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Floppy Disks: Unreadable or Won't Initialize (7/93)

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TOPIC -----

My 800K disk is suddenly, for no apparent reason, unreadable. I can't initialize any blank floppy disks, either. What's going on?

DISCUSSION -----

You could have dirty heads in your drive. You can buy cleaning disks at most computer retailers. They look like ordinary disks, but they have a felt, moistened disk inside, instead of the plastic ones you normally use. You simply insert one of these cleaning disks and wait as long as the accompanying literature recommends.

You may also have a loose ribbon cable. If you have a modular, Macintosh II-series computer, turn the machine off, then take the cover off. Make sure the cable connecting the floppy disk drive to the main logic board is firmly seated. If you aren't comfortable doing this, or can't identify the ribbon cable, take your Macintosh to an Apple-authorized service center and have them check it for you. It shouldn't cost much, if anything, if a loose cable is the only problem.

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