Tech Info Library

System 7.x: Apple Menu Items Limit (2/95)

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TOPIC ---

Is there a limit to the number of items in the Apple Menu?

DISCUSSION --

System 7.x has a defined limit of no more than 52 items displayed in the Apple
Menu Items Folder.

The value of 52 was set for performance reasons. Basically, when more than 52
items are in the Apple Menu Items Folder, the amount of available RAM for
processing is limited (especially when the menu items has color icons),
drastically slowing the display of menus. Thus, a decision was made to take into
account what "acceptable" performance was, and the value of approximately 52
menu items was the threshold amount.

You can still place more than 52 items in the Apple Menu Items Folder, but only
the first 52 (alphabetically by name) are displayed. Refer to the article titled
"System 7.x: Changing Sequence of Apple Menu Items" to ensure the menu items you
want are alphabetically in the first 52 menu items.

Here are a couple of workarounds:

• Have folder aliases in the Apple Menu Items Folder.

• Use the hierarchical menus in System 7.5 (or a third-party software that
provides hierarchical menus). Hierarchical menus in System 7.5 are controlled
through the Apple Menu Options Control Panel.

Article Change History:
21 Feb 1995 - Added keyword; made minor updates.
15 Feb 1995 - Reviewed for technical accuracy.

10 Nov 1994 - Added System 7.5 and Apple Menu Options Control Panel.

Support Information Services

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