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Fax/Modems: What to Look For (8/93)

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TOPIC ---

What should I look for in an external fax/modem for my Performa computer?

DISCUSSION ---

Any external Hayes-compatible fax/modem will work with your Performa.

Your first considerations are price, speed and output quality. The rest is just a matter of what you think you need or want.

Here are some suggestions:

1) Look for background operation so the computer can receive a fax without forcing you to stop what you're working on.

2) Determine whether you need send-only or send-receive capability. Send-only can be significantly less expensive, but you will sacrifice the ability to receive incoming faxes at your desktop.

3) Some fax/modems feature an automatic redial function which you can configure to attempt to send your fax (in the background) multiple times at specific time increments. For instance, you could configure it to retry a busy receiver every five minutes for 50 minutes, or until successful transmission.

4) If you opt for a send/receive model, look for one with a View function. View allows you to read and manipulate faxed information on your screen. Models without this feature require you to print out received faxes in order to read them.

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