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System 7.5 Update 2.0: What's New in This Update (1 of 3) (6/96)

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TOPIC ---

This article contains one of several ReadMe documents installed with System 7.5
Update 2.0.

DISCUSSION --

This file is one of several Read Me files that describe System 7.5 Update 2.0.
This three-part document provides details about the changes provided by this
software update.

Another Read Me file, "Installing This Update," summarizes the enhancements of
this update and gives instructions for installing the update.

What's in this document (part 1 of 3)
— General information about the update
— Changes to the Finder
— Changes to Find File
— Changes to Standard File
— Changes to control panels
— Changes to Apple Guide
— Changes to Apple Menu Options

General information about the update
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System 7.5 Update 2.0 provides the enhancements introduced in System 7.5 Update
1.0, plus many more.

In this document:

•• Indicates a change made in System Update 2.0 (7.5.3)

• Indicates a change made in System Update 1.0 (7.5.1)

This update installs the latest versions of all components (including any components that you disabled using the Extensions Manager) it finds on the disk it is updating. After you run the Installer, the updated components will be in the same folders as they were before you installed the update. For example, new versions of disabled extensions will be in the "Extensions (Disabled)" folder, and new versions of disabled control panels will be in the "Control Panels (Disabled)" folder.

The file called "System 7.5 Update" replaces the enabler on all computers capable of running system software versions 7.5 and/or 7.5.1. Computers that did not previously need an enabler to work with system software versions 7.5 and 7.5.1 still need the System 7.5 Update file since it contains most of the fixes delivered in this update.

The file called "System 7.5.2 Update" replaces the enabler file on all computers capable of running system software version 7.5.2.

This update includes all of the fixes included with the previously released 7.5.2 Printing Update, the PowerBook 5300 System Software Update, and the PowerBook 2300c Update. You do not need these updates if you install System 7.5 Update 2.0. If you previously installed any of these updates, you should install System 7.5 Update 2.0, since it contains additional fixes.

After you install the update, the About This Macintosh window says "System Software 7.5.3." The window also says "System 7.5 Update 2.0," to indicate the source of the system software.

Changes to the Finder
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This update includes a new version of the Finder with the following changes:

•• When you rebuild the desktop, comments typed in a file's Get Info window are no longer deleted. (Of course, if you delete the desktop database—for example, by making it visible using a utility and then moving it to the Trash—the comments will be lost because the Finder will have to build a new desktop at startup.)

•• The Name field (used in Finder windows set to one of the list views) is wider, allowing you to see more characters in filenames.

•• On PowerPC-based computers, icons are translucent while you drag them (rather than simply appearing as outlines). If you drag several icons at once, only the icon under the mouse will be translucent—the others will still be outlines.

•• Copying large numbers of small files is faster. (Previous versions of the Finder updated the bar in the copy progress dialog box approximately thirty times per second; the new version updates the copy progress bar far less frequently.)

•• The Finder Update file (once named PowerPC Finder Update) is now part of the

Finder. This update deletes all old versions of this file.

•• When the Clipboard is active, the Clean Up Window command is dimmed. This eliminates a crashing bug in the Finder.

•• The Finder flushes the processor's cache more intelligently, improving the Finder speed on all 68040- and PowerPC-based computers.

•• Fixes a problem that caused an out-of-memory error when emptying the Trash if QuickDraw GX was installed.

•• Fixes a problem that caused seemingly false out-of-memory messages when trying to open or close Finder windows. This problem sometimes occurred when the desktop had very few icons on it, a window with the Kind column was visible, and a large number of different kinds of documents had been displayed since the last restart.

•• Fixes a problem introduced by the Finder that shipped with System 7.5 Update 1.0. The Find window of Find File will now be made active if Find File is already open and you choose Find from File menu (or Find File from the Apple menu).

•• If you are trying to connect to your computer and your server password has expired or needs to be changed when you try to use an alias to connect to the server, you'll see a message that the password needs to be changed. (Prior versions told the user that the server couldn't be found.)

•• File copies are now done asynchronously, which makes the CPU more available to other applications during copying. If another application is made active during a file copy, the computer does not slow down as much. This effect is most noticeable when using Apple Remote Access.

•• Finder window titles are now erased before they are overwritten. (Previous versions rendered window titles unreadable in some circumstances.)

This new version of the Finder also includes the following fixes from the prior update's Finder:

• Corrects a problem at startup that could cause the Finder to open the same list of windows over and over again.

• With QuickDraw GX installed, AppleEvents or AppleScript scripts that send Print or Page Setup commands to the Finder are now handled correctly.

• When you try to make changes to a System or Applications folder that is protected by the General Controls panel, the Finder no longer claims there's an access privileges problem. The warning message now describes why the folder can't be changed and how to turn off folder protection.

• Fixes a problem that occurred the first time you started up your computer after installation (or any time you deleted the old Finder Preferences file). One symptom of this problem was a dialog box stating that the Network control panel could not be used.

• Fixes a problem that caused a crash if a sound and a control panel were both in the Startup Items folder and the sound was opened first. (Items in this folder are opened in alphabetical order.)

• The Finder no longer rebuilds the desktop if it finds a folder named Desktop at the root level; now it rebuilds the desktop only if it finds a file called Desktop.

• Improves the way the Finder handles server volumes that are unexpectedly disconnected while files from the server are still open. Now you can save the contents of most files by using the Save As command (in the File menu of most applications). Large files (those that don't fit entirely in memory) might be lost if the server disconnects unexpectedly. With some applications, however, you can copy the contents that are in memory and paste them into a new document, later merging this document with the original file on the server. (With prior versions of the Finder, this situation could lead to serious problems if the user tried saving the document after the server was disconnected.)

• Changes the way the Finder invokes the Find File extension (of System 7.5) instead of the built-in Find feature introduced in System 7.0. The Find File extension now contains a simple "flag" that tells the Finder to use the new Find File. If you disable or remove this extension, the Finder uses only the older built-in Find. This change enables users to choose between the full-scale Find File and its stripped-down version (the built-in Find command).

• Fixes a problem that caused an out-of-memory error if too many Get Info windows were open at the same time.

• Enables users to open a document that belongs to an already-running background-only application. (In previous versions, the Finder searched only through the list that showed up in the Application menu.)

• The Finder Update file was renamed. (It was previously known as the PowerPC Finder Update file.) This file handled Code Fragment Manager (CFM) error-reporting for missing dynamically linked libraries.

• Speeds up copying from servers by letting the server set its preferred block size for copy requests. (Previously, the Finder always requested 4.5K blocks of data from AppleShare or FileShare volumes.)

• Speeds up copying to and from servers by greatly reducing the number of times the Finder checks for user activity during copy operations.

• Speeds up the copying of small files by changing the way the Finder writes parts of the files. (Previously, the Finder rounded up the size of the file being copied to the minimum allocation block size, which, on a 2GB disk, is 64K.) Now the Finder rounds up small files to a multiple of the size of a disk sector (that is, to increments of 512 bytes).

• Fixes a problem in rebuilding the desktop that caused the Finder to skip applications if it encountered a background-only application while rebuilding the desktop database.

• Eliminates problems in opening some applications or having the wrong icon appear. These problems sometimes occurred when, during rebuilds of the desktop, the Finder included applications that did not have the necessary bundle resources. The Finder no longer includes applications that do not have the necessary bundle resources, eliminating confusion within the desktop database.

• The Finder now ignores aliases to applications when rebuilding the desktop database.

Changes to Find File
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•• The following are the changes in Find File 1.1.2:

 - Includes a list of Shortcuts, available from the Guide menu (with the question-mark icon) when Find File is active.
 - Includes a new preference used in sorting by Kind, "Use full descriptions for found items," which gives more specific Kind descriptions. Using this checkbox results in slower sorts; not using it results in faster sorts but with less specific Kind descriptions.
 - Fixes a crashing bug that occurred if the same item was dragged to the same location before the Finder finished the earlier move.
 - Fixes a bug that allowed non-numeric data to be input into the Size search field.
 - Fixes a bug that allowed a pasted item to exceed the length of several search fields.
 - Fixes a bug that allowed too many digits to be entered in the Size search field.
 - Allows you to drag a volume icon onto the Location pop-up menu.
 - Fixes the zoom box on 68K systems.
 - Changes the alert message to be more informative when a server being searched is disconnected.
 - Changes the way the Found Items list displays items that are in the Trash after the Trash has been emptied.
 - Fixes a searching bug that occurred when the Kind requested was "font."
 - Fixes a crash that sometimes occurred when clicking the Stop button in the sorting dialog box. This dialog box now displays a spinner during a sort.
 - Fixes a memory bug that sometimes occurred after several consecutive searches.
 - Fixes a display bug with Found Items that occurred when using large font sizes.
 - Fixes the CD-ROM icon in the Drives pop-up menu.
 - Enables Find File to find invisible files, some of which you can move (such as the Desktop, Desktop DB, and the Desktop DF files).
 - The Clear menu item now deletes only the selected text. (The Clear key no longer deletes anything.)
 - Fixes a bug that occurred when dragging a file onto the Kind search field. Fonts and applications now show up as such, not as documents.
 - Fixes a crash that sometimes occurred when dragging an item from the Found Items window to the desktop.
 - Changes the prompt message when search fields are empty.
 - Cleans up Balloon Help.

 - Includes a new preference to specify transliteration.
 - Speeds up searches in 2-byte languages if no transliteration is necessary to perform the search.
 - Fixes a bug where the filename input for 2-byte languages could exceed maximum length.

•The following are changes introduced with System 7.5 Update 1.0 (Find File 1.1.1):

 - Fixes a drag problem with large groups of items. Now Find File displays a confirmation dialog box when you drag more than 50 items.
 - Fixes a crashing bug when searching for items whose names contain "desktop." Find File no longer finds invisible desktop files unless explicitly requested.
 - Fixes a bug that prevented exact-name matches with foreign file systems.
 - Fixes the "spontaneous search" bug, whereby Find File could start searching without any criteria entered. Find File now displays an alert prompting for search information.
 - Fixes a bug that sometimes prevented an item in the Found list from being selected by clicking its icon.
 - Fixes a memory problem in sorting more than 1100 items.
 - Fixes a highlighting problem with the Keyboard menu.
 - Scroll bars are now properly drawn.
 - Fixes a cosmetic problem with drag-selecting items in the Found list.
 - Properly updates the path in the bottom of the Found list window after the user drags items from the list.
 - Fixes a hanging bug that could occur when dragging a folder onto the search fields.
 - Fixes a pop-up menu bug that sometimes showed the wrong value after switching to the Finder and back to Find File.
 - Fixes the search when the Comments field is left blank.
 - Fixes Balloon Help for the More Choices button.

Changes to Standard File
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•• Fixes an occasional crash in Standard File that occurred when the data cache was not flushed before being disabled.

•• Fixes a memory leak with some of the dialog boxes used for opening and saving documents in Standard File.

•• Fixes a problem in the dialog box used for opening files that could allow the pop-up menu to be dimmed in Standard File.

Changes to control panels
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•• PowerPC-based computers with PCI slots now use the Monitors & Sound control panel, instead of the Sound & Displays control panel, to control monitor and sound settings. (System Update 2.0 removes Sound & Displays.) You can do a custom installation to install the Sound control panel if you need it for older applications. (The Monitors & Sound control panel works only on PCI-based computers.)

•• The Memory control panel now displays "Will be off after restart" if Virtual

Memory is turned off, as a reminder that just turning Virtual Memory off does not fully deactivate it.

•• The Memory control panel now uses a larger default setting for the Disk Cache. After you install this update, the new setting will be used only if the Use Defaults button in the Memory control panel is clicked. The new default is 32K for each megabyte of physical RAM installed, up to a maximum of 4096K. (Virtual RAM is ignored for this calculation.) Thus, a computer with 16MB of physical RAM would use 512K for its default disk cache size, resulting in better performance for disk-intensive tasks than the original default of 96K.

•• Fixes a bug in resizing a RAM disk in the Memory control panel while File Sharing is on.

•• Fixes a problem in General Controls panel that caused problems with Retrospect Remote if either application or System Folder protection was turned on.

•• Includes a new option in the General Controls panel: "Folder that is set by the application." Clicking this option sets the default folder to the folder containing the document being opened. Thus, when you open a document by double-clicking its icon, the default folder will be set to the folder containing the document (instead of to the Documents folder or to the folder containing the application that opened that document).

•• Fixes a problem in General Controls panel that could hang the computer if Applications folder protection was turned on and there was a document or alias named "Applications" at the root level of the startup disk.

•• Fixes a problem in the General Controls panel's folder-protection code that could cause folders to become invisible if Stuffit Spacesaver was installed.

•• CloseView no longer uses key combinations that were already used by the Finder. The new key combinations for CloseView are:
 - Command-Option-K: turns CloseView on or off
 - Command-Option-+ (the plus sign): increases magnification
 - Command-Option-- (the minus sign): decreases magnification

•• If CloseView is active, it remains active after you change your monitor's bit depth.

•• CloseView no longer hangs the system if Balloon Help is on and an audio CD is inserted.

•• Includes the following new international keyboard layouts:
 - French Canadian
 - ISO Canadian
 - Spanish

•• Installs the updated versions of the following international keyboard layouts if older versions are already installed:
 - Dutch
 - Flemish

  - German

Changes to Apple Guide
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•• This update includes Macintosh Guide 1.3 (and several new Guide Additions
files), which provides updated onscreen help for system software.

•• This update includes Apple Guide version 2.0.2, which includes the following
improvements:

 - Fixes problems with displaying coach marks in modal dialog boxes.
 - Fixes a serious memory leak that occurred every time a Guide file was
opened.
 - Fixes a problem that caused every twenty-first index item to disappear when
multiple additions were in use.
 - Fixes a problem that occurred when Apple Guide encountered additions files
that did not apply to the current configuration of hardware and system software
(for example, if the QuickTime Guide were installed, but QuickTime was not
installed or had been turned off with Extensions Manager).
 - Defaults to US ASCII sorting only if the current script is Roman and the
current language is English. (Apple Guide 1.2.5 defaulted to US ASCII on any
Roman script system.)
 - Fixes problems with coach marks on 68K machines. (Coach marks were sometimes
drawn on the wrong menus.)
 - Fixes a Look For problem in Japanese systems by first trying to use the
script code from the current database.
 - Fixes a bug in <Delete Index> that affected Japanese systems.
 - Fixes problems with mixed-mode handling of installed coach and context
handlers.
 - Fixes a problem that sometimes caused Apple Guide to shut down completely on
PowerPC-based computers. For example, if a PowerBook additions file was present
on a PowerPC-based desktop computer, Apple Guide 1.2.5 would completely shut
down because the additions file couldn't be used. Now, Apple Guide ignores the
PowerBook addition and continues running.
 - Fixes a problem that prevented Apple Guide 1.2.5 from starting up if
QuickTime wasn't installed on the machine. This problem occurred only on
PowerPC-based computers.
 - Includes localizable error strings for use in various abort messages.

• This update also includes all the improvements to Apple Guide introduced with
System 7.5 Update 1.0 (Apple Guide 1.2.5):
 - Works faster than prior versions on all Mac OS-based computers.
 - Is native on PowerPC-based computers, which also improves performance.
 - Is compatible with At Ease.
 - Makes additions files available in the Guide menu even if the application was
opened with AppleScript.
 - Fixes a memory leak of an international resource, which occurred every time a
Guide file was opened.
 - Makes windows redraw correctly after coach marks are drawn.
 - Updates no more of the screen than it needs to.
 - Properly draws coach marks in black and white and on a mirrored monitor.
 - Keeps scroll bars active when they should be active.

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Changes to Apple Menu Options
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•• Includes Apple Menu Options v.1.1.2, which introduces the following changes:
 - Has been largely rewritted for better performance and improved stability.
 - Fixes a problem that could hang the computer when the Apple Menu Options preference file was dragged to the Trash.
 - Fixes a problem that could hang the computer if there was a locked alias in the Recent Documents, Recent Applications, or Recent Servers folders. The new version ignores locked aliases.
 - Moved a large 68K patch that caused a general slowdown on PowerPC-based computers. This patch is now active only while the mouse button is held down on the menu bar or in a menu.
 - Increases the height of the editing field used for entering the number of documents, applications, and servers.
 - Fixes a problem that could prevent the Recent Documents, Recent Applications, and Recent Servers folders from being deleted when tracking of those items is turned off.
 - Fixes a problem that could cause Apple Menu Options to hang if its settings were changed and the System Folder was on a locked volume (such as a startup CD or locked floppy disk). The hang would occur when Apple Menu Options tried to write the new settings into the locked preferences file. The new version does not try to record new settings on a locked volume.
 - Fixes a problem with sorting order; Apple Menu Options no longer uses the U.S. standard for modified Roman and Scandinavian alphabets.
 - Prevents Apple Menu Options from deleting original files—it can now only delete aliases. (This change solves a problem that occurred when users saved documents directly into the Recent Documents folder. Once the document was saved, Apple Menu Options replaced the file with an alias to that file.)
 - Fixes a problem that sometimes caused the contents of the Apple menu to show up in place of the proper contents for submenus.

• Incorporates all of the prior fixes to Apple Menu Options:
 - Improves performance.
 - Fixes a problem that could cause an application's menus to disappear.
 - Fixes a problem that could leave the Apple menu highlighted if an application was opened from a submenu within the Apple menu.
 - Shows non-AppleShare servers in the Recent Servers sub-menu.

Article Change History:
10 Jun 1996 - Removed keyword.
09 Apr 1996 - Added keyword.
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