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Subject: An Old Telephone From.....The '50s Maybe?  
Posted by [The Noise](#) on Sat, 22 Aug 2020 20:41:42 GMT

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I'm going to describe something that I can only assume was a telephone that I saw in a house last week and I would like to know if anyone here knows what I'm talking about. When it was made, who made it, among other things.

The box was rectangular, wood, mounted on a wall, had a number pad for "dialing" and a part of the wood structure was cut out for, I'm assuming, a speaker with cloth over the cut-out. In a way, it looks like it would be part of an intercom system within the house, but it did have a keypad. It did not have handset for talking, so I'm assuming there was a button or 2 you could push to hear and be heard.

I Googled for a while and I just couldn't find it.

I am really interested to know what that was.

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Subject: Re: An Old Telephone From.....The '50s Maybe?  
Posted by [Wayne Parham](#) on Sun, 23 Aug 2020 18:11:47 GMT

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The earliest phones were in wood boxes like you describe. But the intercom feature sounds like something custom, perhaps made specifically for the house.

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Subject: Re: An Old Telephone From.....The '50s Maybe?  
Posted by [Csharp](#) on Wed, 26 Aug 2020 15:06:00 GMT

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That would explain why Google couldn't find it I suppose. Have you tried Pinterest? It sounds like an interesting piece of equipment at the very least.

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Subject: Re: An Old Telephone From.....The '50s Maybe?  
Posted by [gofar99](#) on Thu, 27 Aug 2020 02:10:29 GMT

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Hi, I would guess it was an intercom as well. The speaker is the giveaway. In many intercoms they were used for both listening and talking. There is likely a push to talk switch on it somewhere.

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Subject: Re: An Old Telephone From.....The '50s Maybe?

Posted by [The Noise](#) on Fri, 28 Aug 2020 02:15:17 GMT

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Yeah it does look more like an intercom than a phone. The keypad through me off though.

It went well with all other furnishings in the house. It all was dated, but very classy.

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