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Apple Hard Drives Support Parity Option

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TOPIC -----

Do Apple hard drives support parity? If so, how can this feature be disabled?

DISCUSSION -----

Yes, Apple hard drives support the parity option. On some hard drives, parity is selected by connecting jumper pins on the hard drive's PCB (Printed Circuit Board). On hard drives that do not have jumper pins, parity can be enabled or disabled only through the vendor's formatting software.

On Apple hard drives with jumper pins, there are generally six pairs of jumper pins that control drive operation. They're found on the PCB side of the drive; the pins may be in different locations, depending on the drive vendor.

NOTE: When you change a jumper setting, the new setting will take effect only when you turn the hard drive off and on again.

Here's an example of jumper pin settings on a 40MB 3.5" hard drive:

Pin	Function
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- A0
- A1 The A0, A1 and A2 pins are used in combination to
- A2 determine the drive's SCSI ID.

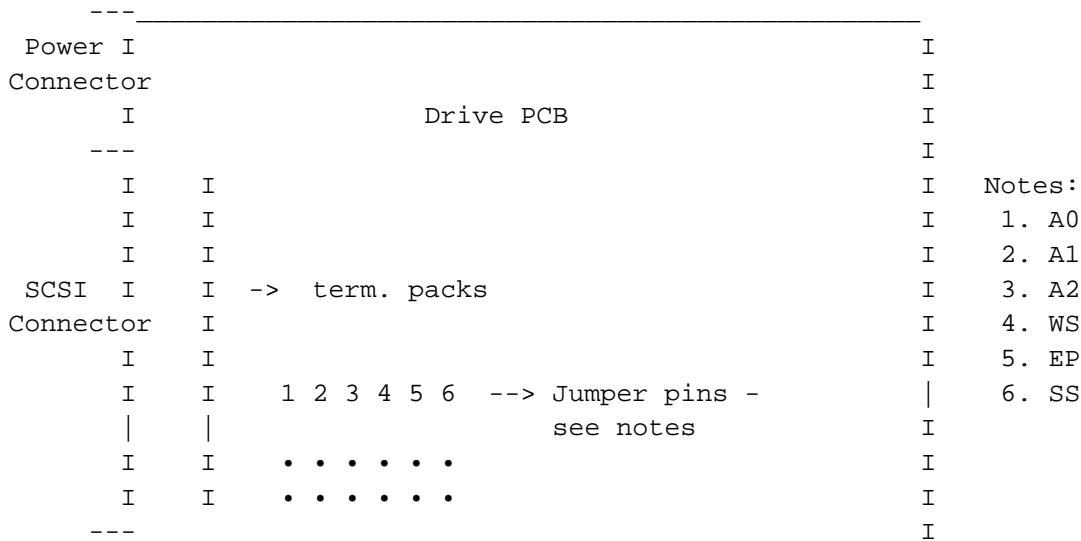
- EP Enable Parity - default is jumper on (enabled). By placing
- a jumper across the EP pins, the drive will perform parity
- checking. With the jumper off, parity checking is disabled,
- however, the drive continues to generate parity information.

- SS Self Seek - Default is jumper off (disabled). With this

function disabled, the drive will not self seek, however, the host can initiate a self seek by issuing a SEND DIAGNOSTIC command.

- WS Wait Spin - default is jumper off (disabled). With this function disabled, the drive motor will spin automatically, and the drive will become ready to perform read/write operations. With this enabled, the host must send a START/STOP unit command to activate the drive motor.

Here is a sketch of one type of jumper pin layout:



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