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Apple Color Monitors: Cause of Visible Line(s) (10/96)

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TOPIC -----

Why do some Apple color monitors have a thin line or lines across the screen?

DISCUSSION -----

When you display a white or light background on some Apple color displays, you may notice a thin gray horizontal line or lines across the screen. These thin lines are supporting or stabilizing wires inside the CRT and are part of Sony's Trinitron CRT technology. These Apple displays include a Sony Trinitron CRT:

- 13-inch High Resolution RGB Monitor
- 14-inch Macintosh Color Display
- Multiple Scan 17 and 20 Displays
- AppleVision 1710 and AppleVision 1710AV Displays
- Macintosh 16-inch Color Display
- Macintosh Color Classic
- AudioVision 14 Display
- Macintosh TV
- Macintosh LC 520, 550, 575
- Performa 550, 560, 575, 577, 578

Sony Trinitron CRTs have a specially constructed aperture grill which improves the CRT's convergence and produces a sharp and clear image. The aperture grill is a grid of vertical wires located just behind the CRT screen. These CRTs require a horizontal stabilizing wire or wires to help support the aperture grill. The supporting wires, which are thinner than a human hair, stabilize the aperture grill against shocks.

The Macintosh 13-inch Hi-Res RGB Monitor and 14-inch Macintosh Color Display have a single support wire across the bottom third of the display. The Macintosh 16-inch Color Display and the Multiple Scan 17 and 20 Displays have two support wires visible across the top and bottom thirds of the screen.

Note that these are not screen defects. Their presence cannot be adjusted out or eliminated by repairing or replacing modules in the display.

Article Change History:

25 Oct 1996 - Added AppleVision 1710 & AppleVision 1710AV.

10 Oct 1994 - Added keyword; made minor updates.
27 Sep 1994 - Added LC 575, Performa 575/577/578.

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