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Macintosh Quadra 950: Description

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TOPIC ---

This article describes the Macintosh Quadra 950.

DISCUSSION --

The Macintosh Quadra 950, which replaces the Quadra 900, features 33 MHz,
improved video, and improved I/O. An upgrade will be offered for existing
Quadra 900 owners.

The key features of The Quadra 950 are:

- Motorola 68040, 33 MHz
- 8MB to 64MB DRAM using 4MB SIMMs
- Supports 24 bpp up to a 16-inch monitor, 16 bpp on all displays
  (New CLUT/DAC)
- Improved I/O with a clock frequency of 25 MHz (Quadra 900 is 16 MHz)
- Up to four internal SCSI devices
- Five NuBus slots with support for higher-powered cards
- Floor-standing design
- System Software 7.0.1 and Tune-Up disk (no changes in system software)
- System configurations of 230MB and 400MB available at introduction
  (no 160MB configuration)

Form Factor

The Macintosh Quadra 950 computer has the same form factor as the Quadra
900, and support up to four internal SCSI devices.

The Macintosh Quadra 950 can have:

- four half-height SCSI drives
    or
- two full-height SCSI drives
    or
- one full-height and two half-height SCSI drives
    or
- two removable media SCSI devices in front (floppy counts as one), and a
    combination of SCSI devices behind

Termination must be removed from drives whenever installed internally on
the Quadra 950.

Motorola MC68040 Microprocessor

Central to the Quadra 950 is a new processor chip from Motorola, the 68040
(040) running at 33 MHz. The 040 running at 25 MHz and the 040 running at
33 MHz are functionally equivalent, and therefore should pose no
compatibility issues with the Quadra 950. The hardware changes shouldn't
affect application compatibility.

The 68040 is mounted to the logic board with a socket, and a heat sink is
clipped onto the socket rather than glued to the 040. This allows easier
servicing if required. It's important to close the case when the Quadra
950 is running to assure proper cooling of the 040.

IOPs

Improved I/O features also contribute to the higher performance of the
Quadra 950 computer. Like the Macintosh IIfx, the Quadra 950 has
intelligent I/O processors (IOPs) on the ports for the floppy disk, ADB,
and serial I/O. These ASICs, which feature a built-in microprocessor, DMA
controller, timer, and external Static RAM (SRAM) are used to off-load
floppy disk, ADB, modem, and printer port interrupts. These are the same
IOPs found in the Macintosh Quadra 900.

Configurations and What's in the Box

At introduction, there are three Macintosh Quadra 950 configurations:
- Floppy only
- 8/230MB
- 8/400MB

Each unit includes a power cord, keyboard cable, mouse, microphone, and
System 7 Tune-Up disk.

The documentation includes:
- Getting Started with your Macintosh Quadra 950
- Macintosh User's Guide
- compatibility list

The VRAM kit is different from the kit sold initially for the Quadra
700/900. A new kit with faster (80ns) VRAM will replace the 100ns kits
sold today.

Upgrades

An Upgrade for Quadra 900 customers to the Quadra 950 is available. The
upgrade kit consists of the logic board only.

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