Tech Info Library

Macintosh Classic II: Description (Discontinued)

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TOPIC -------------------------------------------------------------

This article describes the Macintosh Classic II computer.

DISCUSSION --------------------------------------------------------

The Macintosh Classic II offers many built-in capabilities.  You can send
electronic mail and share devices like printers using built-in networking with
third-party products.  You can plug peripherals (such as CD-ROM drives,
scanners, and modems) into the built-in ports.  The microphone allows you to add
voice notes to documents and mail messages.

Applications run more than twice as fast on the Macintosh Classic II as they do
on the original Macintosh Classic.  You can work with several applications at
the same time, and continue working while the computer does other tasks.

The Macintosh Classic II stores the video buffer in system RAM.  Video data
loads into a buffer in 64-bit chunks by burst mode read.  The remaining RAM
bandwidth is available to the CPU.  The on-board video uses 9.4% or 12.5% of the
RAM bandwidth, depending on whether video is active or not. Macintosh Classic
II's video supports a frame rate of 60.15 Hz.

The Macintosh Classic II uses main memory for the sound buffer.  It maintains a
sound buffer in the on-board RAM, located above the video buffer.  Like the
Macintosh LC, it allows for playthrough which permits an external audio source
to mix with computer-generated sound and play out through the speaker or
headphone jack.  The left and right channel of the stereo phono jack are tied
together to produce 2-channel monophonic output.

Macintosh Classic II Features
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- Power and Speed
  - 16 MHz 68030 microprocessor
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- Memory
  - 2MB or 4MB RAM, expandable to 10MB
  - Virtual memory

- Expansion
  - Seven built-in ports for peripherals such as printers, scanners, and microphone
  - Internal connector for optional math coprocessor

- System Software
  - System 7.0.1, with multitasking, file sharing, Balloon Help, and TrueType

- Networking
  - Built-in AppleTalk networking
  - File sharing without a dedicated server

- Compatibility
  - Macintosh, MS-DOS, OS/2, and ProDOS floppy disk formats

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