



Apple IIGS #100: VersionVille

Revised: December 2016
Revised: July 2015
Revised: August 2014
Revised by: Matt Deatherage May 1992
Written by: Matt Deatherage January 1991

This Technical Note is all there is to know about versions, version formats and version numbers on the Apple IIGS.

Changes since August 2015: Revised to include System Software 6.0.4.

Changes since August 2014: Revised to include System Software 6.0.3.

Changes since May 1992: Revised to include System Software 6.0.1.

Changes since January 1991: Revised to include System Software 6.0.

Version Number Formats

There are three kinds of version numbers on the Apple IIGS. Two of the three are documented elsewhere but are repeated here for convenience.

System Tool Set Versions

The Apple IIGS system tools use a one-word version number. The high-order **four** bits of this word have special meaning. Bits 8-11 are the major version number and bits 0-7 are the minor version number. This is illustrated in Figure 1.

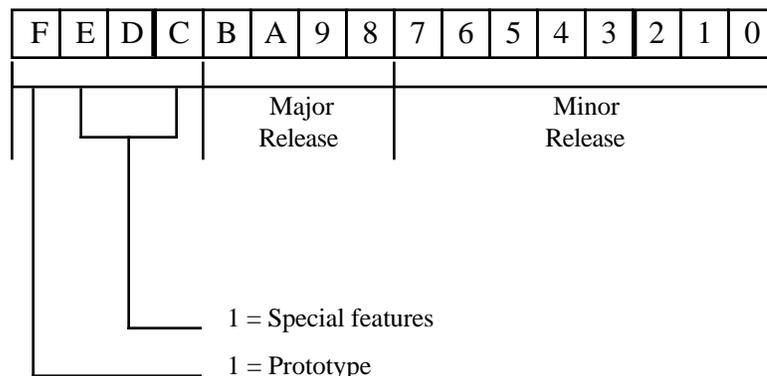


Figure 1—Toolbox Version Numbers

Note that this definition is different and supersedes the definition in the *Apple IIGS Toolbox Reference* for system tool sets. Previous documentation reserves only bit 15 as the prototype bit;

this has been expanded. Bits 14-12 of user tool set version words have no special meaning; they are still part of the major release.

Note: When comparing the major and minor release version numbers to check the installed version of a system tool, mask off bits 15-12 first (for example, by using an AND #\$0FFF instruction).

SmartPort Or GS/OS Driver Versions

GS/OS drivers and SmartPort firmware drivers use an alternate one-word version number, described in Figure 2.

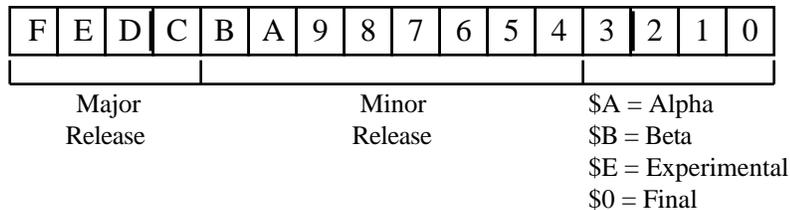


Figure 2—GS/OS Driver And SmartPort Version Numbers

Apple IIGS Long Version Format

Long version format is a 32-bit (two-word) format similar to the standard Macintosh version numbering scheme defined in Macintosh Technical Note #189, Version Territory, except the four bytes are stored least significant byte first, as is standard on the Apple II, and the values of the stage are different. Figure 3 shows the format of a long version.

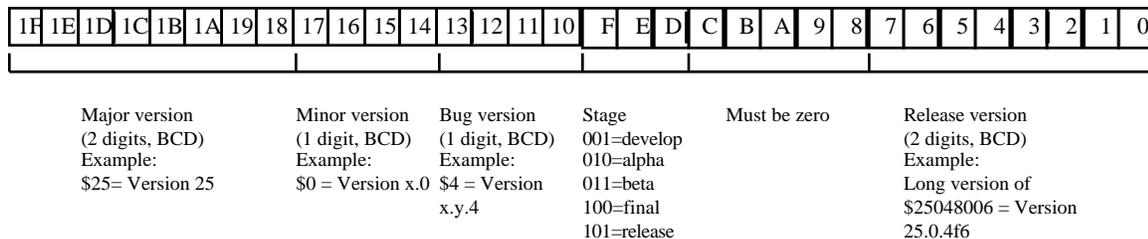


Figure 3—Long Version Numbers

Long version format allows for bug versions, unlike toolbox versions. Also, you can do unsigned long comparisons of long versions to determine which revision is later.

Note: If the version stage is 101 (release), the release version **must** be zero. For example, you may not have version 25.0.4 release 16. “Release version” implies that the product is no longer under development and has no developmental version numbers.

System Version Numbers

The most important of the numerous version numbers in the system are the system tool version numbers. These numbers, passed to LoadTools, LoadOneTool or StartUpTools ensure that you’re getting at least the version you want, or maybe a later one. This mechanism is your primary defense against old system software—by requiring the latest tool versions in your

application, you are notified by the Tool Locator early in your program if the system has the latest system software installed or not.

The current revision of Apple IIGS System Software is 6.0.4. Assuming a correct installation, requiring QuickDraw 4.0 in effect requires System Software 6.0.4, although you may check the system's `rVersion` resource in the `*:System:System.Setup:Sys.Resource` file if you require more detailed information about the system software version.

System Tool Set Versions

Number	Tool	Version
1	Tool Locator	\$0302
2	Memory Manager	\$0302
3	Misc Tools	\$0303
4	QuickDraw II	\$0400
5	Desk Manager	\$0304
6	Event Manager	\$0302
7	Scheduler	\$0300
8	Sound Tools	\$0303
9	ADB	\$0300
10	SANE	\$0301
11	Integer Math	\$0301
12	Text Tools	\$0301
13	[used internally]	\$0300
14	Window Manager	\$0306
15	Menu Manager	\$0304
16	Control Manager	\$0304
17	[System Loader]	\$0402
18	QuickDraw II Aux	\$0305
19	Print Manager	\$0302
20	Line Edit	\$0306
21	Dialog Manager	\$0305
22	Scrap Manager	\$0302
23	Standard File	\$0304
25	Note Synthesizer	\$0104
26	Note Sequencer	\$0104
27	Font Manager	\$0304
28	List Manager	\$0304
29	ACE	\$0103
30	Resource Manager	\$0103
32	MIDI Tools	\$0103
33	Video Overlay	\$0103
34	Text Edit	\$0106
35	MIDI Synth	\$0100
38	Media Control	\$0100

Toolbox Driver Version Numbers

Driver	Version
ImageWriter II	4.2
ImageWriter LQ	4.2
LaserWriter	3.3
StyleWriter	1.0
Epson	2.0
Printer Port Driver	2.1
Modem Port Driver	2.1
Parallel Card Port Driver	2.0
AppleTalk Port Driver	3.2
Pioneer 4200 (MC)	1.0
Pioneer 2000 (MC)	1.0
Apple CD SC (MC)	1.0

GS/OS Version Numbers

Component	Version
GS/OS	4.2
ProDOS FST	4.3
AppleShare FST	4.2
High Sierra FST	4.2
Character FST	4.0
DOS 3.3 FST	1.5
HFS FST	1.2
Pascal FST	1.3
AFP Driver	4.2
Apple II RAMCard driver	1.1
AppleDisk 3.5 Driver	5.4
AppleDisk 5.25 Driver	2.6
AppleTalk Main Driver	4.2
Console Driver	3.4
RPM Driver	4.2
SCSI CD Driver	6.1
SCSI HD Driver	6.1
SCSI Scanner Driver	6.1
SCSI Tape Driver	6.1
UniDisk 3.5 Driver	3.0

Control Panel Version Numbers

CDev	Version
AppleShare	2.1
Direct Connect Printer	1.1
FolderPriv	1.0
General	2.0
Keyboard	1.1
Media Control	1.1
MIDI	1.0
Modem Port	1.1
Monitor	1.2
Network Printer Namer	1.1
Network Printer Chooser	1.1
Network	1.1
Printer Port	1.1
RAM	1.2
SetStart	1.1
Slots	1.3
Sound	2.2
Time	2.1

Further Reference

- *Apple IIGS Toolbox Reference*
- *GS/OS Reference*
- GS/OS Technical Note #1, Contents of System Disk and System Tools
- File Type Note for File Type \$C7, Control Panel Devices