

Using the Status Pads

Status pads come in several different flavors. There are five to choose from. These pads are simply small windows that display information about your system. You may choose to include one, two, or all five of these pads (but only PowerBook users will be able to use the PowerBook pad). Use the control panel to select which pads are to be used.

The Pads

Date/Time Pad - This pad simply shows the current date and time. Clicking this pad opens the Date/Time Control Panel (System 7.1 only) or the General Controls Panel (System 7.0x).

Memory Pad - This pad graphically displays the RAM consumption. It also indicates if 32-bit addressing and virtual memory are on. If 32-bit addressing is on, a small '32' will appear in the lower right of the pad. If virtual memory is on, a 'V' will appear in the upper right of the pad. Clicking this pad opens the Memory Control Panel.

Disk Pad - This pad graphically displays the consumption of disk space. If more than one disk/partition is on-line, you can switch among them by clicking on the disk name. A popup menu will appear listing all partitions. Select which partition you wish to view and release the button. The temperature bar will change to show the newly selected disk's status. Clicking this pad opens the Startup Disk Control Panel.

Printer Pad - This pad displays the attached (and currently selected) printer. It also shows the status of AppleTalk (ON or OFF) via the pad's icon. If you see a single "Mac", then AppleTalk is OFF. If you see two "Mac" linked together, then AppleTalk is ON. Clicking the pad opens the Chooser.

PowerBook Pad - This pad shows information about the status of the battery and CPU speed on your PowerBook. The battery icon on the right of this pad shows the level of charge by graphically being "filled". The less charge the more "empty" the battery icon will be. During charge, a lightening bolt will slash across the battery icon. Clicking this pad opens the Portable Control Panel.

Basic Operations for All Status Pads

All pads can be moved to a different part of the screen by clicking on the icon shown to the left in each pad and dragging the pad to the desired location. Clicking elsewhere on the pad makes it act like a "button" and opens the control panel which is responsible for maintaining what the pad does (i.e. the Memory Pad opens the Memory Control Panel). Note that if you click on the disk name in the disk pad a popup menu appears displaying other disks whose usage may be shown. Clicking elsewhere on the disk pad makes it work like the other pads and will cause the Startup Disk Control Panel to be opened.