

System Software:Installation On a One-Floppy-Drive System (2/95)

This article explains a workaround for system software installation on a one-floppy-drive system.

This article has been archived and is no longer updated by Apple.

If your Macintosh has only one floppy disk drive and no hard disk drive (for example: a Macintosh II, Macintosh IIfx, or Macintosh SE/30 with no hard disk), you can still install system software 6.0.3 onto a bootable floppy disk.

Such a System Software upgrade, even on a Macintosh IIfx with an Apple SuperDrive (formerly Apple FDHD), takes 402 disk insertions (or disk swaps).

Rather than numerous disk insertions/swaps, a simpler procedure may be to use a RAM-disk program. On a system with 2 or more megabytes (MB) of RAM, you can create a RAM disk of 800K to 1500K, and then copy the Installer and associated files to it. The Finder on the RAM-disk could be Option-clicked to make it become the start-up disk. After restarting with the RAM disk as your startup disk, you can run the installation as though a two-floppy system were being used.

Article Change History:

22 Feb 1995 - Reviewed for technical accuracy and added the commonly used term "disk swap" to enhance searching capabilities.

22 Aug 1991 - Reviewed for technical accuracy.

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