

## #24: Available Volumes

See also:           The File Manager

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Standard File lets the user select one file from any available volume; it is sometimes necessary for an application to find which volumes are present. This technical note gives the proper method of accomplishing this.

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There is a little-noticed feature of the low-level file manager call `PBHGetVInfo` which allows specification of a “volume index” to select the volume. This volume index selects the *n*th volume in the VCB queue. The following function uses `PBHGetVInfo` to find out about a given volume. In MPW Pascal:

```
FUNCTION GetIndVolume(whichVol: INTEGER; VAR volName: Str255;
                     VAR volRefNum: INTEGER): OSErr;

{Return the name and vRefNum of volume specified by whichVol.}

VAR
    volPB : HParamBlockRec;
    error : OSErr;

BEGIN
    WITH volPB DO BEGIN          {makes it easier to fill in!}
        ioNamePtr := @volName; {make sure it returns the name}
        ioVRefNum := 0;         {0 means use ioVolIndex}
        ioVolIndex := whichVol; {use this to determine the volume}
    END; {with}
    error := PBHGetVInfo(@volPB, false); {do it}
    IF error = noErr THEN BEGIN   {if no error occurred }
        volRefNum := volPB.ioVRefNum; {return the volume reference}
    END; {if no error}
    {other information is available from this record; see the FILE}
    {Manager's description of PBHGetVInfo for more details...}
    GetIndVolume := error; {return error code}
END;
```

## In MPW C:

```
OSErr GetIndVolume(whichVol,volName,volRefNum)
short int whichVol;
char    *volName;
short int *volRefNum;

{
    /*Return the name and vRefNum of volume specified by whichVol.*/

    HVolumeParam    volPB;
    OSErr            error;

    volPB.ioNamePtr = volName; /*make sure it returns the name*/
    volPB.ioVRefNum = 0;        /*0 means use ioVolIndex*/
    volPB.ioVolIndex = whichVol; /*use this to determine the volume*/

    error = PBHGetVInfo(&volPB,false); /*do it*/
    if (error == noErr) /*if no error occurred */
        *volRefNum = volPB.ioVRefNum; /*return the volume reference*/

    /*other information is available from this record; see the FILE*/
    /*Manager's description of PBHGetVInfo for more details...*/

    return(error); /*always return error code*/
} /* GetIndVolume */
```

To find out about all volumes on-line, you can call this routine several times, starting at `whichVol := 1` and incrementing `whichVol` until the routine returns `nsvErr`.