Apple II Technical Notes

Developer Technical Support

ProDOS 8
#5: ProDOS Block Device Formatting

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This Technical Note formerly described the ProDOS `FORMATTER` routine.

The *ProDOS 8 Update Manual* now contains the information about the ProDOS `FORMATTER` routine which this Note formerly described. This routine is available from Apple Software Licensing at Apple Computer, Inc., 20525 Mariani Avenue, M/S 38-I, Cupertino, CA, 95014 or (408) 974-4667.

Note: This routine does not work properly with network volumes on either entry point. You cannot format a network volume with ProDOS 8, nor can you make low-level device calls to it (as `FORMATTER` does in `ENTRY2` to determine the characteristics of a volume). As a general rule, it is better to use `GET_FILE_INFO` to determine the size of the volume since ProDOS MLI calls work with network volumes.

Further Reference

- *ProDOS 8 Update Manual*