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## Apple Products That Contain Non-Volatile Memory (3/94)

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TOPIC -----

Which Apple products contain non-volatile memory, and how much? Can user-generated data be stored there? If yes, how is it erased?

DISCUSSION -----

Through March 1993, the only Apple products that contain non-volatile memory are the Macintosh computers and the LaserWriter printers.

Here are some details:

The Macintosh 128K, Macintosh 512K, and Macintosh 512Ke contain 20 bytes of parameter RAM (PRAM). These 20 bytes of PRAM are documented on pages II-369 through II-371 of Inside Macintosh Volume II.

The Macintosh Portable has 128 bytes of PRAM, and the remaining computers in the Macintosh family have 256 bytes of PRAM.

PRAM contains only configuration information, not user data.

The same is true for non-volatile memory in Apple LaserWriter printers -- only configuration information, like page count, baud rate, emulation mode, and port to use, is stored. The printer memory, like computer memory, is erased when the power is turned off.

With System 6, to clear PRAM, press and hold the Command, Shift, and Option keys while opening the Control Panel. Not all PRAM is cleared with this method -- the original 20 bytes of PRAM (refer to Inside Macintosh Volume II, pages II-369 through II-371) are not cleared. Only the remaining bytes, which are considered confidential, are.

With System 7, to clear PRAM, press and hold the Command, Option, P, and R

keys while you restart the Macintosh. This clears all PRAM.

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