

## Home Entertainment Equipment

### Pianos

- ★ first developed by a Florentine harpsichord maker, Cristofori, in 1726.
- ★ Cristofori placed a harpsichord in a horizontal position and affixed leather covered hammers to an escapement mechanism. This caused the hammers to return to their original position after it had been activated.
- ★ the first upright piano was patented in 1800 in the U.S.A.

### Gramophone/Phonograph

- ★ invented by Thomas Edison in 1877.
- ★ "Mary Had a Little Lamb" was the first gramophone record made in 1877. The message was cut into a tinfoil cylinder by a stylus that was moved along it by a screw. This stylus was then removed and a second one, attached to a hearing tube, was placed on the record so that the message could be reproduced.
- ★ earliest form of record was a cylinder record.

### Music Box

- ★ one of the means of entertainment for early settlers.
- ★ music was made by the metal disc underneath the arm of the machine. The holes in the metal disc, or record as we call it nowadays, would activate a variety of sounds.
- ★ the machine was powered by a spring which had to be rewound from an interior handle at very frequent intervals.
- \* predecessor of the gramophone.

### Organs

- ★ musical organ is centuries old; most being huge affairs with many pipes.
- ★ the foot bellows organ was developed in the late 1800's. This eliminated the need for the large pipes.
- ★ operated on a bellows and reed system where movement caused a vibration resulting in music.
- ★ organs were usually light and compact enough to be carried into most areas of settlement by pioneers, an advantage over the piano.

### The Pianola

- ★ invention of the perforated paper roll in 1887 was first put to use in the Pianola.
- ★ when the paper roll was set up against the Pianola and pumped with the feet, automatic fingers struck the keys to play the recorded melody.
- ★ the predecessor to the Player Piano.

### Radio

- ★ invented by Guglielmo Marconi in 1895.
- ★ method of transmitting messages without the need for wires.

### Juke Box

- ★ first introduced in America in the early 1930's.
- ★ differed from all previous record-playing devices in that it could play a selection from anything up to 300 discs.
- ★ a coin operated music machine.

### Television

- ★ television, as we know it today was first invented in 1928 and was first seen experimentally at the 1933 Chicago World's Fair.
- ★ became very popular in 1948 and interest increased from that time on.
- ★ the first transcontinental coaxial television cable was opened in September, 1951.

