

# **Sound**

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# Chapter 1

## Sound

### 1.1 Sound.GPI

Name: SOUND.GPI AUTODOC  
Version: 0.5 Beta.  
Date: 15 February 1997  
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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 ()  
CheckChannel ()  
PlaySound ()  
PlaySoundDAC1 ()  
PlaySoundDAC2 ()  
PlaySoundDAC3 ()  
PlaySoundDAC4 ()  
PlaySoundPri ()  
PlaySoundPriDAC1 ()  
PlaySoundPriDAC2 ()  
PlaySoundPriDAC3 ()  
PlaySoundPriDAC4 ()  
SetVolume ()  
FadeVolume ()  
InitPlayer ()  
PlayMOD ()  
StopPlayer ()

---

### 1.3 games.library/AllocAudio

games.library/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 the games.library.

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 games.library/FreeAudio

games.library/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 games.library/InitSound

games.library/InitSound

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

SYNOPSIS

---

```
ErrorCode = InitSound(Sound)
           d0                a0
```

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

#### 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:

```
SAM_Data
SAM_Length
SAM_Period
SAM_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 are fully supported by this function, just pass a pointer to a standard "LIST" structure 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.

```
STRUCTURE Sound,0
ULONG SAM_VERSION           ;"SMV1"
APTR SAM_Stats              ;Reserved.
UWORD SAM_Channel          ;Channel
WORD SAM_Priority          ;Priority
APTR SAM_Header            ;Sample info header, if any.
APTR SAM_Data              ;Address of sample data.
ULONG SAM_Length           ;Length of sample data in WORDS.
UWORD SAM_Octave           ;Octave/Note setting.
UWORD SAM_Volume           ;Volume of sample (1 - 100).
ULONG SAM_Attrib           ;Sound attributes.
APTR SAM_File              ;The file for the sound.
LABEL SAM_SIZEOF
```

#### SAM\_VERSION

The version of the structure, currently "SMV1".

#### 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 games.library/FreeSound

`games.library/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.

This function is fully supportive of LIST's.

INPUTS Sound - Pointer to an initialised sound structure.

#### SEE ALSO

InitSound

## 1.7 games.library/CheckChannel

games.library/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 games.library/PlaySound

games.library/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 games.library/PlaySoundDACx

games.library/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 games.library/PlaySoundPriDACx

games.library/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 `games.library/PlaySoundPri`

`games.library/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 games.library/AllocSoundMem

games.library/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

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