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415-398-1200

1927 TV is invented in San Francisco

1933 Audio Tape was invented by BASF during WWII by German Scientists

American Soldier brings back german tape machine to Ampex in Redwood City California Bing Crosby funds first Ampex American Audio Tape Recorders

1946 America adopts the NTSC TV System 1948 Europe and others adopt PAL TV System

1956 Ampex invents video tape



Audio Tape Formats: Oxide 2", 1", ½", open reel Audio cassette Mini Audio Cassette A-DAT

> Metal Tapes DAT



Audio Cassette CDs Mini Disc

Video Tape Formats (NTSC American or PAL European) Oxide Open Reel 2", 1", ½"

Cassette D1, ¾", Betacam, VHS, VHS-C, Betamax, MI, 8mm

Metal ¾"SP, Hi 8mm, Digital 8, Mini DV, Mini HD DV, BetacamSP, Digital Beta, DV Cam, DVC Pro, MII, D2, D3, D5, HD Cam, HD SR, S-VHS

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- 1. Store tapes in COOL DRY place: 40° F to 0° F @ 20% to 30% RH.
- 2. Don't store in attic or basement
- 3. Keep tapes away from speakers or anything magnetic
- 4. Protect tapes from dust by storing them in plastic boxes
- 5. Keep Tapes out of direct or indirect sunlight
- 6. Forward and rewind tapes once a year
- 7. Store tapes rewound
- 8. Take out Record tab to inhibit record over

How long does magnetic tape last?

Several factors matter: 1: Brand of tape 2: Metal or Oxide 3: Storage conditions 4: Number of plays 5: Quality of machine playback

Even in the best conditions magnetic tape will begin to degrade and information will be lost in less than 10 years.

How to Preserve 1: Make a tape copy 2: Make a disc copy 3: Digitize the tapes

Digitizing is the preferred method of preserving tape content. It will never degrade and be easily accessible. If I knew you were coming....

1: Sticky Shed 2: Shedding 3: Tape Break & Wrinkles 4: Faulty Cassette

Most of these problems can be solved by baking the tape. A faulty cassette requires a tape transplant. Electronic resoration can be performed on poor quality tapes. (expensive) Don't wait: passed time creates more problems.

Digitized Content can be stored on: -Hard Drives -Flash Memory -Cloud Solution -LTO