

# New Technical Notes

Macintosh



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Developer Support

## Scrap Manager Q&As

### Toolbox

Revised by: Developer Support Center

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Written by: Developer Support Center

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This Technical Note contains a collection of Q&As relating to a specific topic—questions you've sent the Developer Support Center (DSC) along with answers from the DSC engineers. While DSC engineers have checked the Q&A content for accuracy, the Q&A Technical Notes don't have the editing and organization of other Technical Notes. The Q&A function is to get new technical information and updates to you quickly, saving the polish for when the information migrates into reference manuals.

Q&As are now included with Technical Notes to make access to technical updates easier for you. If you have comments or suggestions about Q&A content or distribution, please let us know by sending an AppleLink to DEVFEEDBACK. Apple Partners may send technical questions about Q&A content to DEVSUPPORT for resolution.

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### When to call GetScrap

Date Written: 3/9/92

Last reviewed: 4/7/92

We're having problems with the GetScrap function in our desk accessory. After a user opens our DA, when we call GetScrap to get any text from the Clipboard, GetScrap returns -102 (no requested type in scrap). After once (or more?) through the event or SystemTask loop, the scrap suddenly shows up. What's causing this?

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The reason for the trouble you're having with desk accessories and GetScrap is that you're looking for the converted scrap at the wrong time in the process. According to the MultiFinder documentation (Programmer's Guide to MultiFinder and *Inside Macintosh* Volume VI), an application is supposed to convert its private scrap and write it to the public scrap when it receives a suspend event. When the system opens your DA, it immediately sends it an Open message; the application hasn't received its suspend event yet. You have to wait until the scrap has been converted. This, for a DA, should occur at the first null event, and for applications, when you get a resume event.

## **Clipboard window should be hidden in MultiFinder**

Date Written: 11/21/89

Last reviewed: 12/17/90

I think my application is completely MultiFinder-aware and conforms to all the MultiFinder guidelines. What might I have missed?

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Many developers forget one important MultiFinder feature—there is a note on page 3-3 of the “Programmer’s Guide to MultiFinder” which many programmers seem to miss: “Applications should hide their Clipboard window when not running in the foreground. The contents of the Clipboard are not valid unless the application is frontmost.” This means you must do more than just deactivate the Clipboard. Make it invisible—otherwise there can be multiple incarnations of the Clipboard window displayed on the screen at the same time, only one of which is necessarily current.