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HD SC Setup: Multiple Macintosh Partitions (7/93)

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Security: Everyone

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TOPIC -----

Is it possible to use HD SC Setup to partition Apple drives for two different versions of the Macintosh OS? Does Apple support multiple Macintosh operating systems on a partitioned hard disk?

DISCUSSION -----

Yes, you can partition one hard disk into multiple partitions having different versions of the Macintosh operating system. However, the HD SC Setup will only allow one of the partitions to be a Macintosh OS partition. This doesn't mean that Apple doesn't support multiple Macintosh OS partitions on the same hard disk. Third-party utilities allow multiple Macintosh partitions and we've never heard of problems with them.

In most cases the typical Macintosh user will equate the terms volume and hard drive. If a hard drive has been partitioned into multiple Macintosh volumes then it's important to distinguish between the terms. Each partition will look like a volume to the operating system. Apple doesn't recommend putting more than one System Folder on a volume. If one hard drive contains multiple partitions then there's no reason why each partition couldn't have a System Folder on it. This would be no different than having multiple hard drives attached, each with a System Folder on it.

Third-party products such as Cobra software or SilverLining can do this. Be aware that many third-party drive software developers are either revising or have already revised their software for System 7.0 compatibility. Be sure you use a version that the developer explicitly states support for System 7.0

Article Change History:

07/16/93 - Revised to expand an explanation of Apple support for multiple Macintosh operating systems on a partitioned hard disk.

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