Macintosh: Apple Hard Drives Meet or Exceed Published Specs

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TOPIC -----

This article provides general information about Apple Macintosh hard drives.

DISCUSSION -----

The hard disk drive specifications that Apple supports are those published in our literature. For example, the Macintosh internal HD40 SC is rated with an average seek time of 30 milliseconds in literature dated February 1989. This doesn't necessarily mean that all drives will be that exact speed -- just that we claim they'll be at least that fast.

Our computers may ship with different hard drives during their product lifetimes. In the case of the Macintosh SE/30, customers may have received a hard drive manufactured by Quantum, Seagate, or Sony. Each of these drives performs similarly, but mild differences are detectable using certain benchmark tests. The most noticeable difference in actual day-to-day operation probably would be the unique sounds made by each drive. The overall performance should not differ much.

Many factors influence which drive a customer receives with a given Macintosh. When a drive manufacturer is unable to produce adequate quantities for us, Apple uses an alternate source. Sometimes drives are dropped from the approved hardware lists for one reason or another, and others are added. It is almost impossible to predict which drive a Macintosh will have.

The service situation is also difficult to predict. Our pool of service hard drives changes over time, much the same as our pool of new product drives does. All that is guaranteed is that our customers will receive replacement drives that are compatible, and that will match or exceed our published specifications.

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