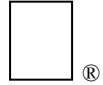


# Apple II Technical Notes



Developer Technical Support

## Apple II GS

### #14: Standard File Screwiness

Revised by: Dave Lyons  
December 1991  
Written by: Guillermo Ortiz & Matt Deatherage June  
1987

This Technical Note describes known anomalies in Standard File. (This Note formerly described how Standard File 1.1 and earlier did not preserve the `GrafPort` around Standard File calls.)

**Changes since November 1988:** Added information on null prefixes and on `SFMultiGet2`, under System Software 5.0.4 and earlier.

---

### Infinite Loop with Empty Prefixes

In System Software versions 5.0 through 5.0.4, all Standard File dialogs can hang if both prefixes 0 and 8 are empty (GS/OS uses prefix 8 to expand partial pathnames if prefix 0 is empty).

If this affects your software, use `GetPrefix` to check for empty prefixes before calling Standard File. If 0 and 8 are both empty, set prefix 0 to “\*:” (or any other convenient pathname).

### SFMultiGet2 (and SFPMultiGet2) reply record

`SFMultiGet2` and `SFPMultiGet2` in System 5.0.4 and earlier accidentally validate the multi-file reply record as if it were a regular new-style reply record (as for `SFGetFile2`, for example). The validation is a check that the words at offsets \$08 and \$0E in the record are not

\$0002 (these are `nameRefDesc` and `pathRefDesc` in a new-style reply record).

To ensure that Standard File does not erroneously reject your multi-file reply record (and return error \$1704), you may include ten bytes of \$00 following the six-byte record.

### Further Reference

---

- *Apple II GS Toolbox Reference*, Volumes 2 & 3