New Mexico State University Cooperative Extension Service

Innovative Media Research and Extension

Lavalier Mic Cables for Older Model Mobile Devices



Older model smartphones, tablets and some computers use a lavalier microphone that has a 3.5-mm audio jack. These connectors are either TRRS or TRS type jacks.



3.5-mm TRS audio jacks

3.5-mm TRRS audio jacks





The **3.5-mm TRS audio jack** has three conductors: a **Tip (Mic)**, a **Ring (Audio Out)**, and a **Sleeve (Ground)**. This type of audio jack supports stereo sound and is used with speakers, microphones, and other audio devices.



The 3.5-mm TRRS audio jack has four conductors: a Tip (Left Speaker), a Ring (Right Speaker), another Ring (Mic or Ground) and a Sleeve (Mic or Ground). The conductors on the last Ring and Sleeve may be wired differently on some cables depending on the manufacturer. This jack is the standard connector for microphones and headphones connected to older model smartphones, tablets and some computers.



Video cameras require a lavalier mic with a 3.5-mm TRS audio jack. A TRRS audio jack will not work on most video cameras. Use an adapter to convert the TRRS audio jack to a TRS audio jack. A lavalier microphone with a TRS audio jack can be purchased to eliminate the use of an adapter.





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