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Macintosh II, IIX, IIfx: Power On and Power Off

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TOPIC -----

Is there any difference between turning on my Macintosh II by using the Power On key on the keyboard or by pressing the button in back? What about powering off? Should I always do a Shut Down or can I just hit the button in back?

DISCUSSION -----

The Macintosh II, Macintosh IIX, and Macintosh IIfx computers do not have a "hard" power on and power off switch. There are two ways to turn on the computer: you can use the keyboard's Power On key or the power button next to the sound jack on the back panel of the computer.

Pushing the Power On key or the power button sends a request to the logic board to begin the startup sequence. Either way may be used; they are equivalent.

To power off the Macintosh II, IIX or IIfx, use the Shut Down command from the Finder. Choosing Shut Down permits the computer to close files that are open, update the directory on each disk, and power off the system.

Alternatively, you may press the power button on the back panel of the Macintosh. Doing so will power off the system immediately and any work that wasn't saved will be lost. Do not remove AC power from the system unless neither Shut Down nor the power button produce results. Removing power is likely to result in lost or damaged files because there isn't enough time for the computer to update disk information.

To restart the computer with a different boot disk or to cause the computer to recognize newly installed devices, you may wish to reboot the Macintosh by choosing Restart from the Special Finder menu. The Macintosh will save file information as needed, power off the system, and immediately startup the system again.

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