

#10 4th Dimension and MultiFinder

Written by Scott Knaster August 25, 1987

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This note tells how to use 4th Dimension with MultiFinder.

Apple has announced MultiFinder, the first-generation multitasking operating environment for the Macintosh. Under MultiFinder, many applications may be open at once, with fast context switching and some background processing capabilities provided.

Applications can work with MultiFinder in two ways:

1. MultiFinder compatible. This means that the application functions correctly when running with MultiFinder. 4th Dimension is MultiFinder compatible.
2. MultiFinder aware. This means that the application can perform some functions in the background when MultiFinder is running. 4th Dimension is also MultiFinder aware.

When using 4th Dimension with MultiFinder, your databases can search, sort, and run procedures in the background. To set up 4th Dimension for background operation, you have to do two things: set a bit with ResEdit, and set an option with 4D Customizer. Here's what you have to do:

1. Run ResEdit. Open 4th Dimension. Open the SIZE resource with ID 0. After the first two bits, the remaining bits are listed as "Undef bit" (undefined bit). The second undefined bit tells MultiFinder that the application can run in the background. Click the "1" radio button to turn this bit on. Close the SIZE 0, SIZEs, and 4th Dimension windows, and save the changes.
2. Run 4D Customizer. Open 4th Dimension. Click the box in the "Desk accessories" section in the upper right corner labeled "During printing." Save the changes and close 4th Dimension. Do not check the "During Thermometers" option, as this option affects the operation of certain external routines.

The copy of 4th Dimension has now been set up to work in the background under MultiFinder. When you search, sort, or run a procedure, you should be able to switch to other applications.

