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Apple Personal Diagnostics: Description and Specs (2/95)

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TOPIC -----

This article describes Apple Personal Diagnostics (APD) software, and gives technical specifications for the product.

DISCUSSION -----

Apple Personal Diagnostics (version 1.1) offers a way to diagnose and monitor the performance of your Macintosh, Power Macintosh, or PowerBook system.

This software gives you information about your computer's hardware and software. It's also the only diagnostic product available that's based on the same testing programs Apple uses in manufacturing Macintosh computers. Regular use of the program can reduce system down time, minimize support calls, and help you isolate the sources of problems.

Personal Diagnostics combines hardware testing, system profiling, disk directory repair, and software checking in one package that now supports Power Macintosh and is fully compatible with System 7.5. You can run your system through an entire set of tests just by clicking on one button, and the results are presented in clearly understandable graphics and tables. The program performs comprehensive diagnostic tests on your system's internal components, hard drives, floppy drives, and monitors. The hardware performance tests let you compare your system with benchmarks established by Apple for other Macintosh computers.

Personal Diagnostics also provides a variety of software information and checks. It lists all applications and system files (including extensions) installed on your computer, alerts you if duplicate System folders exist, and diagnoses and repairs minor disk directory problems.

You can even have Personal Diagnostics automatically test your Macintosh system when you are not using it. It alerts you to any irregularities that may exist

and suggest simple steps to correct them before they deteriorate into more serious problems.

Features

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Thorough Diagnostics

- Tests logic board, memory, and other hardware components
- Checks for damaged System, Finder, and Enabler files
- Verifies and repairs disk directories
- Runs benchmark tests for comparison with Apple standards
- Looping option assists in detecting intermittent problems.

Comprehensive System Information

- Specifies the type and speed of processor and any coprocessors
- Indicates the amount of memory available, including RAM and virtual memory
- Displays SCSI bus assignments and the contents of NuBus slots
- Lists version numbers of system software files and applications
- Includes hardware tests for Macintosh logic board, RAM/VRAM, SCSI and IDE hard disk drives, floppy disk drives, CD-ROM drives and monitors.
- Offers a comprehensive background diagnostic function (Automated System Monitor) that checks your system during periods of inactivity. Alerts you to any irregularities that may exist, and suggests simple steps to correct them before they deteriorate into more serious problems.
- Identifies duplicate System Folders and other system irregularities and provides you with simple solutions.

Ease of Use

- Runs an entire suite of tests with the click of one button
- You can customize the test suite to your needs
- Checks your system automatically during periods of inactivity (Automated Diagnostics)
- Prints customized reports quickly

Technical Specifications

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Diagnostic Tests

- Logic board
 - Clock/interrupt (VIA and RTC circuitry)
 - Floating-point unit (if present)
 - Memory management unit (if present)
 - RAM
 - Parameter RAM
 - ROM
 - ADB circuitry

- Sound output (mono and stereo)
- Hard disk drives
- Floppy disk drives
- Monitors (displays test patterns)
- Software
- Detects and repairs corrupted disk directories
- Detects damaged system files (System, Finder, and Enabler)

System Information

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- Macintosh model
 - Processor type and speed
 - Co-processor type (if any)
 - Memory addressing mode
 - Virtual memory status (if available)
 - Memory size (installed memory plus virtual memory)
 - Keyboard type
 - NuBus cards type and slot number
 - SCSI/IDE device name, type, and ID number
 - Floppy disk drive type
 - System and Finder version numbers
 - Apple Menu items, Control Panels, System/Chooser extensions, and applications, including version numbers whenever possible (startup drive only)
 - Identification of multiple System Folders (if applicable)

Benchmark Checks

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- Performance data for CPU, math functions, video, and hard drives
 - Comparisons of your system with Apple's benchmarks for several popular Macintosh models
 - Performance history for your computer

Automated Diagnostics

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- Logic board test
 - Memory test
 - Hard disk drive test
 - Software check

Reports

Apple Personal Diagnostics reports can be customized to provide:

- Hardware information
- Software information
- Diagnostic test results
- Benchmark results
- Automated diagnostics history

System Requirements

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- Apple Macintosh Plus or later, a Power Macintosh, or PowerBook

computer with at least 2MB of RAM

- Macintosh system software version 6.0.7 or later (automated diagnostics option requires version 7.0 or later)
- Hard disk drive
- Floppy disk drive

Ordering Information

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Apple Personal Diagnostics

Order No. M2800LL/B

Contents:

- One 800K application disk, and two emergency disks (for starting up your computer and repairing damaged file directories).
- User's Guide.

Article Change History:

07 Feb 1995 - Made minor technical and format updates; added keyword.

07 Oct 1994 - Updated to include version 1.1.

30 Aug 1994 - Reviewed

Support Information Services

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