

Apple File Exchange 1.0.1: Problem Formatting ProDOS Disk On Mac

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Apple File Exchange 1.0.1 (part of System 5.0, MultiFinder release) sometimes fails to correctly format a ProDOS Disk on a Macintosh. This happens when the user first types an invalid name for the new ProDOS disk, then makes a correction to it. Here's the scenario:

- 1. The user puts the AFE disk in the Macintosh's external drive, and starts the program.
- User ejects the startup disk from the internal drive, via the appropriate clicks on the Drive and Eject buttons, then replaces it with a blank unformatted disk.
- 3. AFE tells the user that it can't read the disk, and asks if the user wants to initialize it.
- 4. User selects 800K, ProDOS format, and clicks Initialize.
- 5. AFE initializes the disk and asks the user to name it.
- 6. The user accidentally types a name that is too long for ProDOS (or uses illegal characters).
- 7. AFE ejects the newly-formatted ProDOS disk and asks for the startup disk back.
- 8. The user inserts the startup disk, and AFE displays an alert about an invalid ProDOS name.
- 9. The user clicks OK, and sees a dialog box containing a suggested (valid) name.
- 10. The user makes minor changes to the name, but keeps it a legal ProDOS name, and click OK, expecting AFE to eject the startup disk and ask for the newly-formatted ProDOS disk back to record the new name.

Seconds later, the user has a hybrid disk: part Macintosh startup disk, and part ProDOS volume name -- AFE didn't let the user swap disks one last time. Copyright 1988 Apple Computer, Inc.

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