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Power Macintosh 8500/120: Description (5/97)

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TOPIC ---

This article contains a description of the Power Macintosh 8500/120 computer.

DISCUSSION --

Overview
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If your profession demands a high-performance, expandable computer that can
handle any media as easily as text, the Apple Power Macintosh 8500/120 system is
for you. Featuring a new Power Macintosh architecture with even greater
multimedia capabilities than previous models, the 8500/120 is the system of
choice for in-house publishing, media authoring, and technical applications.

Built-in video input and output capability of near-broadcast quality,
high-resolution graphics (up to 1,280 by 1,024 pixels), and CD-quality stereo
sound add vitality to professional projects and let you explore new
computer-enabled applications. For example, the Power Macintosh 8500/120
supports the capture of quarter-screen video in real time. Combine this
capability with Apple's QuickTime software, and media authoring has never been
easier.

Three Peripheral Component Interconnect (PCI) slots let you take advantage of a
wide range of high-performance expansion cards. Because PCI is an industry
standard, you can find inexpensive PCI cards for a variety of uses, including
video compression, video production, and high-speed networking. Many PCI cards
include the necessary software to work with Macintosh systems.

With a PowerPC 604 RISC processor running at 120 megahertz that you can upgrade
yourself when faster versions become available, the Power Macintosh 8500/120
offers high-end PowerPC technology now—with plenty of room to grow later.

Power Macintosh 8500 systems run most applications written for 680x0-based
Macintosh computers, as well as applications that have been accelerated to take
advantage of their PowerPC processors. By adding SoftWindows software from
Insignia Systems, you can also run MS-DOS and Windows applications, enabling the
8500 to fit into almost any computing environment.

The Power Macintosh 8500/120: Exceptional performance for handling even the most
complex computing tasks and enhancing your creativity.

Features
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High Performance

• 120-MHz PowerPC 604 processor, user upgradable to faster processor when
  available (up to 150 MHz)
• Built-in floating-point processor and 32K cache
• 256K level-2 cache on a DIMM

Communications and multimedia

• 64-bit VRAM graphics subsystem
• Two high-speed serial ports compatible with GeoPort and LocalTalk cables
• Quadruple-speed CD-ROM drive
• 16-bit stereo audio input and output
• 24-bit composite and S-video input and output
• Support for speech-recognition and text-to-speech capabilities
• Optimized for QuickTime Conferencing software

Expandability

• Three industry-standard PCI expansion slots
• SCSI connector for hard disks, CD-ROM drives, and other SCSI devices
• Internal expansion bay for additional hard disk drive

Compatibility

• 10Base-T and AAUI Ethernet connectors
• Open Transport networking software (TCP/IP and AppleTalk)
• Runs 680x0 Macintosh applications as well as applications accelerated for
  Power Macintosh computers
• Allows you to open and use MS-DOS 6.0 and Windows 3.1 documents
  and disks
• Runs MS-DOS and Windows applications via SoftWindows software
  (not included) System 7.5 software
• Makes working with different applications consistent, so they are
  easier to learn and use
• Allows easy customization of your Macintosh to reflect the way you work
• Provides active assistance in learning new features with Apple Guide

Included Software

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The Power Macintosh 8500/120 series comes with Macintosh System Software 7.5.2.
The following Apple and third-party software is also included:

- Apple Telecom 2.1
- Megaphone 1.0.2sp (which does not include the 30-day trial of
  Megaphone's advanced telephony features)
- Drive Setup 1.0 (a new version, with a new user interface, of the hard
  drive setup utility that included support for: partitioning drives,
  larger drive volumes - up to 2 terabytes - and removable media drives)
- CD-ROM 5.1
- Energy Saver
- Energy Saver Apple Guide (on-line active assistance)
- Apple Video Player (Allows simple display, capture and cut and paste
  of video input)
- Sound & Displays control panel (replaces the current Monitors, Sounds,
  and AV Setup control panels, providing a simplified interface that makes
  all of the video, monitor, and sound input and output much more
  accessible and usable
- Sound & Displays Apple Guide (on-line active assistance)
- Control Strip (like the control strip on PowerBooks)
- PlainTalk 1.4 (which includes all the new TTS voices and a scaled back
  version of the Speech Recognition)
- Simple Sound (which provides users with an easy way to record sounds)
- QuickTime 2.09
- QuickDraw 3D
- Video Shop (AVID VideoShop 3.0.2 will be included to support an
  out-of-box editing solution)
- Lotus Notes Express (a $99 value, Lotus Notes Express introduces Power
  Macintosh customers to this industry-standard "groupware" product and
  gives them access to seven frequently used Lotus Notes applications)

What's In The Box
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The Power Macintosh 8500 series computers will ship with the following
components in the box:

- Power Macintosh 8500/120 computer
- Mouse
- PlainTalk Microphone
- Power cable
- Power Macintosh 8500 User's Guide
- Power Macintosh 8500 Technical Specifications
- Power Macintosh 8500 bootable CD
- Product Registration card
- PCI Brochure
- RSA coupon
- Apple Resource Guide
- Warranty Card, decals, software license agreement, Visa application form
- Packing Slip

Ordering Information
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Power Macintosh 8500/120 16/1 GB/4xCD Configuration*

• Power Macintosh 8500/120 computer with 16 MB of RAM, a built-in 1.4 MB
  Apple SuperDrive floppy disk drive, an internal 1 GB hard disk drive,
  an internal quadruple-speed CD-ROM drive, and a PlainTalk microphone
• Order No. M3104LL/A

Power Macintosh 8500/120 16/2 GB/4xCD Configuration*

• Power Macintosh 8500/120 computer with 16 MB of RAM, a built-in 1.4 MB
  Apple SuperDrive floppy disk drive, an internal 2 GB hard disk drive,
  an internal quadruple-speed CD-ROM drive, and a PlainTalk microphone
• Order No. M3105LL/A

Power Macintosh 8500 Logic Board Upgrade

• Owners of the Macintosh Quadra 800 and 840AV; Workgroup Server 80 and
  8150; and Power Macintosh 8100/80, 8100/100, and 8100/110 will be able
  to upgrade to the Power Macintosh 8500/120 via a logic board upgrade.
• Order No. M3807LL/A

NOTE: This upgrade will not be available until 2 months after the introduction
date of the Power Macintosh 8500 series computers.

Power Macintosh GeoPort Telecom Adapter

• Order No. M3127LL/A

* All configurations include mouse; system software version 7.5.2; Check with
your Apple reseller for the most current information about product
specifications and configurations.

Article Change History:
28 Apr 1997 - Removed out dated on line references.
17 Sep 1996 - Clarified energy saving information.

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