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PowerBook 500s, Duo 280 & 280c:How to Restart After Freeze 5/95

Revised: 5/8/95
Security: Everyone

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Article Created: 17 June 1994
Article Reviewed/Updated: 8 May 1995

TOPIC -----

How do you restart a PowerBook 540, Duo 280, or Duo 280c when it freezes? I cannot find an off/on switch.

DISCUSSION -----

Force Quit

When a Macintosh computer freezes the first thing you can do is try to determine whether the program you were using may have crashed. You can do this by trying to force quit the application. You may want to try to force quit the application before you turn the computer off so that you can save your work in the other running applications.

Note:

Force quitting an application will cause any work that has been done in that application since the last save to be lost.

Press Option, Command, and Escape (ESC) keys to see if force quit is possible from the application (some applications do not allow a force quit). If it does force quit, you should be able to save your work in any other applications that were running before you shut down or restart using the Special menu. You may want to troubleshoot your extensions or call the vendor of the application that crashed for more information.

Force Restart

If force quitting does not work, you may need to force reset/restart your computer. To perform a force reset on a Macintosh PowerBook 500 series computer or Duo 280(c), simultaneously press the Control, Command, and Power On keys (the Option key is not required). Similarly, if you want to bring up the programmer's dialog box, simultaneously press the Command and Power On keys.

Important Note:

If you do a force restart a PowerBook 500 series computer or Duo 280(c) some parts of PRAM (parameter RAM) may be reset. Some of your control panels may revert to their factory defaults, so you may have to reset them to your liking. For example, your Mouse and Keyboard Control panels may revert to their original settings.

Shutdown

In most cases this keyboard reset will work. However, if your PowerBook computer freezes in a state where it does not seem to respond to the reset command, you can try to shut down a PowerBook 500 series or Duo 280(c) computer by simultaneously pressing the Control, Option, Command, and Power On keys.

If it still will not turn off, you can shut it down by simply removing the battery (or both removable batteries on the 500 series) and disconnecting the AC power.

The key combinations (for restarting and shutting down) described in this article work for the Macintosh PowerBook Duo 280 and 280c computers. However, they do not work on the Macintosh PowerBook Duo 210, 230, 250 or 270c.

Article Change History:

08 May 1995 - Added information about force quitting and Duos.
30 Sep 1994 - Added the PRAM reset section.

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Tech Info Library Article Number:15643