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System 7.x: Desktop Rebuilds Automatically (5/96)

Revised: 5/31/96
Security: Everyone

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Article Created: 20 May 1996
Article Reviewed/Updated: 31 May 1996

TOPIC-----

The following article documents four different scenarios in which a Macintosh computer running System 7.x can rebuild the desktop, or appear to rebuild the desktop, without the Command and Option keys being pressed at startup.

DISCUSSION -----

7.5 PROGRESS BAR APPEARS TO INDICATE THE DESKTOP IS BEING REBUILT

When starting up under System 7.5 it appears that the Macintosh is always rebuilding the desktop. A progress bar that fills in during the startup process creates the perception that the desktop is being rebuilt.

The progress bar is a new feature in System 7.5 that provides feedback on the status of the startup process. The progress bar is not an indication that the desktop is being rebuilt.

If the desktop is actually being rebuilt, either automatically or on demand, you will see in the window the words "Rebuilding Desktop..."

7.X FILE OR FOLDER NAMED "DESKTOP" AT ROOT LEVEL OF HD

Under System 7.x, if the desktop is rebuilt at every restart, it may be because you have a file or folder at the root level of your hard drive named "Desktop." Removing the item named, "Desktop," or renaming it solves the problem. This can also occur if the file or folder is invisible. If this is the case, you will need to make it visible or delete it using a disk or file utility such as ResEdit.

DESKTOP REBUILDS AFTER INSTALLING SYSTEM 7.5

This is a normal feature of System 7.5. But, this should only occur the first time you restart the computer following the installation.

MACINTOSH EASY OPEN AUTOMATICALLY REBUILDS THE DESKTOP

After you have installed System 7.5 and restarted, you may find that your system will rebuild the desktop with subsequent restarts. These additional rebuilds are caused by Macintosh Easy Open (MEO). MEO builds a table of file types, applications, and the translators available to those applications that give them the ability to open different file types.

This modification of the desktop file provides additional information that MEO uses to locate applications that can open various file types.

For Macintosh computers with Macintosh Easy Open, follow these steps to rebuild the desktop properly:

Step 1

Use Extensions Manager to turn off ALL extensions and control panels EXCEPT Macintosh Easy Open.

Step 2

Restart your computer.

Step 3

Hold down the Command (Apple) Key and the Option key until prompted to rebuild the desktop.

Step 4

Let the rebuild completely finish.

Article Change History:

31 May 1996 - Made changes in wording.

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Tech Info Library Article Number:19808