



# Tech Info Library

## Macintosh: Bad F-line Instruction Error (11/95)

Article Created: 13 August 1991

Article Last Reviewed: 20 November 1995

TOPIC -----

I am getting a "Bad F-line Instruction" errors on my 68k Macintosh computer. What causes these errors?

DISCUSSION -----

In System 7.x, the "Bad F-line Instruction" error is also referred to as the "Co-processor Not Installed" or "No FPU Installed" error; in System 6.0.7 it is referred to as the ID=10 error.

F-Line instructions are used to access attached processors, such as a floating-point math co-processor. A bad F-Line instruction is a bad Floating Point Unit (FPU) call. However, when you see this on computers without FPUs, or in applications that do not support an FPU, then it is probably a spurious error. These messages often indicate software related errors generated by a program that has extraneous program code. On very rare occasions a hardware failure generates these errors.

With System 6.0.7, these errors do not have a direct relationship with floating point co-processors; you will not resolve this error by installing an FPU. In System 7.x, there may be a problem with the math chip, or it may be an unrelated software error.

The error may be caused by bad code in the application which is calling a processor that is not present or calling a memory location that is not there. There may be a corrupted application or an extension causing some spurious memory problem.

A possible solution is to remove and reinstall the application and/or remove and reinstall the system software.

NOTE: On Power Macintosh computers, there may be additional causes to these types of errors. See the Tech Info articles, "Power Macintosh Computers: No FPU Installed Error" and "Power Macintosh: Type 11 & No FPU Errors Technote" for additional information.

Article Change History:

20 Nov 1995 - Added additional technical information.  
21 Feb 1995 - Added keyword; made minor technical updates.  
21 Sep 1994 - Reviewed.

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Keywords: kalley,hts,ksts

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19960215 11:05:19.00

Tech Info Library Article Number: 8709