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Subject: Digitizing Audio

Posted by [Jim R. Daley](#) on Sat, 12 Apr 2008 09:16:27 GMT

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I want to digitize some of my old reel-to-reel tapes to be burned to CD's and I am wondering where to set levels for the best digitizing. The tape machine has a level control that affects the line output and the computer's sound card has a level setting applet for the line in jacks. Is it better to set the PC's level at max and use the tape machine's level, providing of course that I don't cause clipping or other distortion?

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Subject: Re: Digitizing Audio

Posted by [Wayne Parham](#) on Sat, 12 Apr 2008 20:35:19 GMT

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Best thing is to set the output level as high as possible that won't overdrive the input. Check peak levels for clipping and then back down just a tiny bit to make sure. The reason you want the output drive as high as possible is this makes the signal to noise ratio as high as possible.