



# Tech Info Library

## Macintosh: Troubleshooting ID=01 Bus Error

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Security: Everyone

Macintosh: Troubleshooting ID=01 "Bus Error"

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### TOPIC -----

I'm getting a lot of ID=01, "Bus Errors" on my Macintosh.

It has happened when I'm setting up disks (both floppies and external hard disks); it has happened with most of the programs I run; it has happened when I try to print. What does it mean?

### DISCUSSION -----

ID=01, or "Bus Error", is one of the more common System errors, along with 02, 03, 10, 25, 28. The main reason you are seeing this type of error is that the programmers have changed their coding of errors from an ID-XX format to a "more helpful" word-based error. A Bus or Coprocessor Error can be caused by any application (including the Finder) trying to access any memory address in the F hexadecimal range, which accounts for approximately 50% of the address ranges in most Macintosh models.

These errors usually represent some sort of software incompatibility. It could be that the application is incompatible with the System version, a system extension or INIT (screen dimmer, startup screens, startup sounds, etc.) is conflicting with another extension, or the extension is incompatible with the System version.

There are three ways to reduce the frequency of this error:

- 1) First try removing all third party extensions (INITs) and control panels from your System Folder, as there may be a potential conflict there. (If running System 7, holding down the Shift key as the Macintosh starts up accomplishes this for the current session.) After restarting, if the Bus Error ceases, the problem is with a conflicting

extension or control panel, or perhaps a combination of them. Move these files back into the System Folder gradually, restarting between each move, until you identify the conflicting file.

- 2) Be sure the computer is free of ANY virus, but particularly the WDEF strain. System 6.0.7 has serious problems with WDEF, and in 90% of the cases we've seen these bus and coprocessor errors were caused by WDEF.
- 3) Throw away the current System Folder and reinstall from known good LOCKED disks.

Use your machine for a day or so before adding extensions or control panels back into the system to see if the same errors come up. If they come up only in certain applications, check with the software manufacturer to make sure you have the most current version, and whether they have seen or heard of the problems you are having.

There is a slight chance the errors are hardware related. If the software fixes don't work, try running diagnostics on the hardware. The following parts are the likeliest problem spots:

- RAM
- Logic board
- Hard drive

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