

## Chapter 7 • News

TCP/Connect II uses the NNTP protocol to provide a news reader that allows you to post and read articles on USENET newsgroups.

**NNTP (Network News Transfer Protocol)** is a protocol used to transfer news between servers on the Internet. It is also used to provide clients access to the server's database to retrieve news.

**USENET (USEr NETwork)** is a public access networked database on the Internet that provides users with news.

**Newsgroups** are special interest electronic bulletin boards accessed on a subscription basis as part of a news database.

TCP/Connect II offers two ways to read news: online and offline.

Using news **online** means your Macintosh is constantly connected to the news server while you perform news functions. Your connection is closed when you close the **News Reader** window.

Using news **offline** means your Macintosh connects to the news server long enough to download new articles in the newsgroups you subscribed to. When all the

necessary articles  
are downloaded, the connection is automatically  
closed.

## 7.1 Configuring TCP/Connect II to Use News

Set parameters in the [Mail](#) configuration panel before using news.

See [Section 6.1, Using the Mail Configuration Panel](#) ,  
for  
more information on necessary configuration.

## 7.2 Connecting to a News Server Online

To connect to a news server:

1. Choose [News...](#) from the [Services](#) menu.  
✓ The [Open a news session](#) dialog is displayed.
2. Choose a news session from the [NNTP Server Name](#) pop-up menu if you do not want to use your default news server.

To read news online, the [Offline News](#) option should not  
be  
selected.

3. Click [QuickStart](#) to reduce the time needed to set up the connection to the news server specified.

[QuickStart](#) is a process by which only the newsgroups  
a user  
is subscribed to are checked upon startup. If  
[QuickStart](#) is  
not enabled, all newsgroups on the server are  
checked for  
new news and any alterations since the last

connection.

do not  
must be  
server.

If this is your first time connecting to a news server, enable [QuickStart](#). An entire list of newsgroups downloaded upon the first connection to any news server.

4. Click [Connect](#) to connect to the server you specified. (Or click [Cancel](#) to close the dialog without connecting to the news server.)

✓ The [News Reader](#) window is displayed with the name of the session listed in the title bar of the window.

To disconnect from the server at any time, click the close box in the [News Reader](#) window.

### 7.2.1 [Subscribing to Newsgroups](#)

We suggest subscribing to newsgroups while you are connected to a news server. To get an up-to-date list of all newsgroups, subscribe to the newsgroup [news.lists](#).

To subscribe to a newsgroup:

1. Choose [Edit Newsgroups...](#) from the [Services](#) menu.

✓ The [Newsgroups](#) dialog is displayed.

2. Select the newsgroup to subscribe to from the [Unsubscribed](#) scrolling list on the right side of the dialog.

the  
newsgroup. Click the triangle again to compress the newsgroup.

Click the triangle to the left of a newsgroup to expand the

3. Drag the newsgroup and drop it in the [Subscribed](#) scrolling list on the left side of the dialog.
  - ✓ You are subscribed to the newsgroup.
4. To unsubscribe from a newsgroup, select the newsgroup to unsubscribe from in the [Subscribed](#) scrolling list.
5. Drag the newsgroup and drop it in the [Unsubscribed](#) scrolling list.
  - ✓ You are unsubscribed from the newsgroup.
6. Click [OK](#) to save your newsgroup subscription. (Or click [Cancel](#) to close the dialog without saving your changes.)

### 7.2.2 Reading News Online

Once subscribed to a newsgroup, the articles posted to that newsgroup are available for you to read.

To read a news article from within the [News Reader](#) window:

1. Select a newsgroup from the [Newsgroups](#) pane on the left side of the window.
  - ✓ Articles are listed in the [Article Headers](#) pane in the top right portion of the window.
2. Select an article from the [Article Headers](#) pane.
  - ✓ The text of the selected article is displayed in the [Article Text](#) pane in the bottom right portion of the window.

## 7.3 Connecting to a News Server Offline

Before using TCP/Connect II to read news offline, you must connect to a news server to enable TCP/Connect II to retrieve

updated and essential information, including the newsgroups available on the server.

for See [Section 7.2, Connecting to a News Server Online](#) ,  
information on connecting to a news server online.

time. Do not enable [QuickStart](#) when connecting for the first

first A list of newsgroups must be downloaded upon the  
connection to any news server.

You must make online connections to subscribe, so that only the most current information is used when you are subscribing.

See [Section 7.2.1, Subscribing to Newsgroups](#) , for information on subscribing and unsubscribing to newsgroups.

To connect to a news server offline:

1. Choose [News...](#) from the [Services](#) menu.

✓ The [Open a news session](#) dialog is displayed with your default news server listed in the [NNTP Server Name](#) field.

2. Click [Offline News](#).

3. Click [QuickStart](#) to reduce the time needed to set up the connection to the specified news server.

4. Click [Connect](#) to connect to the server you specified. (Or click [Cancel](#) to close the dialog without connecting to the news server.)

✓ The [Offline News Status](#) window is displayed. When your

Macintosh has downloaded all news, the window automatically closes.

- Choose [Hide Offline News Status](#) from the [Windows](#) menu to hide the status window.
- Choose [Show Offline News Status](#) from the [Windows](#) menu to display the status window.

### 7.3.1 Reading Offline News

Reading offline news is identical to reading mail messages. Once you download articles, they are filed into mailboxes, and you use the mail features of TCP/Connect II to read them. Each mailbox is named for the corresponding newsgroup.

A news article and a mail message have different icons that are displayed within a mailbox.

Identifies an unread news article

Identifies a read news article

Identifies an unread mail message

Identifies a read mail message

## 7.4 Using Online and Offline News

The following sections describe news functions that pertain to both online and offline news articles.

See [Chapter 6, Mail](#) , for information on replying to and forwarding offline news articles.

### 7.4.1 Creating an Article

Creating an article is as easy as typing in any text editing application.

To create an article:

1. Click the [New Article](#) icon in the [News Reader](#) window.

✓ The [Untitled Article](#) window is displayed.

Since there is no [New Article](#) icon on the [Mail](#) icon bar while

[File](#) using offline news, you must choose [New...](#) from the

menu.

2. Enter text for your article in the [Untitled Article](#) window.

3. Click [Post](#) to post your article to the newsgroup.

✓ The [Post](#) dialog is displayed.

[Post](#) See [Section 7.4.3, Posting an Article](#) , to complete the dialog.

## 7.4.2 Following Up an Article

To create a followup article for a newsgroup in response to an article:

1. Click [Followup](#) on the icon bar.

✓ The [Followup](#) window is displayed.

The [Followup](#) window reflects the default selections of the

[Followup Article](#) dialog. Select [Followup Article...](#) from the

[Messages](#) menu to set new defaults.

2. Enter your response in the [Followup](#) window.

3. Click [Post](#) to post your article to the newsgroup.

✓ The **Post** dialog is displayed.

### 7.4.3 Posting an Article

To **post** an article is to submit it to a newsgroup. Subscribers to the newsgroup can read the article you post.

To post an article you have already created:

1. Click **Post** on the icon bar.

✓ The **Post** dialog is displayed.

2. In the **Subject** field, enter the subject of your article.

3. In the **Newsgroups** scrolling list, enter the newsgroups to post the article to.

OR

Select a newsgroup from the **Newsgroups** scrolling list on the right, and drag it to the **Newsgroups** scrolling list on the left.

4. Click **Newsgroups** for responses to your article to be posted to the original newsgroup. Select other newsgroups for responses to be posted to from the **Newsgroups** scrolling list and drag them to the **Followup-To** field.

OR

Click **Poster** for responses to your article to be posted only to you.

5. In the **Distribution** field, enter the distribution area for your article.

OR

Choose the distribution from the **Distribution** pop-up menu.



6. In the [Keywords](#) field, enter keywords for your article.  
Separate each word with a space.
7. Enter a short summary of your article in the [Summary](#) field.  
  
If you are posting a followup article, the [References](#) field is already filled in with information about the original author and article.
8. Choose a mailbox to archive the article you are posting from the [Archive](#) pop-up menu.
9. Choose a signature to be appended to your news article from the [Signature](#) pop-up menu.
10. Click [Mail Copy To Poster](#) to send the followup article you are posting as a mail message to the author of the original message.
11. Click [Post](#) to post your message with the parameters you have specified in the [Post](#) dialog. (Or click [Cancel](#) to close the dialog without posting the article.)  
✓ The [Posting Status](#) window is displayed and shows the status of your post. When your post is complete, the [Posting Status](#) window automatically closes.
  - Choose [Hide Posting Status](#) from the [Windows](#) menu to hide the status window.
  - Choose [Show Posting Status](#) from the [Windows](#) menu to display the status window.

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