



# Tech Info Library

## HyperCard: Why Compacting Sometimes Fails (7/92)

Revised: 12/8/93  
Security: Everyone

HyperCard: Why Compacting Sometimes Fails (7/92)

=====

Article Created: 21 December 1990  
Article Reviewed/Updated: 23 July 1992

TOPIC -----

When users set up a user-defined message inheritance path in HyperCard 2.0, and they try to compact their stacks, compacting fails. Why?

DISCUSSION -----

This happens because stacks cannot be compacted when the "start using" command is in use.

Here's a typical script showing a user-defined message inheritance path:

```
On OpenStack
  start using stack "XYZ"
end OpenStack
```

Now, here's a typical script for compacting stacks:

```
On Mouseup
  doMenu "Compact Stack"
end Mouseup
```

The compact stack script won't work, because the resources of stack "XYZ" are also in use as well.

Here's a "compact stack" handler that does work, and makes the user-definable mess academic:

```
On Mouseup
  stop using stack "XYZ"
  doMenu "Compact Stack"
  start using stack "XYZ"
end Mouseup
```

Here's a "bells and whistles" stack from Claris' "Tech Support Navigator" stack series, which pops text into the message box informing the user what's going on:

```
on mouseUp
  repeat 2
    set cursor to busy
  end repeat
  stop using stack "XYZ"
  put "Now compacting your Stack..."
  repeat 17
    put " " before msg
  end repeat
  doMenu "Compact Stack"
  wait 90
  repeat 40
    put " " before msg
  end repeat
  wait 30
  put "Compacting of your Stack was successful..."
  repeat 12
    put " " before msg
  end repeat
  wait 2 seconds
  repeat 60
    put " " before msg
  end repeat
  hide msg
end mouseUp
```

This article is adapted from the Claris Tech Info database.

Copyright 1993, Apple Computer, Inc.

Tech Info Library Article Number:14089