AppleShare 3.0.x: Optimizing Disk Cache & Memory Allocation

Article Created: 23 September 1992

* RESTRICTED: Apple Internal and Support Providers Only *
Not For General Public Release

TOPIC ----------

Can I optimize the performance of AppleShare 3.0.x by doing one or both of the following?

1) Altering the disk cache setting of the Macintosh it's running on.

2) Changing the memory allocation of the application (currently set at 100K).

DISCUSSION ----------

AppleShare 2.0 sets the RAM cache automatically. With AppleShare 3.0.x, you'll need to set the RAM cache manually. AppleShare 3.0.x is considered just another application running under System 7, therefore it can't make assumptions about the proper RAM cache setting as AppleShare 2.0 did.

Unfortunately, there are no guidelines from Engineering for setting the RAM cache size, like a formula that says "for X users, use Y RAM cache setting." There are so many variables in using the Server that coming up with a formula is nearly impossible. Engineering does indicate that you should set RAM cache to at least 256K, but not more than 2048K. There is no benefit in setting the RAM cache larger than 2048K. From our own experience here, we've bumped most of our public AppleShare 3.0.x Servers up to 1024K RAM cache.

You should also be aware that there are no advantages to increasing AppleShare 3.0.x application's memory size. AppleShare 3.0.x allocates additional memory from the system dynamically, as needed (that is, increasing the setting for the maximum number of concurrent users and then restarting).

Also, there is inaccurate information in the AppleShare 3.0 Administrator's Guide on page 151. Increasing the memory allocation for the AppleShare 3.0.x application does not improve its performance.

Article Change History
02/02/93 - REVIEWED • For technical accuracy.

Keywords: <None>

==========

19960215 11:05:19.00