

Welcome...

...to the May 1996 Mac Mega CD-ROM, our latest multimedia extravaganza, featuring a huge collection of the best Macintosh shareware; video news, reviews and advice; the UK's only football fanzine on CD; and demos of the hottest new commercial software.

Your first stop on The Mac Mega CD-ROM should be the browser. It comes in different memory configurations, and in versions for regular Macs (68k) and Power Macs (PPC). To run the browser, your Mac must have at least 4Mb of memory but we recommend a minimum of 8Mb. To check the amount of memory built into your computer, select the About this Macintosh... option from the Apple menu.

Even with the 3.0Mb browser, users with low-memory Macs may not be able to run all the demos, some of which require at least 4Mb of memory in their own right. If this happens, you'll get a -108 error message. Don't worry, though - memory permitting, all the demos and shareware will run directly from the CD-ROM without the browser.

This CD-ROM requires QuickTime™. PowerPC users should install all extensions in the 'Put in System' folder. 68k users should install all extensions except the QuickTime™ PowerPlug. Note that with QuickTime 2.1, the Apple Multimedia Tuner is no longer required. Please remove it from your System Folder and restart your Macintosh before running this CD-ROM.

The browser's Shareware City, On The Rom and Feature sections make use of AppleScript, if you have it installed, to open the appropriate folders on the CD-ROM, for easier access. For this to work, you need to have the AppleScript and Finder Scripting extensions installed in your Mac, both of which come free with System 7.5.

If you don't have AppleScript, you can still scroll through the entire list of shareware by holding the cursor over the down arrow and holding down the mouse button. This will enable you to read all of the 'one liners' about this month's shareware without having to go into individual Read Me files.

When you select a piece of shareware that you want to install, always check its Read Me file. This contains information on the kind of hardware - such as monitor size - that each program requires to run. It will also explain whether the software needs to be installed on your hard disk.

Some of the demos and shareware tie in to articles within this month's magazine. Look out for the On The ROM logo stamped on those features.

For the best possible performance, make sure that:

1. Virtual Memory is switched off.
2. The Memory Cache is set to 32K or 96K.

3. No other applications are running in the background.
4. All Control Panel windows are closed.
5. Memory utilities such as Ram Doubler are switched off.

THE MAC MEGA CD-ROM: THE CONTENTS

GAMES

Battle Planets

Test your skills against the empire in this galactic strategic battle.

Haunted House

Don't get too spooked as you explore the mysteries of this Haunted House.

Rebel Assault II

Playable demo of LucasArts Star Wars-based game.

SENET

A Classic simple-but-addictive game that's been around for thousands of years.

GRAPHICS & DTP

Font Consultant

Demo of this handy application that helps keep track of your fonts.

Image Pak

A whole wad of free clip art. Check out the Graphics section in the Shareware folder if you have trouble opening the files.

Painter 4.0 Demo

Try the latest release of this Mac favourite from Fractal Design.

Specular Interactive

This great demo explores what you can do with the Specular range: Specular Infini-D, TextureScape, Collage, LogoMotion.

INFOTAINMENT

The Dorling Kindersley Children's Dictionary

The latest offering from DK is a beautifully designed interactive dictionary. The MAC is the first with the demo.

MacCHANNEL

Exclusive interactive interview with Marco Landi, head of Apple Europe.

ON THE ROM

Astra Desktop Accounting (as featured in the 'Which Basic Accounts', page 72), Celebrity Desktops, Art Department and DTP Shareware.

THE MAC MALL

Index to our review by fax service.

THE TOP 10 WEB PAGES

This month we feature sites that give you the hottest links to Desktop Publishing resources, and newsletter/fanzine design needs.

SHAREWARE CITY

Over 150Mb, yes, that's ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY MONSTER MEGABYTES of shareware. Delve in and explore the best from the Net. As ever, The MAC brings you more.

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