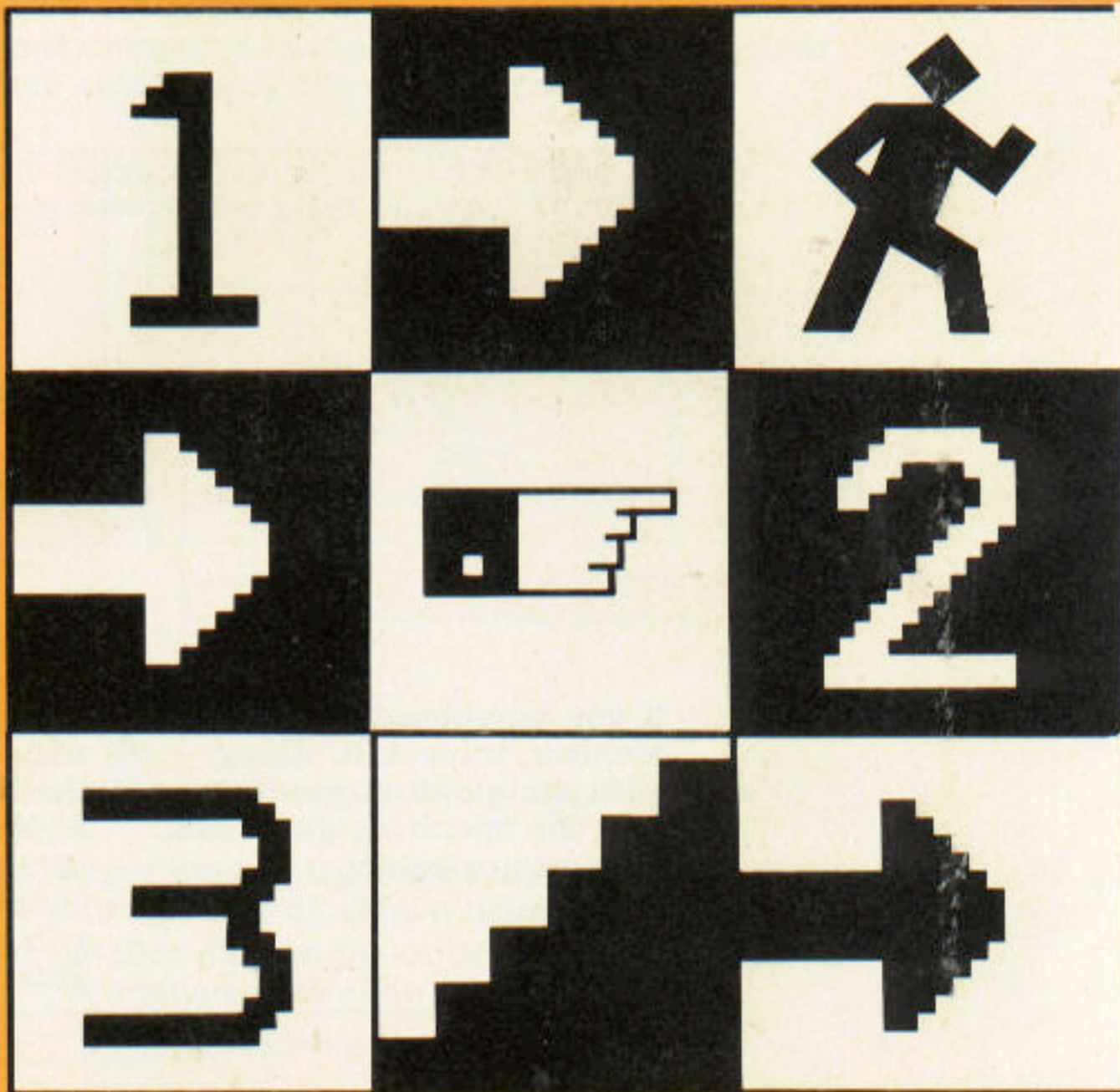




# ***R**ead this first!*

**QUICK STEPS TO GET YOU  
SET UP & STARTED NOW!**

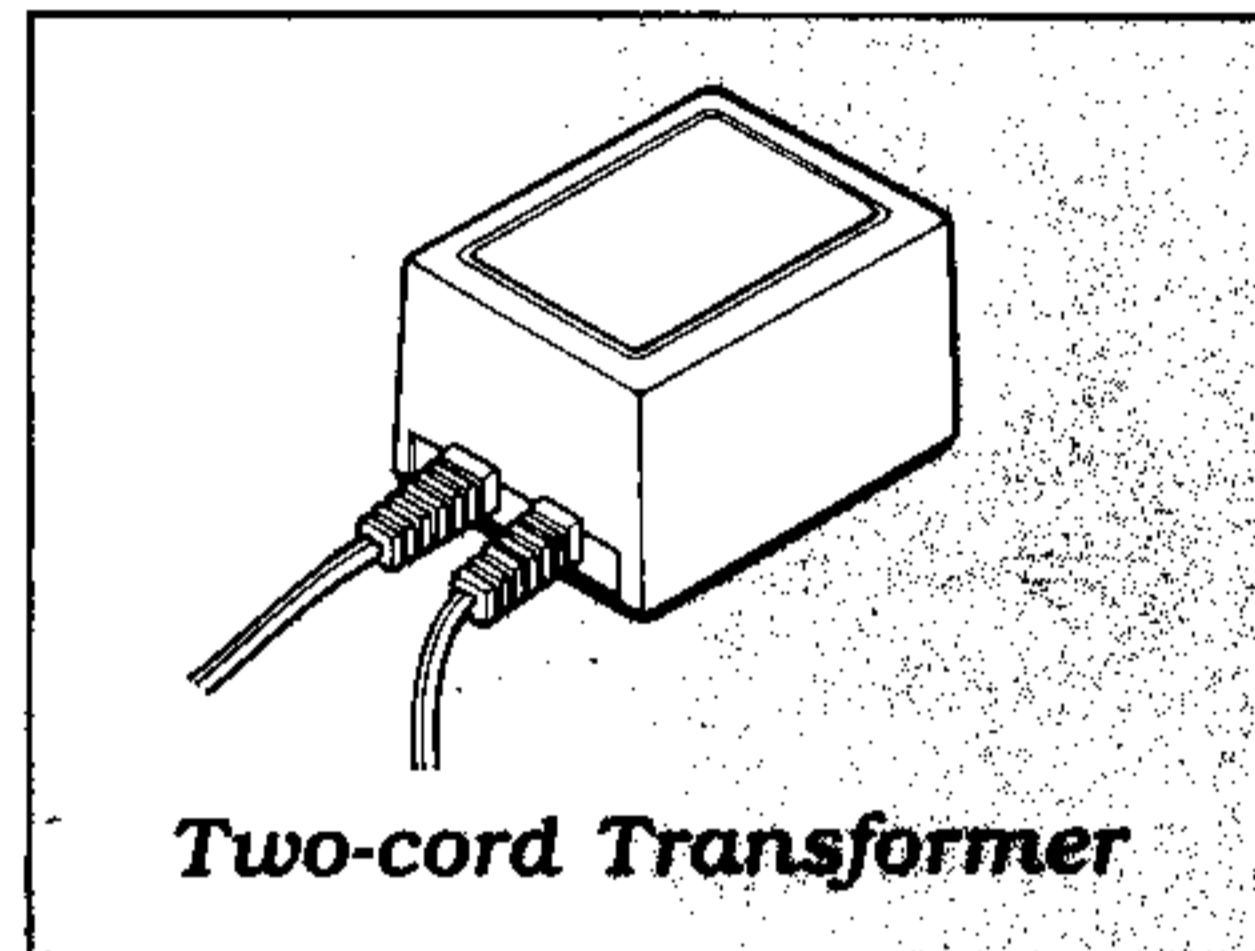
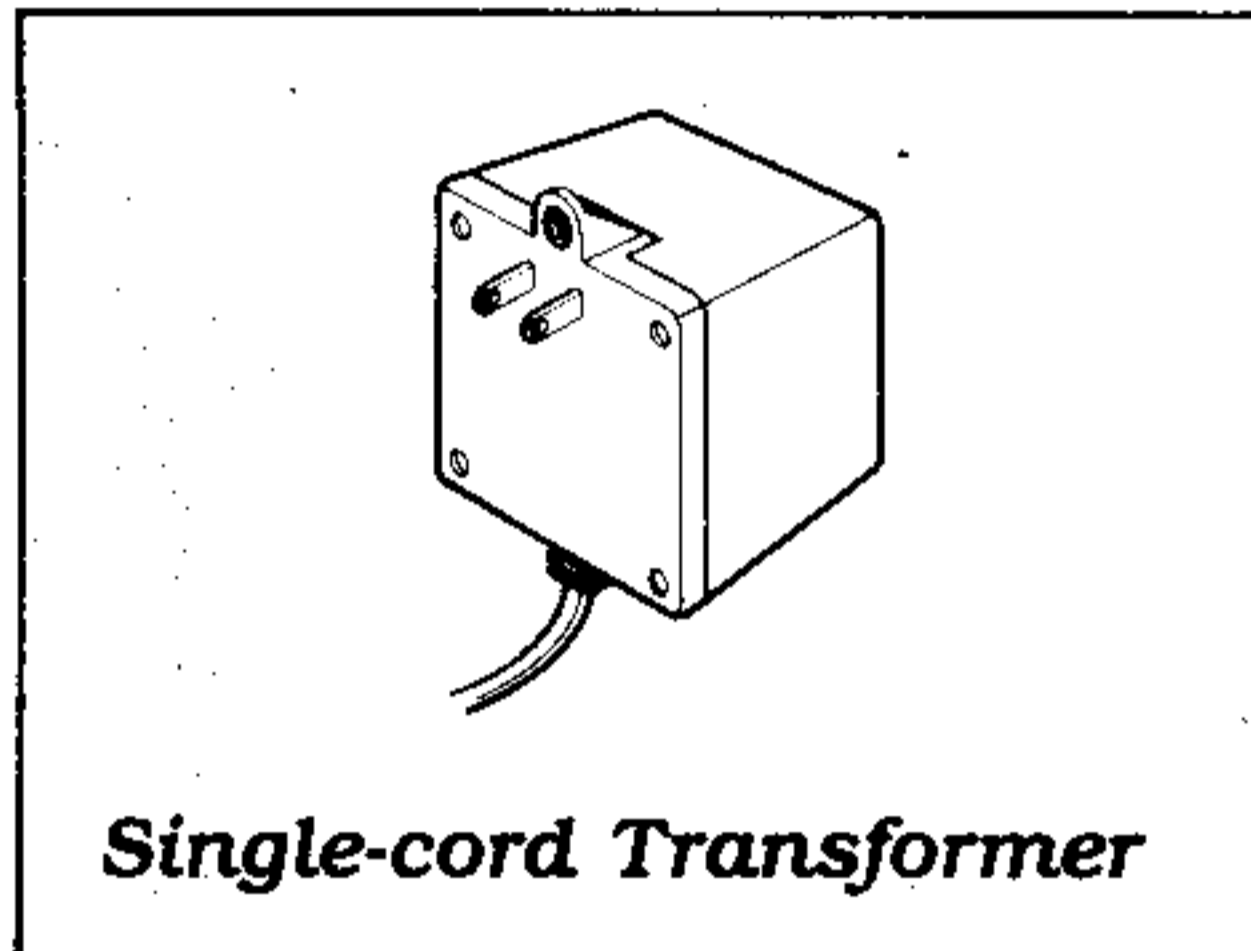


This booklet provides a concise explanation of how to set up your computer so that you can begin using it quickly. We suggest that you "Read This First" one time completely — to see how easy it is. Following the steps outlined here, you can be using your computer within a few minutes after its arrival.

# 1

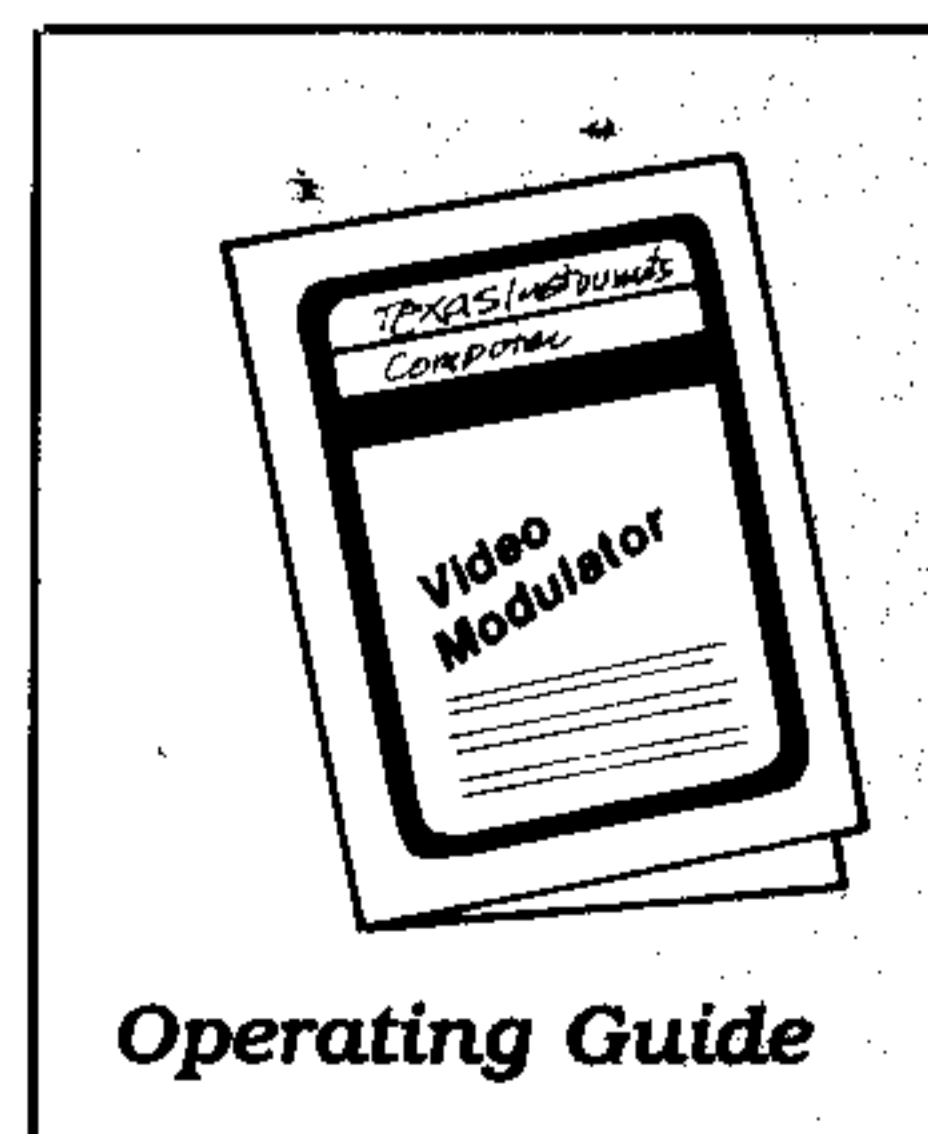
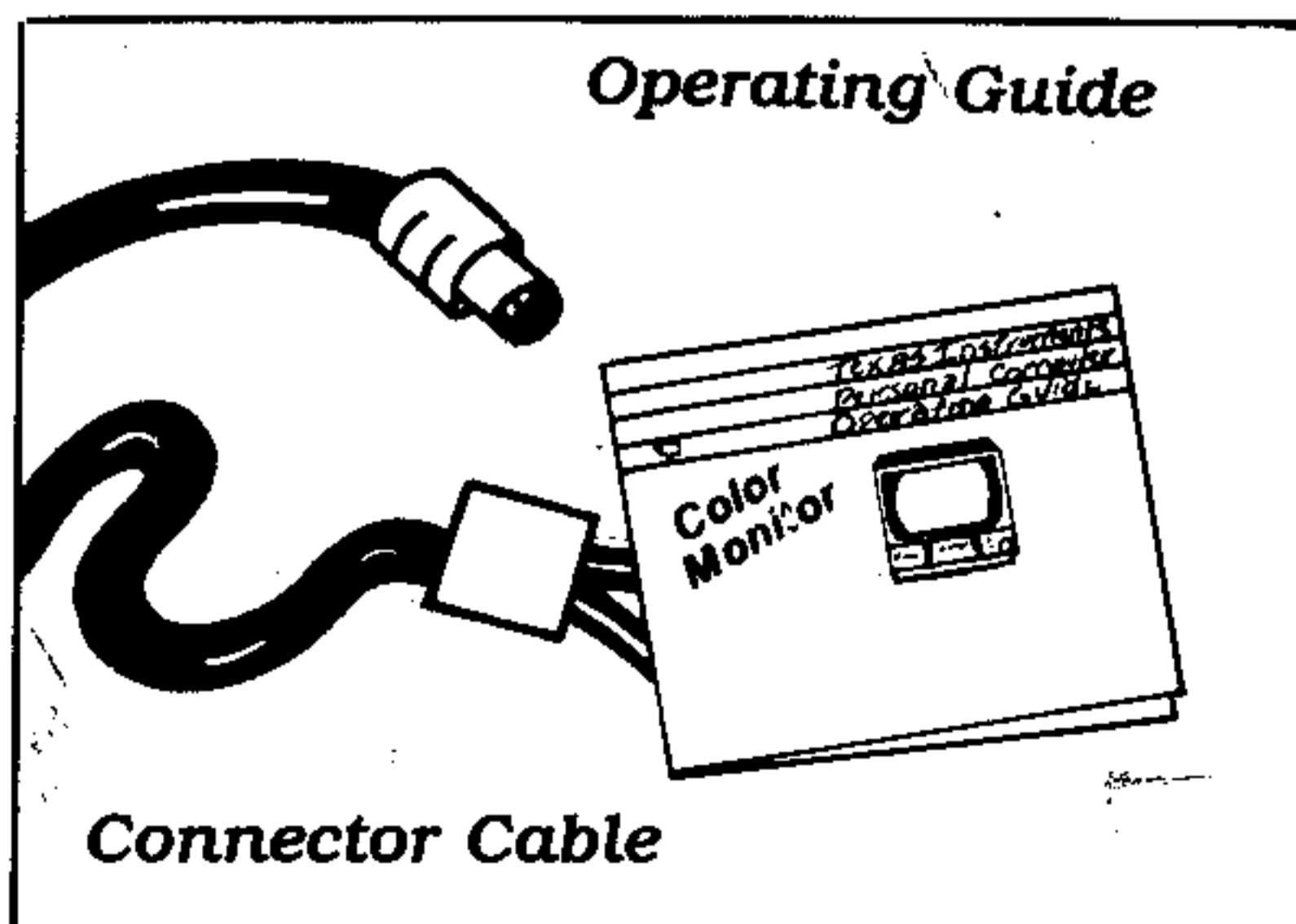
## UNPACK AND CHECK THINGS OVER

Packed in the box with the computer console, you'll find one of two types of power transformers, a packet of owner's information, a Video Modulator, and the *User's Reference Guide*.



If you purchased the TI Color Monitor, unpack it. Along with the monitor, you will find the operating guide and a connector cable:

OR If you plan to use a television with your computer, unpack the Video Modulator. In addition to the Video Modulator (with all connecting cables attached), you will find the operating guide:



# 2

## SET IT UP

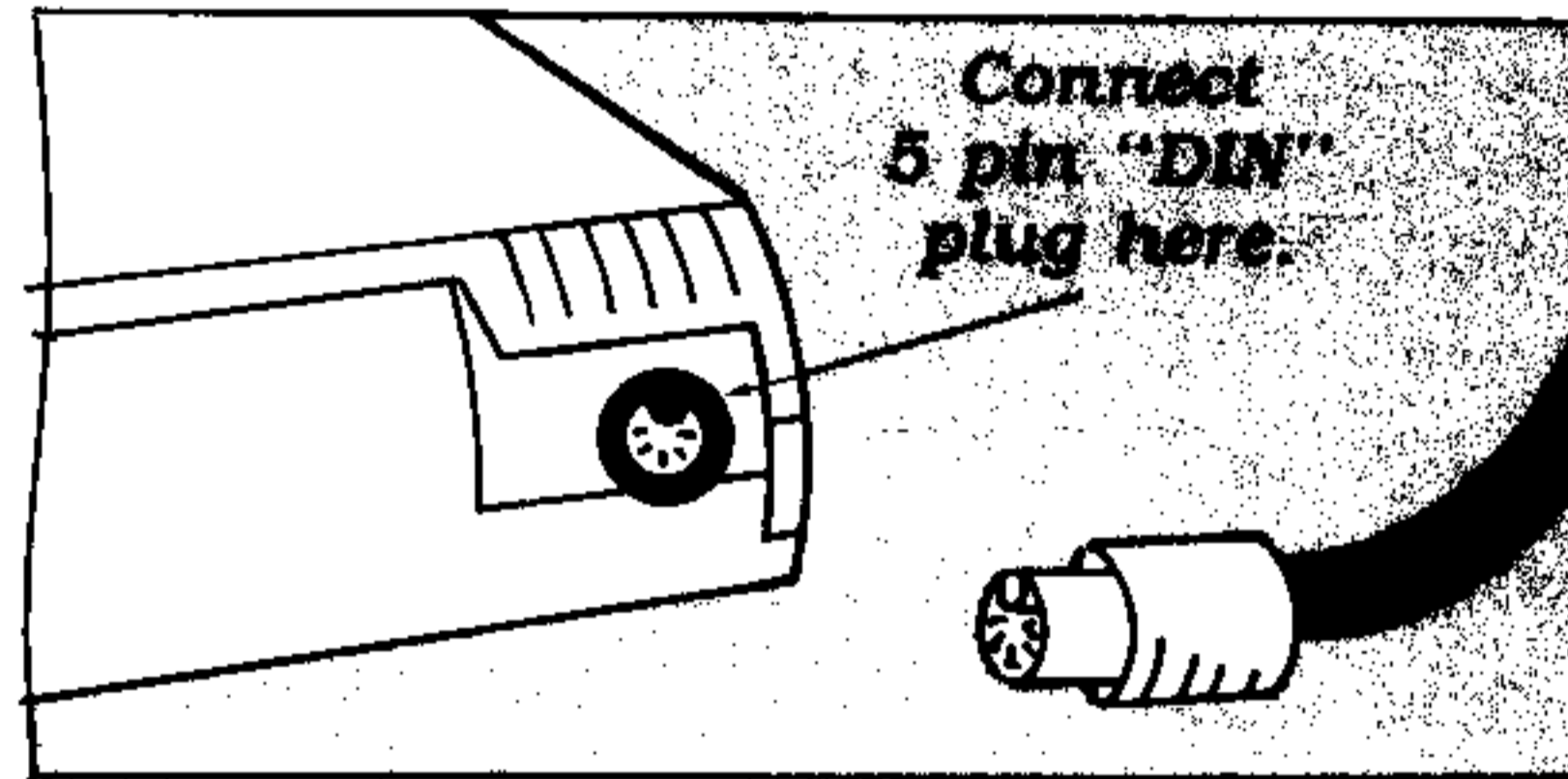
First, select the right location for your computer system. Place the system on a hard-topped surface, such as a table or desk, in a spot where sunlight or bright light won't fall directly on the screen. Also, ventilation is necessary to keep your system running properly. Be sure air can flow freely through all the ventilation slots on the bottom, back, and top of the console and the TI Color Monitor or television set. (For more details, see the *User's Reference Guide* and *Operating Guide* for the monitor.)

### If You Are Using the TI Color Monitor

Connecting your computer to the TI Color Monitor requires only two simple steps, using the cable packed with the monitor.

1. Connect the 5-pin plug (called a "DIN" plug) to your computer console at the point shown.

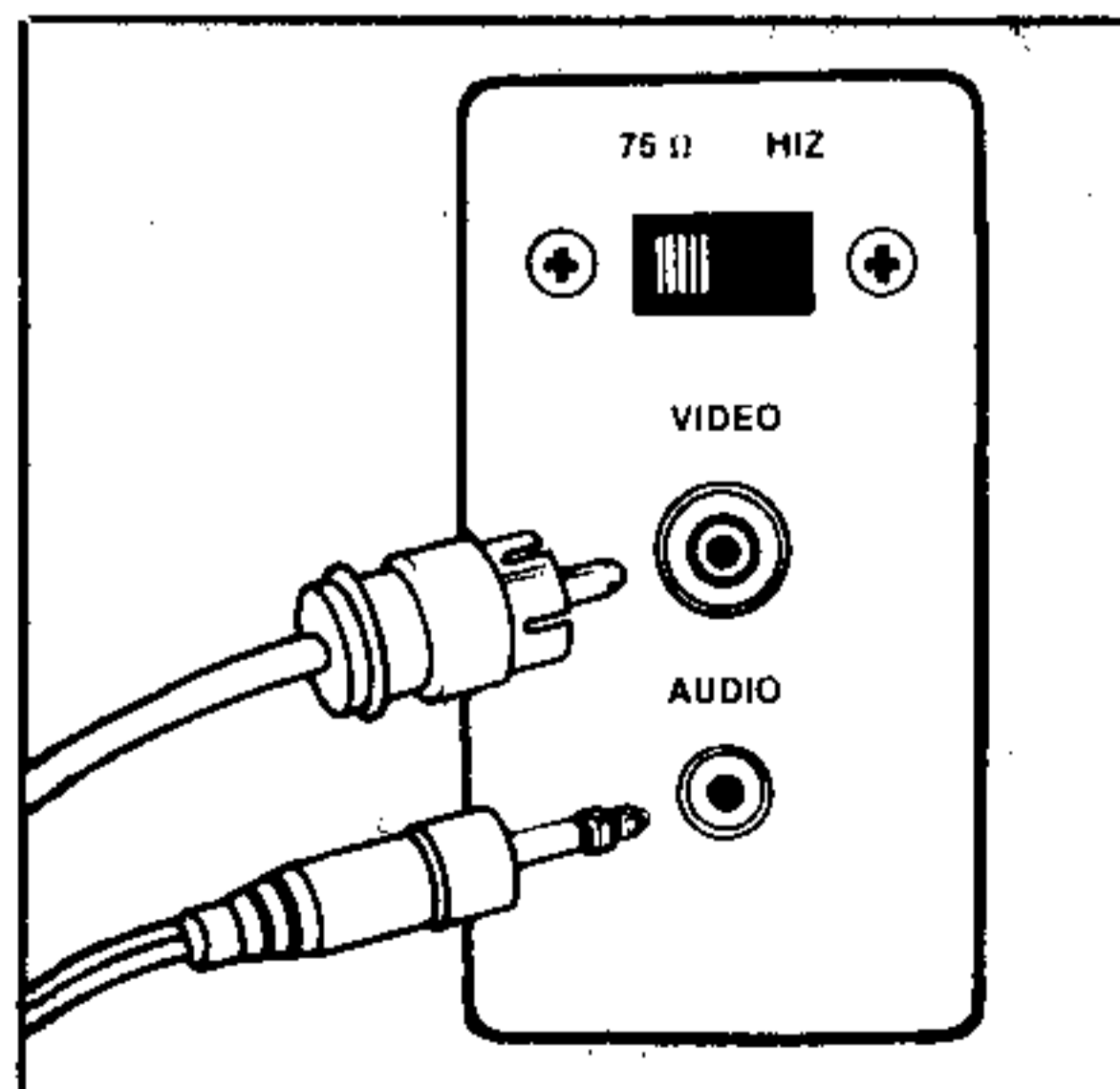
Back of  
Main Console



2. The other end of the cable (with two plugs) connects to your monitor.

Connect the larger plug to the outlet labeled "VIDEO" on the back of your monitor as shown below.

Connect the smaller plug to the outlet labeled "AUDIO" on the back of your monitor as shown below.

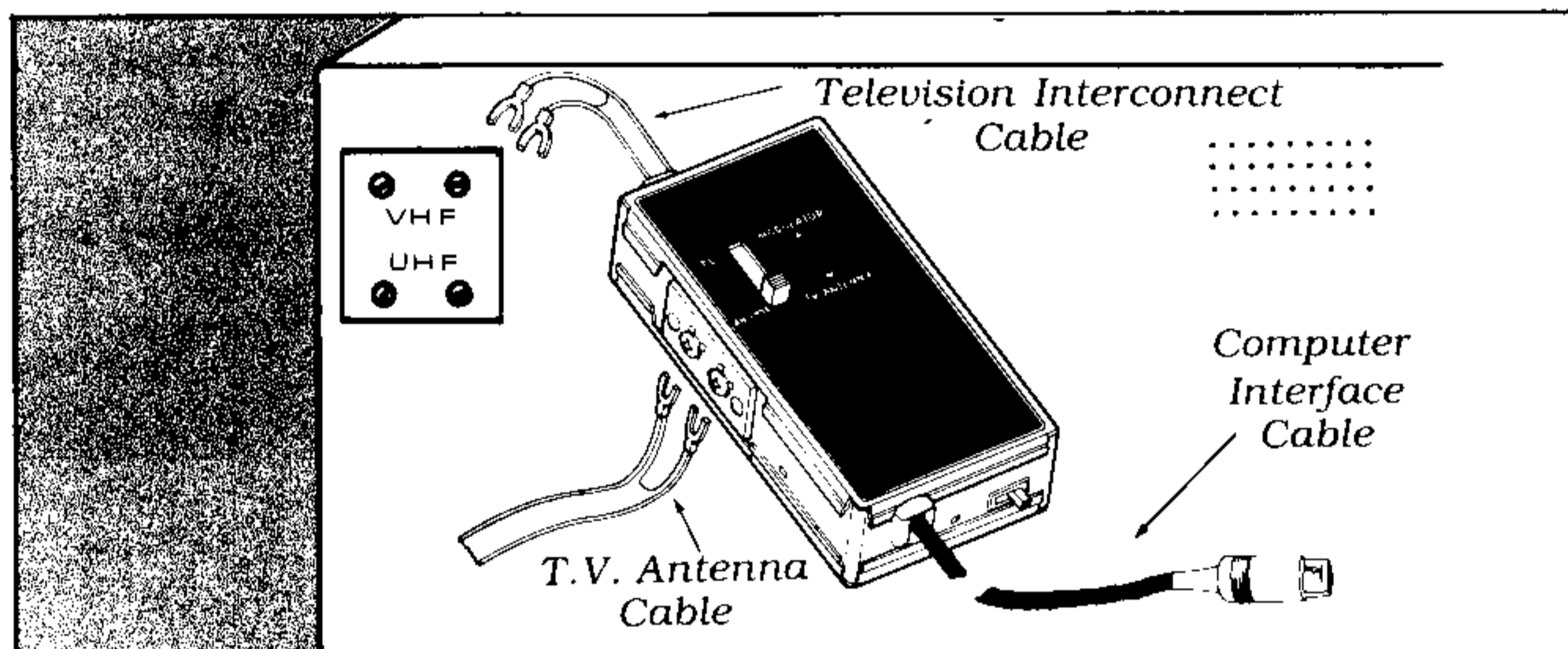


**Note:** Do not attach the console directly to a television set using this cable. Connection of the console to a television receiver must be made using the Video Modulator.

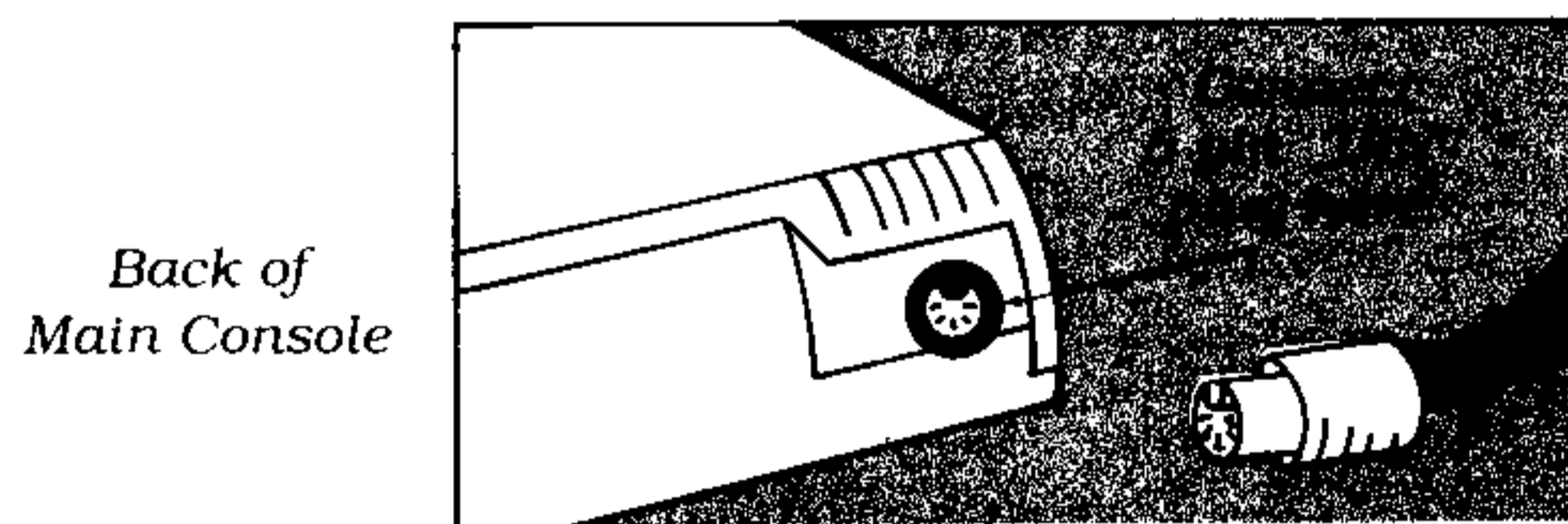
## If You Are Using Your Television Set and the *Video Modulator*

Connecting your computer to a television set requires the use of the Video Modulator. To install the modulator, follow these steps.

1. Remove the VHF antenna cable from your television set. (If your set does not have a standard antenna hookup similar to the one shown below, please consult the Video Modulator manual for more details.)
2. Connect the television interconnect cable, marked "TO TV RECEIVER VHF TERMINAL" on the Video Modulator, to the VHF antenna terminals on your television set.



3. Connect the VHF antenna cable that you just removed from your television set to the Video Modulator terminals, marked "TV ANTENNA IN."
4. Remove the paper backing from the double-sided tape on the modulator and press the unit against a flat surface on your television set.
5. Connect the 5-pin "DIN" plug of the computer interface cable into the 5-pin socket on the back of the console.

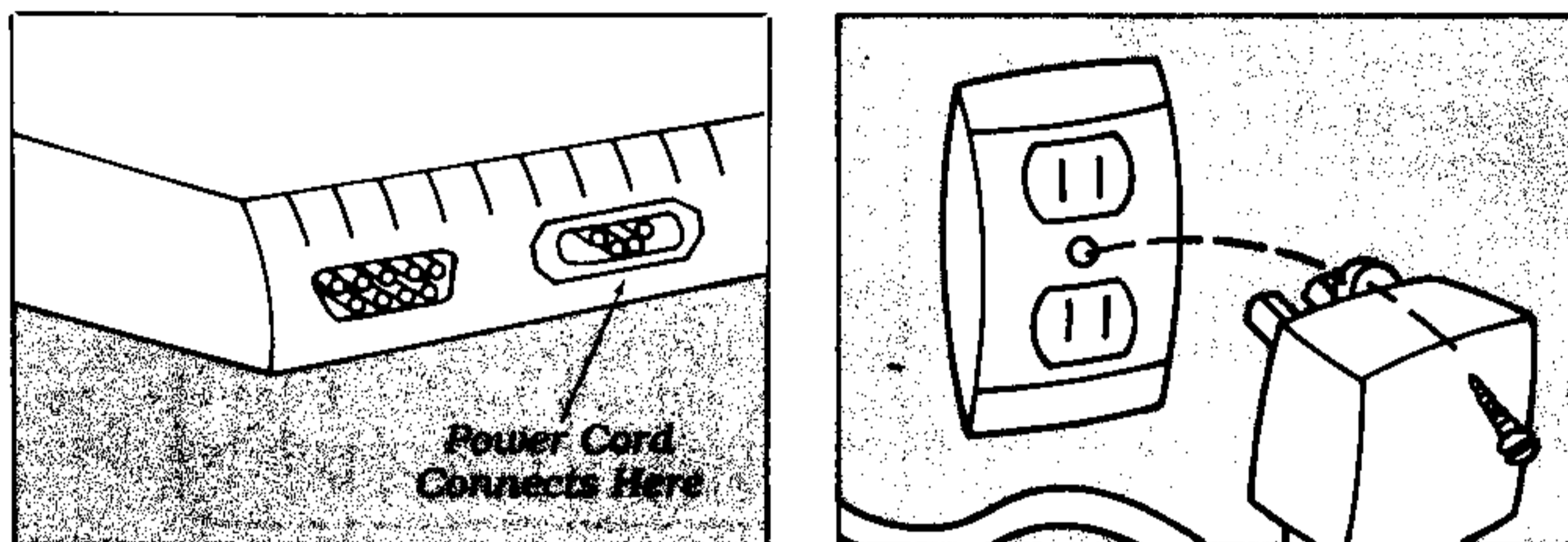


Once the modulator is installed, set the "CHANNEL SELECT" switch on your Video Modulator and the channel selector on your television set to the same channel, either channel 3 or 4. If there is a television station operating on one of these channels in your area, set the "CHANNEL SELECT" switch and the television to the other channel.

Then, to use your television set as a computer display, set the "MODULATOR/TV ANTENNA" switch to "MODULATOR." (When you are ready to watch television again, set the "MODULATOR/TV ANTENNA" switch to "TV ANTENNA.")

## Connect Power Cords

Next, connect the power cord (with transformer) to the computer. Connect the small 4-pin plug end into the outlet on the back of the computer as indicated below. *Notice that the pins only line up one way.*



Then, plug the power transformer into a regular wall outlet. It is best to plug the transformer into a wall outlet that is continuously "live," not one controlled by a wall switch. You may want to secure the power transformer to the wall outlet as in the sketch above. (Note: Some wall plates may not have a screw location that matches the transformer.)

*Note:* If you have a two-cord transformer packed with your computer, simply plug one cord into the computer console, and plug the other cord into a wall outlet. Place the transformer itself on the floor or on your desk or table with your computer system.

Finally, plug either the monitor or television power cord into a continuously "live" wall outlet. (The color monitor is designed to operate on 120 volt 60 Hz AC. DO NOT ATTEMPT TO OPERATE THE UNIT ON DC.)

## Check the Connections

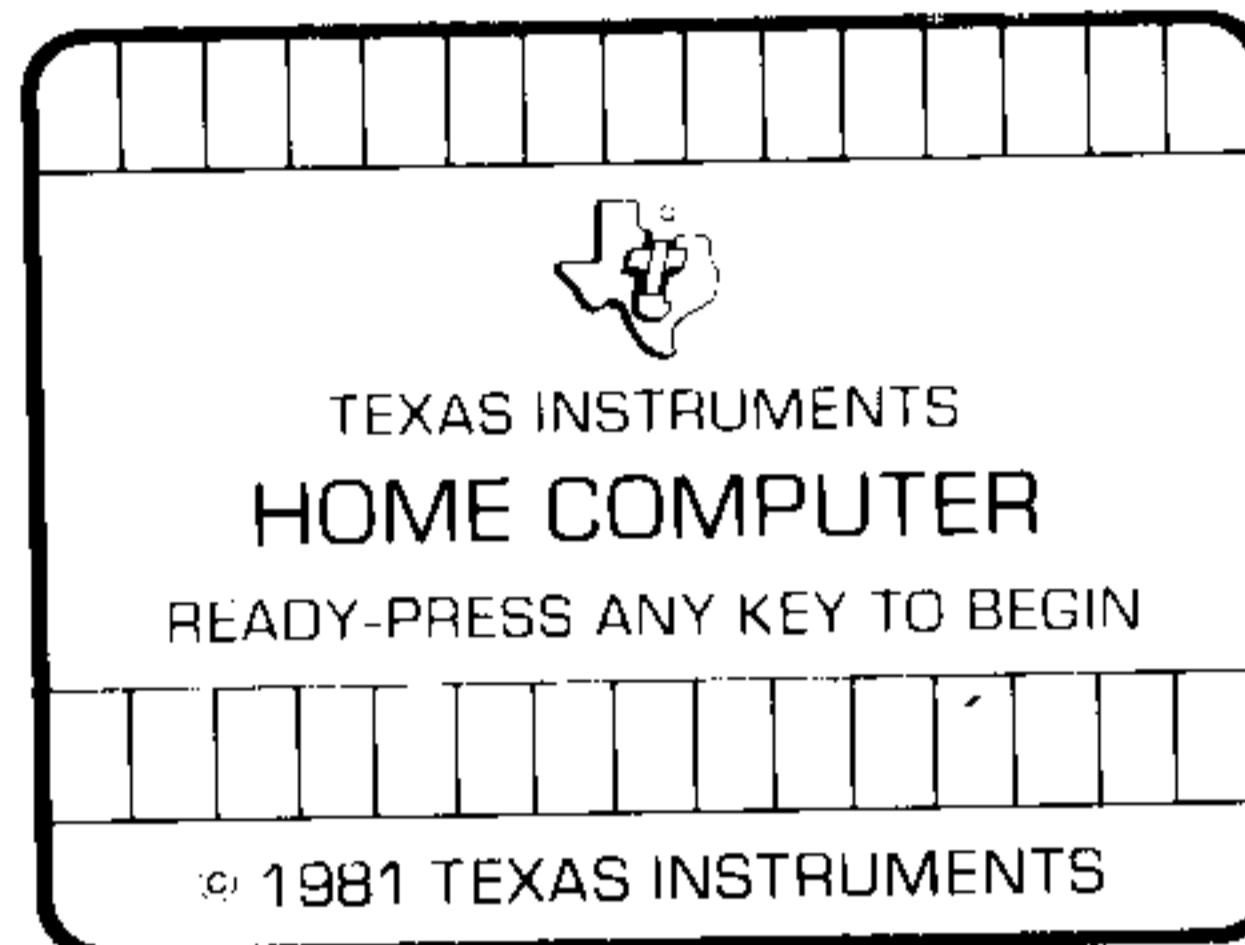
Before you turn on your computer, follow these steps:

- Check to see that all connections are secure.
- Make sure both the computer and the monitor or your television set are plugged into a live wall outlet.
- If you are using your own television set and a Video Modulator, set the "MODULATOR/TV ANTENNA" switch on the modulator to "MODULATOR" and be sure that the "CHANNEL SELECT" switch on the modulator and the channel selector on your television are set to the same channel (either 3 or 4, whichever is not a broadcasting channel in your area).

# 3

## TURN IT ON — HERE'S WHAT YOU'LL SEE:

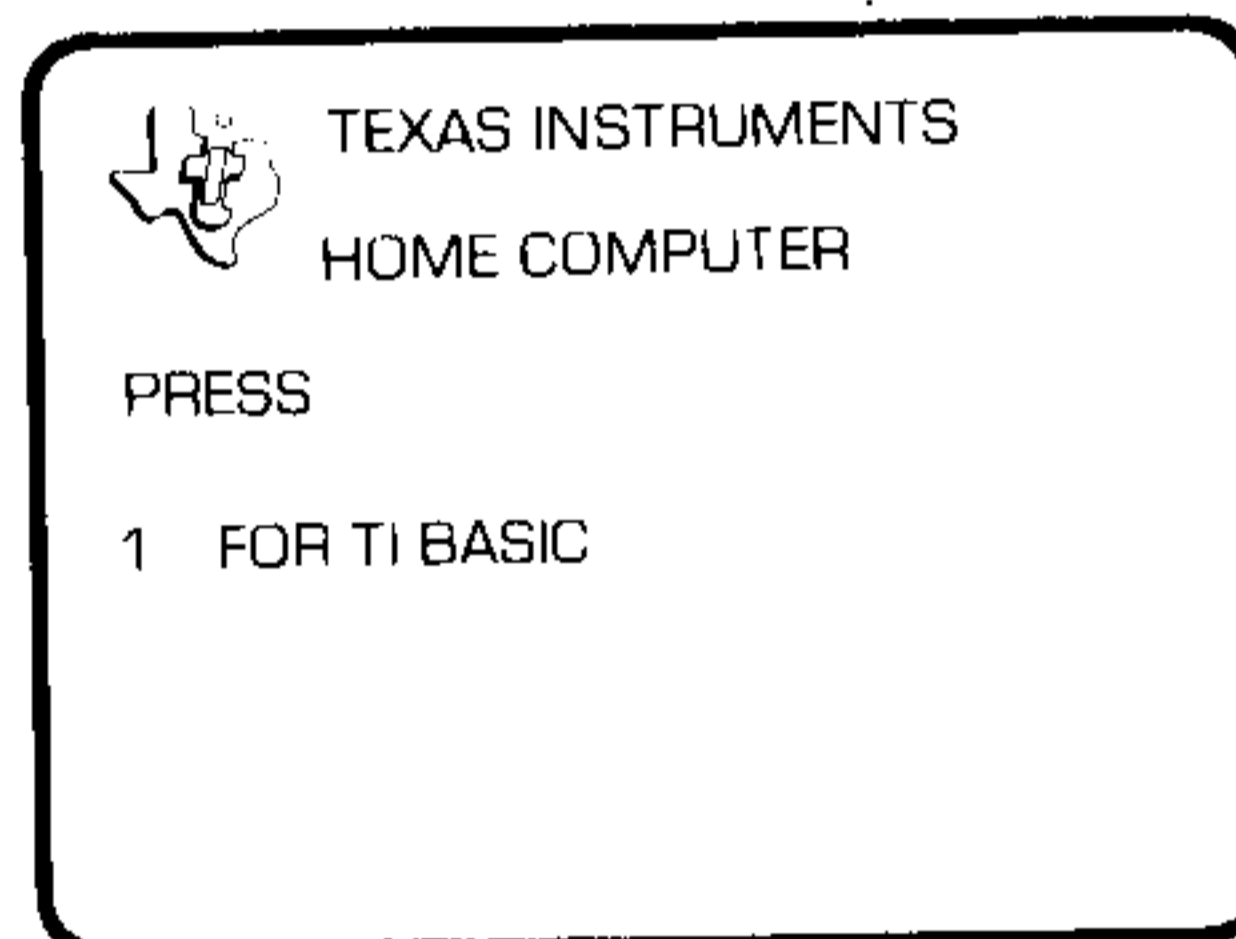
First, turn on the monitor or your television set, and let it warm up for a few seconds. Then switch on the console. (The on/off switch is to the right of the keyboard.)



*The computer's Master Title Screen.*

At this point you may need to adjust the picture for clarity. If you are not able to obtain a proper picture, see "In Case of Difficulty" in the *Operating Guide* for the TI Color Monitor or for the Video Modulator.

Next, press any key on the keyboard. You'll then see a "master selection list" that lets you choose the function you'd like to use.



If you press the 1 key, you select TI BASIC — and are set to start programming the computer yourself. (If you want to learn about programming from the "ground up," the *Beginner's BASIC* book (sold separately) will show you the way. If you're already an experienced programmer, a section of the *User's Reference Guide* gives you a detailed description of TI BASIC.)

If you have a Solid State Cartridge plugged into the slot on the console, the name of the program also appears on the master selection list. Press the 2 key to select the cartridge program.

*Note:* If you accidentally leave your computer on for a long period of time, the screen automatically goes blank after about ten minutes of non-use. Press any key to bring the display back again.

# 4

## NEXT STEPS...

Now you're ready to begin using your computer. If you would like to see your computer in action, try one of TI's cartridges or refer to "Applications Programs" in your *User's Reference Guide*.

To be certain that you're taking complete advantage of your computer's features and benefits, we'd suggest you take a few extra minutes to get acquainted with your *User's Reference Guide*. It has the details and facts you'll need if a question should arise.

*Above all, enjoy your Texas Instruments computer. It can be a valuable tool allowing you to gain better control of your resources, a patient teacher opening new vistas in education, and a stimulating entertainment center for your home!*

### A Note on Memory Capacity:

"Resident memory capacity" is a measure of how much information your computer can store and handle, which in turn provides a general indication of how useful it will be. (Memory is typically measured in "bytes," or thousands of bytes, called "K-bytes.")

Your TI-99/4A Home Computer is equipped with an internal 16K-byte Random Access Memory (RAM), *in addition to the built-in memory for TI BASIC!* This powerful memory is at your disposal, ready to handle short, simple programs and long, complex applications with equal ease.

TI's plug-in cartridge software actually adds to your computer's resident memory. Each cartridge is essentially a pre-programmed memory that expands the power, versatility, and capability of your Home Computer. (Solid State Cartridges can actually expand the total memory capacity of your TI-99/4A to 72K-bytes.)

***There's a computer in your future — and the future is now!***  
Texas Instruments computers are expressly designed so that skilled computer users and beginners alike can put them to immediate, effective use.

***If you're new to computers, TI's Solid State Cartridges are easy-to-use, completely self-contained packages that help you***

- Manage your personal finances
  - Bring new dimensions to education—for you and your children
  - Set up and maintain customized computer files for collections, household inventories, tax records
  - Provide an exciting and engaging new medium of entertainment for the whole family
- And there's more on the way.

***If you know computers, there's TI BASIC (with full floating-point, 13-digit capability) that's compatible with ANSI Minimal BASIC specifications. It also includes built-in subprograms for sound, color, and graphics. And TI has developed a full range of accessories and peripherals:***

- A disk memory system that can accommodate up to three disk drives
- The RS232 Interface, a standard communications link
- The 80-column Impact Printer for hard copies
- The *Solid State Speech*<sup>™</sup> Synthesizer that gives your computer a voice of its own
- And more

**Texas Instruments is committed to making your TI computer an enjoyable, useful, long-term investment — a total system that will continue to grow in value.**

**TEXAS INSTRUMENTS**  
INCORPORATED  
DALLAS, TEXAS