• What Does Sleeper Do?

Sleeper brings sleep capabilities to most desktop Macintosh models.   Your hard disks can be set to spin down after a set amount of inactivity, the screen can be dimmed after a given amount of idle time, and a password can protect your Mac from unauthorized eyes.   For those machines that support it, Energy Star monitors can also be turned off after a specific time period.

Sleeper includes balloon help, allowing you to point to controls on each tab to find out what they do. You can turn on balloon help using the help menu in your menu bar (use the question mark icon at the top right in System 7, or the menu titled "Help" in System 8).

Sleeper is distributed through the shareware system.   If you use it, please take the time to pay for your copy.   It's the only way we'll be able to continue to support and improve the product, so your payment does matter!   Scroll to the end of this help window for more details on how easy it is to register your copy.

• How Do I Set It Up?

The Sleeper control panel contains five tabs, one for each major function.   To configure a feature, click on the appropriate tab in the control panel.   Once you've turned on a feature, a check mark will appear next to the name on the tab so you can tell at a glance how Sleeper is configured.   The summary panel along the right hand side provides additional details about your current settings.

• Disk Sleep

Sleeper will spin down both SCSI and IDE disk drives when they have not been used for more than a specified amount of time.   To enable this feature, turn on the "Spin down disks when inactive" check box.   Then use the "Delay" slider to tell Sleeper how long to wait after disk usage has stopped before spinning down your disks.

Once you've chosen a delay time, you have to tell Sleeper which disks to work with.   The "Disks" menu and checkboxes enable themselves based on the configuration of your Macintosh, and allow you to turn sleep on for specific drives.   For each disk subsystem in the pop-up menu, the check boxes will be enabled if there is a disk drive at the numbered address.   Use the menu to select each disk subsystem in turn, and turn on the check boxes for the drives you want Sleeper to control.   For SCSI disks, the name of the partitions on a disk are displayed when the mouse is over the drive's checkbox. Holding down the option key and passing the mouse over an enabled checkbox will show the drive's manufacturer and model number.

Warning: Be careful when using Sleeper to control Syquest drives.   Drives from different vendors behave differently, and some will not wake back up after being put to sleep.

When the "Spin down all disks together" check box is turned on, Sleeper will only spin down disk drives after all of them have gone unused for the delay time.   With it is turned off, Sleeper will put drives to sleep individually based on when they were last accessed.

The "Spin down only when screen is dimmed" check box will prevent Sleeper from spinning down disk drives if a screen saver is not active.   You can use this to prevent Sleeper from putting disks to sleep while you are working on something that does not access the disk frequently.

The "Wake up all disks together" check box controls whether Sleeper wakes all the disks at once when one is accessed, or if it wakes them up individually as requests are made to each of them.   When waking them all at once, Sleeper does the job in parallel rather than requesting the disks one after the other, so it's faster if you're going to need all the disks soon anyway.

Turn on the "Wake up disks while powering up monitor" if you are using Sleeper's Energy Star feature

and would like the disks to spin up while you are waiting for the monitor to power back up.   This can save time, since you won't have to wait once for the monitor and again for the disks to spin up before you start working.

The "Spin back down after wake up if Mac is idle" checkbox tells Sleeper to put a disk back to sleep if there's no keyboard or mouse activity after it wakes up.   This is very useful if a screen saver, email program, or fax software automatically wakes the machine while you're away, and there's no reason to keep the disk spinning afterwards.

 • Screen Saver

Sleeper's screen saver turns down the monitor's brightness after a delay that you specify.   To configure it, simply turn on the "Use screen saver" check box and then adjust the "Delay" slider. Sleeper will watch the mouse and keyboard, and when both have been unused for more than the number of minutes on the "Delay" slider, Sleeper will dim the screen.

You can use the "Brightness" slider to adjust how dim Sleeper makes your screen.   It's normally set to 0%, which causes the screen to dim completely, but you can adjust it to any brightness in between. When you slide the slider, the screen will dim to that setting so you can see exactly how it will look when it's asleep.

Checking the "Don't wake for mouse movement" checkbox will leave your monitor dimmed even if the mouse is moved.   You have to type a key or click the mouse button before the monitor will undim.

The "Use hot corners" check box tells Sleeper to watch for the mouse in two corners of the screen. When you put your mouse in the "Dim Now" corner, the screen saver will dim the screen immediately. When you place it in the "Dim Never" corner, Sleeper will not dim the screen, even if the screen saver delay has been reached.   To change which corner performs these functions, just click on a different corner on the miniature screens.

 • Energy Star

Newer video cards and the built-in video systems on newer Macintoshes have the capability to turn off Energy Star compliant monitors (they actually do this by turning off part of the video signal, which compliant monitors recognize as a signal to turn off power to the picture tube).   If you don't have an Energy Star compliant monitor, the picture may look very strange because part of the video signal has been turned off.   In this case, the Energy Star feature will not offer any energy savings.

If your Macintosh supports Energy Star monitors, the "Power down monitor when idle" check box will be enabled.   Turning this on and adjusting the "Delay" slider will tell Sleeper to turn off the monitor when the mouse and keyboard have gone unused for the specified time.   The "Mode" radio buttons let you choose between "Suspend" mode and full "Power off."

"Suspend" mode will reduce the monitor's power consumption to a low level, while "Power off" turns off the monitor completely.   Your monitor may or may not support both of these modes, and when both are supported, the wake-up time may differ for the two modes.   You can simply try each option to determine which one works best on your system.

The "Power down only when screen is dimmed" checkbox will prevent your monitor from powering down if a screen saver is not active (this can be either Sleeper or another screen saver such as After Dark).   This effectively makes the screen saver's "Dim Never" hot corner apply to the Energy Star feature, too.

Turning on the "Don't wake for mouse movement" checkbox will leave your monitor asleep even if the mouse is moved.   You have to type a key or click the mouse button before the monitor will wake up from Energy Star sleep.

The "Shut down when idle" checkbox tells Sleeper to shut down your Macintosh if it is left idle for more than a specified period of time. You can set the idle period using the "Delay" slider. Note that Sleeper will not shut the machine down if there is mouse, keyboard, or disk access. Also, Sleeper does not attempt to save documents for you or otherwise help in the shutdown process. If you have unsaved documents open in an application, this will interrupt the shutdown process just as it would if you chose Shutdown from the menu in the Finder.

• Password

Sleeper can provide basic security for your Macintosh while you are away from the keyboard. When you turn on the "Require password" checkbox, Sleeper will prompt for a password before allowing access to the computer.

You can choose to have password protection activate in one of three ways. "On screen saver wakeup" will prompt for a password whenever the screen saver undims the screen. "On monitor power-up" will only ask for a password after the monitor has been powered off and turns back on again. And "When idle for" prompts for a password when the keyboard and mouse have been idle for longer than a specific amount of time.

The "Set Password" button allows you to change the password. If Sleeper has already been assigned a password, you must type the old password before your are permitted to enter a new one.

Note: The password protection provided by Sleeper is only meant to be a deterrent. If someone restarts your Macintosh, they will have access to the desktop. To keep your data secure in all circumstances, you should investigate security products that can password protect or encrypt your hard disk.

• Options

Turning on the "Activate with hotkey" check box allows you to activate Sleeper by hitting a key combination. This will immediately perform whatever sleep functions you have checked in the "Activate:" section. To set the hotkey, click the "Set Hotkey" button and then press the key combination you wish to use.

The "Flash keyboard LEDs when attention is required" check box is enabled if you have an extended keyboard and either the Screen Saver or Energy Star feature is turned on. When the screen is dimmed or turned off, Sleeper will flash the keyboard LEDs when an application requires attention (this is usually signified by a beep and/or a flashing icon over the Apple or application menu).

• Shareware Registration

Sleeper is distributed as shareware. You may try it for 30 days, after which we ask that you either delete your copy or register it by paying $25 (US). When you register, you receive free updates, technical support, and a registration code to disable the shareware reminders that Sleeper begins popping up after 30 days.

Registrations are handled by Kagi, a payment processing company. They accept cash, check, VISA, MasterCard, American Express, First Virtual and Money Orders as payment. To register, do one of the following:

1. Create a registration form by running the "Register SCS" application that came with Sleeper. You can do this by clicking the "Register" button below. Addresses for sending your registration via email, mail, and fax are included on the form. For credit card and First Virtual orders, your number will be encoded so it can be safely transmitted via fax or email.

2. Go to <http://order.kagi.com/?ST&S> to register with a credit card at Kagi's secure web site.

3. If you are a CompuServe member and cannot use Kagi, you can register by typing "GO SWREG" and purchasing product #3395. Please note that it may take longer to process your registration via CompuServe than through Kagi.

There are reduced prices for purchasing multiple copies of Sleeper. These prices are automatically computed by the Register SCS application when you fill in the number of copies. For large purchases, the site license option will allow you to use Sleeper at all your organization's offices within a 100 mile (160 kilometer) radius of each other, while the worldwide license option allows you to use an unlimited number of copies. Again, see the online registration form for pricing of these options.

If you would like to submit a purchase order, please do so directly to St. Clair Software at one of the addresses listed in the Technical Support section.

    ** Send registrations to one of these addresses **

    Email: (Internet) sales@kagi.com

    Fax: +1 510-652-6589

    Mail: Kagi Shareware
          1442-A Walnut Street #392-ST
          Berkeley, California, 94709-1405
          USA

Payments sent via email are processed within 3 to 4 days. Payments sent via mail and fax may take up to 10 days (plus transit time for mail). If you provide a correct Internet email address you will receive an acknowledgement and registration code via email. Otherwise, a registration letter will be sent to you via the postal service.

• Technical Support

For questions, suggestions, purchase orders, and bug reports, contact us at one of the following addresses. Note that our Internet email account is read much more frequently than the others.

    ** These addresses are for technical support, not registrations **

    Email: (Internet) support@stclairsw.com
          (AOL) StClairSW, (CompuServe) 72330,3455

    Fax: +1 330-549-3495

    Mail: St Clair Software
          1636 E. Garfield Road
          New Springfield, OH   44443-9701
          USA

For the latest news from St. Clair Software, information and tips about Sleeper and our other products, and links to some of our favorite places on the web, visit our site on the World Wide Web at:

    http://www.stclairsw.com/

• Credits

Sleeper was produced using Symantec C++, Metrowerks Codewarrior, and Mathemaesthetics Resorcerer.