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Mac OS 8: ARA Client Read Me

TOPIC

This article is the ARA Client Read Me file that comes with Mac OS 8.0.

DISCUSSION

This document provides late-breaking news about the Apple Remote Access Client that is not covered in the Apple Remote Access Client User's Guide. You may need to refer to that guide to understand the use of several terms in this document, and you may want to print this document to keep with your user's guide.

Modems Supported by the Apple Remote Access Client

Scripts that support most popular modems are provided on the Remote Access Client installation disks. The scripts include:

- 3Com Impact Analog 14.4
- 3Com Impact ISDN 56K
- 3Com Impact ISDN 64K
- Apple Modem 2400
- AT&T Dataport 288
- AT&T KeepInTouch
- Dayna CommuniCard 28800
- Farallon Netopia 56K
- Farallon Netopia 64K
- GeoPort/Express Modem
- GeoPort/Express Modem CNG
- Global Village Gold/Silver/Mercury
- Global Village Platinum
- Hayes Accura 288
- Hayes Optima 14.4
- Hayes Optima 288
- Megahertz CruiseCard 14.4

Megahertz CruiseCard 28.8
Metricom Ricochet Wireless
Microcom MicroPorte 4232bis
Microcom QX/4232bis
Motorola 326xV34
Motorola BitSURFR 56K
Motorola BitSURFR 64K
Motorola Power/Lifestyle 28.8
Practical Peripherals V.34
Prometheus ProModem 144e
Prometheus ProModem 96
PSI PowerModem II
PSI PowerModem III/IV
Supra 144
Supra 288
TDK DF2814
Telebit QBlazer
Telebit T3000
Telebit Worldblazer
US Robotics Universal
Zoom V-series

Beginning with version 2.1 of the Apple Remote Access Client and the companion Personal Server product, modem scripts are no longer stored in the Extensions Folder. A new folder called Modem Scripts within the Extensions Folder is created by Apple Remote Access to hold modem scripts.

The Apple Remote Access Installer will move any existing scripts you may already have in your Extensions Folder to the new Modem Scripts folder in addition to placing scripts for all the modems listed above into the Modem Scripts folder.

Future remote access products from Apple will also use the Modem Scripts folder. However, there will be a transition period before other products are updated to use the new folder. Some existing products may install modem scripts into the Extensions Folder. If such a product is installed after Apple Remote Access 2.1, you will have to open your Extensions Folder and drag the scripts into the Modem Scripts folder in order for Apple Remote Access to recognize the script.

You can use modem scripts included with the Apple Remote Access MultiPort Server (any version) with version 2.1 of Apple Remote Access Client. You can also use AppleTalk Remote Access version 1.0 modem scripts with version 2.1 of the Client, but certain new features, such as Ignore Dial Tone, Manual Dialing, and MNP 10 support, will not be available.

Additionally, you will be able to use scripts from future Apple dial-up products with version 2.1 of Apple Remote Access. But, see the note below on some issues related to manual dialing.

Apple Remote Access and System 7.5.3

The Read Me documents for System 7.5.3 and System Update 2.0 suggest that Apple Remote Access should be installed before System 7.5.3. This is not necessary. Beginning with version 2.1, Apple Remote Access should be installed after System 7.5.3.

Installing ARA X.25 Client over Apple Remote Access 2.1

The Apple Remote Access X.25 Client installer places X.25 scripts into the Extensions folder. If you install the X.25 additions after installing Apple Remote Access 2.1, you will have to open your Extensions Folder and drag the X.25 scripts into the Modem Scripts folder in order for Apple Remote Access to recognize the scripts.

If you use the Apple Remote Access 2.1 installer to upgrade your existing Remote Access 2.0.1 and X.25 Client, the installer will move the scripts for you.

Compatibility with AppleTalk Remote Access 1.0

Version 2.1 of the Apple Remote Access Client will successfully connect to both AppleTalk Remote Access 1.0 compatible servers and Apple Remote Access 2.x compatible servers. The compatibility setting in the connection document of earlier version 2.0 and 2.0.1 has been removed. Since connection to either style server is automatic, the setting is no longer necessary.

The next major upgrade to Apple Remote Access will no longer support ARA 1.0 clients or servers.

Using an MNP 10 Modem

MNP 10 is an error-correction protocol that allows for more reliable data connections over cellular modems. Clicking the Use MNP 10 error correction in modem checkbox in the Remote Access Setup window puts MNP 10 modems into cellular mode. Do not click the Use MNP 10 error correction in modem checkbox to use MNP 10 over land lines.

To establish an MNP 10 connection, both your modem and the modem you are calling must support MNP 10; clicking the Use MNP 10 error correction in modem checkbox in the Remote Access Setup window is not by itself sufficient to establish an MNP 10 connection.

Manual Dialing

The method used to do manual dialing in Apple Remote Access 2.0/2.0.1 has not worked well.

Apple Remote Access presents a dialog asking you to dial, wait for the phone to ring, and then press OK. Often the user has to experiment to determine exactly when to press OK to dismiss the dialog.

To improve manual dialing, a new dialog has been incorporated into the modem scripts installed along with version 2.1 of Apple Remote Access. Two dialogs are now displayed when doing manual dialing. This first dialog is still present to provide backwards compatibility with the wide variety of existing modem scripts. When using newer scripts, the first dialog box should be dismissed before dialing, and you will be prompted by the modem script when to actually dial the phone. If you are using a modem script not included with this product, you may have to experiment to determine if the first dialog box should be ignored.

Future remote access and dial-up products from Apple will require the new style scripts and will not present two dialog boxes.

Using the Redialing Feature

If the redialing option is selected, the Remote Access Client attempts redialing only when the phone number that has been dialed is busy. If the connection attempt fails for any other reason including a failed callback attempt, Remote Access stops redialing so that you can correct any problems.

If you use the Redialing option, set the Time between retries number to five seconds or greater. Anything less than five seconds may not give your modem sufficient time to reset.

When using the Redialing Alternate Number option, the main number is dialed once and then redialing sequence alternates between the alternate and main numbers.

Using DialAssist

If you are calling within a country with no city or area codes, and you encounter problems using DialAssist, try entering a space in the Connect To City/Area Code box in your connection document.

Serial Port Arbitration

When a Remote Access connection is established, Remote Access prevents other application

programs from using the serial port selected in the Remote Access Setup control panel. Most programs will inform you that the port is in use.

Remote Access Client provides this port arbitration through a system extension called the Serial Port Arbitrator located in the Extensions folder. Some programs that use the serial port may not be compatible with this extension. If you suspect that a program is not compatible with the Serial Port Arbitrator:

1. Remove the Serial Port Arbitrator file from the Extensions folder.
2. Restart your Macintosh.
3. Try the program again.

Note: The Serial Port Arbitrator will not work on a Macintosh if Remote Access Client has not been installed.

High Speed Serial Connections

Both Apple Remote Access Personal Server 2.1 and Client 2.1 support specifying a serial connection speed of 115200 bps in a modem script. Not all Macintosh built-in serial ports support connection speed of 115200 bps. Here is a list of Macintoshes that do.

Centris/Quadra 660AV, Quadra 840AV
Macintosh Performa 61xx
Power Macintosh 61xx, 71xx, 72xx, 75xx, 76xx, 81xx, 85xx, 95xx
Workgroup Server 6150, 7250, 8150, 8550, 9150

In order to use the serial port at 115200 bps on one of these computers, you need a new serial extension called SerialDMA. System 7.5.3 or later incorporates this driver into the operating system.

If you use a modem script that specifies 115200 bps, and your computer does not support this data rate, Apple Remote Access will automatically fall back to 57600 bps.

Using a Local Printer

If you are using a non-networked printer connected to the printer port of your Macintosh, you may get an error dialog when trying to initiate a connection or when trying to print while connected saying that one of your serial ports is already in use. You may need to select Remote Only in the Network Control Panel (AppleTalk Control panel for Open Transport-based machines).

Apple Remote Access Client and the Apple Internet Router
Apple Remote Access Client should not be installed on the same Macintosh as the Apple Internet Router.

Using ARA Security Modules (like SecurID) with Virtual Memory
There is an incompatibility between some ARA security modules (like SecurID) and Virtual Memory.
This bug has been fixed in the latest system release (7.5.3).

Changes in version 2.1 of the Apple Remote Access Client

Modem scripts have been moved to a new Modem Scripts folder within the Extensions

Folder.

The compatibility option in the connection document is no longer necessary and has been removed.

The method of manual dialing has been changed. See the section above.

Interoperability with some non-Apple Remote Access Servers has been improved.

The installer has been upgraded from version 3.4 to version 4.0.3.

There is no longer a separate Remote Access Aliases extension.

The installer is now on a single high-density diskette.

A bug that caused machines with certain extensions to crash during boot has been fixed in

the Serial Port Arbitrator.

Serial port rates of up to 115,200 bps are now supported in modem scripts. If the computer

doesn't support 115,200, Apple Remote Access will use 57,600 bps instead.

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