

New Technical Notes

Macintosh



®

Developer Support

AppleShare Foreground Applications Networking

M.NW.AppleShareApp

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This technical note outlines the requirements and restrictions of an AppleShare foreground application. This information pertains to AppleShare versions 1.1 and newer.

An AppleShare server requires a dedicated Macintosh. The server, however, is implemented as an interrupt-driven application that runs in the system heap of the server machine. This allows the running of a concurrent or foreground application that will live in the application heap of the server machine. An example of a foreground application is LaserShare, the LaserWriter spooler available from Apple.

An AppleShare foreground application has a few additional restrictions and requirements beyond that of a normal Macintosh application:

1. In order for AppleShare to recognize your program as a foreground application, it must contain a resource of type 'fgnd', ID=1, containing a longword of \$00000000.
2. Do not make any file system calls outside of server volumes' Server Folders. If a foreground application needs to create files, it is recommended that the application create a folder inside the Server Folder and then create all its files within that folder. For example, all print spooler or e-mail files must reside within the Server Folder, and preferably, within a folder that is inside the Server Folder. To find the Server Folder:
 - Make a PBHGetVInfo call on the volume.
 - Examine ioVFndrInfo[8] (long integer)
 - If ioVFndrInfo[8] is non-zero, it is the directory ID of the Server Folder.
3. Do not make file system calls or to modify the following in any way: the AppleShare server application, the Parallel Directory Structure, or the User or Group data bases within the Server Folder of any volume. Also, do not rely on the presence or formats of these structures, as they are subject to change!
4. Do not eject or unmount a volume that is not in drive 1 or 2.

5. Do not call the `Shutdown` trap; instead, quit by calling `ExitToShell` or by dropping out of the main event loop.

Further Reference:

- AppleShare Administrator's Guide