

## Preferences Files and System 7.x

At startup, the Macintosh operating system opens the System File. The System File contains resources that are available System-wide. That is to say, that at startup, all the resources contained in the System File become available to the Macintosh operating system as well as to all applications. The Macintosh uses Preferences files to store these settings.

- **System Preferences**

There are a variety of preference settings in System 7. These system-wide preferences are generally set via Control Panels and are stored in Parameter RAM. Remember these settings are likely to affect all applications.

Preference	Location	Default
32-bit addressing	Memory Control Panel	24-bit addressing
Disk Cache size	Memory Control Panel	6K
Brightness settings	Brightness Control Panel	Mid-range on the slider
Highlight color	Color Control Panel	Black
Cursor blink rate	Color Control Panel	Middle setting
Menu blink count	Color Control Panel	3 times
Date, time and displayed format	General Control Panel and Alarm Desk Accessory	none
Keyboard Repeat Rate and Repeat Delay	Keyboard control Panel	Repeat: one away from Fast Delay: one away from Long
Monitor Settings and Location of Extra Monitors	Monitors Control Panel	Primary monitor only, set to Black & White
Mouse Tracking and Double-click speeds	Mouse Control Panel	Tracking: very slow Double-click: middle setting
Beep Sound	Sound Control Panel	Simple beep, even though it is not highlighted
Start up Disk Choice	Start up Control Panel	None set, uses standard volume search method
Cache settings (68040 Macs)	Cache Switch Control Panel	Faster (Caches Enabled)

Please note that in system 7.5, there are preferences files for many of the system enhancements, such as Apple Script , Apple Menu Options, WindowShade, Find File, Control strip, etc. Each of these features will have companion Preferences Files. Other system software preferences files include

- **Finder Preferences**

Since the Finder is an application, we shouldn't be surprised to see that in System 7 the Finder has its own preferences file located in the Preferences Folder. These settings affect the way information is displayed while in the Finder application.

Preference	Location	Default
Font used for Finder views	Views Control Panels	Geneva 9 point
Icon Alignment Settings for Finder	Views Control Panels	Straight grid - "Always snap to grid" deselected
Icon List View Setting for Finder	Views Control Panels	Smallest icon; display sizes, kinds, labels, and dates; Deselect "Calculate Folder Sizes" and "Show Disk Info in Header"
Trash Can warning dialog box	Setting in Get Info for the Trash Can	Warn before emptying

- **PowerBook System Preferences**

Preference	Location	Default
Minutes before system sleep	PowerBook Control Panel	8 minutes
Minutes before hard disk sleep	PowerBook Control Panel	4 minutes
Macintosh PowerBook Rest	PowerBook Control Panel	Rest
Stay awake when plugged in	PowerBook Control Panel	Unselected
Modem selection	PowerBook Setup Control Panel	Internal modem
Wake on ring	PowerBook Setup Control Panel	Unselected