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## Apple RAID: Disk Compatibility (11/94)

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Security: Everyone

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TOPIC -----

This article provides disk compatibility for Apple Raid (Redundant Array of Independent Disks) and third-party hard drives needing to support SCSI-2 and SCSI Manager 4.3.

DISCUSSION -----

A major requirement for Apple RAID is its ability to work seamlessly with a large number of third-party disk drives. This requirement exists because Apple RAID requires at least two disk to create a mirrored or striped volume. Because not all configurations of the PowerPC-based Workgroup Servers are configured with two disk, customers will turn to third-party disk resellers for additional disk capacity.

A design goal for Apple RAID is to be compatible with disks which support the advanced SCSI-2 features of Apple's SCSI Manager 4.3 (currently on the AV Macintosh and all PowerPC-based computers). Particular SCSI-2 features which are used by Apple RAID include disconnect/reconnect, and SCSI DMA. As these and other SCSI-2 features are not available in all disk drives, it is recommended that Apple RAID customers only use recently manufactured disk drives (1990 or later) of 200 MB and larger. These are general guidelines, as Apple cannot control firmware changes by non-Apple supplied disk drives. Apple recommends that customers check with their third-party disk supplier to be sure their disks work with Apple RAID.

Support Information Services

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