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Macintosh: Tandy 100 and 102 Connectivity

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TOPIC -----

I need to connect a Macintosh to a Tandy Model 100 and to a Tandy Model 102 portable computer for our work group.

DISCUSSION -----

Connecting a Macintosh computer to a Tandy Model 100 or Tandy Model 102 portable computer requires a cable and communications software. Here are the pinouts for the cable:

- Macintosh 128K, Macintosh 512K, and Macintosh 512Ke to Tandy Model 100 and Tandy Model 102 cable:

Macintosh (DB-9 male)	Tandy (DB-25 male)
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3	7
5	3
7	6, 8, and 20 (tied together)
9	2
	4, 5 (tied together)

- All other Macintosh models (from Macintosh Plus onward) to Tandy Model 100 and Tandy Model 102 cable:

Macintosh (Mini-Circular 8 male)	Tandy (DB-25 male)
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2	6, 8, and 20 (tied together)
3	3
4	7
5	2
	4, 5 (tied together)

Note: A Macintosh (DB-9)-to-ImageWriter I cable (Service Part #590-0169) properly connects a Macintosh 128K, Macintosh 512K, and Macintosh 512Ke to the Tandy Model 100 and Tandy Model 102 computers. The same cable connects the Macintosh Plus, Macintosh SE, and Macintosh II to the Tandy Model 100

and Tandy Model 102 computers, if used in conjunction with the Macintosh Plus Peripheral Adapter Cable (Service Part #590-0341 or #590-0553).

Using this custom cable and a terminal program for the Macintosh, you should be able to transfer files between the Tandy computers and the Macintosh with no difficulty. The Macintosh will think it's talking to an external modem; the terminal program will let you "talk" to the Tandy computers, or upload or download from the Tandy computer as if it were a mainframe. The Tandy, of course, uses its built-in TELCOM program in the TERM mode and can upload and download files, as if it were talking to a mainframe.

The communication parameters must be the same at each end: baud rate, stop bits, XON/XOFF, and so on. A commonly used parameter for the Model 100 is 7711E for 4800 baud, 7-bit, Ignore parity, 1 stop bit, and XON/XOFF enabled (although you could choose other baud rates or other parameters).
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