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System 7: When Finder Icons Seem to be Stacked On One Another

Revised: 9/10/92
Security: Everyone

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Article Change History

09/10/92 - REVIEWED

- For technical accuracy.

TOPIC -----

I use file sharing to make a folder available to a co-worker. When I open the folder and view by icon, I see only one document because all the icons in the folder are stacked on top of each other.

DISCUSSION -----

This is not a bug, and there is no difference in the way Finder handles icons for file sharing. With the "Always snap to grid" feature turned on in the Views control panel, it is possible for icons to share the same place on the grid. This feature allows more items to fit in a window. If you prefer not to stack icons, you can turn off the "snap to grid" feature.

Here's how to "unstack" the icons:

- 1) Choose "by Icon" or "by Small Icon" from the View menu.
- 2) Hold down the Option key while choosing Clean Up by Name from the Special menu.

We were able to duplicate icon stacking when we dropped the documents one-by-one into an open folder at approximately the same location with snap to grid turned on. The result was the same with either straight or staggered grid. Icon stacking does not happen when moving documents to closed folders.

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