



Tech Info Library

Newton: System Updates (9/93)

Revised: 9/9/93
Security: Everyone

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Article Created: 30 July 1993
Article Revised/Updated: 9 September 1993

TOPIC -----

This article discusses system updates for your Newton.

DISCUSSION -----

Newton will support RAM-based system updates. These updates can be system enhancements or bug fixes. System updates can be factory-installed or downloaded and installed by end-users. Most updates use between 8 and 16K of RAM.

To determine if a update is loaded, check the ROM version in the Startup screen or the Preferences screen. The last digit following the ROM version denote the number of the system update that is installed. For example, 1.02 would mean ROM version 1.0 with update 2. If the last digit is 0, no updates are installed.

RAM-based updates are kept alive by the lithium backup battery. In the special emergency shutdown state, the update can be kept intact for about 26 years. To achieve this state, run your Newton with the backup battery in, no primary battery installed and the Power Adapter plugged in. When you remove the Power Adapter with the unit on, Newton will shutdown virtually everything including the system clock. RAM and RAM-based system updates are maintained, however.

If you restore data to your Newton from a backup, the system update will remain intact.

You can erase the system updates by removing all batteries and all power from your Newton for over 10 minutes

Article Change History

..TIL12749-Newton-System_Updates_9-93.pdf

9 September 1993 - corrected the method for erasing system updates and revised the example version numbers for the system update.

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Tech Info Library Article Number:12749