

Creative Sound Blaster PCI Creative Audio Software

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Creative Sound Blaster PCI Installation Guide

Contents



Depending on your geographical region, your audio card's product name may be one of the following:

- Creative Ensoniq AudioPCI
- Creative Sound Blaster 16 PCI
- Creative Sound Blaster AudioPCI 128
- VIBRA 128
- Creative Sound Blaster PCI Compact
- Creative Sound Blaster PCI 128

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Introduction



The four-speaker environment is only available on 4-channel audio cards.

Congratulations on your purchase of Creative Sound Blaster™ PCI audio card. With its high quality performance and low CPU utilization, Sound Blaster PCI is the ideal choice for your computer.

Featuring 128-voice wave-table synthesis with very high sample rate converters, Sound Blaster PCI ensures high level audio quality and performance. In addition, Sound Blaster PCI supports localized three-dimensional sound immersion in headphone and four-speaker environments.

Sound Blaster PCI also supports multiple algorithm levels of reverb and chorus effects on the wave-table sounds as well as spatial sound enhancement on MIDI and Wave sounds in two speakers. Full duplex operation also allows simultaneous audio recording and playback.

Its use of the PCI bus and Plug and Play (PnP) technology helps make the Sound Blaster PCI one of the easiest audio cards to install. We believe this Sound Blaster PCI card will give you years of enjoyment of high-quality sound on your PC.

Minimum System Requirements

- ☐ Genuine Intel® Pentium® 133 MHz or faster for Windows 95, Windows 98 and Windows 98 Second Edition (SE)
Genuine Intel Pentium 166 MHz or faster for Windows Millennium Edition (Me)
Genuine Intel Pentium 200 MHz or faster for Windows NT 4.0 and Windows 2000
Genuine Intel Pentium 233 MHz or faster for Windows XP
- ☐ 16 MB RAM for Windows 95/98/98 SE (32 RAM recommended)
32 MB RAM for Windows NT 4.0/Me
64 MB RAM for Windows 2000
128 MB RAM for Windows XP
- ☐ One free PCI slot
- ☐ Windows 95, Windows 98, Windows 98 SE, Windows Me, Windows NT 4.0, Windows 2000 or Windows XP
- ☐ Headphone or amplified speakers (FourPointSurround series speakers recommended for Sound Blaster PCI 4-channel audio cards)

Using This Guide

This guide explains the various hardware components on your audio card, and also shows you how to install the card into your computer.

Getting More Information

Refer to Creative Sound Blaster PCI's online Help for more information and instructions on how to use the various applications found in your package.




To go to Creative Sound Blaster PCI's online Help, do the following:

► Click **Start -> Programs -> Creative -> Sound Blaster PCI -> User's Guide**

Document Conventions

The following conventions are used throughout this document:

Table i: *Document conventions*

This	Represents
	This notepad icon indicates information that is of particular importance and should be considered before continuing.
	This alarm clock icon indicates that failure to adhere to directions may result in loss of data or damage to your system.
	The warning sign indicates that failure to adhere to directions may result in bodily harm or life-threatening situations.

About Your Audio Card



- The Rear Out connector is only available on 4-channel audio cards.
- SPDIF Out is only available on certain audio cards. If available, refer to the online Help for SPDIF Out mode selection. The jumper JP1 is not available on audio cards supporting SPDIF Out.
- The Line Out jack supports Speaker Out mode only if your audio card has the jumper JP1.

The figure below shows the connectors of a full-height audio card. These connectors allow you to attach a variety of devices to your audio card.

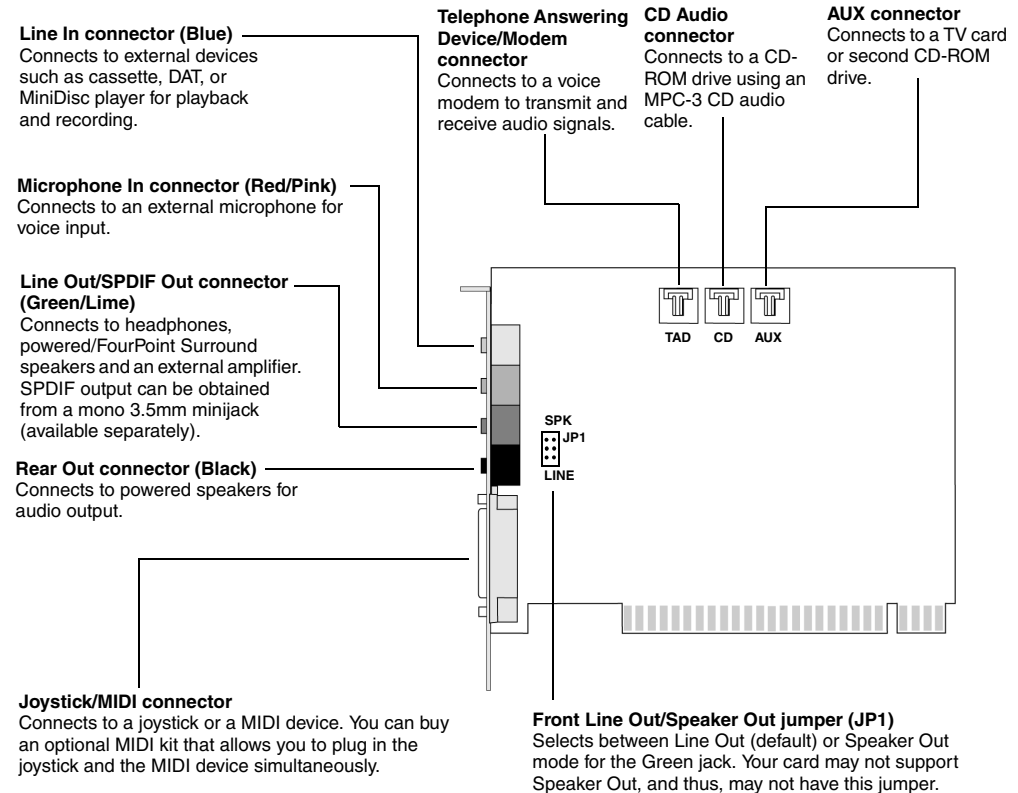


Figure 1: Connectors on your audio card.

You may have purchased a half-height audio card as shown in the figure below. The connectors of this type of audio card are shown in the figure below.

**Line Out or SPDIF Out connector
(Green/Lime)**

Connects to powered speakers or digital devices. Refer to Creative Sound Blaster PCI Compact's online Help for the SPDIF Out mode selection.

Line In connector (Black/Blue)

Connects to external devices such as cassette, DAT or Minidisc players for playback and recording.

**Microphone In connector
(Red/Pink)**

Connects to an external microphone for voice input.

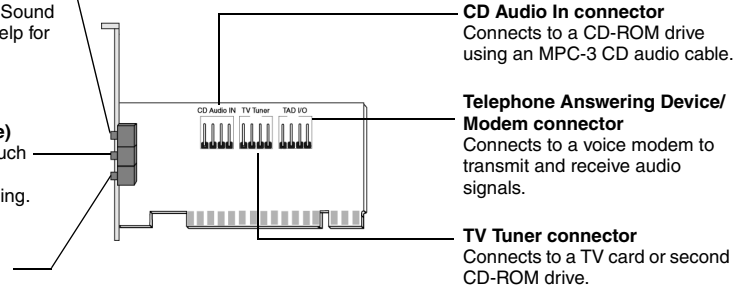


Figure 2: Connectors on your audio card.

Installing Hardware

Step 1: Prepare your computer



Turn off the main power supply and disconnect your computer's power cord. Systems using an ATX power supply unit with soft power off may still be powering the PCI slot. This can damage your audio card when it is inserted into the slot.



Remove any existing audio card or disable the onboard audio.

1. Turn off your computer and all peripheral devices.
2. Touch a metal plate on your computer to ground yourself and to discharge any static electricity, and then unplug the power cord from the wall outlet.
3. Remove the computer cover.
4. Remove the metal bracket from an unused PCI slot as shown in Figure 3. Put the screw aside for use later.

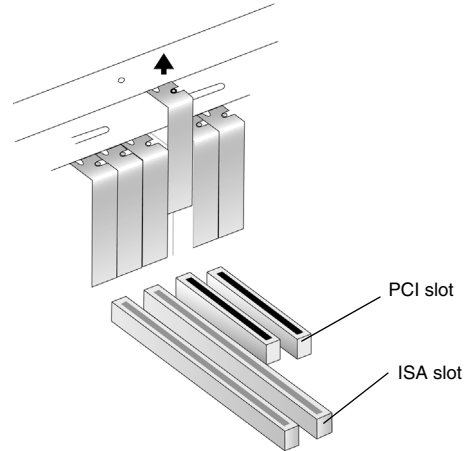


Figure 3: Removing a metal plate

Step 2: Install the audio card



Do not force the audio card into the slot. Make sure that the gold finger PCI connector on the Creative audio card is aligned with the PCI bus connector on the motherboard before you insert the card into the PCI expansion slot. If it does not fit properly, gently remove it and try again.

1. Align the Creative audio card with the PCI slot and press the card gently but firmly into the slot as shown in Figure 4.
2. Secure the Creative audio card with the screw you had placed aside earlier.

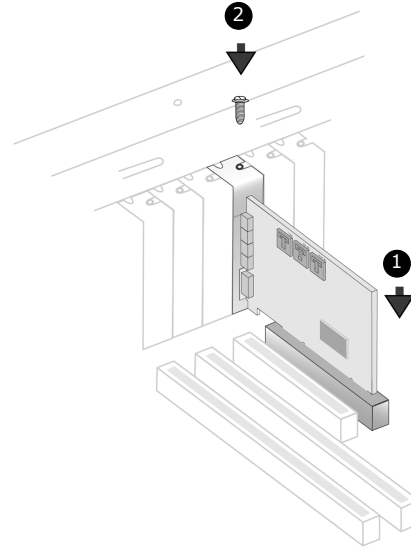


Figure 4: Aligning and securing the card against the slot.

Step 3: Connect to the CD-ROM/DVD-ROM drive



The Analog CD audio cable is not bundled with your audio card.

For analog CD audio output:

- Connect the Analog CD audio cable from the Analog Audio connector on your CD-ROM/DVD-ROM drive to the CD Audio connector on the Creative audio card as shown in Figure 5.

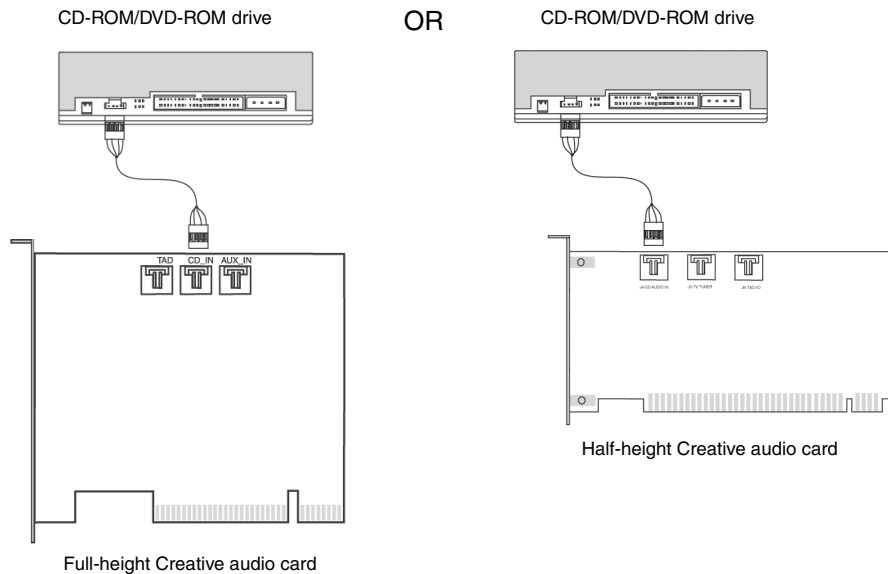


Figure 5: Connecting to a CD-ROM/DVD-ROM drive.

Installing Software

You need to install device drivers and applications to use Sound Blaster PCI. To install these drivers and the bundled applications, use the following instructions. The instructions are applicable to all supported Windows operating systems.

1. After you have installed the Creative audio card, turn on your computer. Windows automatically detects the audio card and device drivers.
2. When prompted for the audio drivers, click the **Cancel** button.
3. Insert the Sound Blaster PCI installation CD into your CD-ROM drive. The disc supports Windows AutoPlay mode and starts running automatically. If not, either enable your CD-ROM drive's auto-insert notification feature, or click **Start** -> **Run** and then type D:\CTRUN\CTRUN.EXE in the **Open** box (where D: represents your CD-ROM drive).
4. Follow the instructions on the screen to complete the installation.
5. When prompted, restart your computer.

Uninstalling Your Audio Card

You may at times need to uninstall and then reinstall the Creative audio card to correct problems or change configurations. The following instructions tell you how to uninstall the Creative audio card in all Windows operating systems.

1. Click **Start** -> **Settings** -> **Control Panel**.
2. Double-click the **Add/Remove Programs** icon.
3. Click the **Install/Uninstall** tab. The **Add/Remove Programs** dialog box appears.
4. Click **Sound Blaster PCI** and then click the **Add/Remove** button in Windows 95/98/98 SE/ME/NT 4.0 or the **Change/Remove** button in Windows 2000/XP.
5. When the **Confirm File Deletion** dialog box appears, click the **Yes** button.

Testing The Installation

After the drivers are installed, you can use Creative PlayCenter to test whether your audio card is working properly.

1. Click **Start** -> **Programs** -> **Creative** -> **Creative PlayerCenter**.
2. Click the **File** button and then click **Open**.
3. Click the **Browse** button. The **Open** dialog box appears.
4. Locate and double-click a .WAV file.
5. Click the **OK** button. You should hear the selected sound being played. If you encounter any problems, refer to the “Troubleshooting” section in Creative Sound Blaster PCI’s online Help.

General Specifications

Wave-Table Synthesis

- ☐ Creative synthesis engine
- ☐ Digital effects engine for reverb and chorus
- ☐ 128-voice polyphony and multi-timbral capability
- ☐ 16 MIDI channels, 128 GM and GS compatible instruments and 10 drum kits
- ☐ MT-32 compatible instrument set
- ☐ 2 MB sample set included

3D Audio Technology

- ☐ Support for Microsoft DirectSound and DirectSound3D and Creative Environmental Audio Extensions (EAX) audio technologies in two-speaker mode
- ☐ Localized 3D Sound technology expands the spaciousness of sounds in the traditional two speaker system
- ☐ Multi-Algorithm reverb and chorus

Memory Subsystem

- ☐ Utilizes system RAM for wave-table samples
- ☐ User configurable for 2 MB, 4 MB or 8 MB

CD-Quality, 16-Bit Stereo Digital Audio

- ☐ 8-bit and 16-bit mono and stereo recording and playback
- ☐ User-selectable sample rates from 5 kHz to 48 kHz
- ☐ Full-duplex support enables simultaneous record and playback for Internet communications software

MIDI Interface/Joystick Connector (on selected models)

- ☐ Built-in 15-pin MIDI interface (cable available separately)
- ☐ Compatible with Sound Blaster and MPU-401 UART modes
- ☐ IBM-compatible 15-pin joystick connector with analog support

Onboard Connectors

- ☐ Line In
- ☐ Microphone In
- ☐ Line Out/SPDIF Out (on selected models)
- ☐ Joystick/MIDI connector (on selected models)
- ☐ Telephone Answering Device In/Out
- ☐ MPC-3 CD Audio In
- ☐ Auxiliary In/TV Tuner

Works with the following standards

- ☐ Windows 95/98/98 SE/Me/NT 4.0/2000/XP
- ☐ General MIDI
- ☐ MPC-3
- ☐ Plug-and-Play
- ☐ Sound Blaster PCI
- ☐ Microsoft DirectSound, DirectSound3D
- ☐ EAX