

Tech Info Library

ADB Keyboard: Problem with Function Keys When Emulating VT240

Article Created: 4 March 1990

Article Last Reviewed: 23 August 1991 Article Last Updated: 23 August 1991

TOPIC -----

I am having problems using VT240 terminal emulators with Macintosh SEs with Apple SuperDrives (formerly Apple FDHD) and extended keyboards. The problem is that I can't use some function keys (PF2, PF3, and PF4), like the six keys above the arrow keys on the extended keyboard.

It seems to be a CPU-related problem, because I have tried all the possible combinations between the old and the new extended keyboard, reinstalled system software 6.0.3, and used the latest revisions of the two emulators (VersaTerm Pro and Mac240). I have problems only when using the Macintosh SEs with SuperDrives. Everything works fine with older CPUs.

What's going on?

DISCUSSION -----

We tested Mac240 on our Macintosh SE with a SuperDrive, and the function keys are working exactly the same as on the Macintosh SE with 800K drive.

According to page 82 in Appendix A of the Mac240 manual, DEC keyboard keys F1-F5 are not present on the ADB keyboard. These keys perform local functions on a VT240 terminal (Hold Screen, Print Screen, Setup, DataTalk, and Break). Equivalent operations are available in Mac240 menus. DEC keyboard F6 and up are mapped to ADB keys F1 and up as follows:

DEC Keyboard	ADB Keyboard
F1-F5	Not Present
F6	F1
F7	F2
F8	F3
F9	F4
F10	F5
F11	F6
F12	F7

F13	F8
F14	F9
Help	F10
Do	F11
F17	F12
F18	F13
F19	F14
F20	F15

Pressing the F1 key on the ADB keyboard is equivalent to pressing the F6 key on the VT240, which happens to be Control-C, the CANCEL key. Pressing F10 and F11 on the ADB keyboard is like pressing the Help and Do keys on the DEC keyboard. This was verified using DEC Edit/TPU program.

The six keys above the arrow keys on the ADB keyboard also worked correctly for us on the Macintosh SE with the SuperDrive and with the 800K drive. Keep in mind that they do not have the same meanings as their labels. They work like the DEC keyboard labels:

DEC keyboard	ADB keyboard
Find	help
Insert Here	home
Remove	page up
Select	del
Prev Screen	end
Next Screen	page down

One other thing to check is to make sure that the terminal is set correctly on the host machine as VT200 series. On VAX/VMS, use the command:

\$ SET TERMINAL/DEVICE=VT200 Copyright 1990, 1991 Apple Computer, Inc.

Keywords: <None>

This information is from the Apple Technical Information Library.

19960215 11:05:19.00

Tech Info Library Article Number: 5136