



Tech Info Library

Software that Compares Files after Copying (2/91)

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Security: Everyone

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TOPIC -----

When you do a regular copy on a Macintosh (drag a folder or file to another volume), does the Finder do any compare or verify in that command?

Is there any program that can compare two different files to see if they are totally equal? I need a program that verifies that a copy of a file is an image of the original.

DISCUSSION -----

After a copy, the Finder does minimal checking to see if any errors were logged during the copy or verify. It doesn't do a checksum, or any byte-for-byte comparisons of the file.

As for file comparisons, the Hard Disk Jockey disk utility from FWB lets the user copy and verify (among other things) files on disk.

The Macintosh Programmer's Workshop (MPW), available from APDA, comes with two utilities for comparing files:

- Compare compares the lines of two text files and writes their differences to standard output. Options are provided to compare a specific column range in each file, to ignore blanks, and to ignore case.
- ResEqual compares the resources in two files and writes differences in type, identifier, size, or contents to standard output.

To locate a vendor's address and phone numbers, use vendor name as a search string.

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