your Treadmill is properly connected to a power outlet, then turn on the Power switch, located at the front of the main frame.



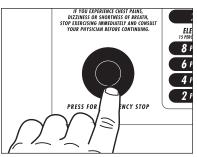
#### EMERGENCY STOP

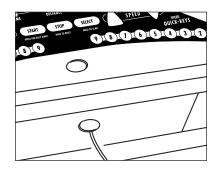
If at any time you need to stop the Treadmill quickly, simply press the red Emergency Stop button. This will instantly cut all power and the Treadmill will come to a stop. To resume your workout, you will need to re-enter any data.

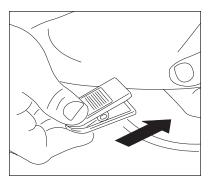
#### SAFETY MAGNET

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Your VISION FITNESS Treadmill will not start unless the Safety Magnet is inserted into the circle in the console overlay. You should attach the clip end to your clothing. If at any time you need to stop the Treadmill quickly simply pull the Safety Magnet off the console. This will cut all power to the Treadmill and it will come to a complete stop. To resume your workout, place the Safety Magnet back in place. This will send you back to the start-up mode.







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#### T9700S & T9700HRT FEEDBACK DISPLAY

#### ALPHANUMERIC MESSAGE CENTER

This is a display that will scroll the operation instructions in the top center display window. It will also display your feedback when the LED next to the appropriate word is lit.

	T9700 <b>HRT</b> )	)	
TIME 🔘	¶ĤÊART RATE* 🔘	DISTANCE 🔘	
$\overline{\mathcal{C}\mathcal{C}\mathcal{J}\mathcal{H}}$	128	Ē.5	
	CALORIES 🔵	AVG SPEED	
	PROFILE		

#### TIME

Shown as Minutes:Seconds. View the Time remaining or the Time elapsed in your workout.

#### DISTANCE

Shown as Miles or Kilometers. View Distance traveled during workout.

#### CALORIES

Shown as estimated accumulated Calories burned during workout.

#### HEART RATE

Shown as Beats-per-Minute. You can monitor your Heart Rate at any time during a workout by using the Heart Rate Chest Strap or gripping the Heart Rate Sensors on the front handlebar.

#### AVERAGE SPEED

Shown as Miles per Hour or Kilometers per Hour. Equals accumulated Distance ÷ elapsed Time. Corresponds to simulated outdoor walking or running Speed.

#### PACE

Shown as Time (Minutes:Seconds) required to travel 1 mile at current Speed.

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#### *T9700S & T9700HRT* FEEDBACK DISPLAY

#### **ELEVATION**

Shown as percentage of incline, Elevation is visible in the left-hand LED window. Indicates how steeply inclined the running surface is, to simulate walking/running on a hill.

#### SPEED

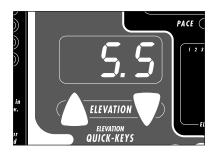
Shown as Miles/Hour or Kilometers/Hour, Speed is visible in the right-hand LED window. Indicates how fast the running surface is moving, to simulate outdoor walking/running.

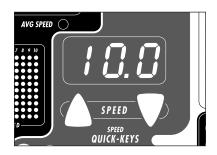
#### PROFILE MATRIX WINDOW 10 X 21

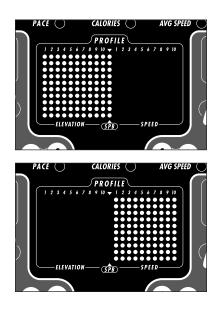
The Left dots #1-10 will show an Elevation Profile in 10 segments in ORANGE. This profile is not an exact representation of the elevation profile, but just a bar graph.

The Right dots #1-10 will show a Speed Profile in 10 segments in RED. This profile is not an exact representation of the speed profile, but just a bar graph.

(continued on next page.)





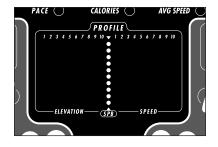


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#### *T9700S & T9700HRT* FEEDBACK DISPLAY

#### **PROFILE MATRIX WINDOW 10 X 21**

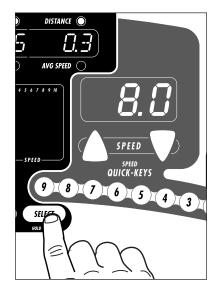
The Center column will be the Segment Progress Bar. The bar will be displayed in GREEN and shows how much time is left in your current segment. This will take the segment time and divide it into 10 dots and as you complete more of the segment more of the dots are lit.



For example: if your workout is 10 minutes long, each segment is 1 minute long. The Segment Progress Bar will then divide that 1 minute into 10 dots of 6 seconds per dot. The dots would clear and start counting up as each segment passes. There would be an audio beep to signal the segment change.

#### SCAN FUNCTION

To scan through the functions during your workout, simply press the SELECT button. To continuously Scan, press and hold until the Console double-beeps (about 2 seconds.)



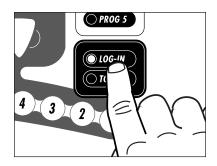
#### **T9700S & T9700HRT FEATURES**

#### **USER LOG-IN**

The console on the *T9700S* and *T9700HRT* has a special feature that allows you to Log-In and save all data from your workout. To use this function follow these steps.

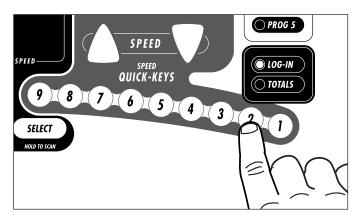
#### PRESS LOG-IN BUTTON

When selected, the green LED next to the button will be lit. Use the Arrow keys to choose a user I.D. number (1-10). This will appear in the Alphanumeric Message Center. Then press SELECT. Press START or use arrows to select time of workout.



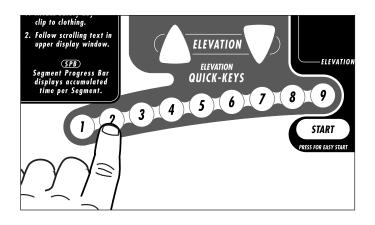
#### SPEED QUICK KEYS

After pressing the Start button, you can change the speed of the treadmill by pressing one of the Speed Quick Key buttons numbered 1-9. Each key represents a mile/kilometer per hour. For example, when you press 3, the treadmill will adjust the speed to 3 mph/kmph.



#### **ELEVATION QUICK KEYS**

After pressing the Start button, you can change the elevation of the treadmill by pressing one of the Elevation Quick Key buttons numbered 1-9. Each key represents a % incline. For example if you press 3, the treadmill will elevate to a 3% incline.



#### CONTACT HR BAR

Using the contact heart rate bar will give you a quick view of your heart rate. To use the contact heart rate bar, just grab the metal handgrips. Your heart rate will appear in the Alphanumeric Message Center. Your heart rate is an excellent indicator of exercise intensity. For more information about your heart rate and exercise, please see Page 38 of this Owner's Guide.

**NOTE:** For the Heart Rate Training programs you must use the chest transmitter. See Page 40.

#### **CARDIO PORT**

A Cardio Port is located on the back of the console that is compatible to entertainment protocol such as Cardio Theater. The top port is the active port to use for this function.

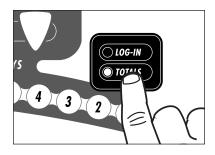
#### **T9700S FEATURES**

#### **USER TOTALS BUTTON**

To use this function you will need to use the same User Log-In code and follow these three steps.

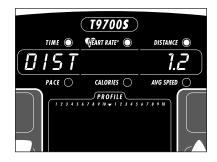
#### PRESS TOTALS BUTTON

When selected, the orange LED next to the button will be lit. Use the Arrow keys to enter your User I.D. Number. This is the same number that you use to log-in before you begin working out. Then press SELECT.



#### TOTALS ARE DISPLAYED

Now your accumulated totals for Distance, Hours, Calories, and Average Speed are displayed. They will scroll across the Alphanumeric Message Center.

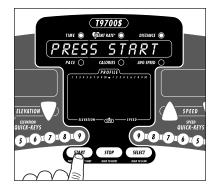


#### **RESET USER TOTALS**

When reviewing your user totals, simply press and hold the STOP key on the overlay. This will clear the user total information.

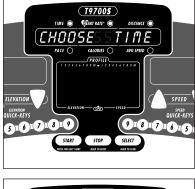
#### T9700S EASY START

To start the *T9700S*, simply press START; the Treadmill will start and Time will count up.



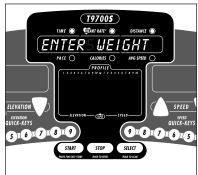
#### **CHOOSING A TIME**

Choose Time using Arrow keys and press SELECT. The Time window will blink to let you know what time you have input. Time will count down.



#### **ENTERING YOUR WEIGHT**

Enter weight using Arrows and press START. The Alphanumeric Message Center window will display "Weight Ibs. 150" to let you know what Weight you have input. After you press START the Matrix will display a 3,2,1 count down and "beep". The belt will start after the count down



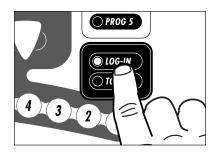
#### **T9700HRT FEATURES**

#### **USER LOG-IN**

The console on the *T9700HRT* has a special feature that allows you to Log-In and save all data from your workout. To use this function follow these steps.

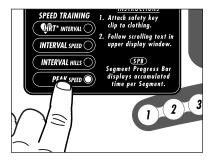
#### PRESS LOG-IN BUTTON

When selected, the green LED next to the button will be lit. Use the Arrow keys to choose a user I.D. number (1-10). This will appear in the Alphanumeric Message Center. Then press SELECT.



#### **CHOOSE A PROGRAM**

Select the desired program by using one of the Program Quick-Keys or press START to enter the Manual mode.



*T9700HRT* 

#### **T9700HRT FEATURES**

#### **USER TOTALS BUTTON**

To use this function you will need to use the same User Log-In code and follow these three steps.

#### PRESS TOTALS BUTTON

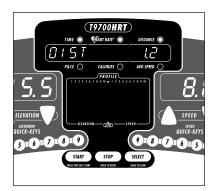
When selected, the orange LED next to the button will be lit. Use the Arrow keys to enter your User I.D. Number. This is the same number that you use to log-in before you begin working out. Then press SELECT.

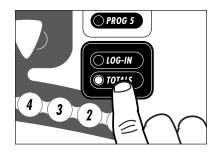
#### TOTALS ARE DISPLAYED

Now your accumulated totals for Distance, Hours, Calories, and Average Speed are displayed. They will scroll across the Alphanumeric Message Center.

#### **RESET USER TOTALS**

When reviewing your user totals, simply press and hold the STOP key on the overlay. This will clear the user total information.

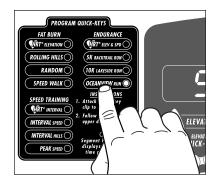






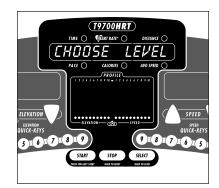
#### **CHOOSE A PROGRAM**

Select the desired program by using one of the Quick-Keys or user program keys. You may also press START to enter the Manual mode.



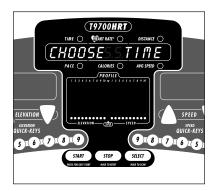
#### **CHOOSING A LEVEL**

Choose Level using Arrow keys and press SELECT. The elevation & speed window will display the programs maximum elevation & speed. The Alphanumeric Message Center will also display "Level 1", etc..



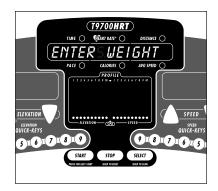
#### CHOOSING A TIME

Choose Time using Arrow keys and press SELECT. The Time window will blink to let the user know what time they have input.



#### **ENTERING YOUR WEIGHT**

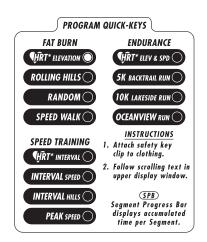
Enter weight using Arrows and press START. The Alphanumeric Message Center window will display "Weight lbs. 150" to let the user know what their Weight is. After you press START the Matrix will display a 3,2,1 count down and "beep". The belt will start after the count down



#### **T9700HRT PROGRAM DETAILS**

#### **PROGRAM QUICK-KEYS**

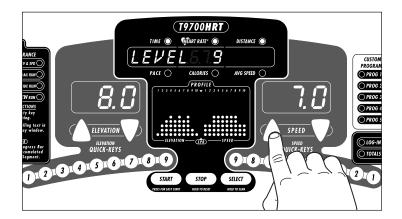
We have made choosing a program simple and easy with our program Quick-Key feature. All you need to do is press one of the pre-set program Quick-Keys and you are on your way to starting your program. We have divided our programs into three categories; Fat Burn, Speed Training, and Endurance. By doing this you now have a quick reference on what type of workout you will be doing.



#### PROGRAM LEVELS

All programs, except for Heart Rate Training programs, have 9 levels. By having 9 levels to choose from, you can change the intensity of your workout as your fitness level improves. In general, the beginner levels have lower level numbers and the most advanced levels have higher level numbers. For example, L9 will be the most advanced workout and L1 will be the beginner level. If you are not sure what fitness level you are at, you should start out at a lower level and work up to a comfortable level.

**NOTE:** All programs can provide an aerobic and cardiovascular benefit in addition to the specific benefits listed.

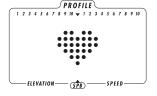


#### **T9700HRT PROGRAM DETAILS - FAT BURN**

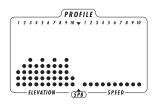
The Fat Burn programs use changes in speed or elevation to increase your calorie burn, yet keep you within your Target Heart Rate Zone. Great for people who want to drop a few pounds, or just to keep a consistent exercise program moving along.

HRT\* ELEVATION

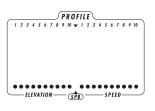
Set the speed you want to exercise at, and the program will change the elevation to keep you in your Target Heart Rate Zone. The program default time is 32 minutes.



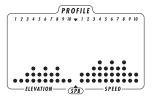
**ROLLING HILLS** Uses gradual fitness intervals of changing elevation to increase your calorie burn, yet not overexert you. The program default time is 32 minutes.



**RANDOM** Uses randomly chosen speed and elevation changes to increase or decrease your workout intensity. The program default time is 32 minutes.



SPEED WALK This program uses gradual fitness intervals of speed and elevation to increase your calorie burn. The program default time is 32 minutes.



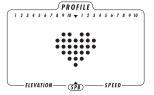
#### **T9700HRT PROGRAM DETAILS - SPEED TRAINING**

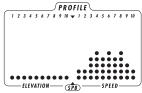
The Speed Training Programs use effort intervals and recovery intervals to help with your performance training. These programs are great for building speed and peak performance for all athletic activities.

#### HRT\* INTERVAL (

Set your heart rate goal, as well as effort and recovery interval times, and the program will adjust your speed to reach the goal. The program default time is 32 minutes

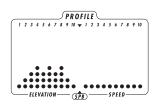




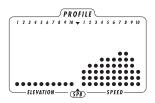


#### INTERVAL HILLS

Helps you to develop strength with effort and recovery elevation intervals. The program default time is 24 minutes.



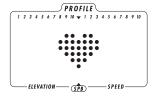
PEAK SPEED This speed training program improves your cardiovascular capacity by gradually increasing speed followed by a gradual cool down. The program default time is 32 minutes.



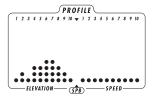
#### *T9700HRT* **PROGRAM DETAILS** - ENDURANCE TRAINING

The Endurance Training Programs uses gradual increases in elevation and/or speed to develop endurance. These programs are great training tools for those who have set a personal goal of competing in a race, or for those who want to increase their endurance in other activities.

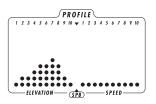
by changing speed and elevation, while keeping at the Target Heart Rate that you set. The program default time is 32 minutes.



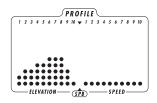
**5K BACKTRAIL RUN** Imagine yourself running through beautiful scenery as this 5K program gradually changes elevation. There is no preset time. You run at your own pace.



**10K LAKESIDE RUN** This program simulates a 10K run that gradually increases in elevation, before its gradual decent. There is no preset time. You control the pace.



**OCEANVIEW RUN** Improves your cardiovascular conditioning by simulating a plateau hill climb. The program default time is 48 minutes.



**T9700HRT** 

#### **T9700HRT HEART RATE TRAINING - FAT BURN**

#### HEART RATE TRAINING - ELEVATION ONLY

Program default is 32:00 minutes

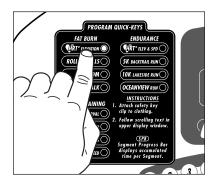
Enter Target Heart Rate, Time, & Weight.

The treadmill has a manual mode warm up until you reach your Target Heart Rate. During the warm up mode you control both speed and elevation. This does not count for the program time. Once you reach your Target Heart Rate, the treadmill now controls your Heart Rate by Elevation only to keep you in your Target Zone. You now only have control of the Speed of the treadmill. This will repeat throughout the program.

**NOTE:** You can follow these instructions below or you can use the scrolling instructions in the Alphanumeric Message Center.

#### CHOOSE THE FAT BURN HRT PROGRAM

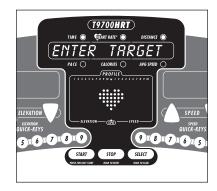
Press the HRT Elevation Button under the Fat Burn section of Quick-Keys.



#### ENTER TARGET HEART RATE

(See Page 38 to determine your recommended Target Heart Rate.) Using either set of Arrow buttons, enter your Target Heart Rate and press the SELECT button.

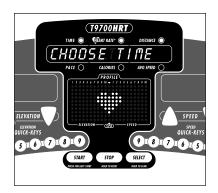
**NOTE:** The Function Window will blink and the heart rate LED will be lit to let you know what your Target Zone is.



#### **CHOOSE PROGRAM TIME**

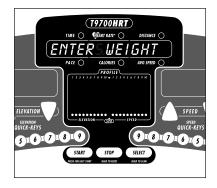
After you have chosen your Target Heart Rate, the time window will show the program default time of 32:00. You may change the Time, using either set of Arrow buttons. Press the SELECT button to enter your Time. The Minimum Time for this program is 5 minutes. If you are ready to begin exercising, press the START button. Optionally, if you wish to enter your weight, proceed to the next step.

**NOTE:** The function window will blink and the time LED will be lit to let you know what time you have input.



#### **ENTERING YOUR WEIGHT**

Enter weight using Arrows and press START. The Alphanumeric Message Center window will display "Weight Ibs. 150" to let the user know what their Weight is. After you press START the Matrix will display a 3,2,1 count down and "beep". The belt will start after the count down



#### WARM-UP MODE

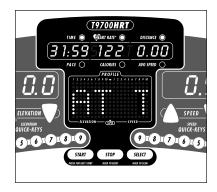
Now the treadmill is in the manual warm up mode. You are now in control of both the speed and elevation to reach your target Heart Rate Zone. Once a steady Heart Rate within 5+/- Beats Per Minute of your entered Target Zone is found, the console will beep 3 times and then enter the Heart Rate Training mode.

**NOTE:** The matrix window will scroll: "At target beginning heart rate training."



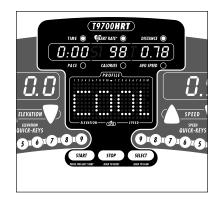
#### **PROGRAM MODE**

Now the treadmill will automatically adjust your elevation to keep you in your Target Zone. This will repeat throughout the program.



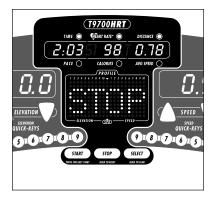
#### **COOL-DOWN MODE**

After you have completed your timed workout, the console will display: "Cool Down Mode, Press Stop to complete workout". This is to let you know that your program has ended. You are now in a manual mode cool down and have control of the Speed and Elevation. This lets you cool down at your own pace. You may now press the SELECT button to view your totals.



#### **ENDING THE PROGRAM**

Once you feel your cool down has elapsed, press the STOP button and the treadmill will stop.



**T9700HRT** 

#### **T9700HRT HEART RATE TRAINING - SPEED TRAINING**

#### HEART RATE TRAINING - SPEED ONLY

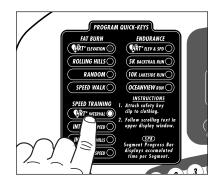
Program default is 32:00 minutes

Enter Target Heart Rate, Program Time, Work Time, Rest Time, & Weight. The treadmill has a manual mode warm up until you reach your Target Heart Rate. During the warm up mode you control both speed and elevation. This does not count for the program time. Once you reach your Target Heart Rate, the treadmill now controls your Heart Rate by Speed only to keep you in your Target Zone. You now only have control of the Elevation of the treadmill. This will repeat throughout the program.

**NOTE:** You can follow the instructions below or you can use the scrolling instructions in the Alphanumeric Message Center.

# CHOOSE THE SPEED TRAINING HRT PROGRAM

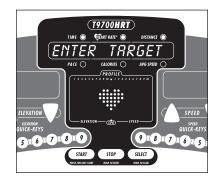
Press the HRT Interval Button under the Speed Training section of Quick-Keys.



#### ENTER TARGET HEART RATE

(See Page 38 to determine your recommended Target Heart Rate.) Using either set of Arrow buttons, enter your Target Heart Rate and press the SELECT button.

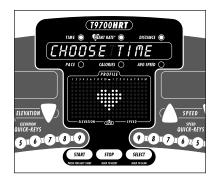
**NOTE:** The Function Window will blink and the heart rate LED will be lit to let you know what your Target Zone is.



#### **CHOOSE PROGRAM TIME**

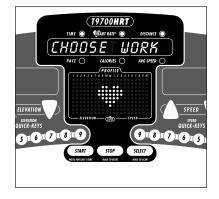
After you have chosen your Target Heart Rate, the time window will show the program default time of 32:00. You may change the Time, using either set of Arrow buttons. Press the SELECT button to enter your Time.

**NOTE:** The function window will blink and the time LED will be lit to let you know what time you have input.



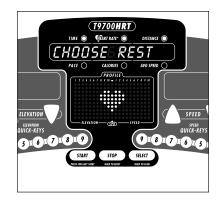
#### **CHOOSE INTERVAL WORK TIME**

After you have chosen your Program Time, you will now need to enter your HRT Interval Work Time. This is the time that you are using Heart Rate feedback to control speed. To change the time use either set of Arrow buttons to enter your Interval Work Time and press the SELECT button.



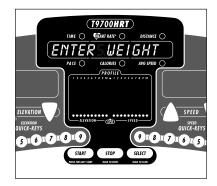
#### CHOOSE INTERVAL REST TIME

After you have chosen your Program Time, you will now need to enter your HRT Interval Rest Time. This is the rest time between your Work Interval. To change the time, use either set of Arrow buttons to enter your Interval Rest Time and press the SELECT button. If you are ready to begin exercising, press the START button. Optionally, if you wish to enter your weight, proceed to the next step.



#### ENTERING YOUR WEIGHT

Enter weight using Arrows and press START. The Alphanumeric Message Center window will display "Weight Ibs. 150" to let you know what your Weight is. After you press START the Matrix will display a 3,2,1 count-down and "beep". The belt will start after the count-down



#### WARM-UP MODE

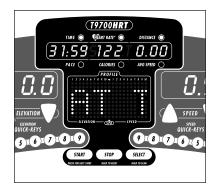
Now the treadmill is in the manual warm up mode. You are now in control of both the speed and elevation to reach your target Heart Rate Zone. Once a steady Heart Rate within 5+/- Beats Per Minute of your entered Target Zone is found, the console will beep 3 times and then enter the Heart Rate Training mode.

**NOTE:** The matrix window will scroll: "At target beginning heart rate training."



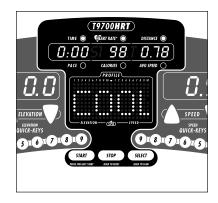
#### **PROGRAM MODE**

Now the treadmill will automatically adjust your speed to keep you in your Target Zone. This will repeat throughout the program.



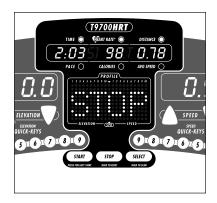
#### **COOL-DOWN MODE**

After you have completed your timed workout, the console will display: "Cool Down Mode, Press Stop to complete workout". This is to let you know that your program has ended. You are now in a manual mode cool down and have control of the Speed and Elevation. This lets you cool down at your own pace. You may now press the SELECT button to view your totals.



#### ENDING THE PROGRAM

Once you feel your cool down has elapsed, press the STOP button and the treadmill will stop.



**T9700HR7** 

# **T9700HRT HEART RATE TRAINING - ENDURANCE**

# **HEART RATE TRAINING - ELEVATION & SPEED**

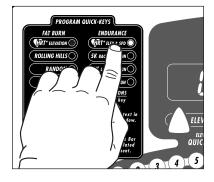
Program default is 32:00 minutes

Enter Target Heart Rate, Time, & Weight.

The treadmill has a manual mode warm up until you reach your Target Heart Rate. During the warm up mode you control both speed and elevation. This does not count for the program time. Once you reach your Target Heart Rate, the treadmill now controls your Heart Rate by Speed and Elevation. The speed will be automatically adjusted first up to 1 MPH greater or less than the current Target Heart Rate Speed. After the console automatically adjusts your speed up to 1 MPH more or less than the Target Heart Rate Speed, the elevation will take over and adjust your elevation to keep you in your Target Zone. This will repeat throughout the program. **NOTE:** You can follow these instructions below or you can use the scrolling instructions in the Alphanumeric Message Center.

# CHOOSE THE ENDURANCE HRT PROGRAM

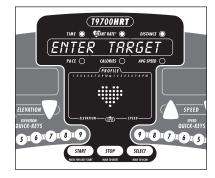
Press the HRT Elevation & Speed Button under the Endurance section of Quick-Keys.



# ENTER TARGET HEART RATE

(See Page 38 to determine your recommended Target Heart Rate.) Using either set of Arrow buttons, enter your Target Heart Rate and press the SELECT button.

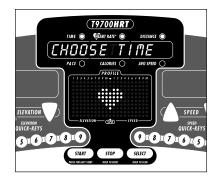
**NOTE:** The Function Window will blink and the heart rate LED will be lit to let you know what your Target Zone is.



## CHOOSE PROGRAM TIME

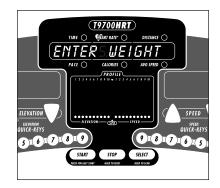
After you have chosen your Target Heart Rate, the time window will show the program default time of 32:00. You may change the Time, using either set of Arrow buttons. Press the SELECT button to enter your Time. The Minimum Time for this program is 5 minutes. If you are ready to begin exercising, press the START button. Optionally, if you wish to enter your weight, proceed to the next step.

**NOTE:** The function window will blink and the time LED will be lit to let you know what time you have input.



## ENTERING YOUR WEIGHT

Enter weight using Arrows and press START. The Alphanumeric Message Center window will display "Weight lbs. 150" to let the user know what their Weight is. After you press START the Matrix will display a 3,2,1 count down and "beep". The belt will start after the count down



## WARM-UP MODE

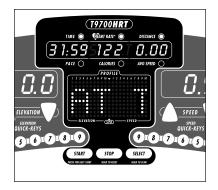
Now the treadmill is in the manual warm up mode. You are now in control of both the speed and elevation to reach your target Heart Rate Zone. Once a steady Heart Rate within 5+/- Beats Per Minute of your entered Target Zone is found, the console will beep 3 times and then enter the Heart Rate Training mode.

**NOTE:** The matrix window will scroll: "At target beginning heart rate training."



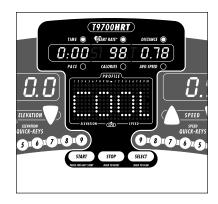
## **PROGRAM MODE**

Now the treadmill will automatically adjust your speed and elevation to keep you in your Target Zone for your work intervals. This will repeat throughout the program. It will adjust speed first, then elevation. Never both at the same time.



## **COOL-DOWN MODE**

After you have completed your timed workout, the console will display: "Cool Down Mode, Press Stop to complete workout". This is to let you know that your program has ended. You are now in a manual mode cool down and have control of the Speed and Elevation. This lets you cool down at your own pace. You may now press the SELECT button to view your totals.



## ENDING THE PROGRAM

Once you feel your cool down has elapsed, press the STOP button and the treadmill will stop.



T9700HR1

## GENERAL HEART RATE TRAINING RECOMMENDATIONS

To use the Heart Rate Training Program, it is important to determine your Target Heart Rate, using the chart below. After determining your Target, you should use the treadmill in MANUAL mode to see if the Target you have selected is correct. This will give you a good base to start your Heart Rate Training. If you feel your Target is too low or too high, keep using the treadmill in the MANUAL mode until you feel comfortable during your workout; then you can begin using the Heart Rate Training Program.

## **EXERCISE INTENSITY**

To reap the most cardiovascular benefits from your workout, it is necessary to exercise within a recommended intensity. The two ways to monitor exercise intensity are Target Heart Rate, and Perceived Exertion.

## TARGET HEART RATE

Target Heart Rate is a percentage of your maximum heart rate. Target Heart Rate will vary for each individual, depending on age, current level of conditioning, and personal fitness goals. Exercise heart rate should range from 55% to 85% of your maximum heart rate. As a point of reference, we use the predicted maximum heart rate formula of (220 minus age) to determine your heart rate training zone. Please use the following chart to determine your predicted Target Heart Rate.

85%	178	170			TARC		ART RA Beats P			
75%		170	161	153	144	136	127	119		
	157	150	142	135	127	120	112		110	102
65%	136	130	123	117	110	104		105	97	90
55% Percentage	115	110	104	99	93		97	91	84	<b>78</b>
of Maximum Heart Rate					<b>75</b>	88	82	77	71	66
AGE	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100

# RATE OF PERCEIVED EXERTION

Rate of Perceived Exertion (R.P.E.) is one of the easiest ways to monitor exercise intensity. By becoming familiar with the RPE scale, you can continually assess your level of intensity and insure a level of exertion that is comfortable. An increase in exercise intensity is directly related to elevation in exercise heart rate. Consequently RPE can be used alone or together with heart rate when monitoring exercise intensity.

## **RPE SCALE**

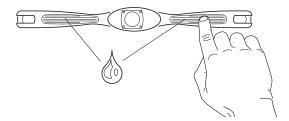
- 0 Nothing at all
- .5 Very, very weak
- 1 Very weak
- 2 Weak
- 3 Moderate
- 4 Somewhat strong
- 5 Strong
- 6
- 7 Very strong
- 8
- 9
- 10 Very, very, strong
- Maximal

The recommended RPE range for most people is between 3 (moderate) and 5 (strong). The RPE should be independent of your pace; it is dependent on the feelings caused by the exertion.

# NOTES FOR YOUR HEART RATE TRAINING PROGRAMS

- If there is no Heart Rate detected, the Treadmill will not speed up or down.
- If the Heart Rate detected is higher than the Target Zone by 10 BPM the console will "beep" 4 times to warn the user.
- If the Heart Rate detected is higher than the Target Zone by 15 BPM, the console will "beep" 4 times, stop, and then continue beeping 4 times again and the same process will repeat 5 times.
- If the user's Heart Rate is 20 beats over their Target Zone, the Treadmill will "beep" 5 times then Shut Down.
- NOTE: At all times the speed and elevation keys are operative for the user.

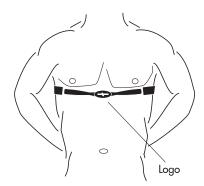
Prior to wearing the Strap on your chest, moisten the two rubber contact pads with several drops of water and spread about with your fingers.



# USING THE WIRELESS CHEST TRANSMITTER

Center the Transmitter Strap just below the breast or pectoral muscles, directly over your sternum with the VISION FITNESS logo facing out.

Adjust the elastic strap length to avoid bouncing or sliding.



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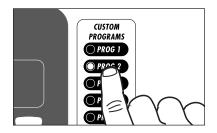
*T9700HR1* 

## **CUSTOM PROGRAMS**

Design your own Programs by setting the desired Speed and Elevation. All Programs have 10 intervals and a minimum program Time of 10 minutes. By designing your own programs you now can control your fitness goals workout by workout. This allows you to modify your training based on certain events or milestones you may have set for yourself.

# PROGRAM DETAILS PROGRAMMING A PROGRAM

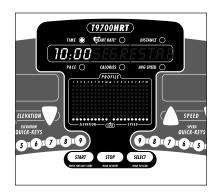
Select a user program by pressing one of the User Program Buttons.



# ENTER PROGRAM TIME

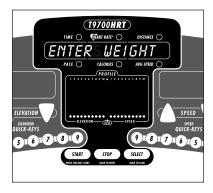
Enter Time using Arrows, then press the SELECT button to save total workout time.

**NOTE:** The Alphanumeric Message Center will scroll two messages: "Press arrow keys to modify program" and "Press select to accept program".



# **ENTERING YOUR WEIGHT**

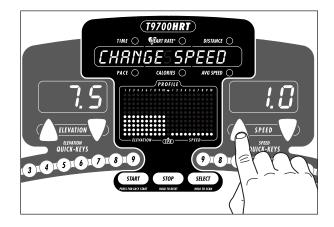
After you have completed entering your segment data, you may now enter your Weight. By entering your Weight, the totals for Calories will be adjusted according to your entered Weight.



## **ENTER SEGMENT SPEED**

The #1 column will blink. Press Speed Arrows to change the segment column Speed (Speed numeric values changing with red column).

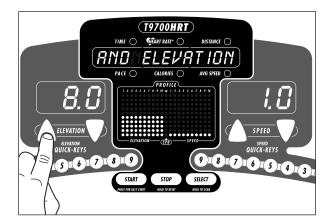
**NOTE:** The Alphanumeric Message Center will scroll: "Press select to move to next interval".



# ENTER SEGMENT ELEVATION

Then press the Elevation Arrows to change the segment column Elevation (notice Elevation numeric values changing with orange column).

**NOTE:** The Alphanumeric Message Center will scroll: "Press select to move to next interval".

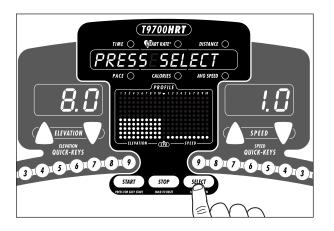




# SAVING SEGMENT DATA

Press the SELECT button to store Speed and Elevation, then proceed to the next column.

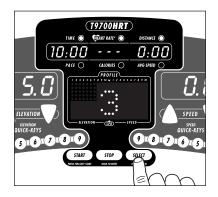
**NOTE:** Repeat entering segment speed and segment elevation until all 10 segments are completed.



# **BEGINNING WORKOUT**

Begin your exercising in your new Custom Program by pressing the START button.

**NOTE:** This program will be saved permanently and may be changed by repeating the steps above.



## USER ENGINEERING MODE (Models T9700S & T9700HRT Only)

Your treadmill offers a User Engineering Mode that can access certain data and help to troubleshoot your treadmill. User Engineering Mode is designed for you to access functions that will not affect important treadmill settings. To access this mode please hold down SPEED DOWN and SELECT for 5 seconds while the treadmill is in any state of setting up a program. When in the User mode, **"USER MODE"** displays in the alphanumeric window. To access the data press the ELEVATION keys to scroll through the available data/functions. To select the data/function, press START. To exit, press STOP.

## UNITS

P6 represents units, English or Metric. You can select this configuration for your treadmill.

The treadmill configuration appears in the alphanumeric window. If an "E" is shown, the treadmill is configured in English units (miles/mph); "M" represents a Metric configuration (kilometers/kph). Press the SPEED arrows to toggle between English and Metric.

In order to save the modified value, press SELECT. Note that changing units does affect the stored value of weight and clears any stored user programs. Changing units may also require you to perform auto-calibration.

## DEFAULT WEIGHT

P8 represents default weight. Weight appears in the right window. To modify weight, press the SPEED arrows. To save the new default weight, press SELECT prior to exiting. If Units is modified immediately prior, weight defaults to 150 lbs. or 68 kg.

#### ACCUMULATED TIME

P9 represents accumulated time, in hours. The SPEED keys are disabled while viewing. To exit, press STOP. This information can not be modified.

## ACCUMULATED DISTANCE

P10 represents accumulated distance, in either miles or kilometers. The SPEED keys are disabled while viewing. To exit, press STOP. This information can not be modified.

## DECK LUBRICATION MESSAGE

P16 represents whether the service message for deck lubrication has been enabled. If enabled, a "1" appears in the right window. Otherwise, a "0" appears if disabled.

## **CLEAN TREADMILL MESSAGE**

P17 represents whether the service message for clean treadmill has been enabled. If enabled, a "1" appears in the right window. Otherwise, a "0" appears if disabled.

To disable the message, you must press one of the SPEED keys so that a "O" appears in the right window. Then press SELECT to save prior to exiting. To exit, press STOP.

## CHECK MOTOR BRUSHES MESSAGE

P18 represents whether the service message for check motor brushes has been enabled. If enabled, a "1" appears in the right window. Otherwise, a "0" appears if disabled.

To disable the message, you must press one of the SPEED keys so that a "O" appears in the right window. Then press SELECT to save prior to exiting. To exit, press STOP.

## AUTO-CALIBRATION (Models T9700S & T9700HRT Only) DO NOT STAND ON THE BELT WHEN PERFORMING THE AUTO-CALIBRATION!

You need to access User Engineering Mode to run the Auto Calibration. To access this mode, please hold down SPEED DOWN and SELECT for 5 seconds. When in the User mode, **"User Mode"** appears in the alphanumeric window. To access the data press the ELEVATION keys until **"Auto-Cal"** appears. Press Start to select this function.

To begin auto-cal, press START. The treadmill will run through minimum and maximum speed and maximum incline. This will take 3-5 minutes. Let the treadmill perform this complete function before exiting the Engineering Mode.

Elevation A/D or Elevation in % appears in the left window. PWM value or Speed appears in the right window. "*Cal Passed*" will appear in the center window when the auto-calibration is complete. The treadmill will come to a complete stop and return to the start-up screen in the alphanumeric window.

## EXIT USER ENGINEERING MODE

P19 represents exit mode. When you press START to select the function, the console performs a reboot, returning to program setup.

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## TROUBLESHOOTING YOUR TREADMILL

Our Treadmills are designed to be reliable and easy to use. If, however, you have a problem, these troubleshooting steps may indicate the cause.

PROBLEM: The Console does not light up.

SOLUTION: Check to make sure the Treadmill is connected to a functioning outlet, and that the Treadmill is turned on.

PROBLEM: The Treadmill's built-in circuit breaker trips repeatedly, shutting-off for no apparent reason.

SOLUTION: The lubricating wax coating on the deck is wearing down and needs to be replenished; contact your VISION FITNESS retailer.

PROBLEM: The Treadmill shuts off when elevated.

SOLUTION: Check to make sure that the power cord is not stretched so tight that when the Treadmill is elevated the cord is pulled out of the wall outlet.

PROBLEM: The running belt does not stay in the center of the Treadmill when you are running on it.

SOLUTION: 1) Check to make sure the Treadmill is level. 2) The running belt is loose and needs to be properly tensioned (see Page 51 for proper procedure).

PROBLEM: The belt moves within 1/4'' of – but does not touch – the side rail. SOLUTION: There is nothing wrong, this is normal and will not cause any damage.

**NOTE:** If the above steps do not remedy the problem, discontinue use, turn the power off and contact your VISION FITNESS retailer.

## TROUBLESHOOTING YOUR HEART RATE MONITOR CHEST STRAP

PROBLEM: No pulse reading appears

SOLUTION: There may be a poor connection between the contact pads and skin. Remoisten electrodes.

SOLUTION: Transmitter is not properly positioned. Reposition the chest strap. SOLUTION: Verify that the distance between transmitter and receiver is not beyond the recommended range of 36 inches.

PROBLEM: There is an erratic pulse rate.

SOLUTION: Chest strap is too loose; readjust according to directions.

**NOTE:** It is possible that heart rate monitors will not function properly on some people due to a variety of reasons. It may be necessary to experiment with the fit and position of the chest strap. Outside interference sources such as computers, motors, etc. are also a major source of problems for heart rate monitors.

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## COMMON TREADMILL QUESTIONS

#### Q: Are the sounds my Treadmill makes normal?

A: All Treadmills make a certain type of thumping noise due to the belt riding over the rollers. This noise will diminish over time, although it might not totally go away. With use, the belt will stretch, causing the belt to ride more smoothly over the rollers. It might appear that one Treadmill is louder another. There are many reasons for this and may not be due to a defect.

Q: Why is the Treadmill I had delivered louder than the one at the store? A: All fitness products seem quieter in a large store showroom because there is generally more background noise than in your home. This is due to many acoustic differences. A number of precautions can be taken to reduce noise. For instance, a heavy rubber mat can help reduce reverberation through the floor. And finally, if a fitness product is placed close to a wall, there will more reflected noise.

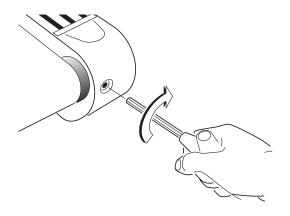
#### Q: When should I be worried about a noise?

A: As long as the sounds your Treadmill makes are no louder than a normal conversational tone of voice, it is considered normal noise. If your Treadmill is louder than this, you may want to call your service technician. Sometimes an initial diagnosis can be made over the phone.

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## **TENSIONING THE BELT**

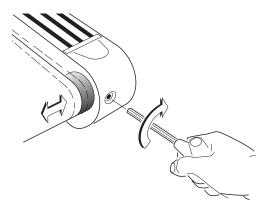
If the running belt slips when used, use the supplied 8mm Allen wrench to turn the left and right tension bolts clockwise 1/4-turn at a time until the belt no longer slips.



## **CENTERING THE BELT**

If the running belt is too far to the *right* side, use the supplied 8mm Allen wrench to turn the *right* tension bolt *clockwise* <sup>1</sup>/4-turn at a time until the belt remains centered during use.

If the running belt is too far to the *left* side, turn the *left* tension bolt clockwise 1/4-turn at a time until the belt remains centered during use.



## **PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE**

Following are several tips on taking care of your VISION FITNESS treadmill. The location of your treadmill is important in maintaining your treadmill. Find a location that does not accumulate dust and dirt easily. A clean environment can help to prolong the life and improve the performance of your treadmill.

## **CLEANING TREADMILL**

**IMPORTANT:** Before cleaning, be sure to turn off and unplug the treadmill.

- After each use wipe the perspiration off the console and treadmill surfaces.
- Every week clean the treadmill surfaces including the console, motor cover and side rails using a damp cloth. Do not use solvents as they may cause damage to the treadmill.
- Each week vacuum around and under the treadmill.

# QUARTERLY INSPECTION

- Every 3 months check the tightness of the assembly bolts to assure they are properly tightened.
- Every 3 months check the power cord.

# DECK WAXING

VISION FITNESS treadmills feature low maintenance pre-waxed decks. To maximize Treadmill life, the decks can easily have wax reapplied. You can use the chart below as a guide to the frequency of waxing the deck. Failure to wax the deck can result in a voided warranty. Please contact your VISION FITNESS retailer for the appropriate wax to use.

FREQUENCY OF USE	TYPE OF USE	FREQUENCY OF APPLICATION
1-5 HOURS/WEEK	WALKING	EVERY 12 MONTHS
6-10 HOURS/WEEK	WALKING	EVERY 6 MONTHS
1-5 HOURS/WEEK	RUNNING	EVERY 6 MONTHS
6-10 HOURS/WEEK	RUNNING	EVERY 4 MONTHS
10+ HOURS/WEEK	RUNNING	EVERY 3 MONTHS

## LIMITED HOME USE WARRANTY

VISION FITNESS extends the following exclusive, limited warranty, which shall apply only to the use of the device in the home, for residential, non-commercial purposes only. Any other use of the device shall void this warranty.

VISION FITNESS hereby extends the following limited warranties for the following components of the device, for the time period indicated:

**FRAME - LIFETIME** VISION FITNESS warrants the Frame against defects in workmanship and materials for the life of the product, so long as it remains in the possession of the original owner.

**MOTOR - TEN YEARS** VISION FITNESS warrants the Motor against defects in workmanship and materials for a period of ten years from the date of original purchase, so long as the device remains in the possession of the original owner.

**BELT, DECK, and ROLLERS\* - FIVE YEARS** VISION FITNESS warrants the Belt, Deck, and Rollers against defects in workmanship and materials for a period of five years from the date of original purchase, so long as the device remains in the possession of the original owner.

#### \*ALL OTHER PARTS and ELECTRONICS - THREE YEARS

**LABOR - TWO YEARS** VISION FITNESS shall cover the Labor cost for the repair of the device for a period of two years from the date of original purchase, so long as the device remains in the possession of the original owner.

## LIMITED HOME USE WARRANTY (continued)

#### EXCLUSIVE REMEDY

The exclusive remedy for any of the above warranties shall be repair or replacement of defective Parts, or the supply of Labor to cure any defect, provided that Labor shall be limited to two years. All Labor shall be supplied by the local Retailer and the product must be located within that Retailer's service area. Products located outside the Retailer's service area will not be covered by the Labor warranty.

#### EXCLUSIONS AND LIMITATIONS

This warranty applies only to the original owner and is not transferable. This warranty is expressly limited to the repair or replacement of a defective Frame, Electronic component, or defective Part and is the sole remedy of the warranty. The warranty does not cover normal wear and tear, improper assembly or maintenance, or installation of parts or accessories not originally intended or compatible with the Fitness Product as sold. The warranty does not cover failure to follow instructions and warnings in the Owner's Guide or failure to provide reasonable and necessary maintenance. The warranty does not apply to damage or failure due to accident, abuse, corrosion, discoloration of paint or plastic, or neglect. VISION FITNESS shall not be responsible for incidental or consequential damages. Parts and Electronic components reconditioned to As New Condition by VISION FITNESS or its vendors may sometimes be supplied as warranty replacement parts and constitute fulfilment of warranty terms. Any warranty term.

VISION FITNESS expressly disclaims all other warranties, express or implied, including but not limited to all warranties of fitness for a particular purpose or of merchantability. This warranty gives you specific legal rights and your rights may vary from state to state.

#### WARRANTY REGISTRATION

Your warranty card must be completed and sent to VISION FITNESS before a warranty claim can be processed. You may also register via our website at **www.visionfitness.com**. Inside the enclosed warranty card you will find a customer survey. Your care in completing the survey will be of value to us in serving you in the future. Comments and suggestions are always welcome. We are certain you will enjoy your new Treadmill. Thank you for selecting a VISION

## LIMITED COMMERCIAL WARRANTY

**COMMERCIAL USES DEFINED** VISION FITNESS warrants the T9700S and T9700HRT model treadmills for use in non-dues paying commercial facilities. Examples of non-dues paying commercial facilities include but are not limited to: Hotels, Resorts, Police and Fire Stations, Apartment Complexes, Rehabilitation and Sports Medicine Clinics, Hospitals, Elementary, Middle, and High Schools. Please note: VISION FITNESS does not provide any warranties for the T9700S or the T9700HRT when used in dues-paying facilities such as YMCAs and Private Health Clubs or Colleges and Universities. For such facilities, all warranties including implied warranties of fitness for a particular purpose and merchantability are excluded.

**FRAME - LIFETIME** VISION FITNESS warrants the Frame against defects in workmanship and materials for the lifetime of the original owner so long as the device remains in the possession of the original owner.

**ELECTRONICS, MOTORS - 3 YEARS** VISION FITNESS warrants the electronic components and the motors against defects in workmanship and materials for a period of 3 years from the date of original purchase, so long as the device remains in the possession of the original owner.

**PARTS - 2 YEARS** VISION FITNESS warrants the original parts against defects in workmanship and materials for a period of 2 years from date of original purchase, so long as the device remains in the possession of the original owner.

**LABOR - 1 YEAR** For a period of one year from date of purchase, VISION FITNESS, through its local retailers, will provide the necessary labor for repair and replacement of frames, electronics, motors, and parts under this warranty, so long as the device remains in the possession of the original owner.

## LIMITED COMMERCIAL WARRANTY (continued)

#### EXCLUSIVE REMEDY

The exclusive remedy for any of the above warranties shall be repair or replacement of defective parts or the supply of labor to cure any defect, provided that the labor be limited to 1 year.

#### EXCLUSIONS AND LIMITATIONS

This warranty applies only to the original owner and is not transferable. This warranty is expressly limited to the repair or replacement of a defective frame, electronic component, or defective part and is the sole remedy of the warranty. The warranty does not cover normal wear and tear, improper assembly or maintenance, or installation of parts or accessories not originally intended or compatible with the product as sold. This warranty does not cover failure to follow instructions and warnings in the Owner's Guide or failure to provide reasonable and necessary maintenance. This warranty does not apply to damage or failure due to accident, abuse, corrosion, discoloration of paint or plastic or neglect. VISION FITNESS shall not be responsible for incidental or consequential damages. Parts and electronic components reconditioned to As New Condition by VISION FITNESS or its vendors may sometimes be supplied as warranty replacement parts and constitute fulfillment of warranty terms. Any warranty replacement parts shall be warranted for the remainder of the original warranty term.

VISION FITNESS expressly disclaims all other warranties, express or implied, including but not limited to all warranties of fitness for a particular purpose or of merchantability. This warranty gives you specific rights and your rights may vary from state to state.

#### WARRANTY REGISTRATION

Your warranty card must be completed and sent to VISION FITNESS before a warranty claim can be processed. You may also register via our website at **www.visionfitness.com**. Inside the enclosed warranty card you will find a customer survey. Your care in completing the survey will be of value to us in serving you in the future. Comments and suggestions are always welcome. We are certain you will enjoy your new treadmill. Thank you for selecting a VISION FITNESS product.

## **DEVELOPING A FITNESS PROGRAM**

By purchasing this piece of VISION FITNESS exercise equipment, you have made a commitment to exercise and now have the convenience of exercising in your own home. Your new equipment offers the flexibility to exercise at whatever time suits you best. It will be easier to maintain a consistent exercise program that will help you achieve your fitness goals.

## ACHIEVING YOUR FITNESS GOALS

An important step in developing a long-term fitness program is to determine your goals. Is your primary goal to lose weight? Improve muscle tone? Relieve stress? Prepare for the spring racing schedule? Knowing what your goals are will help you develop a more successful exercise program. If possible, try to define your personal goals in precise, measurable terms over specific periods of time. Examples of these goals might include:

- Decrease your waistline by two inches over the next two months.
- Run the local 5K race this summer.
- Lose 10 pounds in the next three months.
- Get 30 minutes of cardiovascular exercise at least five days per week.
- Improve your race time by two minutes over the next year.

• Move from walking a mile to jogging a mile within the next three months. The more specific the goal, the easier it will be to track your progress. If your goals are long-term, divide them into monthly and weekly segments. Long-term goals can lose some of the motivational benefits. Short-term goals are easier to achieve and will allow you to see the progress you are making. Every time you reach a goal, it is important to set a new goal. This will lead to a healthier lifestyle and will provide the motivation that you will need to move forward.

## TRACK YOUR PROGRESS

Now that you have set your exercise goals, it is time to write them down and make an exercise schedule that will help you achieve them. By keeping a fitness diary, you will stay motivated and know where you are in terms of reaching your goals. As time goes on, you will be able to look back with pride to see how far you've come. See pages 64-67 at the end of this section for weekly and annual exercise logs. Copy these logs to keep your own Fitness Diary.

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# **EXERCISE GUIDELINES**

## WARM-UP

A warm-up activity should be a progressive aerobic activity that utilizes the muscles you will be using during the workout. There is no set warm-up intensity. A typical warm-up will produce a small amount of perspiration, but not leave you feeling fatigued. Intensity and fitness level will affect the duration of your warm-up, but 5-10 minutes is usually recommended.

# **EXERCISE DURATION**

A common question asked is, how much exercise do I need? We recommend following the guidelines set up by the American College of Sports Medicine (ACSM) for healthy aerobic activity.

- Exercise three to five days per week.
- Warm up for five to 10 minutes before aerobic activity.
- Maintain your exercise activity for 30 to 45 minutes.
- Gradually decrease the intensity of your workout, then stretch to cool down during the last five to 10 minutes.

If weight loss is a major goal, participate in your aerobic activity at least 30 minutes for five days each week.

# **EXERCISE INTENSITY**

The next question asked is, how hard do I need to workout? To reap the most cardiovascular benefits from your workout, it is necessary to exercise within a recommended intensity range. We recommend using one of two methods to measure exercise intensity. These two methods are performed by monitoring your exercise heart rate or by using the Rate of Perceived Exertion (RPE). Please see pages 38 and 39 for the Target Heart Rate Chart and RPE Scale.

## **BALANCED FITNESS**

While cardiovascular exercise has been the primary method of fitness for many programs over the years, it should not be the only method. Strength Training and Flexibility Training have become more popular as exercise has developed. Incorporating Strength and Flexibility Training into your current exercise program will give you the balance you need to improve your athletic performance, reduce susceptibility to injury, increase metabolic rate, increase bone density, and reach your goals faster.

## STRENGTH TRAINING

Strength Training was once known as an activity performed by young males only. That has changed with the advances in scientific research on Strength Training over the last 20 years or so. Research has proven that, after age 30, we begin to lose muscle mass if we do not incorporate Strength Training into our exercise program. With this decrease in muscle mass, our ability to burn calories decreases, our physical ability to do work decreases and our susceptibility to injuries increases. The good news is that, with a proper Strength Training program, we can maintain or even build muscle as we age. A proper Strength Training program will work the muscle groups of the upper and lower body. There are now many options available for Strength Training including: yoga, Pilates, selectorized machines, free weights, stability balls or medicine balls, exercise tubing and body weight exercises, just to name a few.

Recommendations for a minimum Strength Training program include:

FREQUENCY: Two to three days per week

**VOLUME:** One to three sets consisting of eight to 12 repetitions.

## STRETCHING

Flexibility Training is not associated with fitness as often as cardiovascular exercise or Strength Training, even though it is just as important. A good stretching program will help to maintain flexibility of the hips and lower back. A flexible person will be less likely to injure themselves in common activities, such as reaching, twisting and turning, or in uncommon activities such as the annual softball game.

Before stretching, take a few minutes to warm-up the muscles because stretching a cold muscle can cause injury. Start your stretch slowly, exhaling as you gently stretch the muscle. Try to hold each stretch 15 to 30 seconds. Don't bounce when you stretch. Holding a stretch offers less chance of injury. Don't strain or push a muscle too far. If it hurts, ease up. Here are a few stretches you can incorporate into your exercise program:

## SEATED TOE TOUCH

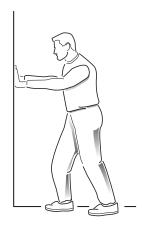
Sit on the floor with your legs together and straight out in front of you. Do not lock your knees. Extend your fingers toward your toes, exhaling as you go. Hold for 15 to 30 seconds. Return to the start position, and repeat as necessary.





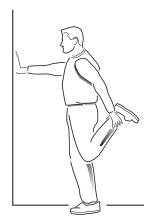
## STANDING QUADRICEPS STRETCH

Using a wall to provide balance, grasp your left ankle with your left hand and hold to stretch. Your knee should be pointing toward the floor. Hold the stretch for 15 to 30 seconds. Repeat with your right leg, and continue to alternate as necessary.



## STANDING CALF STRETCH

Standing about three to four feet from the wall, take one step forward with your left foot. Place your hands on the wall in front of you. Bend your left leg slowly, using your movement to control the amount of stretch in the right calf. Your right heel should remain on the ground. Slowly bring yourself back to the starting position and switch legs. Repeat as necessary.



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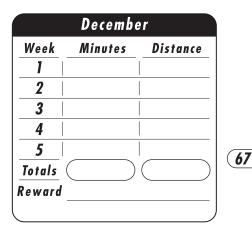
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# it all starts with a **V i S i O N**



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