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PlainTalk Jack: Requires 3.5 mm Plug (9/94)

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Security: Everyone

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TOPIC -----

I am having problems using an audio cable from my stereo into my Power Macintosh computer. I cannot get a consistent signal, I sometimes have to wiggle the cable in order to hear the audio. I have tried several cables, but all of them do the same thing.

DISCUSSION -----

The PlainTalk sound input mini-jack is a standard 3.5 mm diameter. The symptoms you describe occur if you use 1/8-in connectors instead of 3.5 mm connectors.

The difference is that the 1/8-in. plug is .125-in. in diameter, and the 3.5 mm jack is .139-in. (0.014-in. bigger). When a 1/8-in. plug is used, it is prone to cutting out and having excessive noise on the audio line.

To prevent this, you should use a 3.5 mm connector instead of 1/8-in.

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