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Limits On Call Of Programming Resources

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TOPIC --

I am trying to write an application. Is there a limit on the number of
resources a program can call? (A resource here would be a memory block that is
periodically filled with incoming data and then called from an application.)

DISCUSSION --

The theoretical limit on the number of resources an application can open at one
time greatly exceeds the practical limits of a program.

If you are not using "owned" resources, such as resources for desk accessories,
you can have up to 32767 of a single resource type. If each of those resources
held 1Kb of data, you would be accessing on the order of 30MB. In other words,
the limit on the number of resources you can have open at one time is not a
real limit in the way that the limit on the number of open files is.

If you are considering having thousands of resources open at one time, we
suspect that you need to take a hard look at the way you are doing things and
develop an alternative method for accessing data.

(NOTE: Tech Note #141 states that the maximum number of resources you can have
in a single file is 2727. Also, be aware that the size of a resource fork of a
single file is limited to 16MB. This probably isn't an issue, but it has been
brought to our attention at least once.)
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