

PANASONIC MONITOR FIX

For those of you that have the Panasonic RGB monitor and have had problems with the color in the "Video" or composite mode. I have a fix and a possible explanation.

When I got the monitor the color in RGB was great. It was sharp, hi-resolution and colorful, but when I switched to the composite mode, the color was almost non-existent. After switching to another A///, I accidentally found that the composite color was fine, if I did not have the RGB cable plugged into port C on the A/// (unplugging the RGB cable from the monitor did not make a difference). I figured a short in the cable, but my VOM meter said no. Finally, I started desoldering the wires one by one and found that if the Sync is disconnected, then the Composite color is fine. However, you must have the sync wire connected to run in RGB mode.

Simply, the fix is to run the Sync wire outside the shielded cable. The Sync is the white wire in the cable that came with the monitor. Initially, I desoldered the Sync at the monitor plug and patched in a switch that allowed me to turn on the Sync when I was in the RGB mode and turn it off in emulation mode when I wanted to use it for Apple][programs in color. My final solution will be to remove the switch, but make the run from port C plug to monitor plug outside the shielded cable.

The explanation, "high frequency ground loop" or something like that. I am not sure of the explanation, but I know that the fix works. Now can someone explain to me why the initial screens of several programs flash up in RGB color in emulation mode, but none of the program? The programs that I have most noticed is Electronic Arts. They have a multicolor "checkerboard" that is Black/White in composite, but full color in RGB.

- Rod Whitten