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MS-DOS Filename Conventions: AppleShare V2.0 Same As V1.1

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Under AppleShare 1.1, an MS-DOS user sees a modified version of any name over eight characters; for example:

Macintosh volume name: Oxford Blues
AppleShare PC name: !Oxford .Blu

Some users have asked if AppleShare 2.0 lets the administrator determine the volume names that the PC sees -- that is, make it possible to assign names that are different from the Macintosh names, but readable by MS-DOS -- or if not, whether there is any way to make the names easier to read and type WITHOUT constraining original volume names to eight characters or less?

This problem occurs because of file-naming constraints in MS-DOS, which allow only a maximum of eight characters with a three-character extension (such as 12345678.123) for file names. The Macintosh and AppleShare (1.1 or 2.0) both allow filenames up to 31 characters in length.

Although AppleShare allows filenames to be 31 characters long, it also stores the filenames as "short names", which adhere to the MS-DOS file-naming conventions. These "short names" are used when an MS-DOS machine accesses files from an AppleShare server that have names longer than eight characters. These "short names" are generated by a predefined algorithm of the characters in the actual name, and CANNOT be controlled by the system administrator.

This is true for both AppleShare versions 1.1 and 2.0. If file names must be easy to read and type, assign names of eight characters or less.

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