How to modify your Bell Touch Tone Phone to have 1633 cycle tone
by The Magician

In issue 62 of TAP, I gave you information on the use of 1633 cycle tones for setting up toll free telephone calls among various conferences, and the information operator as well as applications with Autovon.

Now I will describe how to modify a standard Bell Touch Tone phone to have the extra four 1633 buttons. An excellent article on this subject appeared in the April, 1975 issue of the now defunct "TEL" magazine. The modification is very simple and requires only a SPDT toggle switch (I recommend a miniature type) and a little hookup wire. First, unscrew the screws on the bottom of the phone and remove the cover. You will see the Touch Tone pad on a supporting bracket. Loosen the two screws on either side of the pad and gently lift it from the supporting bracket being careful not to break any wires. The pad is enclosed in a clear, thin plastic snap case. Remove the top section and put it aside. Remove the bottom section and allow it to rest on the wires leading to the Touch Tone pad.

The pad (bottom up) should look like the accompanying diagram. Locate the two toroid transformers that produce the Touch Tone frequencies. They are large and donut shaped (labelled 2597 AS in diagram). Remove the protector on the left, if present. On the bottom edge of the pad, on each side of the toroid transformers, you will see a three pole terminal strip (labelled 1 in diagram). On some Touch Tone phones, the terminal strips are replaced by yellow-orange wire. If you have these, just cut the wire in the middle, strip both ends, and these will correspond to the normally used terminals. Locate the terminal on the left and separate the two pieces of metal. Only one terminal is on top on the other, being very careful not to break them off. Cut two one foot pieces of insulated wire and strip a little from both ends on each wire. Now take one and solder it to the bottom half of the separated terminals. Now take the other piece and solder it to the top half of the terminal, the top half being that with the toroid transformers. Label the two wires "A" and "B" with pieces of tape with the top one being "A".

There should be two strips of five solder terminals, one on top and one on the bottom of the left toroid transformer. We are interested in the bottom one. The fourth terminal from the left (labelled 2 in diagram) is the tap for 1633 (Pa Bell uses "standardized" components for all Touch Tone encoders whether 443 or the normal 343, so the 1633 is there but not used). Cut another piece of wire (about one foot) and strip both ends. Solder one end of this wire to the 4th terminal, being careful that you get a good solder joint. If you are not touching any other terminals. Label this wire "C" and run wires "A", "B", and "C" through the bottom plastic case along with all the other wires. Replace the plastic protector on the toroid transformer (if present). On the right one, if present. The connection to the switch. The connection to the switch is the most commonly made mistake.

When placing a regular call, remember to use the regular 1677 tone instead of 1633 or you will not get any service. If this happens, Pa Bell might send a repair man to see what is wrong with your line. If you have any questions, comments, etc., please feel free to write me, The Magician, c/o TAP.
Dear John,

I received your last two issues of TAP. Thank you very much for your placement of both.

I would like to change my format to reflect this change in people's interests and objectives, and you will be especially interested in my first issue this year, which will contain articles on the latest developments in technology and the importance of education. I appreciate your support and look forward to hearing from you again.

Sincerely,

John W. Smith, President

CONSUMERTECHNICS CO.

2011 CRESCENT DRIVE P.O. BOX 475
ALAMOGORDO NEW MEXICO 88310

LETTERS FROM READERS

Many people visit the Big Apple each year. While the cityscape and attractions are always impressive, I would like to highlight the wonderful cuisine that the city has to offer. A few weeks ago, I attended a Broadway show and started to wonder if there could be anything better than a delicious meal at a famous restaurant.

I then decided to visit Phun City Granny's pot luck: 64 days in jail.

Granny's pot luck: 64 days in jail.

Phone Co.

Talk back— even to Phone Co.

FTTERS ARE RECEIVED from practically every state with complaints about local phone service. There's a group of consumer groups that has been especially vocal in their criticism of the phone companies. I'm not sure if we've done enough to deal with them, but we're definitely listening and taking their concerns seriously.

I have personal knowledge that Bell will not ignore certain complaints about installation but make the line-users follow every rule to the letter.

The Image Mac
This one has strong possibilities for the entrepreneur. A sixteen-year-old girl obtained a bunch of carbon-free credit card receipts. (These are the receipts left over after Master Charge, Bank Americard, and American Express transactions.) She then took the carbon from the trash bins of large department stores, and from the carbons she got all the data like card holder’s name, account #, and card expiration date. Then she rented a mail address in the area from the credit card companies. She then ordered lots of sailable merchandise like cameras and color TV’s, billing the items to a stolen name without question, where it was rented mail address without question, where it was pick-up and quickly sold. This heating little girl would probably have gotten away with the scam, but she didn’t get picked up by the police two months later in a different location (soliciting her button). After the purse was searched, they found over a hundred credit card carbons. Upon investigation it was found out from the credit card companies that many of the accounts were defrauded by the girl, and when her purse was searched, they found over a hundred credit card carbons. I got this story from the rent-a-box people, so I never got to find out why the girl was still carrying around all those scammed-out carbons.

Knowing a good opportunity when he saw it, a quick-witted friend of mine was able to pick up a $300 freebie. He had ordered an expensive microphone from Edmunds Scientific Company and had it billed to his Master Charge Card -- no signature -- as required for those orders. The item was sent direct from the manufacturer, not from Edmunds as was expected, and it was sent uninsured; no signature was required to receive it. (If it was sent insured, or signature required, a non-signature -- an illegible scribble -- can be given. The illegible scribble can be used as an legal signature for all practical purposes. I.e. it probably wouldn’t hold up in court as a signature.) After getting the package, he quickly called Master Charge to put a stop on the bill for the microphone, and he called the Catalogue Company, too. “Gee, I never did get that thing that I ordered from your company. Are you sure that it was sent to me? I never got it. And I’m no longer need it, so cancel the order.”

Chuck the Duck from California has discovered a new trick with airplane tickets. Recently he purchased a new trick with airplane tickets with non-sufficient fund checks. On the tickets, in the area next to the photographer’s signature, the checks cannot be brought back for an immediate cash refund. So, he took a red pen and he wrote in “Cash” next to it. It was; he attached the ink to the signature, and he scratched the ink off. He then went to a different airline and traded in the ticket he got a cash refund. Chuck the Duck: “In the “refund: the girl at the airport and they gave me the ticket. The next day he bought another ticket, which was twice as much as he was previously getting on the black market.

Here’s another novel plane ticket scam. Chuck called up an airline and ordered a coast-to-coast round trip ticket using his own name to order the ticket. He said he had a friend there, and he was live connected. I.e. not a working phone. The ticket: Belike-it-or-not, was sent to the friend’s address. It may have been as luck that the ticket was sent, but it was to airline practice, then it can make the following differences: 1) the airline didn’t call his friend to say it was being sent, and if they did, they will send a ticket to a disconnected phone. 2) the airline may not have been expecting the ticket, and if they did, they will send a ticket to a disconnected phone. 3) the airline didn’t verify that he lived at the address where the ticket was being sent, and if they did, they will send a ticket to a disconnected phone. 4) the airline didn’t verify the address where the ticket was being sent, and if they did, they will send a ticket to a disconnected phone. 

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A Telephone Credit Card Number is a 16-digit number, divided $12345678--9012$. The first ten digits are the phone number being charged to. The next three are a billing code (the Regional Accounting Office, or RAO). A list of the major ones is at the left. The final digit is for verification, and changes annually. For 1980 (1/1/80 to 1/31/81), the verification digit has to match the sixth digit of the charged-to number. The code is:

6th digit: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0

check digit: 4 8 1 5 9 2 6 0 3 7

Example: phone number 202-456-1414
Credit Card Number 202-456-1414-0324

(To use the Credit Card Number from outside North America, an International Prefix must be added. The 1980 International Prefix is IX.)

No set of rules can take the place of common sense, but there are a few basics to using Telephone Credit Card Numbers.

Make Credit Card calls ONLY from pay phones (there's no record of the originating phone), and at random times and locations. Always be courteous to the operator (think how much company shit s/he has to put up with), and remember that s/he may listen to some of your conversation.

It is harder to trace someone who never uses the same Credit Card Number twice. Long Distance Distance is free, and with a little imagination, there are endless possibilities. Since the call does end up on someone's phone bill, don't make up numbers at random.

When a fraudulent Credit Card call is reported to company Security, they may have to do an institutional switchboard, to trace back to the man's house. Remember that the Post Office has to deal with all this shit. If the call went to an individual, they may call and try lies, sympathy, intimidation, or whatever. It's legal to use the Postal Service's cancellation machinery. They may be able to trace back. 

She said the Postal Service "ought to be a little more careful at looking at the thousands of dollars in stamps that are being used over the street.

Postal officials say it would be impractical to try to find and prosecute the many people who re-use uncanceled stamps.

Reuse of stamps costs Postal Service millions

WASHINGTON (AP) — A Nebraska senator's office alone isn't the only one trying to save a few bucks by leaving canceled postage stamps on the boss' morning mail and re-using them.

The cash-starved Postal Service says it is losing $25 million to $75 million a year because of the widespread practice, which happens to be a federal crime.

Sen. Edward Zorinsky's office acknowledged as doing it as a way to cut down on mailing expenses. Carolyn Andrade, administrative assistant to the Nebraska Democrat, said yesterday, "On a slow day I get $5 to $10 worth of stamps off incoming letters. That's like picking money up on the street."

She contended that since the stamps apparently miss the Postal Service's cancellation machinery, they can legally be reused. She said the Postal Service "ought to be a little more careful at looking at the thousands of dollars in stamps that are being used over the street."

Postal officials say it would be impractical to try to find and prosecute the many people who re-use uncanceled stamps.

Cold and calculated

BAKERFIELD, Calif. (AP) — A robber tied a convenience store clerk up in a cold storage locker, then waited on customers and told police that a tip he had received showed a "kid" inside.

The El Elen clerk, Bruce McDowell, 19, said he was accosted by an armed man wearing a black mask Monday and was left in the cold storage locker with his wristbands.

The crook pulled out his mask and waited on customers for 10 minutes. Police said he left the business after receiving a tip and that the citizen had been mistaken.

After the customers and police were gone, the robber left with $8, including $29 he had collected in sales while acting as clerk.

"A woman drove me to work and I never even had the courtesy to thank her," W.C. Fields.