Sound Card Basic  
-This, as the name suggests allows your computer to make sounds.  
  
Sound Card History  
The first sound card was created in 1972 called The Gooch Synthetic Woodwind, which was a music device.  
History 1985-1988  
In 1985, AdLib became the first manufacturer of sound cards and in 1988, a handful of gaming companies believed that the limited sound capabilities computers could produce was holding back computers from becoming a major part of home  
life.   
Upgrading a sound card  
There is a good chance that your onboard sound card is BETTER than a cheap sound card. Normal sound cards can sell for between $20 and $160. Some brands of sound cards include ASUS, Razer, IBM, Samsung and Lenovo.  
Who would want to upgrade?  
Gamers: No. They wouldn't need to upgrade since a lot of game noise is ambient, or wouldn't need better quality. A lot of the time, the games themselves may not even have good source audio.  
History 1988-2000  
Despite the previous events, sound cards were still very rare pre-1988 and computers could only make beeps or boops.  
  
In the late 90's sound cards began to be integrated into the motherboard.   
Sound Cards  
What do upgraded  
sound cards give?  
The trick here is, that no one really  
knows. There are no quantitative properties that we can attribute to these so sound cards are usually rated based solely on hearing tests.  
Who would   
want to upgrade?  
Casual users would have  
no need to. People who just listen to music or watch videos probably won't notice the difference.  
Who would want  
to upgrade?  
Only professional music composers  
would really want to upgrade their sound card. Since their job is based around sound, they will benefit the most from upgrading their sound card.  
Sound card stuff  
Sound cards used to allow you to loop  
the output sound into the input mic, recording whatever you just played.  
  
  
A lot of computers have integrated sound processors instead of sound cards.  
Definitions :T  
MIDI: Allows you to plug an   
instrument into your computer.  
  
  
Mixer: Mixes sounds together  
Interesting Sound   
Cards  
Wavetable: This is a file or memory   
that remembers sounds or music.  
Codec: Compresses files for faster shipping and decompresses them to read and make sounds.  
AUX: What you would plug your earbuds or headphones into.  
-Most sound cards function using  
DACs or digital to analog converters which take digital information and convert it into music and sounds that we can hear  
Parts of a sound card  
This is a general overview of the   
parts of a sound card.  
**https://www.idp.net/sysinfo/soundcards.asp#3**  
Sound cards also have ROM and RAM  
The mic jack allows mics to be plugged in  
Line out and speaker out  
both allow speakers and  
external devices to be  
plugged into the computer  
**www.computerhope.com/jargon/l/lineout.htm**  
dB: Decibels. Measure of loudness  
SNR: Signal to noise ratio. How much background noise you have compared to signal strength.  
**https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Signal-to-noise\_ratio**  
kHz: Kilohertz. Measure of frequency.  
http://www.epanorama.net/documents/pc/soundcard.gi  
**https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sound\_card**  
**http://www.ebay.ca/sch/i.html?\_from=R40&\_trksid=p2050601.m570.l1313.TR0.TRC0.H0.Xsound+card.TRS0&\_nkw=sound+card&\_sacat=0**  
As far as computer hardware goes,   
sound cards really aren't the most interesting kind. Sound cards don't typically have any mind-blowingly revolutionary or futuristic features   
and are made more for functionality rather than show and as for   
**http://www.techradar.com/news/computing-components/upgrades/whatever-happened-to-pc-soundcards--668292**  
**http://www.tested.com/tech/pcs/454839-tested-why-high-end-pc-sound-card-matters/**  
**http://www.makeuseof.com/tag/sound-cards-do-they-really-enhance-pc-gaming/**  
**http://entertainment.howstuffworks.com/midi1.htm**  
THD: Total Harmonic Distortion. This is the   
difference in frequencies between the input   
and output frequencies. All instruments and   
speakers have different frequencies which   
make them sound different. THD is   
the difference between an amplifier's  
frequency and the instrument's  
frequency. (kHz)  
  
http://www.sevacall.com/blog/wp-content/uploads/2013/04/sound-card-not-recognized.jp  
Future of sound cards  
The future of non-integrated sound cards does not look incredibly bright. Already, sound cards that aren't integrated into the motherboard are already sold to a pretty specific market. As for upcoming cards, there are very few groundbreaking upcoming   
changes or products in   
particular.