

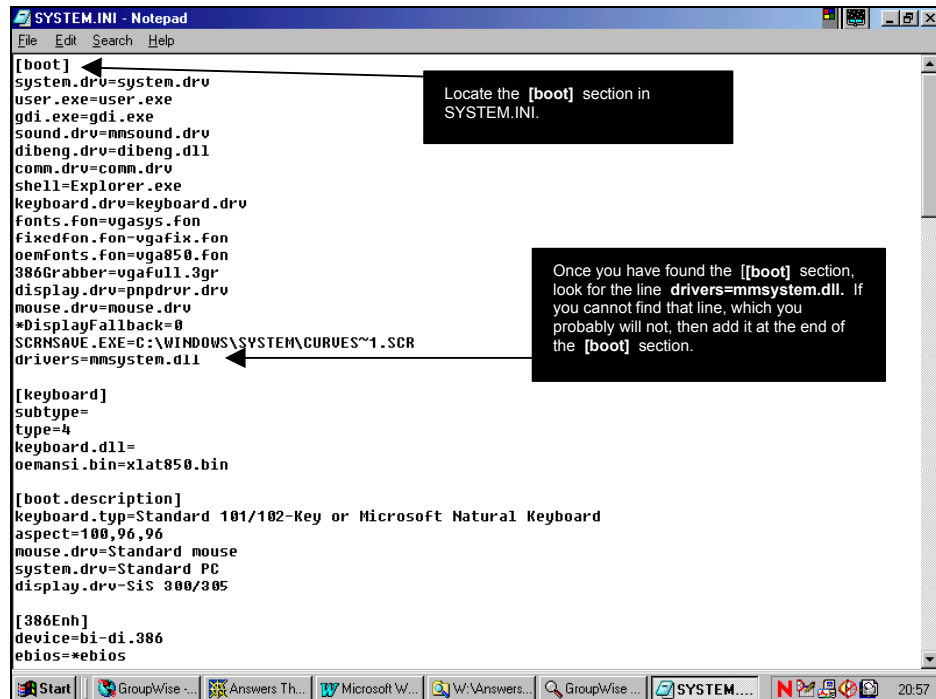
WinME – Cannot get the sound to work

You have **Windows Millennium Edition** and you have just changed your sound card, whether through changing an actual sound card or through changing the motherboard which has onboard sound; or you have re-installed Windows Millennium Edition over the top of an existing Windows ME setup, or you have just upgraded from Windows 95 or 98 to Windows Millennium Edition. **And you cannot get the sound to work !** No matter what you try, you just cannot get it to work : the drivers install fine, they show in Device Manager as working OK, there are no conflicts whatsoever, you may even have de-installed and re-installed the sound card, moved it to a different slot, de-installed and re-installed all multimedia items, and you may even have tried a different sound card, but the sound simply remains disabled when you look in the “Sounds and Multimedia” icon in the Control Panel.

The Solution

You have probably hit a bug that is peculiar to Windows Millennium Edition whereby Windows Millennium deletes a vital line from one of the Windows ME system files and does not re-insert it when it re-detects your sound card. If that is the case, then the following will resolve the problem :

- Close all programs.
- Start \ Run.**
- Type **SYSTEM.INI** in the RUN dialog box.
- Click OK.
- Windows should now open your **System.ini** file into NOTEPAD, as shown below. Follow everything detailed in the illustration below :



```
SYSTEM.INI - Notepad
File Edit Search Help

[boot]
system.drv=system.drv
user.exe=user.exe
gdi.exe=gdi.exe
sound.drv=mmsound.drv
dibeng.drv=dibeng.dll
comm.drv=comm.drv
shell=Explorer.exe
keyboard.drv=keyboard.drv
fonts.fon=vgasys.fon
fixedfon.fon=vgafix.fon
oemfonts.fon=vga850.fon
386Grabber=vgafull.3gr
display.drv=pnpdrv.drv
mouse.drv=mouse.drv
*DisplayFallback=0
SCRNSAVE.EXE=C:\WINDOWS\SYSTEM\CURVES~1.SCR
drivers=mmsystem.dll

[keyboard]
subtype=
type=4
keyboard.dll=
oemansi.bin=xlat850.bin

[boot.description]
keyboard.typ=Standard 101/102-Key or Microsoft Natural Keyboard
aspect=100,96,96
mouse.drv=Standard mouse
system.drv=Standard PC
display.drv=SiS 300/305

[386Enh]
device=bi-di.386
ebios=*ebios
```

- Once you have added the **drivers=mmsystem.dll** line, choose the **File \ Exit** menu option.
- Click **Yes** when prompted to Save the changes.
- Reboot your PC.
- On reboot, if you now go into the **Sounds and Multimedia** icon in the Control Panel you should find that the sound is now finally enabled and working. You should also be able to see the familiar yellow speaker in your System Tray.
- You're done.**

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