Tech Info Library

Macintosh Plus: Description (Discontinued)

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TOPIC --

This article describes the Macintosh Plus computer and the improvements
over the original Macintosh 128K and 512K computers. It also describes
the Macintosh Plus Upgrade Kits for those computers.

DISCUSSION ---

FEATURES
- One Full Megabyte of Memory
  With one full megabyte of RAM available (expandable to four megabytes),
  the Macintosh Plus can accommodate memory-intensive application
  programs. Large models, documents, and databases are easily handled.

- 800K of Storage Capacity
  The 800K drive stores more system programs and applications on a dual-
  sided 3.5 disk and still leaves space for data files. The 800K drive
  operates at twice the speed of the 400K drive.

- A High Speed Peripheral Port
  Equipped with a Small Computer Systems Interface (SCSI) port, the
  Macintosh Plus transfers data up to six times faster through the SCSI
  port than through the disk drive port. Up to seven peripherals can be
  daisy chained to the Macintosh Plus at one time.

- Enhanced ROMs
  A new 128K ROM has been added to the Macintosh Plus. It offers a
  Hierarchical File System which allows the Macintosh Plus to operate
  faster and function more efficiently, improving overall system
  performance. It provides the user with a more efficient way to store and
  retrieve documents.

- Cursor Keys and a Numeric Keypad

The Macintosh Plus features a keyboard with cursor keys and a numeric
keypad designed to accelerate data entry.

Connecting the Macintosh Plus to Apple peripherals and third party
peripherals requires certain cables.

To ensure that users get the best performance from their Macintosh Plus,
they must install the Macintosh Plus system software on all their
application disks. A program called the "Installer" on the Macintosh Plus
System Tools disk makes installation quick and easy. This diskette is
bundled with every Macintosh Plus and Macintosh Plus Disk Drive Kit.
Additional information about the Installer is included in the Macintosh
Plus Owner's Guide, as well as the 800K External Disk Drive Manual.

Upgrade Kits

Three Macintosh Plus Upgrade Kits enable customers to upgrade from a
Macintosh 128K or a 512K to a Macintosh Plus.

The kits are:

- The Macintosh Plus Disk Drive Kit
  This kit includes an 800K Disk Drive, 128K ROM, and Macintosh Plus
  Systems Tools Disk to update existing applications to work on the
  Macintosh Plus. This kit exchanges the ROM chip and disk drive in the
  Macintosh 128K or 512K for the new 800K Disk Drive and 128K ROM.

- The Macintosh Plus Logic Board Kit
  This kit includes the Macintosh Plus logic board with 1MB of
  RAM and new rear housing to accommodate the external SCSI port, and a
  Macintosh Plus Owner's Guide and information sheet. Also included is a
  Macintosh Plus Peripheral Adapter which allows connection to Macintosh
  peripherals such as ImageWriter and popular third-party peripherals. A
  Macintosh Plus Disk Drive is required in order to install the Macintosh
  Plus Logic Board Kit.

- The Macintosh Plus Keyboard Kit
  This kit includes a keyboard with standard alpha layout, cursor keys,
  and a numeric keypad for easy data entry. It requires no dealer
  installation.

NOTE

The Macintosh Plus Upgrade Kits are no longer in production. Please check
with your authorized Apple dealer for availability.

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