



# Tech Info Library

## Macintosh 5xxx/6xxx: Wrong Sound Capabilities Reported (9/96)

Revised: 9/16/96  
Security: Everyone

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TOPIC -----

I have a Macintosh Performa 5300 series computer, and I am attempting to use a program that requires 16-bit sound. Although I think my computer has 16-bit sound, the program is reporting that the computer is only capable of 8-bit audio. Does this computer have 16-bit sound? If so, why am I unable to use this program?

DISCUSSION -----

When System 7.5.1 is running on Power Macintosh and Performa 5200, 5300, 6200, or 6300 series computers capable of 16-bit audio input\*, programs that use a Gestalt call to determine the audio input capabilities of the computer may report that the computer is only capable of 8-bit audio input. This is incorrect. The computer will correctly record 16-bit audio data unless the program disables 16-bit sound recording based on the incorrect report from the computer.

This is resolved in System 7.5.3. You can upgrade from System 7.5.1 to System 7.5.3 by installing System 7.5 Update 2.0 (available on the Internet and online services) or by installing System 7.5 version 7.5.3 (available for purchase).

\* Note: All Power Macintosh and Performa 5300, 6200, and 6300 series computers support 16-bit audio input. Some Macintosh 5200 series computers support 16-bit audio and some do not. The following models only support 8-bit audio input:

Order no.	Product Name	Sound
M3947LL/A	Power Macintosh 5200 LC 8/500/CD	8-bit
M3917LL/A	Power Macintosh 5200 LC 8/500/CD/VI/TV	8-bit
M3947LL/B	Power Macintosh 5200 LC 8/500/4XCD	8-bit
M3940LL/A	Macintosh Performa 5200CD 8/500	8-bit
M3941LL/A	Macintosh Performa 5200CD 8/500/TV/VI	8-bit

If your computer is not listed and you would like to verify whether your computer has 8-bit or 16-bit sound, follow these steps:

Step 1

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Choose Control Panels from your Apple menu.

Step 2

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Open the Sound control panel.

Step 3

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Choose "Sound Out" from the "Alert Sounds" pull down menu. If the 16-bit sound input radio button is grayed out, you only have 8-bit input.

If 16-bit is not grayed out, make sure there is a dot in the radio button next to it.

Step 4

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Use the close box in the upper left corner to close the Sound control panel.

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