

CD-ROM: Making a Macintosh Start-Up Volume (4/93)

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TOPIC
What are the issues involved in making a CD-ROM volume from which a Macintosh can start up?
DISCUSSION
The process of making a "bootable" CD is not trivial. The partition for the driver must be expanded from the HD default size of 16K to 32K and the CD-ROM driver must be written to that partition.
In addition, there are many portions of system software that expect to be able to write to the disk (for example, creating a preferences file) that it will obviously not be able to. Therefore, only minimal system software is included on the bootable CD-ROM. And special care must be taken to properly prepare the Desktop and Trash folders.
The boot blocks are the same as those on a hard disk, including the signature byte of "LK", indicating that the disk is bootable. An AppleCD 300i is not required to use a bootable CD. In order to make the boot process ignore the built-in hard disk, hold down the Shift, Option, Command, and Delete keys. Copyright 1993, Apple Computer, Inc.
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