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PowerBook 160 &180: Use New AC Adapter and Battery (3/95)

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TOPIC -----

This article explains why the use of 15 wat power adapters is not recommended for PowerBook computers that require higher wattage adapters.

DISCUSSION -----

The Macintosh PowerBook Rechargeable Battery (M5545LL/A) is only a 2.5 amp/hour battery, whereas the new "universal" battery, the Macintosh PowerBook Rechargeable Battery M5545LL/"B" (for the PowerBook 140, 145, 160, 170, and 180) is a 2.8 amp/hour battery. If the older battery is used on the PowerBook 160 and 180, there will be shorter operating life -- in the range of 1.5 hours or less.

The Macintosh PowerBook AC Adapter (M1058LL/A) is also not recommended for use on the new PowerBook 160 and 180 because it outputs only 15 watts, compared to the new AC adapter (M4660LL/A), which outputs 19 watts. If the older AC adapter is used with the PowerBook 160 or 180, the internal battery at the very least will not charge, and at worst will drain while the PowerBook is being used. The lower wattage on the original adapter does not allow for video out (no external monitors can be used).

The new AC adapter can be used with full functionality on the previous PowerBook computers.

Article Change History

31 Mar 1995 - Reviewed for technical accuracy.

09 Dec 1992 - Multiple corrections.

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