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Apple IIGS: How To Prevent Control Panel Access

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TOPIC -----

Is there a way to lock the Control Panel on an Apple IIGS? If the Control Panel cannot be locked, is there a way to write an INIT to reset the PRAM to a predetermined setting?

DISCUSSION -----

The disposition of this problem depends on whether you have a pre-1MB Apple IIGS computer or a 1MB Apple IIGS computer:

Pre-1MB Apple IIGS Computer

For older (pre-1MB Apple IIGS computers) you can, under ProDOS 16 and GS/OS, intercept the interrupt created by the Control Panel access keystroke. For these computers, you need to write an interrupt handler that accepts the Control Panel interrupt and disposes of it.

Startup programs, or INITs, are discussed in "Apple IIGS ProDOS 16 Reference" (ISBN 0-201-17754-4), published by Addison-Wesley. Pages 52 through 57 deal with the issues of boot initialization and the SYSTEM.SETUP subdirectory. Both issues are of importance to the creation of startup programs.

Interrupts and interrupt handlers are discussed in several places throughout the book. Use the index to review the issues connected with interrupts.

One shortcoming when using a startup program with ProDOS 16 or GS/OS concerns ProDOS 8 applications. When a ProDOS 8 application is executed, ProDOS also is executed, and, in the process, the INITs of ProDOS 16 or GS/OS are not active until ProDOS 16 or GS/OS is executed again.

1MB Apple IIGS Computer

The newer 1MB Apple IIGS computer has a jumper at W1 that disables the Control Panel. W1 is a two-pin jumper located on the logic board near the power supply.

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