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QuickDraw: Using It with an 8-bit Video Card

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TOPIC -----

When and why should one use 32-bit QuickDraw? I assumed it was only for 24-bit color cards, but the Read Me in the Color folder in the 6.0.5 suite says it can also enhance 8-bit (256-color) situations.

I am using a Macintosh II with the original Macintosh Display Card 4•8, running 4 bits (16 colors), System 6.0.5, 5MB RAM, and Laser Driver/Prep 6.0.1. Would 32-bit QuickDraw help? (I presume if you use 32-bit QuickDraw, you should also use a 6.0.x-series Laser Driver/Prep.)

Do applications have to be specially written to take advantage of 32-bit QuickDraw?

Finally, with regard to the 6.0.x series Laser drivers, is there any safe, easy way to make black and white the default choice?

DISCUSSION -----

In a Macintosh with an 8-bit video card, the only benefit is some dithering changes on 8-bit images. The use of 32-bit QuickDraw doesn't demand 6.0.x Laser drivers. The installation of 32-bit would probably not greatly improve your configuration.

Applications must be "32-bit clean" to take advantage of the capabilities of the newest 24- and 32-bit color boards. You will see applications begin to advertise that they are clean as more boards become available.

There is a modified version of the 6.0.x drivers called 6.0.1z that defaults to black and white. You might try it. For more information on 32-bit QuickDraw, see the article in the Tech Info library, titled "32-Bit QuickDraw Information".

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