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Mac OS 8: About the Multiprocessing Software

TOPIC

This article is the About the Multiprocessing Software Read Me file that comes with Mac OS 8.

DISCUSSION

This document provides information about the multiprocessing software included with Mac OS 8 and how to configure your computer properly to take advantage of multiprocessor performance. You use multiprocessing software to use two processors at the same time, which increases your computer's speed.

Turn off virtual memory and do not install RAM Doubler
Turn off virtual memory in the Memory control panel, and do not install Connectix RAM Doubler software. If virtual memory is turned on or RAM Doubler is installed, then your multiprocessor-compatible software applications will not be able to take advantage of the second PowerPC processor.

To turn off virtual memory, open the Memory control panel. In the Virtual Memory section, click the Off button. Then restart your computer. For more detailed information about virtual memory, open the Help menu, then choose Help.

Turn off hard disk sleep
Make sure that the hard disk sleep interval is set to Never in the Energy Saver control panel. Otherwise, software applications designed to work with your multiprocessor computer may not work properly.

To set your hard disk sleep interval, do the following:

1. Open the Energy Saver control panel.
2. If necessary, click Show Details to make the additional options available.

3. Drag the top and bottom sliders all the way to the right as shown below.

If you wish, you can set a display sleep interval by dragging the middle slider. Display sleep works properly with multiprocessor-compatible software applications.

Important information about Document Auto-Save

The Energy Saver control panel contains a feature named Document Auto-Save. The purpose of this feature is to automatically quit all open applications during an idle or scheduled shutdown, while saving changes to any open documents in each application. Since there are literally thousands of applications available for the Mac OS (with new ones always arriving), Document Auto-Save may not be compatible with every application. This is especially true for any application that does not use standard routines to implement the alerts or dialog boxes used to save changes to new or modified documents. When Document Auto-Save is incompatible with an application, it will either not automatically quit, or it will display alerts or dialog boxes that Document Auto-Save does not recognize and therefore does not dismiss.

If you intend to turn Document Auto-Save on, it is recommended that you monitor its operation during the first attempted idle or scheduled shutdown and note if any of your applications are not compatible. You can avoid problems with incompatible applications simply by making sure you leave open no documents that are new or modified before an idle or scheduled shutdown is to occur. Alternatively, you can modify the Document Auto-Save preferences in the Energy Saver control panel so the computer will sleep rather than shut down when unsaved documents are open.

For instructions for using Energy Saver & Document Auto-Save, choose Help from the Help menu when the Finder is active.

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