



Tech Info Library

System 7: Can't Run from Single 800K Floppy Disk

Article Created: 13 August 1991

Article Change History

08/18/92 - CORRECTED

- To clarify that a high density (1.4MB) startup floppy is possible.

TOPIC

Is there a way to create a bootable floppy of System 7?

If not, what is Apple's recommendation for doing diagnostics in the event of a system hang on startup or a hard disk crash?

DISCUSSION

It is not possible to create an 800K system startup floppy disk, though a high density (1.4MB) floppy will hold a minimal System 7. For those Macintoshes that have an Apple (FDHD) SuperDrive, making a bootable floppy is simply a matter of running the System 7 Installer program, choosing customize, and selecting "Min System" for your Macintosh model.

The initial recommendation for troubleshooting System 7 is to hold down the Shift key on startup to temporarily disable any system extensions (INITs). Some other suggestions for system software troubleshooting:

1. Attach an external hard drive that has System 7 on it and set startup. Make sure this hard drive has appropriate and latest virus checkers installed.
2. Run standard hardware diagnostics to check the hardware.
3. Completely replace the System 7 software if removing the system extensions doesn't help. This is where it might be useful to have a 1.4MB startup floppy, so that you can at least get to the hard disk to remove the damaged system files and set aside other files you want to save.

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Keywords: <None>

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19960215 11:05:19.00

Tech Info Library Article Number: 8777