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## MessagePad 120: Hardware Handshake Isn't on PC Cables (12/95)

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TOPIC -----

Is the PC compatible cable that shipped with the Apple MessagePad 120 2.0 devices a hardware handshaking cable? Is hardware handshaking required?

DISCUSSION -----

The PC to Apple MessagePad cable is not a hardware handshake cable. There is no need for it to be since both the MessagePad and the PC are capable of handling communication at 57,600 baud. At this data rate, there should not be any data overflow.

The above situation is slightly different than modem communications where the modem speed is slower than the serial port speed. For example, if the port is set for 57,600 baud and the modem is communicating at 28,800, the modem has to be able to compress the data 2:1 to stay up with the computer. If the data cannot be compressed this much, the modem must tell the computer to stop sending the data to prevent overflow. This is why you must use a cable that supports hardware handshaking.

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