

we can do to present long lines of characters, depending on what set you start out with and how much you are willing to modify the set.

The best test signal you can use for bandwidth extension is the dot matrix data you actually want to display, for the frequency response, time delay, ringing, and overshoot all get into the act. What we want to end up with is a combination that gives us reasonably legible characters.

A good oscilloscope (15 MHz or better bandwidth) is very useful during bandwidth extension to show where the signal loses its response in the circuit. At any time during the modification process, there is usually one response bottleneck. This, of course, is what should be attacked first. Obviously the better a TV you start with, the easier will be the task. Tube type gutless wonders, particularly older ones, will be much more difficult to work with than with a modern, small screen, quality solid state portable.

Several of the things we can do are watching the control settings, getting rid of the sound trap, minimizing circuit strays, optimizing spot size, controlling peaking, and shifting to higher current operation. Let's take a look at these in turn.

Control Settings

Always run a data display at the lowest possible contrast and using only as much brightness as you really need. In many circuits, low contrast means a lower video amplifier gain, and thus less of a gain-bandwidth restriction.

Eliminate the Sound Trap

The sound trap adds a notch at 4.5 MHz to the video response. If it is eliminated or switched out of the circuit, a wider video bandwidth automatically

Fig. 9. How to Add a Direct Video Input to a TV Set.

1. Get an accurate and complete schematic of the set — either from the manufacturer's service data or a Photofact set. **Do not try adding an input without this schematic!**
2. Check the power supply to see if a power transformer is used. If it is, there will be no shock hazard, and the set is probably a good choice for direct video use. If the set has one side of the power line connected to the chassis, a severe shock hazard exists, and one of the techniques of Fig. 8 should be used. **Avoid the use of hot chassis sets.**
3. Find the input to the first video amplifier stage. Find out what the white level and sync level bias voltages are. The marked or quiescent voltage is usually the white level; sync is usually 2 volts less. A transistor TV will typically have a +3 volt white level and a +1 volt sync level. A tube type TV will typically have a zero volt white level and a -2 volt sync level.
4. Add a changeover switch using minimum possible lead lengths. Add an input connector, either a phono jack or the premium BNC type connector. Use shielded lead for interconnections exceeding three inches in length.
5. Select a circuit that couples the video and biases the first video amplifier stage so that the white and sync levels are preserved. For transistor sets, the direct coupled circuits of Fig. 5 may be used. For tube sets, the circuit of Fig. 7 is recommended. Avoid the use of ac coupled video inputs as they may introduce shading problems and changes of background as the screen is filled.
6. Check the operation. If problems with contrast or sync tearing crop up, recheck and adjust the white and sync input levels to match what the set uses during normal rf operation. Note that the first video stage must be biased to the **white** level during rf operation and to the **sync** level for direct video use. The white level is normally two volts more positive than the sync level.