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Power Macintosh Computers: Supported Microphones (6/96)

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TOPIC ---

What type of microphone devices are supported for use with the Power Macintosh computers?

DISCUSSION --

Power Macintosh 6100, 7100, and 8100 Series

For the first generation of Power Macintosh computers (the 6100, 7100, and 8100 series), the microphone input jack supported line-level input signals. Apple provided the PlainTalk microphone with these computers. It is a line-level input device with a longer connector than Apple's previous microphone which receives some power from the computer. Other line-level devices were also supported via the microphone input jack on these computers.

Power Macintosh 7200 Series

For the Power Macintosh 7200 series computers, Apple provides an extension called Sound Input Amplification. It can be installed from the Apple Extras folder on the internal hard drive or System CD-ROM disc. This extension modifies the Sound control panel to provide an "amplification" menu option. With amplification turned on, sound input is amplified +25 dB, and some third-party mic-level microphones will work with the Power Macintosh 7200. Users with an Apple PlainTalk microphone should leave the Amplification setting at the default settings because this microphone comes with a pre-amplifier and produces sound at line-level.

Power Macintosh 7500, 7600, and 8500 Series

For the Power Macintosh 7500, 7600, and 8500 series computers, only line-level input devices like the PlainTalk microphone are supported at this time. The Power Macintosh 7500, 7600, and 8500 series computers also support stereo connections via line-level RCA connectors which make it easy to connect to standard audio/video components.

Article Change History:
27 Jun 1996 - Added additional computer.

12 Jan 1996 - Updated Power Macintosh 7200 Series section.
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