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CD-ROM: Making a Macintosh Start-Up Volume (4/93)

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Security: Everyone

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TOPIC ---

What are the issues involved in making a CD-ROM volume from which a Macintosh
can start up?

DISCUSSION --

The process of making a "bootable" CD is not trivial. The partition for
the driver must be expanded -- from the HD default size of 16K to 32K --
and the CD-ROM driver must be written to that partition.

In addition, there are many portions of system software that expect to be
able to write to the disk (for example, creating a preferences file) that
it will obviously not be able to. Therefore, only minimal system software
is included on the bootable CD-ROM. And special care must be taken to
properly prepare the Desktop and Trash folders.

The boot blocks are the same as those on a hard disk, including the
signature byte of "LK", indicating that the disk is bootable. An AppleCD
300i is not required to use a bootable CD. In order to make the boot
process ignore the built-in hard disk, hold down the Shift, Option,
Command, and Delete keys.

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