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Subject: Help! Speaker Interference

Posted by [formsand](#) on Fri, 26 Sep 2008 03:57:42 GMT

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Hi I have a pair of older Altec Lansing computer speakers w/ sub. I am in a dorm room, so I only have a limited supply of electrical outlets. First of all, whenever my mini-refrigerator comes on it produces a loud noise out of my speakers. Also, when I turn on my fluorescent desk lamp, it does the same thing. These noises are unpredictable; sometimes it is just a slight pop noise and other times it is quite loud and disturbing. Also, whenever I unplug or plug in my speakers it produces the same situation. Is there anything I can do to stop this?

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Subject: Re: Help! Speaker Interference

Posted by [Wayne Parham](#) on Mon, 29 Sep 2008 21:53:55 GMT

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Electrical noise is a problem that we all face at one time or another. In addition to the obvious noise coupled back onto the AC line, look for ground loops and bad shielding on preamp lines. Here are a couple things to try: 1. Disconnect the inputs to the speaker's amps and see if the refrigerator and lamps still make the sound. If not, then noise is coupling into your inputs. In that case, you may have a bad signal cable that you can repair or replace to fix the problem. 2. Is the computer power plugged into the same outlet as the speaker amplifier power? If not, try plugging them into the same outlet. Use a barrier strip with multiple outlets if you need more sockets. This will ensure their grounds are connected and reduce the possibility of a ground loop.

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