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Disk Drive Preventive Maintenance

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PROTECT YOUR MEDIA

Sometimes "disk drive problems" are really media problems, caused by the way the customer stores his disks. Make sure your customers know to keep disks away from dust, heat, electromagnetic inducing devices such as power supplies, CRTs, magnets, and the power/sweep PCB on the left side of a Macintosh.

YOU WILL NEED

1. Q-tips
2. Solution of 80% denatured alcohol and 20% deionized or distilled water

INSTRUCTIONS

The following preventive maintenance procedures should be performed whenever a repair or adjustment is done on a disk drive.

DISK II AND DISK III

1. Remove the cover and clean the guide rails (the metal shafts that the head slides on) with the alcohol/water solution. Do not use grease.
2. Inspect the head for worn or dull spots in the ceramic. If you find any, replace the assembly containing the head.
3. Clean the head with the alcohol/water solution.
4. Remove the bottom of the drive and inspect the disk drive belt for cracks, slippage, and elasticity (should not be dry and cracked). Replace if necessary.
5. Move the head assembly back and forth along its full length of travel. Check for blockage and smooth easy movement.

DUODISK AND UNIDISK

1. Remove the cover, the shield(s) and the analog PCB. Then perform steps 1 through 5 as explained in DISK II AND DISK III above.

2. Locate the spring connected to the head drive band. Make sure that it is holding the band reasonably taut.

APPLE IIc DISK DRIVE

1. Remove the disk drive from the Apple IIc and remove the mechanical assembly from the disk drive. Then perform steps 1 through 5 as explained in "DISK II AND DISK III", above.
2. Locate the spring connected to the head drive band. Make sure that it is holding the band reasonably taut.

MAC EXTERNAL DRIVE

No preventive maintenance is required on this drive. However, it is recommended that it be used only on the right hand side of the Macintosh. This helps keep any electro-magnetic interference from the power/sweep PCB from affecting disk drive operation.
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