



# Tech Info Library

## Reading ProDOS Diskettes on a Power Macintosh (9/94)

Article Created: 29 September 1994

TOPIC -----

I am trying to read ProDOS disks from my Apple II on my Power Macintosh, but I am getting the message, "This disk is Unreadable, do you want to initialize?". I thought that my Power Macintosh floppy drive is supposed to be able to read ProDOS disks. How can I read these disks?

DISCUSSION -----

Power Macintosh users that would like to read ProDOS disks have the following solutions:

- 1) Install Macintosh PC Exchange 2.0 or later.

Macintosh PC Exchange software version 1.0.4 or 1.0.5 was included with System Software 7.1.2 for Power Macintosh. Macintosh PC Exchange allows users to easily read, write, and format PC-compatible disks. However, these versions of Macintosh PC Exchange do NOT allow users to read, write, or format ProDOS disks. In June, 1994, Apple announced Macintosh PC Exchange 2.0. In addition to formatting, reading, and writing DOS, and OS/2 disks, Macintosh PC Exchange 2.0 can format and use DOS formatted SCSI hard disks and removable media, such as Bernoulli and SyQuest cartridges and floptical drives. It can also format and use Apple II ProDOS floppy disks.

- 2) Upgrade to Macintosh System Software 7.5.

When System Software 7.5 was announced in July, 1994, Macintosh PC Exchange 2.0 was integrated into the system software.

- 3) Apple File Exchange Utility version 7.0.

Macintosh users have been able to read DOS and ProDOS disks using the Apple File Exchange utility since Macintosh System Software 6.0 shipped in 1988. Apple File Exchange has been part of the Macintosh System Software through System 7 Pro. Since Macintosh PC Exchange 2.0 provides users the ability to read, write and format PC-compatible and ProDOS disks, Apple has discontinued development of Apple File Exchange. Although Apple File Exchange 7.0 may work with the Power Macintosh series, it was not fully tested by Apple and is therefore not

supported on PowerPC processor based Macintosh systems.

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Keywords: kppc,ksts

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19960215 11:05:19.00

Tech Info Library Article Number: 16416