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At Ease and At Ease for Workgroups 1.0 and 2.0: Differences

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TOPIC ---

This article outlines the differences between:

• At Ease 1.0 and 2.0
• At Ease for Workgroups 1.0 and 2.0
• At Ease 2.0 and At Ease 2.0 for Workgroups

DISCUSSION --

How At Ease 2.0 Differs from 1.0

At Ease 2.0 no longer saves memory over the Finder. In 1.0, it was reported
that using At Ease would add another 100-200K of free memory for
applications. Due to the increase of code size, this statement is no longer
valid in 2.0. The memory footprint is about the same.

In 1.0, for each file a user saved, At Ease had an option to automatically
create an alias (button) for the file. In 2.0, a button is only created if
the user saves a document inside the user's documents folder. As this
folder is the default location to save documents, this will be the standard
case. However, if the user has the capability to move outside of the user's
folder, the document may be "lost" and won't show up in the At Ease user's
panel. The administrator can turn on the "Save documents only in user's
panel" option to prevent the user from moving out of the user's folder.

When you start up your computer as a single user, you now see a splash
screen that shows an administrator-defined greeting. However, a major
feature of At Ease 2.0 is the ability to support multiple users, and in
multi-user mode the login screen shows a list of names in a scroll box.

The new product now provides customers with the flexibility to share a
single system with up to 10 named users, providing each user with customized
and private At Ease folders. The At Ease Setup control panel was removed
and replaced by a standalone application called At Ease Setup. The setup
application features enhanced file management, security and privacy
capabilities, providing owners with the ability to customize At Ease folders
for each user.

You can choose to see Minimal or All menu items, and with the Speech Manager
installed, At Ease 2.0 can use text-to-speech to read the icon names as the
pointer passes over them. You can also attach a sound to a button that will
play when the cursor passes over the button.

At Ease 2.0 allows an owner of a single Macintosh system to specify whether
users can open and save documents anywhere, only in the user's folder,
only on a floppy disk, or start up directly in the Finder. Owners also can
allow other At Ease users to have basic file management capabilities, such
as the ability to create new folders, and delete, rename, and copy their own
documents without going to the Finder.

How At Ease for Workgroups 2.0 Differs from 1.0

The features in At Ease 2.0 for Workgroups are designed specifically for
administrators who manage multiple Macintosh systems in workgroup settings.
Using a single setup program, administrators can specify a number of options
for up to 1,000 users and 200 groups on each Macintosh system. This
capability allows administrators to determine which applications and files
are available to specific groups of users, while preserving customized
individual user settings.

The setup program in At Ease 2.0 for Workgroups also gives administrators
the ability to specify password requirements and provide users with simple
file management capabilities, such as creating folders and renaming files.
In addition, administrators can change and update At Ease settings on
multiple Macintosh computers over an AppleTalk network, further increasing
management flexibility. The networking features of At Ease 2.0 for
Workgroups also allows administrators to establish servers for storage of
users' documents or applications.

How At Ease 2.0 for Workgroups Differs from At Ease 2.0

At Ease for Workgroups has all the features described for At Ease 2.0, plus
these additions and exceptions.

In At Ease 2.0 for Workgroups, there's an additional category for log in
called At Ease Setup, to group users into common setup categories. And the
setup for Menus allows much more customization than At Ease 2.0. It
provides the ability to launch directly into the Finder and open Startup
items, and there's a menu item to have users save documents on an AppleShare
volume.

An administrator can arrange to have a set of Macintosh computers configured
over a network. Logging the activity of users is also a feature of At Ease
2.0 for Workgroups that isn't available in At Ease 2.0.

You can lock the volume so that when a user boots from another disk, the At
Ease disk won't mount. This prevents the unauthorized user from copying or
changing the contents of the drive. The Workgroup Security Setup Screen
also allows choices for the user to change password, log out idle user after
a specified number of minutes, allow applications used from floppy disks,
and allow remote administration.

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