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Hard Disk 20SC: Connecting a terminator

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The actual Small Computer Systems Interface specification from ANSI states that each END of the daisy chained cables are terminated. This indicates that the HD20SC manual is 'incorrect' and the Apple SCSI Cabling System manual is correct.

The diagram on page 15 of the "Hard Disk 20SC Owner's Guide" shows the terminator on the extra SCSI port. On page 5 of the HD20SC manual, it shows that when connecting a single HD20S to a CPU, the SCSI System cable should connect the 2 machines, while the SCSI Terminator connects to the other port on the hard drive.

The top diagram on page 12 of "The Apple SCSI Cable System" shows the terminator goes between the cable and the (one) peripheral device. Page 10 of the SCSI Cable System manual states that for the same configuration that the System cable should connect directly to the SCSI Terminator and the other end of the Terminator connects to the SCSI device (in this case HD20SC).

In truth, both ways work. However, if you were to check the amount of line noise on both one-device setups, you might find a bit more noise on the incorrectly placed terminator configuration.

The terminator should be placed on the SCSI input of the first device. If the configuration has more than one device or more than 10 feet of SCSI cable hooked together, a second terminator should be placed on the pass through of the last device. If the user has a self-terminated SCSI device, it should be the last device on the chain. You may refer to the Apple SCSI Cabling System manual for all of the correct configurations.

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