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System 7: Making an Emergency Startup Disk (7/96)

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TOPIC -----

This article tells you what to do if Norton Utilities or another vendor's emergency startup disk fails or isn't compatible with Macintosh models that require a System Enabler. Follow these instructions to create a startup disk (emergency boot disk) to use with any Macintosh model running versions of System 7.

DISCUSSION -----

Usually there isn't enough room on a 1.44MB floppy disk for System, Finder, AND an application. Here are instructions on how to make them fit on a floppy disk:

- 1) Run the system software Installer for the type of Macintosh you have. It doesn't matter if your Macintosh came with system software on floppy disk (Install Me First disk) or on a CD-ROM. If you install from a floppy disk, expect some disk swapping (the program ejects a disk and asks you to insert another disk).
- 2) Install a "Minimum" System (for your specific Macintosh) on a 1.44 MB floppy disk. You can find this in the Custom installation options. This gives you the smallest possible System file, which should be under 750K for system software version 7.1.
- 3) Move the System file and System Enabler (if your Macintosh needs one) out of the System Folder to the root level of the disk (the same level as the System Folder). Drag the rest of the System Folder to the Trash, AND choose Empty Trash from the Special menu.
- 4) Copy your application to the disk and change the application's name to Finder. You should have three items on the disk:

- System

- System Enabler (if needed)
- Finder (which is really your application now)

It is important that these items are at the root level of the disk and not within a System Folder, other folder, or on the desktop.

- 5) Restart your Macintosh with the startup disk you just created. Your Macintosh should start up in the application you placed on the floppy disk.

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