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PowerBook: Disabling Processor Cycling/System Rest (5/96)

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Security: Everyone

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TOPIC -----

Every once in a while my PowerBook computer slows down for no apparent reason. I tried to determine if there was a pattern, but it seems to happen in just about any application.

DISCUSSION -----

The pattern you might have noticed is that the slow down occurs after you have left your PowerBook computer inactive for a certain period of time. The PowerBook drops the power consumption of its microprocessor to save battery power during periods of inactivity.

Inactivity is defined by the PowerBook as no user interaction, and no interaction with a peripheral device, such as a modem or disk drive.

If your PowerBook is running System 7.0.1 (which came installed on the PowerBook 100, 140, and 170), this feature is known as "system rest". If your PowerBook is running System 7.1 or later (which came installed on all other PowerBook computers to date), this feature is known as "processor cycling".

You can disable system rest or processor cycling if it becomes an annoyance. However you should keep in mind that your battery life will not be as good, especially if you often must divert your attention away from your PowerBook during use.

Portable Control Panel
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To disable system rest (on PowerBook computers that have the Portable control panel):

Step 1

Choose Control Panels from the Apple menu, and open the Portable control panel.

Step 2

Hold down the Option key and click on the words "Minutes Until Automatic Sleep."

Step 3

In the window that appears, click Don't Rest.

Step 4

Click OK to disable Rest Mode, or click Cancel.

PowerBook Control Panel

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To disable processor cycling (on PowerBook computers running System 7.1, which use the PowerBook control panel):

Step 1

Choose Control Panels from the Apple menu, and open the PowerBook control panel.

Step 2

Hold down the Option key on the keyboard and click the Options button.

Step 3

Under Processor Cycling in the next window, click "Don't allow cycling".

Step 4

Click OK for your new settings to take effect, click Cancel to leave the settings as they were before, or click Use Defaults to return to the original settings.

PowerBook Control Panel

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(PowerBook 500 series and System 7.5.x)

To disable processor cycling (on PowerBook computers running System 7.1.x, 7.5.x or later, which use the PowerBook control panel):

Step 1

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Select Control Panels from the Apple menu, and open the PowerBook control panel.

Step 2

Slide the select switch to "Easy".

Step 3

While holding the option key down select "Custom". A new choice, named Options, will appear.

Step 4

Put an "X" in the box to turn off processor cycling.

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