## Why Macintosh Portable & PowerBook Computers Won't Sleep (9/96)

Article Created: 8 August 1991
Article Reviewed/Updated: 5 September 1996

TOPIC --------------------------------------------------------------

Sometimes Macintosh Portable and PowerBook computers running any version of
System 7.x will not go into Sleep mode, regardless of the sleep time settings in
the Portable or PowerBook control panel. Why is this?

DISCUSSION ----------------------------------------------------------

The following activities may prevent the Macintosh Portable or PowerBook
computer from sleeping UNLESS a low-power condition occurs:

Common Causes
=============

• The "Stay awake when plugged in" option is selected in the Portable
  control panel, AND you are plugged into AC power.

• The PowerBook control panel slider selections are set to "Never sleep."

• The serial driver is open and active.

• AppleTalk is active (Check the Chooser). Note: A volume does not need to
  be mounted nor do you need to be connected to an AppleTalk network.

• When an internal modem's auto-answer is on.


Further Troubleshooting Tips
============================

• PowerBook 5300 and 190: There is a known issue with the password security
feature on the PowerBook 5300 and 190 series computers. If you open the Password
Security control panel and set the password security is turned on and is set for
ask password on wake, the unit will not sleep. One workaround is to turn off the
"ask for password on wake" feature. If this is done, the PowerBook will be able
to sleep. This issue can be resolved by installing the System 7.5 Update 2.0 (or
later system software) which includes the Password Security 1.0.3 control
panel.

• Check to make sure that there are no INITs (extensions) or control panels in the System Folder that may be causing the computer to assume that the system is busy. (For example, the FocalPoint II INIT has been shown to cause this; others may also.)

• Make sure there are no applications currently running which would keep the system busy. (For example, Microsoft Word's automatic repagination option will keep the system awake.)

• An extension called Insomnia came on the Install Me First disk with some versions of the system software. If this extension is mistakenly put into the Extensions folder in the active System folder on the hard drive, the PowerBook will not sleep. It should be removed from the hard drive. Insomnia is an extension that keeps the PowerBook from going to sleep during the installation process when starting from the Install Me First disk.


Technical Details
=================

For the more technically inclined, the following system activities also prevent the machine from entering the sleep or rest mode:

• A call to Read or Write through IOCore.

• Calling PostEvent.

• OSEventAvail returning true.

• Generating a sound.

• Execution of an ADB completion routine.

• A call to SetCursor (that really changes the cursor).

• The watch cursor is the active cursor.


This article was published in the Information Alley on 5 September 1996.


Article Change History:
05 Sep 1996 - Added more reasons to the list.
24 Jun 1996 - Clarified AppleTalk connection.
17 Aug 1992 - Updated to include PowerBooks.

Keywords:  sys7,kpbook,hts,ksts,kalley

=================================================================

This information is from the Apple Technical Information Library.

19960906 07:32:54.00

Tech Info Library Article Number: 8000