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Macintosh: the Clipboard Uses Application's Memory Partition

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TOPIC -----

I have a 600K SoundEdit file open. When I try to copy and paste it, I get the message that there isn't enough memory.

What is the maximum amount of RAM that can be allocated to the Clipboard?

DISCUSSION -----

When data is copied to the Clipboard, the information is stored in the APPLICATION program's memory partition. (If you open "About this Macintosh," you can watch the amount of memory that is used up in the application's partition increase when it's trying to copy something.) The out of memory message tells you there isn't enough memory available in that application's partition to copy that information to the Clipboard.

SoundEdit defaults to about 1024K. Assuming that the partition size for SoundEdit is 1024K, if you have a 600K sound file open, plus the amount of memory required to launch the application, you would not have another 600K available to copy that sound into the Clipboard.

With SoundEdit set at 1024, we found there wasn't enough memory to copy a 437K sound file into the Clipboard. After quitting SoundEdit and increasing the partition size to 2024, we launched SoundEdit again, opened the same sound, and copied it to the Clipboard.

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