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Macintosh LC and Macintosh IIsi: Sound Input

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Article Change History

06/21/93 - REVIEWED

- To confirm specifications of Sony and Radio Shack cables.

TOPIC -----

This article is about the sound input circuitry for the Macintosh LC and Macintosh IIsi.

DISCUSSION -----

The Macintosh LC and Macintosh IIsi computers have built-in mono 8-bit sound input circuitry. This hardware is supported by the System 7.0 Sound Manager, which is included in System 6.0.7.

An electret microphone and a plastic holder to attach the microphone to the front of a monitor are included with the system. The microphone has a male miniature stereo phone connector. Customers can use any commercially available microphone that does not require an external power source.

An attenuated RCA adapter cable, with a male miniature phone connector on one end and two female RCA connectors on the other steps down the voltage level of the incoming signal. Devices such as CD players or tape players provide line out signals at a higher level than the 20 millivolt - 600-ohm impedance expected by the sound input circuitry. If you use a non-attenuated RCA adaptor cable in the audio-in jack, you will not hurt the system and it will still digitize the signal, but it may be very distorted.

If you use an attenuated RCA adapter cable as an audio-out cable, it may or may not work, depending on what you're connecting to. A standard RCA adapter cable is recommended for audio out. If the microphone is plugged into the audio-out jack, no sound will come out of the jack or the internal speaker.

Both Sony and Radio Shack sell attenuated RCA cables. The Sony part number is RK-G128 and the Radio Shack part number is 42-2461-A.

To locate a vendor's address and phone numbers, use the vendor name as a search string.

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