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## Macintosh 21 Color Display: Disabling Automatic Degauss Feature

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TOPIC -----

What is the purpose of the Macintosh 21" Color Display automatic degauss feature, and can it be disabled?

DISCUSSION -----

All color monitors can lose purity (manifested as faint blotches of color on the display) when the monitor is moved to a different location, turned on its base, or influenced by an external magnetic field. In the past, the only methods for correcting this problem were either to switch off the monitor and then switch it back on, or to enable the degauss switch. When you switch on the monitor, the monitor degauss circuit operates for a fraction of a second to restore screen purity.

The Macintosh 21" Color Display does this automatically. When any of the aforementioned conditions occurs, the monitor emits an audible beep and degausses itself. The entire process takes less than a second. However, some locations where computers are used may be exposed to intermittent external magnetic fields, which can trigger the display's automatic degauss circuit and may be annoying to the user.

This feature can be safely disabled by disconnecting connector X911, mounted on the Position Sensor Board. The Position Sensor Board is located above the CRT neck and just behind the deflection yoke.

Once the connector is disconnected, the only way to degauss the monitor is by pressing the degauss switch at the back of the monitor.

Note  
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Disabling the automatic degauss feature may cause the display to exhibit a tilting or leaning affect. This is because the position sensor is also used to compensate for stray magnetic fields, which may cause raster tilting.

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