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Newton MessagePad: Reducing Out Of Memory Problems (2/94)

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TOPIC -----

When printing, running programs, or performing backups, I often get "out of memory" messages on my Newton MessagePad. How can I reduce this problem?

DISCUSSION -----

If you have ROM version 1.0 and System Update 1.04 or earlier, you should upgrade to the latest version of the System Update. This will help reduce "out of memory" problems because the Newton System is allocated 32K more memory.

Also, early system updates had problems displaying many bit-mapped images and often fragmented system memory. These problems do not affect MessagePads with ROM version 1.1 or later.

Here are some tips for better memory performance:

- 1) Remove programs that you no longer use, including programs that reside on a memory card. Each additional program, besides those located in the Newton's ROM, takes up an additional 2K of heap memory.
- 2) Close the Extras drawer after running any application. This will save another 3K of system memory.
- 3) Avoid using a large number of programs that are run continuously after installation. These programs consume large amounts of system memory and slow performance.

You can identify these types of programs by the way they work. If you have a program that always adds a button on a particular screen or has a "floating" window that is always available, it may be a program that is always running.

- 4) Reset the MessagePad. This will rebuild the memory areas and remove deallocated memory which will free memory space and improve performance.

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