

Apple II Technical Notes



Developer Technical Support

AppleTalk

#1: Identifying AppleTalk

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This Technical Note describes the correct methods for identifying AppleTalk under ProDOS 8 and GS/OS, as the ATLK ROM signature is no longer used.

Changes since July 1989: Added warning concerning ProDOS 8, version 1.4.

To determine if an application has been launched over the network, refer to the `NetLaunch` code fragment found in the *AppleShare Programmer's Guide for the Apple IIGS*.

Under ProDOS, to identify both AppleTalk and the slot with which it is associated for printing, refer to Apple II AppleTalk Technical Note #4, *Printing Through the Firmware*.

To identify AppleTalk under ProDOS 8:

1. Issue an AppleShare `GetInfo` call.
2. If there is no error result, AppleTalk is installed.

```

InfoResult    DB $02                ;GetInfo call number
              DS 13                ;<- results returned here

CheckATalk    JSR $BF00
              DB $42                ;$42 command # for AppleTalk calls
              DW InfoParams         ;Parameter list address
              BCS NoATalk           ;handle the error
IsATalk.      ...                  ;AppleTalk installed when here

NoATalk       ...                  ;AppleTalk not installed when here

```

Warning: Due to a bug in ProDOS 8, version 1.4, using the \$42 call crashes ProDOS 8 if AppleTalk is not installed. Applications that use this routine to check for AppleTalk should ship with ProDOS 8 version 1.5 or greater, thus avoiding this bug. (ProDOS 8 Technical Note #21, Identifying ProDOS Devices contains a routine which correctly identifies the presence of AppleTalk under all versions of ProDOS 8.)

To identify AppleTalk protocols and AppleShare file system under System Software 5.0:

1. Set up the parameter block for a GS/OS GetFSTInfo call using `fstNum = 1`.
2. Issue the GetFSTInfo call.
3. If the `fileSysID` is \$0D the AppleShare FST and AppleShare are present.
4. If a parameter out of range error (\$53) results, the AppleShare file system is not present.

5. Otherwise, if steps 3 and 4 are inconclusive, increment the `fstNum` and loop back to step 2.

To identify AppleTalk protocols, including LAP through PFI but excluding the file system, under System Software 5.0:

1. Set up the parameter block for a GS/OS `DInfo` call using device number one.
2. Issue the `DInfo` call.
3. If the `deviceID` is \$1D, the AppleTalk main driver and AppleTalk are present.
4. If a parameter out of range error (\$53) results, the AppleTalk protocols are not present.
5. Otherwise, if steps 3 and 4 are inconclusive, increment the device number and loop back to step 2.

To identify AppleTalk protocols, including LAP through ASP but excluding the file system, under System Software 4.0:

1. Issue an `SPGetStatus` call
2. If the call returns without error, AppleTalk is present.

Note: With the release of System Software 5.0, earlier versions are not supported.

Further Reference

- *Inside AppleTalk*
- *AppleShare Programmer's Guide for the Apple IIgs*
- *GS/OS Reference*
- Apple II AppleTalk Technical Note #4, Printing Through the Firmware
- ProDOS 8 Technical Note #21, Identifying ProDOS Devices