# Tech Info Library

## Pascal III: Listing large directories

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Security: Everyone

Pascal III: Listing large directories

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The Pascal III Filer reads the entire directory into memory before printing any of it, and so the number of files in a directory is limited. With a 128K Apple III, this limit is approximately 500 files; a ProFile with a directory containing more than 500 files, then, can cause problems.

SOS was designed to accomodate subdirectories so that large numbers of files can be stored and used with ease. A complex daily log of transactions, for instance, might be arranged like this:

```
                              TRANSACTIONS.82
              _______________________|_________________ ...
              |                              |
           JANUARY                       FEBURARY
        ______|________              ______|________
        |   |   |       |            |   |   |       |
       D1  D2  D3  ... D31          D1  D2  D3  ... D28
```

This way, the pathname to the data for the last day of Feburary would be:

/PROFILE/TRANSCTIONS.82/FEBURARY/D28

By making use of SOS's ability to accomodate subdirectories, then, you can store far more than 500 files, as long as you never exceed the 500-file limit within any single directory.

Apple Tech Notes

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