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PowerBook Duo: Battery Reconditioning (12/94)

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Security: Everyone

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TOPIC -----

This article discusses battery reconditioning for the PowerBook Duo 270c, Duo 280, and Duo 280c.

DISCUSSION -----

Battery reconditioning is a deep discharge of a battery to avoid "memory effect" which, over time, can reduce the battery's power capacity.

The PowerBook Duo 270c, Duo 280, and Duo 280c have a modified power system which can recondition its battery. This allows it to draw power exclusively from either the AC source or the main batteries. When you recondition the battery, the Duo disconnects external power to avoid recharging, draws power from the internal battery only, and ignores all low power level alerts, including hardware shutdown. The Duo then senses when the battery is completely exhausted and fully recharges it. The entire process should take a few hours.

During battery reconditioning, you cannot use the Duo for any other purpose. While the Duo is reconditioning its battery, it goes into a screen saver mode where a black and white battery icon moves around the screen. Note that the power adapter must be plugged in for reconditioning to work.

You should recondition your battery no more than once a month. The battery reconditioning software (located on the Disk Tools diskette) keeps track of the last reconditioning performed by checking the battery's serial number. PowerBook systems prior to the Duo 270c, Duo 280, or Duo 280c cannot use the battery reconditioning software.

Please note that the Battery Reconditioning software is not on the system diskettes that come with the PowerBook Duo. You should make a backup of your software or download the software from one of the online services.

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These articles can help you locate software updates mentioned here:

- Where To Find Apple Software Updates
Lists online services for "free" Apple software updates
- Obtaining Apple Product Support in the USA
Lists 800 numbers and online services for software updates, Apple support information, and a subset of the Apple Tech. Info. Library

Article Change History:

06 Dec 1994 - Noted that Battery Recond. software is not on system disks.

05 May 1994 - Updated to include PowerBook 280 and 280c products

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