

Technology: Tools

Computers

Camcorders

Internet

Much
MORE!!!!

Scanners

Audio
recorders

Recording Audio with Computers

The recording process for digital audio is not difficult. Macintosh computers have the necessary hardware components built in for recording audio. With a PC, a digital audio board (e.g., SoundBlaster) needs to be installed to record and play audio files. To digitize audio, follow this procedure:

- Plug a microphone into the audio input of the computer or audio board.
- Open an audio recording program (SoundBlaster provides a sound recording/editing program, and HyperStudio has a built-in sound recording program).
- Select a sampling rate and other parameters, if they are available.
- Choose “Record” on the menu of the software program.
- Speak into the microphone.
- Select “Stop” when you have recorded the segment you want.
- Test the recording with the “Play” command. If it is acceptable, name the file and save it to the disk.

Digitized sounds can be viewed and edited like text. With the appropriate software program, sounds can be selected, cut, copied, pasted, and mixed with other sounds. Audio editing is a powerful tool that allows you to rearrange sounds or cut out parts you do not need.

(Adapted from *Multimedia Projects in Education*, Ivers & Barron, 1998, pages 85-86. See page iv of that text for permission to reproduce up to 15 pages.)