



Tech Info Library

Apple Multimedia Tuner: Frequently Asked Questions (1/96)

Article Created: 7 October 1994

Article Reviewed/Updated: 23 January 1996

TOPIC -----

The Apple Multimedia Tuner was an extension released to fix problems such as slow response and freezes with versions of QuickTime previous to 2.0 and various third-party applications.

Apple rolled the Multimedia Tuner fixes into QuickTime 2.0.9 and QuickTime 2.1. You should upgrade to QuickTime 2.1, which is available online, to get the best performance from applications that use QuickTime.

This article contains frequently asked questions (FAQ) about the Apple Multimedia Tuner.

Questions answered in this FAQ:

=====

- 1) What is the Apple Multimedia Tuner?
- 2) Why is it necessary, who needs it?
- 3) Is Macromedia aware of the problems?
- 4) Is the Multimedia Tuner Specific to a bug fix for QuickTime 2.0?
- 5) Is a license or licensing fee required?
- 6) How do I get the Multimedia Tuner?
- 7) Was anything else added to the Multimedia Tuner?
- 8) Where can I find the latest Multimedia Tuner extension for QuickTime 2.1?
Can the Multimedia Tuner 2.0.1 be used?
- 9) My Power Macintosh 9500 came with QuickTime 2.0.9 installed? Do I need to install the Multimedia Tuner extension?

DISCUSSION -----

- 1) Question: What is the Apple Multimedia Tuner?

Answer: The Multimedia Tuner is a system extension that helps improve the playback performance of multimedia titles, especially those created with Macromedia Director. It is used in conjunction with QuickTime 1.6.1, 1.6.2, or 2.0 for Macintosh, or with Sound Manager 3.0. The Multimedia Tuner is no longer needed as a separate extension if you install QuickTime version 2.0.9 or later.

2) Question: Why is it necessary, who needs it?

Answer: Macromedia's implementation of the QuickTime Application Program Interface (API) was not completed according to our developer guidelines, consequently some CD-ROM titles that are created with Macromedia Director do not perform optimally in certain situations. The problems existed with previous versions of QuickTime, such as QuickTime 1.6.1, but are particularly pronounced with QuickTime 2.0.

Anyone who is using a CD-ROM title created with Macromedia Director should consider using the Multimedia Tuner extension when using QuickTime 1.6.1 or QuickTime 2.0. In some cases, the Tuner also improves performance of CD titles that have been created with other applications. Macromedia Director 4.0.4 solves these issues, but titles created with previous versions of Director should have improved performance with the Multimedia Tuner.

The Multimedia Tuner is not specific to a bug fix for QuickTime 2.0. It improves performance of titles that interact with QuickTime 1.6.1, 2.0, and in some cases, products that use the Sound Manager 3.0.

3) Question: Is Macromedia aware of the problems?

Answer: Yes. Apple has been working closely with Macromedia to solve the issues. Macromedia Director 4.0.4 will solve these issues, but titles that have been created with previous versions of Director should have improved performance with the Tuner or QuickTime 2.1.

4) Question: Is the Multimedia Tuner Specific to a bug fix for QuickTime 2.0

Answer: No. It improves performance of titles which interact with QuickTime 1.6.1, 2.0 and in some cases products that use the Sound Manager 3.0.

5) Question: Is a license or licensing fee required?

Answer: No license or licensing fee is required for the Multimedia Tuner; you can distribute it freely.

6) Question: How do I get the Multimedia Tuner?

Answer: The Multimedia Tuner is distributed at no charge, with no licensing fee or agreement required. Here are a few locations where you can obtain it:

- Macromedia - Director Bulletin Board/Patch Network
- Developers - Apple Multimedia Program
 - . - Developer CD
- Online - Upgrade to QuickTime 2.1 available online which has the Multimedia Tuner rolled in.

7) Question: Was anything else added to the Multimedia Tuner?

Answer: A number of minor enhancements have also been added to the Multimedia Tuner, improving multimedia system performance in some situations:

- Sound Manager 3.0 required too much memory in the system heap. Sound now plays even if there is almost no system memory available.
- Includes the changes made after QuickTime 2.0 for Adobe Premier 4.0 and VideoVision Studio 2.0. This decreases memory usage when many clips are open, and increases performance for hardware decompressors.

8) Question: Where can I find the latest Multimedia Tuner extension for QuickTime 2.1? Can the Multimedia Tuner 2.0.1 be used?

Answer: The enhancements provided by the Multimedia Tuner extension have been integrated into QuickTime 2.1. It is not necessary to use this extension with this version.

9) Question: My Power Macintosh 9500 came with QuickTime 2.0.9 installed? Do I need to install the Multimedia Tuner extension?

Answer: No, QuickTime 2.0.9 is built from an early version of QuickTime 2.1 and already has the Multimedia Tuner built in.

These articles can help you locate the Multimedia software mentioned here:

- "Where To Find Apple Software Updates" -- Lists online services for free Apple software updates.
- "Obtaining Apple Product Support in the USA" -- Lists 800 numbers and online services for software updates, Apple support information, and a subset of the Apple Tech Info Library.

Article Change History:

- 23 Jan 1996 - Recommended all users update to QuickTime 2.1.
- 19 Jan 1996 - Made minor technical update.
- 16 Nov 1995 - Added keyword, updated QuickTime 2.0.9 information.

Support Information Services
Copyright 1994-96, Apple Computer, Inc.

Keywords: kalley,kfaq

=====

This information is from the Apple Technical Information Library.

19960215 11:05:19.00

Tech Info Library Article Number: 16462