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Monitors: Magnetized Sheetmetal and Raster Distortion (3/93)

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TOPIC -----

When I put a monitor on top of a Macintosh IIvx, Performa 600, or any other Macintosh computer with a metal case, the monitor's raster tilts about 1.5 mm down and to the right. What causes this?

DISCUSSION -----

This is not an unusual occurrence when monitors are placed on metal objects such as tables and counters.

We believe that the metal case has been magnetized, causing the CRT's raster to shift. When a monitor is placed in the vicinity of a magnetic field, the field can alter the path of the electron beam inside the CRT, causing the raster to distort.

A degaussing coil is required to demagnetize (or degauss) the metal cabinet. Degaussing coils can be purchased at most electronic stores and are relatively inexpensive (about \$35).

WARNING: You must remove the metal cabinet from the system, and move the system (and all other hard drives and diskettes) at least 10 feet (3 meters) away from the degaussing coil when power is applied to the coil.

The degaussing coil generally includes instructions for demagnetizing a monitor screen. Use the same directions to demagnetize the metal cabinet.

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