

# **Sound**

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	<i>TITLE :</i> Sound		
<i>ACTION</i>	<i>NAME</i>	<i>DATE</i>	<i>SIGNATURE</i>
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**REVISION HISTORY**

NUMBER	DATE	DESCRIPTION	NAME

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# Chapter 1

## Sound

### 1.1 Sound.GPI

Name: SOUND.GPI AUTODOC  
Version: 0.6 Beta.  
Date: 2 May 1997  
Author: Paul Manias  
Copyright: DreamWorld Productions, 1996-1997. All rights reserved.  
Notes: This document is still being written and will contain errors in a number of places. The information within cannot be treated as official until this autodoc reaches version 1.0.

### 1.2 Sound.GPI Functions

```
SOUND.GPI  
AllocAudio()  
AllocSoundMem()  
FreeAudio()  
InitSound()  
FreeSound()  
FreeSoundMem()  
GetSound()  
CheckChannel()  
PlaySound()  
PlaySoundDAC1()  
PlaySoundDAC2()  
PlaySoundDAC3()  
PlaySoundDAC4()  
PlaySoundPri()  
PlaySoundPriDAC1()  
PlaySoundPriDAC2()  
PlaySoundPriDAC3()  
PlaySoundPriDAC4()  
SetVolume()  
FadeVolume()  
InitPlayer()  
PlayMOD()  
StopPlayer()
```

### 1.3 Sound.GPI/AllocAudio

NAME AllocAudio -- Attempt to allocate the audio channels.

SYNOPSIS

```
ErrorCode = AllocAudio()  
    d0
```

```
ULONG AllocAudio(void)
```

FUNCTION

Attempts to allocate all the audio channels for your own use. If the function cannot get the channels, it will return with an errorcode of ERR\_INUSE. If the call is successful (NULL) then you can safely use all the sound functions within GMS.

This function should be called at the start of your program, and if successful you must call FreeAudio() before your program exits.

RESULT ErrorCode - NULL if successful or ERR\_INUSE if unsuccessful.

SEE ALSO

FreeAudio

### 1.4 Sound.GPI/FreeAudio

NAME FreeAudio -- Free the audio channels for system use.

SYNOPSIS

```
FreeAudio()
```

```
void FreeAudio(void)
```

FUNCTION

Frees the audio channels so that the system can use them again. You cannot make use of any of the audio channels after calling this function.

SEE ALSO

AllocAudio

### 1.5 Sound.GPI/InitSound

NAME InitSound -- Initialise a sound structure for the play routines.

SYNOPSIS

```
Sound = InitSound(Sound/TagList/List/ObjectList)  
    d0                a0
```

```
struct Sound * InitSound(struct Sound *)
```

```
struct Sound * InitSoundTags(ULONG tag, ...)
```

---

## FUNCTION

This function will initialise a sound for use in the play routines. Its main job is to load and assess the sound header, and fill in any missing fields. It can also unpack sounds in some cases.

If the following fields in the Sound structure are detected as being NULL, InitSound() will fill them in for you:

- Data
- Length
- Period
- Volume

If you don't want some or all of these fields written too, simply fill them in before-hand. This is imperative if the sound is in RAW format, for obvious reasons.

Lists and object lists are fully supported by this function, just pass a pointer to one of these instead of a Sound. (See lists).

NOTE If the sound is in RAW format, then this function will have little effect, so you should set most of the fields yourself.

INPUTS Sound - Pointer to a single sound structure, or for multiple initialisations, a list of Sound's.

## SAM\_Channel

The channel that you want to play through. Acceptable channel numbers are 0, 1, 2 and 3 (a total of 4 available channels).

## SAM\_Priority

The priority of your sound goes here. This field is used by the PlaySoundPri() function to determine if your sound should be played when the channel is busy. Naturally, higher values are played over samples with lower values.

## SAM\_Header

Points to the very start of the sample, which in most cases will be the something like an IFF 8SVX header. If the sample data is RAW then simply point to the start of the data here.

## SAM\_Data

This field points to the actual data that is going to be played. InitSound() will fill this field in for you if you initialise it to 0.

## SAM\_Length

The length of the sample data in words. This field will be filled in for you if the sound has a recognised header (eg IFF).

## SAM\_Octave

The octave at which to play this sample. The highest pitched value is OCT\_G0S, the lowest is OCT\_A7S. There are about 94 available settings, see games/sound.i to look at the complete list.

## SAM\_Volume

The volume of the sound, which lies in the range 0 - 100. A volume of zero will not be heard, a volume of 100 is the loudest.

#### SAM\_Attrib

Specifies the attributes for the sound.

SBIT8 - Sound data is 8 bit (only set this if raw).

SBIT16 - Sound data is 16 bit (only set this if raw).

SMODVOL - Modulates the volume with the next channel.

SMODPER - Modulate the sound's period with the next channel.

SREPEAT - Repeats the sample forever.

#### SAM\_File

If your sound is contained on disk, place a pointer to the filename here. This will cause InitSound() to load the sound data in for you (via a call to SmartLoad()) and fill in the Header and Data fields. The rest of the initialisation procedure will then be carried out.

#### SEE ALSO

FreeSound

## 1.6 Sound.GPI/FreeSound

NAME FreeSound -- Free any allocations made in an initialised sound.

#### SYNOPSIS

```
FreeSound(Sound)
        a0
```

```
void FreeSound(struct Sound *)
```

#### FUNCTION

Frees any allocations made in the initialisation of a Sound structure. You have to call this function at some point for every initialised Sound, otherwise resources may be withheld on the exit of your program.

If the structure was allocated via GetSound() or a tag list, then the structure itself will be freed from memory (you will not be allowed to use it any longer).

This function is fully supportive of lists and object lists.

INPUTS Sound - Pointer to an initialised sound structure.

#### SEE ALSO

InitSound

---

## 1.7 Sound.GPI/CheckChannel

NAME CheckChannel -- Checks the current activity of a sound channel.

### SYNOPSIS

```
Status = CheckChannel(Channel)
        d0                      d0.w
```

```
UWORD CheckChannel(UWORD Channel)
```

### FUNCTION

Checks the specified channel to see if it has any data playing through it.

INPUTS Channel - Either 1, 2, 3 or 4.

RESULT Status - The current status of the channel, a result of NULL indicates that the channel is free. A result of 1 indicates that the channel is busy.

## 1.8 Sound.GPI/PlaySound

NAME PlaySound -- Play a sound through an audio channel.

### SYNOPSIS

```
PlaySound(Sound)
        a0
```

```
void PlaySound(struct Sound *)
```

### FUNCTION

Plays a sound according to the settings in the sound structure. This function executes immediately, and ignores all channel/sound priorities.

You must have initialised the sound structure before calling this function.

INPUTS Sound - Pointer to a valid sound structure.

### SEE ALSO

PlaySoundDACx, PlaySoundPri, PlaySoundPriDACx

## 1.9 Sound.GPI/PlaySoundDACx

NAME PlaySoundDACx -- Play a sound with ignorance to channel priorities.

### SYNOPSIS

```
PlaySoundDACx(Sound)
        a0
```

```
void PlaySoundDACx(struct Sound *)
```

---

Where 'x' is either 1, 2, 3 or 4, which is a direct reference to the channel number.

#### FUNCTION

DAC stands for Direct Access to Channel. This is the fastest way to play a sound as it goes directly to that channel's sound routine, but it is not very easy to work with. This function exists for intelligently changing from full channel access for sound effects, to one channel access while music is playing.

When setting up your sounds you should make sure that you use all four channels in your structures. If the music is off, use the normal `PlaySoundPri()` function. If the music is on, and if it uses all but one of the channels, use this function to re-route all the sound effects through the spare channel.

NOTE This function ignores sound priorities, and will play the sound regardless of whether the channel is busy or not.

INPUTS Sound - Pointer to a valid sound structure.

#### SEE ALSO

`PlaySound`, `PlaySoundPri`, `PlaySoundPriDACx`, `games/games.i`

## 1.10 Sound.GPI/PlaySoundPriDACx

NAME `PlaySoundPriDACx` -- Play a sound ignoring the setting in `SAM_Channel`.

#### SYNOPSIS

```
PlaySoundPriDACx(Sound)
                a0
```

```
void PlaySoundPriDACx(struct Sound *)
```

Where 'x' is either 1, 2, 3 or 4, which is a direct reference to the channel number.

#### FUNCTION

DAC stands for Direct Access to Channel. This is the fastest way to play a prioritised sound as it goes directly to that channel's sound routine, but it is not very easy to work with. This function exists for intelligently changing from full channel access for sound effects, to one channel access while music is playing.

When setting up your sounds you should make sure that you use all four channels in your structures. If the music is off, use the normal `PlaySoundPri()` function. If the music is on, and if it uses all but one of the channels, use this function to re-route all the sound effects through the spare channel.

This function supports prioritisation of sound effects.

INPUTS Sound - Pointer to a valid sound structure.

---

SEE ALSO

PlaySoundDACx, PlaySound, PlaySoundPri, games/games.i

## 1.11 Sound.GPI/PlaySoundPri

NAME PlaySoundPri -- Play a sound if it can equal or better a channel's priority.

SYNOPSIS

```
PlaySoundPri(Sound)
             a0
```

```
void PlaySoundPri(struct Sound *)
```

FUNCTION

Plays a sound according to the settings in the sound structure, IF it equals or betters the channel's current priority setting.

Prioritisation of sounds allows you to play sound effects according to their importance. Make sure that you take care in ordering your sounds so that they play effectively!

It is recommended that you use CHANNEL\_ALL in the SAM\_Channel field so that your game makes maximum use of all the available sound channels.

INPUTS Sound - Pointer to a valid sound structure.

SEE ALSO

PlaySound, PlaySoundPriDACx, PlaySoundDACx, games/games.i

## 1.12 Sound.GPI/AllocSoundMem

NAME AllocSoundMem -- Allocate memory for sample playback.

SYNOPSIS

```
Memory = AllocSoundMem(Size)
             d0             d0
```

```
APTR AllocSoundMem(ULONG Size)
```

FUNCTION

Allocates a block of memory suitable for playing sound samples.

INPUTS Size - The Size of the memory to allocate.

RESULT Memory - Pointer to the allocated memory. All audio memory is formatted with 0's when allocated. Returns NULL if error.

SEE ALSO

FreeMemBlock

---

## 1.13 Sound.GPI/GetSound

NAME GetSound -- Gets the latest version of the sound structure.

### SYNOPSIS

```
Sound = GetSound(  
    d0
```

```
struct Sound * GetSound(void);
```

### FUNCTION

Allocates the latest version of the GMS sound structure and returns it back to you. The structure fields will be empty so that you can fill them out to suit your requirements. Before your program exits you will need to free the structure, this is automatically done in the FreeSound() function.

You have to use this function if you do not want to use tag lists to initialise your sound (remember that it is illegal to compile and use pre-initialised structures in GMS programs).

RESULT Sound - Pointer to a new sound structure.

### SEE ALSO

InitSound

## 1.14 Sound.GPI/FreeSoundMem

NAME FreeSoundMem -- Frees a block of sound memory.

### SYNOPSIS

```
FreeSoundMem(MemBlock)  
    d0
```

```
void FreeSoundMem(APTR MemBlock);
```

### FUNCTION

Frees a block of sound memory.

INPUT MemBlock - Pointer to a Sound memory block allocated from AllocSoundMem() or AllocMemBlock()

### SEE ALSO

## 1.15 Sound.GPI/

NAME

SYNOPSIS

FUNCTION

---

INPUT

RESULT

SEE ALSO

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