Using Screen Savers With LCDs (2/95)

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TOPIC --

Do LCDs, like those used with the Macintosh PowerBook and Macintosh Portable,
suffer from burn-in like CRTs used with desktop Macintosh computers?

Are screen savers recommended for the Macintosh PowerBook series?

DISCUSSION ---

An image left on an LCD screen for an extended period (approx. 24 hours,
depending on the image) can leave a "ghost" image. Unlike CRTs, an LCD will
recover over time and eventually erase the ghost image.

To allow this recovery, either shut down the system or put it into sleep. The
time it takes to recover depends on the original image and how long the image
was left on the screen. It generally takes between one and two times as long to
remove the ghost image as it took to create it.

With regards to a screen saver, using the sleep feature or shutting down the
PowerBook when it won't be used for extended periods should reduce the need for
a screen saver. However, if you still would like to use one, be sure you choose
one that is appropriate for your PowerBook model.

Active Matrix Display Models

PowerBook computers with Active Matrix displays include the PowerBook 170, 230,
180, 180c, 540, 540c, PowerBook Duo 250, 270c, 280, and 280c. With these
computers, you should use a screen saver image with a completely white
background. Below are two screen saver examples for use with active matrix
displays and After Dark:

• In MacDraw Pro, or other similar application, create a completely white
document by drawing a page-size white-filled box and then saving the file as a
PICT image. Use this file in conjunction with the Picture Frame module within
After Dark to produce a white background screen-saver image.

• WhiteOut is a stand-alone After Dark module.

Passive Matrix Display Models

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The PowerBook 100, 140, 145, 145B, 150, 160, 165c, 520, 520c and PowerBook Duo
210 use a Passive Matrix Display. With these displays, like the monitors used
with our desktop computers, you can use a standard screen saver that displays a
dark background.

Article Change History
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15 Feb 1995 - Added specific models for Active and Passive Matrix Displays.
26 Sep 1994 - Reviewed for technical accuracy, removed attachments.
20 Aug 1992 - Changed title, defined appropriate screen-saver type for each
              PowerBook model.

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