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System 7.5: 50 New Features - Brief Description (7/96)

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TOPIC -----

This article provides a brief description of the 50 new features in the Macintosh operating system version 7.5.

DISCUSSION -----

Active Assistance & Customization
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Apple Guide

A whole new kind of help system that features active assistance; it walks you through any task one step at a time from start to finish, so you learn by doing.

Macintosh Drag & Drop

Bypass the Cut and Paste commands. Now with drag-and-drop-savvy applications, including the Note Pad, SimpleText, Finder, Desktop Patterns, and Scrapbook, you can simply drag graphics, text, and sound within a document, between documents, between applications, or to the desktop as "clippings" files.

Scriptable Finder

Automate routine and repetitive system tasks with scripts that save you time and help you avoid mistakes.

Enhanced Apple Menus

The Apple Menu now features hierarchical sub-menus so you can quickly access your Control Panel items and your most recently used applications, documents,

and servers.

Faster Than System 7.1

Snappier than ever, 7.5 offers users improved performance when they copy files, launch and switch applications, and access menus.

WindowShade

Cut down on screen clutter -- a simple double click on any window's title bar and zip, the window shrinks to give you access to information behind it.

4 Gigabyte Volume Support

System 7.5 doubles the volume support size from 2 gigabytes to 4 gigabytes so you can store large data, documents, and files in one place. Large volume support is available for some third-party drives.

Finder Hiding

Use the Desktop Hiding feature to keep novice users from becoming confused when they click outside an application and find themselves on the desktop.

Launcher

Improve your productivity by keeping your frequently used applications, documents, and folders in a special floating window for quick access.

Recent Items Folders

Quickly access recently opened documents and applications through a hierarchical Apple menu.

Default Folder For Saving Files

Automatically save newly created documents to a central folder on the desktop so you can find them easily and spend less time looking for them later.

Electronic Notes

Easily make and post notes to your desktop in a variety of colors. Remind yourself of key meetings, phone calls, or important dates. Print or mail your memos with Macintosh Drag and Drop.

New Scrapbook

Now you can change the size and dimensions of the Scrapbook. And when working with drag-and-drop-savvy applications, simply drag items directly from the Scrapbook without cutting and pasting.

New Note Pad

A resizable Note Pad offers increased functions like printing, find file, and

support for Macintosh Drag and Drop. Make and store notes of up to 32K each.

Menu Bar Clock

Display date and day of week in the menu bar in a variety of fonts and colors. Toggle with a double-click between date and time.

System/Application Folder Locking

Lock your System and application folders to keep novice or young users from deleting files, making unwanted changes, or "storing" things in the Trash.

Improved Stability

A more stable system that means fewer bugs, bombs, and crashes for today's Apple computers.

More Colorful Desktop Patterns

Select from dozens of new and more colorful desktop patterns.

Automatic Power Management

Automatically power-off most systems at a specific time or after a predetermined period of idle time. Save time, energy, and hardware life.

Automatic Screen Dimming

Save power on your Energy Star compliant monitor or PowerBook display by having it reduce brightness levels after a pre-determined period of time.

New Audio CD player

New Apple menu item offers you easy access and full control for playing and programming audio CDs.

Sound Manager 3.0

Enjoy 16-bit stereo-quality sound for all your multimedia applications, CD-ROM packages, education software, and more.

Compatibility

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Macintosh PC Exchange and Macintosh Easy Open

These powerful utilities are now built into System 7.5 to make it easier than ever for you to exchange information and work with DOS, Windows, OS/2, and Apple II ProDOS disks and data files.

MacTCP

Apple computers take another step to total connectivity with on-board support for TCP/IP, giving you simplified access to UNIX systems and Internet communications.

Advanced Graphics and Printing with QuickDraw GX

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Desktop Printers

Work more efficiently with desktop printer icons for all your printers. Drag documents to any printer, check status of print queue, and cancel or move print requests -- all without the complexity of accessing the PrintMonitor or resetting the printer through the Chooser.

Improved Printer Selection

Bypass the Chooser for faster printing. Simply select a printer from a pop-up list in the GX-savvy application's print dialog box and print.

GX Print Enhancers -- Sample Tools

Save on paper and printing with printing extensions that let you, for example, produce thumbnails for previewing output. Additional extensions available from third party companies offer "watermark" printing, double-sided printing, pamphlet maker, and more.

GX Printer Sharing

Save time and money, increase user productivity, and eliminate the need for dedicated workstations for output devices such as plotters. Password protect high-end devices like color printers that use expensive printing materials.

GX Print and View Documents

View and print any document regardless of application type or fonts used and reduce the need for multiple copies of software throughout your organization. Distribute electronic documents for review without risk of the original document being changed.

Built-in ATM GX

Work smarter with all your Type 1 fonts; install QuickDraw GX for better WYSIWYG output every time you print.

What You See Is What You Get (WYSIWYG) Color with ColorSync

Get consistent color-matching between scanners, displays, and printers and eliminate fiddling with color settings and printing multiple drafts just to get the colors right.

European Language Support

Set keyboard, as well as date and time formats, for any one of 18 European languages.

Better Quality Typography

Get professional typography without expert sets and cumbersome search-and-replace routines. Automatically obtain ligatures, fractions, hanging punctuation, and optical alignment when using GX fonts and applications.

Multiple Page Formats

Create multiple formats -- horizontal, vertical, and varied paper sizes -- in a single document when working with GX-savvy applications. What once took several documents can now be done in one.

Font Embedding

Embed fonts in your GX-ready applications for consistent and predictable results when working with service bureaus. Workgroups can now edit design documents without having the document's fonts installed on every workstation.

Collaboration

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Built-in AppleMail

Small businesses and workgroups can now obtain built-in peer-to-peer electronic mail without incurring added cost of e-mail software, mail server, or a system administrator.

Support for mail-capable applications -- Compose and send documents directly from within any PowerTalk ready application rather than using separate e-mail software.

Universal Desktop Mailbox

Use the universal mailbox and personal gateways to send, receive, and review all your electronic communications from a single mailbox on your desktop.

PowerTalk Catalogs

Make communicating electronically simple and easy by storing individual and group electronic addresses, phone and fax numbers, and personal notes all in one central location.

DigiSign Digital Signatures

Cut down paper flow and approve documents electronically with built-in DigiSign signature software.

PowerTalk Key Chain Security

Reduce hassles and save time when accessing your password-protected resources such as servers, online services, and e-mail.

With PowerTalk Key Chain, a single password does it all.

Built-in Telephone Manager

New system architecture enables developers to incorporate telephone technologies into applications so users can take advantage of new features as they are released.

PowerBook Enhancements

Intelligent Power Saving

Extend battery life and optimize performance with preset power supply profiles that minimize power consumption when running on battery and maximize performance when using an AC adapter.

File Synchronization

You will always be sure of working with your most recent version of a document. The PowerBook File Assistant utility automatically synchronizes files and folders between your PowerBook and another Macintosh.

Deferred Printing

Create documents for printing while you are on the go; when you reconnect to your selected printer, those documents can be printed.

Sleep Key

Put your PowerBook to sleep at the touch of a single key.

Automatic Server Remounting

Automatically remount servers after your PowerBook comes out of sleep mode without having to use the Chooser or an Alias.

PowerBook Control Strip

Save time with consolidated access to file sharing, AppleTalk, sound level, and other PowerBook features.

Improved Multiple Monitor Control

Save time with this convenient feature that lets you configure external or multiple monitors without restarting your system.

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Support Information Services

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