

How to set the sound output in Raspberry Pi

Audio Setting

Most Raspberry Pis have a 3.5mm audio jack for outputting audio, but you can also output audio via HDMI as well. The below will show you two different ways to set the output device.

Method 1: Use Raspberry Pi Configuration (GUI)

1. Click the **Raspberry menu** (top-left corner)
2. Go to **Preferences → Audio Device Settings**
3. In the **Output Device dropdown**, choose: `HDMI` or `HDMI 1` (depending on your Pi model)
4. Click **Select Controls** if needed to unmute or adjust volume
5. Click **Close**

You may not see the exact thing on your pi based on the operating system you used.

Method 2: Terminal Command

For example, setting HDMI as default audio output:

```
amixer cset numid=3 2
```

The `2` at the end indicates HDMI.

- 0 = Auto
- 1 = Analog (3.5mm jack)
- 2 = HDMI

Method 3: Use raspi-config

1. `sudo raspi-config`
2. Navigate to: `1. System Options → S2 Audio`
3. Choose: `1 HDMI` (or HDMI 1 if you see multiple)
4. Press **Enter**, then **Finish**

Test the Audio

1. You can test it with: `speaker-test -t sine -f 440 -c 2`
2. Or play a WAV sound file: `aplay /home/pi/Music/youOwnSoundFile.wav`
3. Or play a MP3 sound file: `cvlc /home/pi/Music/youOwnSoundFile.mp3`

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