

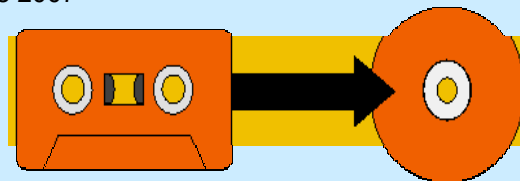
PC microphone troubleshooting guide

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'LOCKED' EDITION

Message to sponsors:

Thank you for downloading my guide if you would like to show appreciation for the information provided, and would like an 'unlocked' version of this guide, please visit <http://www.cassette2cd.co.uk/downloads.php> and click to donate any amount via Paypal from £1/\$1 or whatever you think is appropriate to pay towards the upkeep of the site. Use 'Mic guide' as the reference and I will email you a 'sponsors' copy of the file. If you would like an unlocked copy, but can't afford to donate, please email me at the contact address below to let me know.

I launched www.cassette2cd.co.uk in May 2006 to explore the possibility of generating some business converting cassettes to CD's. I developed the site to include a section on studio microphones and a 'DIY' section for carrying out audio tasks with a PC. The DIY section developed into a series of online guides under the following headings:

- Converting a cassette to a CD
- PC microphone troubleshooting guide
- Multi-track recording using AUDACITY software

This led me on to creating downloadable versions of the guides for each of the three topics (there may well be more to follow...). I decided that I would provide a 'locked' version of the document as a free download and a 'unlocked' version which I could subsequently supply to anyone willing to sponsor me via a small donation towards the upkeep of the [cassette2cd.co.uk](http://www.cassette2cd.co.uk) website. A donation of any amount entitles the sponsor to all of the current guides and any subsequent guides that may be available in the future. It is my intention to keep updating these guides as appropriate, and to develop the series to cover as many topics as I think may be interesting for my visitors.

The unlocked version may be printed, and sections can be copied and pasted into other documents or edited via Adobe Acrobat editors.

If you have any ideas regarding audio guides that you would like to see, please do not hesitate to let me know.

If you have any questions, email me at: john@cassette2cd.co.uk to let me know.
Best Regards

John

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Introduction

This document is intended as a simple guide to some of the basics of setting up a microphone to work via the sound card of a Personal Computer. I often hear of people experiencing problems with this task, so I have devised this short guide to address some of the rudimentary points.

We are going to look at firstly connecting the microphone to the PC soundcard, and then accessing control of the soundcard via Windows volume control.

In many ways this principle is similar to setting up to record from an external audio source, except that we are not using the blue AUX IN port, but the pink MIC input.



Mic port type 1



Mic port type 2

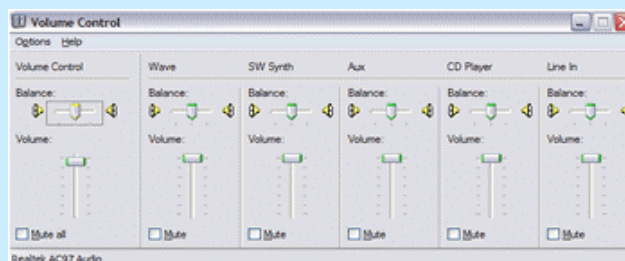


Making the connection

Getting Started

At this point, I am going to assume that you have speakers/headphones connected to your soundcard output. NOTE: the headphone output of your CDROM drive will not suffice, as this does not give you access to all the channels on your soundcard.

Our task is to get the microphone signal audible through your PC speakers via your soundcard. Connect the mic and open up your PC volume control (usually a speaker icon on bottom right of your taskbar - Windows) If this only shows a single volume control, try double-clicking the icon to get a 'mixer' panel, or (Windows) START, All programs/ accessories/ entertainment/ volume control.

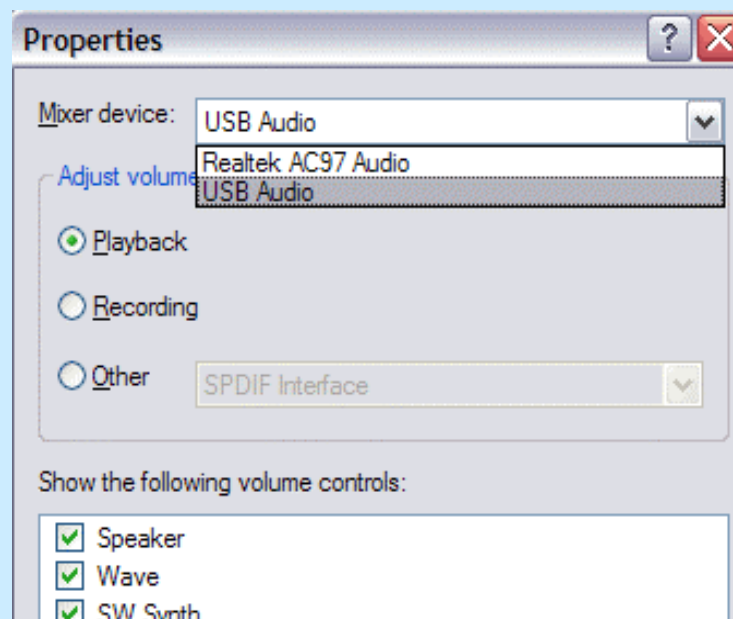


If you can't see a channel marked 'Microphone', click on properties and select microphone from the selection boxes.

Connection to PC soundcard is via 'MIC' not 'Line In', try swapping it round if you are not sure. (Where colour coding is used, the 'MIC' should be pink)

If you get no sound check the following:

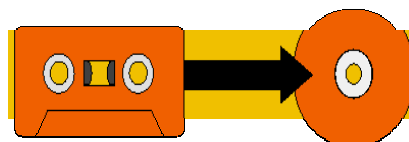
1. Where there is a separate volume control for your speakers/headphones, check that it is sufficiently high to be audible.
2. Check 'options/properties' in your volume control mixer to see if you need to select your soundcard from a drop-down list.



Now you should be ready to use your PC microphone. For USB mics, you may find that your USB device is listed as if it were a separate soundcard in the 'Mixer device' drop-down menu.

For the latest version of this file, visit <http://www.cassette2cd.co.uk>

For information, or if you have any comments or questions, please email: info@cassette2cd.co.uk



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