When the RamFactor Partition Manager is accessed, the firmware downloads a program from the RamFactor firmware to regular Apple RAM. The partition menu program uses memory from $800 to $EFF, so any Applesoft program currently in RAM will be over-written. (Normally you will be changing programs anyway, so this is not a problem.) The same thing happens when you use PR#s from a regular disk drive.

ProDOS

When you boot ProDOS or ProDOS-based applications, the currently selected partition of the RamFactor card is automatically linked in as a ProDOS RAMdisk with a volume directory name /RAMs. If you have previously set up partitions on the RamFactor card, it will use the currently selected partition. To make the ProDOS RAMdisk a bootable device, it must first be formatted and loaded with the necessary startup files, just like any ProDOS mass storage device.

Pascal 1.3

Pascal 1.3 automatically recognizes a blank RamFactor RAMdisk as a formatted Pascal storage volume with the name RAMs, where s is the number of the slot containing the RamFactor card. Pascal requires that the RamFactor be installed in slot 4, 5, or 6. (Earlier versions of Pascal do not support the ProDOS block device protocol or the Protocol Converter required to interface with the RamFactor.)

The procedure for making the RamFactor RAMdisk a Pascal startup volume is the same as for any other Pascal volume.

DOS 3.3

When RamFactor initializes a DOS partition, the size of the partition or the amount of memory affects how the volumes will be established:

Partition Size	DOS 3.3 Volumes
less than 140K	will not format for DOS
140K-279K	one 140K volume
280K-399K	two 140K volumes
400K-799K	one 400K volume
800K or more	two 400K volumes

CHAPTER TWO

Putting RamFactor to Work

Introduction

This chapter explains how to use RamFactor as a RAMdisk. It will explain how to create a RAMdisk in the operating system of your choice, how to copy files to the RAMdisk, and how to execute programs from the RamFactor RAMdisk. Although you don't have to be an experienced programmer to use the RAMdisk feature of RamFactor, you should have a working knowledge of the applicable operating system.

❖ *Note:* We've included "A Brief ProDOS Tutorial" in Appendix E of this manual to help those who are new to ProDOS understand it a little better.

Remember that a RAMdisk is a volatile data storage medium! If the power is turned off, all information stored in the RAMdisk disappears. Be careful how you use the RAMdisk feature. Back up your data often and consider RamCharger™, the battery backup option for RamFactor. (See Appendix A.)

How RamFactor emulates a solid-state RAMdisk depends on the operating system booted into the computer. The following sections describe how RamFactor is used with these different operating systems: ProDOS, DOS 3.3, CP/AM 5.1, and Pascal 1.3.

❖ *WARNING!* Don't try to boot an unformatted RamFactor RAMdisk using the PR# command! If you do, you'll find yourself in the RamFactor Partition Manager program. Chapter 3 has the details on the accessing and using the Partition Manager.

ProDOS RAMdisk

When a ProDOS based startup disk is booted, ProDOS automatically recognizes the RamFactor card as a DATA disk with the volume name /RAMs, where s is the number of the slot containing the RamFactor card. You can store your data files in the ProDOS DATA disk or load programs to it and run them, but you can't start up from (boot) the DATA disk. To create a PROGRAM RAMdisk, or one that can be booted, you must first format the ProDOS RAMdisk.