

# Alpha Disk Reader and Beta Disk Unit Pre-Sales Information

Feature Category	Feature Detail	Alpha (Standard)	Alpha (Tajima)	Beta (Standard)	Beta232
Disk types supported	3.5-in. double-density & high-density	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Read formats supported	FDR, FMC I or II, Tajima DST and DSB, Melco MS-DOS Expanded, Melco MS-DOS Chenille, ZSK, Happy	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Write formats supported	DOS double-density & DOS high-density	No	No	Yes	Yes
Rear panel output connectors	Multi-head output, Honda 20-pin male	Qty 1	None	Qty 1	None
	Monogram output, Hirose 20-pin female	Qty 1	None	Qty 1	None
	Tajima output, 36-pin Centronics female	None	Qty 1	None	None
	Serial output, DB-25 male (input and output uses same connector)	None	None	None	Qty 1
Rear panel input connectors	Hirose 20-pin male	None	None	Qty 1	None
	Serial input, DB-25 male (input and output uses same connector)	None	None	None	Qty 1
Stitch code output	Barudan	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
	Tajima	No	Yes	No	No

## Choosing Between an Alpha and a Beta

The Alpha is the best choice if you want to:

- Read pattern disks only
- Replace an existing paper tape reader with a function-compatible disk reader
- Replace a BMC or FMC I with a function-compatible disk reader

The Beta is the best choice if you want to do the following in addition to what the Alpha can do:

- Write pattern disks
- Convert paper tape patterns to disk patterns
- Save name drops to disk (using JM keyboard, for example)
- Read and write disks using an editing or digitizing system, or paper tape reader/punch (Beta232)

## Cabling

Neither the Alpha nor the Beta comes with a cable.

- ▶ To connect the output of a standard Alpha or Beta to a Barudan embroidery machine:
  - If the embroidery machine is already connected to a tape reader or other standard Barudan accessory, use the existing cable to connect the Alpha or Beta. If the existing cable is lost or damaged, use Cable Type E (SM10044).
  - If you are connecting the Alpha or Beta to a Prosperity Plus machine, use Cable Type G (SM10048).
  - If you are connecting the Alpha or Beta to an M-Series or N-Series multihead machine, use Cable Type E' (SM10045).
- ▶ To connect the output of a Tajima Alpha to a Tajima embroidery machine:
  - Use the appropriate Tajima cable available from your Tajima distributor.
- ▶ To connect a Beta to an input device such as an FMC I, FMC II, BMC, or BNR tape reader:
  - Use Cable Type G (SM10048).

▶ To connect a Beta232 to an editing or digitizing system, or tape reader/punch:

- Use an off-the-shelf computer serial/modem cable.

## Standard Alpha vs. Alpha with Tajima Option

The difference between a standard Alpha and an Alpha with the Tajima option is in the stitch output code and the type of embroidery machine to which it can be connected. The standard Alpha outputs Barudan stitch code and can be connected only to a Barudan embroidery machine. The Tajima Alpha outputs Tajima stitch code and can be connected only to a Tajima embroidery machine. Otherwise, both units read the same disk types and function identically.

## Refurbished Units

A refurbished unit has been repaired at our manufacturing facility and has passed the same tests and inspections required of new units. The procedure always includes replacement of the disk drive.