



# Tech Info Library

## MacDFT: Does Not Support Explicit Partitioning

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TOPIC -----

Does MacDFT support "explicit partitioning"? Apparently, it's a feature that is available on the new IBM 3290 Information Display Panel (gas-plasma screen). From what I understand, this hardware divides the screen and uses one data stream over coax to drive several sessions.

Does this make any sense to you?

DISCUSSION -----

Explicit partitions on the IBM 3290 screen allow up to four session windows to be displayed at one time. To define the session windows' size and location, a 3270 system extension, known as explicit partition, is used. Explicit partition sends a partition-structured field command from the host to the 3290 to tell the display the size and location of each session window.

MacDFT does not support explicit partitions. We are not aware of any third-party products that support this 3270 extension. However, MacDFT, when attached to a host's DFT port, can define a document with four windows positioned on the Macintosh screen. With this ability, MacDFT accomplishes the desired results of four sessions at once. This method places the session window management in the Macintosh, not on the host -- thus, allowing the host to concentrate on more important computing concerns.

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