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Technical Note PT16

InitGraf with MPW Assembly

CONTENTS

[In the Beginning...](#)

[Here and Now](#)

[An Example...](#)

[Truth or Consequences](#)

[References](#)

[Downloadables](#)

The Macintosh Programmer's Workshop (MPW) requires assembly-language programmers to allocate their own QuickDraw global variables rather than use the default record as indicated in *Inside Macintosh*.

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In the Beginning...

Early Macintosh assembly-language development systems automatically allocated a set of QuickDraw global variables (a QuickDraw record) on the application's stack. The assembly-language note in *Inside Macintosh*, I-163 indicates that the programmer should use the following code to specify that automatically allocated record to `_InitGraf`:

```
PEA      -4(A5)
```

[Back to top](#)

Here and Now

Despite the note in *Inside Macintosh*, MPW does not automatically allocate a set of QuickDraw global variables for the programmer; it is the responsibility of the programmer to allocate this record for QuickDraw's use.

[Back to top](#)

An Example...

Here is an example of creating a QuickDraw global variables template taken from Sample.a, V1.01, which is distributed with MPW 3.0 and on Developer Technical Support's sample source code disk:

```
QDGlobals    RECORD      0,DECREMENT
GrafPort     DS.L      1
White        DS.B       8
Black        DS.B       8
Gray         DS.B       8
LtGray       DS.B       8
DkGray       DS.B       8
Arrow        DS.B      cursRec
ScreenBits   DS.B      BitMap
RandSeed     DS.L       1
ORG          -GrafSize
```

Here is an example, again from Sample.a, of how to use the above template.

First we use the template to allocate an occurrence of our record:

Next we set up for and make our call:

```
PEA      QD.GrafPort
```

The declaration of `QD` with a `DS` creates an occurrence of our record in the application's global variable space and the assembler implicitly provides the reference to `A5` as the base register.

[Back to top](#)

Truth or Consequences

If you use the MPW assembler and also use the code specified by the note in *Inside Macintosh*, you are telling QuickDraw (by calling `_InitGraf`) to use an inappropriate area of memory as global variables space. QuickDraw will happily initialize this area of memory to the correct values for its use, but in doing so, it will also be blasting information that is probably important to some other part of the system.

[Back to top](#)

References

Inside Macintosh , Volume I-135, QuickDraw

[Back to top](#)

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