
Subject: Obtaining a null modem cable for my 2GS
Posted by [ajross.nz](#) on Wed, 07 Jan 2015 04:48:09 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Hi CSA2,

I have a 2e which is great with it's SSC comms card, but my 2GS is lacking ability to talk to the outside world in the same respect. I'd rather not have to buy a whole new SSC and a whole new set of cables, when there's a perfectly good communications adapter built right into the machine, but I cannot for the life of me find a 2GS (is that DIN-8) to DB9 connector.

The following website was no luck, mainly dead links. The ones which were live seem to not stock such a cable.

<http://apple2.org.za/gswv/a2zine/faqs/Csa2T1TCOM.html#025>

I also tried retrofloppy, but at a whopping \$75 USD to ship to New Zealand, for a \$19 cable, the words daylight and robbery seem appropriate here.

So does anyone know where I can purchase said cable at a reasonable rate, preferably in NZ/AUS?

Cheers,

Alistair

Subject: Re: Obtaining a null modem cable for my 2GS
Posted by [scott](#) on Wed, 07 Jan 2015 17:31:18 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

In article <c96242d4-d277-46aa-8d92-a737cdb9ed8b@googlegroups.com>, Alistair Ross <ajross.nz@gmail.com> wrote:

> I have a 2e which is great with it's SSC comms card, but my 2GS is
> lacking ability to talk to the outside world in the same respect. I'd
> rather not have to buy a whole new SSC and a whole new set of cables,
> when there's a perfectly good communications adapter built right into
> the machine, but I cannot for the life of me find a 2GS (is that DIN-8)
> to DB9 connector.

Way back when, I made my own cable according to the diagram in the ProTERM manual. Go to page 284 here:

http://lostclassics.apple2.info/wp-content/files/InTrec/InTrec_A2-PT31.pdf

To connect to another computer, you'd only need to add in a null-modem adapter and maybe a gender changer and/or 25-to-9-pin adapter, both of which I'd think are still available off-the-shelf.

For an off-the-shelf cable option, try finding a Mac modem cable (though there might've been some minor differences between this and what the ProTERM manual recommends). Hardware handshaking is preferred. Combine with the aforementioned gender changer and/or 25-to-9-pin adapter and you should be good to go.

/_/_
/v\ Scott Alfter (remove the obvious to send mail)
(IIGS(<https://alfter.us/> Top-posting!
^/ >What's the most annoying thing on Usenet?

Subject: Re: Obtaining a null modem cable for my 2GS
Posted by [Anonymous](#) on Wed, 07 Jan 2015 19:13:38 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Originally posted by: Alistair Ross

Hi CSA,

I just wanted to add to this that after I sent this to CSA2, I sent an email to David at Retrofloppy.

He was able to bring down the cost of shipping from \$75 to \$46.50 which is a good effort, unfortunately still a bit to much for my personal budget, however I was impressed with his customer service and willingness to try to assist, so I'd recommend retrofloppy, especially if you are in the USA as postage inland US was only \$5 when I tried a Boston ZIP code.

Regards,

Alistair J. Ross
Sent from an Apple][

On Tue, 6 Jan 2015, Alistair Ross wrote:

> Hi CSA2,
>
> I have a 2e which is great with it's SSC comms card, but my 2GS is lacking ability to talk to the outside world in the same respect. I'd rather not have to buy a whole new SSC and a whole new set of cables, when there's a perfectly good communications adapter built right into the machine, but I cannot for the life of me find a 2GS (is that DIN-8) to DB9 connector.
>
> The following website was no luck, mainly dead links. The ones which were live seem to not stock such a cable.
> <http://apple2.org.za/gswv/a2zine/faqs/Csa2T1TCOM.html#025>
>
> I also tried retrofloppy, but at a whopping \$75 USD to ship to New Zealand, for a \$19 cable, the

words daylight and robbery seem appropriate here.

- >
- > So does anyone know where I can purchase said cable at a reasonable rate, preferably in NZ/AUS?
- >
- > Cheers,
- >
- > Alistair
- >

Subject: Re: Obtaining a null modem cable for my 2GS
Posted by [D Finnigan](#) on Wed, 07 Jan 2015 19:33:40 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Alistair Ross wrote:

- > Hi CSA,
- >
- > I just wanted to add to this that after I sent this to CSA2, I sent an
- > email to
- > David at Retrofloppy.
- >
- > He was able to bring down the cost of shipping from \$75 to \$46.50 which is
- > a
- > good effort, unfortunately still a bit to much for my personal budget,
- > however I

I've sent some stuff overseas from America and IMO, a \$19 computer cable shouldn't cost too much more than \$19 to ship. I wouldn't even use a rigid box, since I'd imagine you could wrap it up really nicely in an envelope.

--

]DF\$

Apple II Book: <http://macgui.com/newa2guide/>

Usenet: <http://macgui.com/usenet/> <-- get posts by email!

Apple II Web & Blog hosting: <http://a2hq.com/>

Subject: Re: Obtaining a null modem cable for my 2GS
Posted by [David Schmidt](#) on Wed, 07 Jan 2015 21:03:49 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

On 1/7/2015 2:33 PM, D Finnigan wrote:

- > Alistair Ross wrote:
- >> Hi CSA,
- >>

>> I just wanted to add to this that after I sent this to CSA2, I sent an
>> email to
>> David at Retrofloppy.
>>
>> He was able to bring down the cost of shipping from \$75 to \$46.50 which is
>> a
>> good effort, unfortunately still a bit too much for my personal budget,
>> however I
>
> I've sent some stuff overseas from America and IMO, a \$19 computer cable
> shouldn't cost too much more than \$19 to ship. I wouldn't even use a rigid
> box, since I'd imagine you could wrap it up really nicely in an envelope.

It does fit nicely in an envelope. A padded one, even. Take a look at pricing for Priority Mail Express International envelope from US to NZ - it's \$46.50 at the post office. (\$42.75 online.) Priority Mail International is cheaper - \$24.75/\$23.50. But the problem with Priority Mail International is that it's not trackable, and there's no proof of delivery. So if/when the package gets lost, sender loses the cable, the money for the cable, and the money for the postage - since PayPal won't/can't verify it ever went anywhere. Trust me, it's happened so enough times to me I won't ship anything without proof of delivery. I feel bad that everyone not on my continent has to suffer, but I am not left with a lot of choices.

So, yes, you can send a first-class international envelope for \$9.15/\$8.60. At least that way sender loses less in postage cost when they go missing...

Subject: Re: Obtaining a null modem cable for my 2GS
Posted by [Lukazi](#) on Thu, 08 Jan 2015 03:28:28 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

I was able to purchase the 8 pin DIN and 9 pin serial plugs from Jaycar Electronics for a few bucks.

Here is how I wired it up:-
<http://lukazi.blogspot.com.au/2012/01/waltr-introduction.htm>

However the pins on the 8 pin DIN are very close together so it was a bitch to wire up. If I was to do it again I would just purchase a cable (go to ebay and search for 'mac 8 din'), cut it to the required length and then just wire in the 9 pin serial to it.

Hope that helps.

Alex.

Subject: Re: Obtaining a null modem cable for my 2GS
Posted by [Steven Hirsch](#) on Thu, 08 Jan 2015 12:50:30 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

On 01/07/2015 10:28 PM, Lukazi wrote:

- > However the pins on the 8 pin DIN are very close together so it was a bitch
- > to wire up. If I was to do it again I would just purchase a cable (go to
- > ebay and search for 'mac 8 din'), cut it to the required length and then
- > just wire in the 9 pin serial to it.

Hand-soldering a mini-DIN is cruel and unusual punishment. Heck, even a regular DIN can try ones patience. Cutting a double-ended cable in half is absolutely the way to go. D-shell connectors are easy to solder and you get two cables out of it.

Subject: Re: Obtaining a null modem cable for my 2GS
Posted by [Aaron Daughtry](#) on Thu, 08 Jan 2015 17:18:46 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

On 2015-01-07 19:13:38 +0000, Alistair Ross said:

- > I just wanted to add to this that after I sent this to CSA2, I sent an email to
- > David at Retrofloppy.
- >
- > He was able to bring down the cost of shipping from \$75 to \$46.50 which
- > is a good effort, unfortunately still a bit to much for my personal
- > budget, however I
- > was impressed with his customer service and willingness to try to
- > assist, so I'd
- > recommend retrofloppy, especially if you are in the USA as postage
- > inland US was
- > only \$5 when I tried a Boston ZIP code.

Seconded.

Sometimes I just don't feel like making a cable. Lazy.

Subject: Re: Obtaining a null modem cable for my 2GS
Posted by [gbody4](#) on Fri, 09 Jan 2015 00:47:39 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Alistair If you want to chat about it on IRC, I can possibly help.

GeoffB

Subject: Re: Obtaining a null modem cable for my 2GS
Posted by [Anonymous](#) on Fri, 09 Jan 2015 03:11:29 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Originally posted by: Alistair Ross

Thanks Alex (et al.), I'm currently looking at the cheapest way to get one to me, after all we don't have Ebay in New Zealand, so the chances of finding a mac 8 din here is almost zero. Then there is my near complete lack of ability to solder, despite having a soldering iron, I am pretty awful, so even this option sounds pretty painful for me, I'd rather just get a pre-made cable, ideally 8-din to DB9 and I think Bill Garber may be able to come to the rescue so I'm incredibly indebted to him if he can indeed help me out.

If not, then I guess I'll try and get a 8-din from USA somewhere and try your suggestion Alex.

Thanks all!

Alistair J. Ross
Sent from an Apple][- <http://apple2.aliross.co.uk>

On Wed, 7 Jan 2015, Lukazi wrote:

> I was able to purchase the 8 pin DIN and 9 pin serial plugs from Jaycar Electronics for a few bucks.
>
> Here is how I wired it up:-
> <http://lukazi.blogspot.com.au/2012/01/waltr-introduction.htm> I
>
> However the pins on the 8 pin DIN are very close together so it was a bitch to wire up. If I was to do it again I would just purchase a cable (go to ebay and search for 'mac 8 din'), cut it to the required length and then just wire in the 9 pin serial to it.
>
> Hope that helps.
>
>
> Alex.
>

Subject: Re: Obtaining a null modem cable for my 2GS
Posted by [Christopher G. Mason](#) on Fri, 09 Jan 2015 03:55:19 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

On 1/8/2015 10:11 PM, Alistair Ross wrote:
> Thanks Alex (et al.), I'm currently looking at the cheapest way to get

- > one to
- > me, after all we don't have Ebay in New Zealand, so the chances of
- > finding a mac
- > 8 din here is almost zero. Then there is my near complete lack of
- > ability to
- > solder, despite having a soldering iron, I am pretty awful, so even this
- > option
- > sounds pretty painful for me, I'd rather just get a pre-made cable, ideally
- > 8-din to DB9 and I think Bill Garber may be able to come to the rescue
- > so I'm
- > incredibly indebted to him if he can indeed help me out.
- >

8-pin mini din plugs with crimp-on terminals are likely available locally, same with DB-9 plugs. Just strip the wire, crimp on the pin and insert into the socket.
