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## PowerBook 190 & 5300: PC Card Usage Affects Battery Life (10/95)

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TOPIC -----

Will inserting PC (PCMCIA) cards into a Macintosh PowerBook 190 or 5300 series computer reduce battery life?

DISCUSSION -----

Inserting PC (PCMCIA) cards into the PowerBook 5300 or PowerBook 190 will reduce battery life. This is more evident if the cards are active or in use. However, PC cards do draw some power when they are just inserted and not in use. Most cards have two states, idle or in use.

How to Minimize PC Card Power Usage  
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- Eject the PC card. This is the best way to minimize power usage.
- Use a different PC card. The amount of power drawn by a PC card varies per individual PC card and by different manufacturers' designs. To test whether your PC card may be drawing more power than you think it should, causing the battery to drain too quickly, you may want to swap it with another similar PC card or a different brand of PC card.
- Do not insert PC cards which are not needed. Eject the PC card when it is no longer in use.
- Plug it in to AC power rather than running from the battery. In most circumstances when a person would need to use a modem or network, there is a power outlet nearby. Apple recommends using the AC adapter, when AC power is available, to retain a full battery charge for times when external power is not available.

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