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Lisa: Copy-protected Tools

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Master tool diskettes are copy protected. The method still seems to confuse people to a fair degree. This article should cover any question you may have about Lisa's protection scheme.

The first time you duplicate a tool master diskette, that diskette AND its copy are tied to the specific Lisa you're using to perform the duplication: both diskettes are imprinted with that Lisa's serial number. This imprinting occurs almost immediately, so even if you abort the copy, both diskettes will probably already be tied to that Lisa. You may make as many copies of that master diskette as you like, but those copies will run only on the Lisa that made the first copy. Users can make as many back-ups as they feel necessary, while we are able to protect ourselves from unauthorized dissemination of Lisa software.

The original tool master diskette may be used on any Lisa, but you will not be able to copy the tool onto the ProFile.

The serial number that the diskettes are imprinted with is the one burned into the PROM located at position C6 on the CPU board. If the CPU board is replaced for any reason, it's very important that this PROM is transferred to the new board; otherwise, that Lisa's user will no longer be able to use applications stored on his or her hard disk. If that particular PROM itself is bad, request a new one from your Technical Support Center.

Files that are protected by this scheme will have the file attribute P when listed by the Workshop. This attribute cannot be changed.

Protected Lisa software distributed by Apple includes:

- All Lisa tools, except for LisaWrite and LisaProject 3.1. (Stationary pads, Office System diskettes and LisaGuide are not protected.)
- Pascal 1.0 and 2.0: PASCAL.OBJ, CODE.OBJ and EDITOR.OBJ are protected. (Pascal 3.0 is not protected.)
- COBOL 1.0, 2.0, and 3.0: overlay files are protected, as well as EDITOR.OBJ.
- BASIC-PLUS 1.0, 2.0, and 3.0: BASIC.OBJ and EDITOR.OBJ are protected.

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