
Exploring the Apple II – ProDOS 8 Applications and Utilities

This is a set of two “ready to run” 32MB ProDOS disk images for 8-bit systems. It is based on a setup built for my own personal interests and hardware environment, and is provided here for the convenience of others that may want to explore what types of applications were available on the Apple II.

The main focus of these images is on 8-bit business and creative applications, utilities and developer tools, with special emphasis on hard-drive installable ProDOS applications that use a mouse-driven “desktop” interface. All of the software was sourced from Asimov, Archive.org, MacGUI, and other public sources. There are two images:

- ❑ 71-PRODOS8HD.<build_date>.2MG (/PRODOS8HD) – This is the main boot volume, and contains most of the ProDOS software. It uses ProDOS 8 2.4.1 with P8 removed, and ProSel 8 as the launcher. Map this volume to Slot 7, Drive 1.
- ❑ 72-CPMHD.<build_date>.2MG (/CPM.HD) – This contains a full GEOS environment, as well as a hidden CP/M partition split into a number of CP/M volumes. The CP/M volume was built using Steven Hirsch’s ProPART and PCPI ProDOS utilities, and requires a PCPI Applicard. Map to Slot 7, Drive 2 (This mapping is mandatory if you are using the CP/M volume because of how the CP/M boot files are configured in ProPART).

Both GEOS and the hidden CP/M volume use the ProDOS file system in “interesting” ways. Avoid running low level utilities like disk repair/optimizers against /CPM.HD.

Requirements

- ❑ 128K Enhanced Apple //e or compatible (many of the applications use MouseText and/or Double-Hi Res)
- ❑ Aux (e.g. AE RAMWorks) or Slinky (Apple II Memory Expansion Card, AE RAMFactor) RAM card recommended.
- ❑ Mouse strongly recommended.
- ❑ Thunderclock or compatible clock card (optional)
- ❑ Mass storage device that can handle 32MB volumes (e.g. CFFA3000, MicroDrive, Classic IDE, RamFAST SCSI, Virtual][OmniDisk etc).

If you are not using a CFFA or a similar device that can handle 2MG images directly, you can use ADT to transfer the image directly to a partition.

- ❑ The CP/M partition requires a PCPI Applicard (it *will not* work with the MS SoftCard or any other type of Z80 card).

Applications

- Appleworks 5.1
- Award Maker Plus
- AppleWriter II 2.1
- Bank Street Writer III
- DAC Easy Accounting
- DBMaster 5
- Family Matters
- FlashCalc 1.0
- Graphit 1.0
- MouseWrite 2.68
- MouseWord 1.0
- MouseCalc 1.0
- MousePaint 1.2
- MouseTalk 1.30
- BeagleWrite 3.3
- Publish It! 4
- Paint 816 3.1 (GS fonts can be used and are loaded from /PRODOS8HD/SYSTEM/FONTS)
- Dazzle Draw 1.2
- AccuDraw
- PFS:Write
- PFS:File
- PFS:Plan
- PFS:Report
- Point-to-Point 1.44
- ProTERM 3.1
- Quicken
- Springboard Publisher 2.0
- SuperCalc 3A 1.1
- VisiCalc Advanced
- WordBench

Utilities

- 4AM's Passport 17.05.14
- ADT Pro 2.0.2
- AE RAMFactor Diags
- AE RAMWorks Diags
- Apple System Utilities 3.1
- Apple //e Diagnostics 3.0
- Apple 5.25 Drive Test
- Apple FastCopy 1.0.1
- Atree II 1.0
- A2Command 1.1
- BlockWork 4.0
- Catalyst 3.0
- Copy II Plus 9.1
- Davex 1.30 (w/ external commands)
- D.D.Deluxe 5.0
- DiskMaker 8 1.1
- Dusthead 1.1
- EZ Drive 1.8
- ECP8 5.00
- imfEDDup v2.3
- GEOS 2.1 (installed on /CPM.HD, launched from /PRODOS8HD), including:
 - GeoCalc
 - GeoFile
 - GeoPaint
 - GeoPublish
 - GeoWrite
- GS Font Editor 1.0 (despite its name, it's an 8-bit app)
- MouseDesk 1.02
- ProDOS File Nav 3.0
- Prosel (including utilities)
- Pro Byter
- Sneeze
- S.S.Editor 1.0
- Super Selector 3.22

- Shrinkit 3.4
- ThunderClock ProDOS Utils

Developer Tools

- Beagle Compiler 3.2
- Beagle Graphics
- Beagle Program Writer 2.1
- Instant Pascal 1.5 (Samples in /PRODOS8HD/DOCUMENTS/IP)
- Kyan Pascal
- Merlin-8 2.58
- Aztec C65 (BluPhoenix & MacProber distro)
- ZBasic 4.21
- Micol Adv Basic 4.5
- HyperC

CPM Drive (hidden partition on CPM.HD)

The CP/M Drive is split into 8MB volumes and mapped to drives A-D. The floppy drives are assumed to be connected via Slot 6 and mapped to drives E and F.

- PCPI Applicard CP/M 2.2
- ASM, MAC Assemblers and tools
- NZCOM (type NZCOM after CP/M boots to load)
- Dbase II
- MS Basic (“generic” CP/M version -- the Apple II version does not work with Applicard CP/M)
- MS COBOL
- MS Fortran
- MS Multiplan
- Perfect Writer
- PL/I
- SpellBinder (Word Processor)
- SuperCalc
- WordStar 4.0 (with Applicard display patches)
- T/Maker
- Turbo Pascal
- ZDE Editor

Miscellaneous Notes and Observations

- ❑ These images will work with emulators (with the exception of CP/M – I am not aware of any software emulation for the Applicard). I used Virtual][extensively when building them.
- ❑ The directory structure on /PRODOS8HD is organized the way it is for a reason. Hard drives were expensive and somewhat of a rarity when most of this software was produced. Some software seems to have hardcoded prefix assumptions (e.g. only works when installed in the root directly – e.g. Instant Pascal). Others (too many to mention) have very limited path length restrictions and crash if the prefix is too long (where “too long” is a limit that must be discovered by trial and error). Still others (e.g. Aztec C) seem to misbehave with periods in pathnames. In a couple of cases it was necessary to patch the binary with a block editor to make it behave.
- ❑ Some software supports installation to a hard drive, but requires the original floppy to be inserted as a form of copy protection (e.g. New Print Shop), or is hardcoded to require a separate floppy disk for data storage (some education-oriented titles). Such applications are not included here.
- ❑ When using the CP/M volume, Enter NZCOM at the A> prompt for a much nicer experience. The applications are installed in their own user areas to avoid making a mess of things. (Hint: Use the PWD command after initializing NZCOM to get an idea of what’s where, and ZFILER for a nice full screen file manager).