Tech Info Library

Can't use colon character in Macintosh file name (6/96)

```
Revised:        6/4/96
Security:       Everyone

Can't use colon character in Macintosh file name (6/96)


======================================================================

Article Created: 03 June 1996

TOPIC -------------------------------------------------------

I'm trying to create a folder with a name that contains a colon, but whenever I
type a colon I get a dash instead. Why is this?

DISCUSSION --------------------------------------------------

You can not use a colon in a Macintosh file or folder name. A colon is used by
the Macintosh file system do delimit the path of a file.  For example, if you
put a file on the desktop named "test" when using System 7 or later, the path
name is "Macintosh HD:Desktop Folder:test".  This assumes the hard drive is
named "Macintosh HD" so the "test" is located in a directory named "Desktop
Folder" which is located at the root level of "Macintosh HD".

Copyright 1996, Apple Computer, Inc.


Tech Info Library Article Number:19929
```