Subject: What happened with wire recorders?
Posted by Madison on Thu, 19 Aug 2021 18:02:24 GMT
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I've read a bit about them, and it seems like they're the most stable form of storage, so why aren't they more popular? It can't be blamed on the digital revolution because wire recorders fell out of fashion long before then. What happened? Was it just bad PR? I've been to many estate sales and garage sales to hunt one down. I can only find bits and pieces. It's just so odd because I have found three vintage radios in decent condition and countless sets of record albums, so what gives? I've found a few on eBay and will probably pick one up there. I'd still like to know why they're so hard to find.

Subject: Re: What happened with wire recorders?
Posted by Trilling Me Softly on Thu, 19 Aug 2021 21:47:23 GMT
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Wire recorders were mostly used by businesses, so you're unlikely to find one at an estate sale or similar. I don't think they were ever popular in personal homes - not like a turntable or cassette player. I'd look elsewhere.

Subject: Re: What happened with wire recorders?
Posted by gofar99 on Sat, 21 Aug 2021 02:15:21 GMT
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Hi, There are a number of factors as to why they are not used. First the wire is expensive and unfortunately subject to breakage. Repairs are difficult. Second head wear is high. Third fidelity is rather limited. They were mostly used for dictation and similar functions and never were good enough for hi-fi so when alternatives came out like cassettes they just faded away. Cassettes have been replaced with digital storage now as well.

Subject: Re: What happened with wire recorders?
Posted by Kingfish on Wed, 06 Oct 2021 02:43:25 GMT
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They are great conversation pieces when you want to invite other audiophiles over for dinner.

I'm a sucker for history, so I always look at things like this with a kind of reverence rather than "It's just antiquated history."

Subject: Re: What happened with wire recorders?
Posted by Strum Drum on Sat, 15 Jan 2022 16:24:49 GMT
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I learned about wire recorders from you guys. I've never heard anyone mention them in real life, and I've never run across a wire recorder in person. I'd love to see one up close. They seem nifty.

Subject: Re: What happened with wire recorders?
Posted by Concorde on Fri, 18 Feb 2022 03:58:53 GMT
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Someone at some point said: This is a hassle. There has to be a better way."

They say necessity is the mother of invention, but if someone can think of an easier way of doing something they'll work to make it happen.

Subject: Re: What happened with wire recorders?
Posted by Silver on Sun, 20 Feb 2022 13:35:02 GMT
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I think they need to make a comeback solely for a niche purpose: To help better protect copyrighted material. Make the wire the first place a person stores a work of art. Time-stamped, of course.

Who's gonna steal that?

It's the perfect place, really.

Subject: Re: What happened with wire recorders?
Posted by gofar99 on Sun, 20 Feb 2022 22:53:38 GMT
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Hi, If you do some checking on this ...you will see that the bandwidth and signal to noise are really horrible and unsuitable for this use.

Subject: Re: What happened with wire recorders?
Posted by The Noise on Wed, 09 Mar 2022 04:55:49 GMT
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Yeah, that is a shame because Silver had a good point. If you want to protect something valuable, put it in the last place anyone would look.
