
Process Management Information

System 7.0 provides support for process management. Your application can get information about any currently running process, including your own. For example, for a specified process, you can find the application's name, type and signature; the number of bytes in the process partition, the number of free bytes in the application heap, the application that launched the process, and other information. Your application can also launch other applications and desk accessories.

When a user opens a desk accessory in System 7.0, the Operating System launches the desk accessory in its own partition. When a desk accessory is open, the Finder puts the name of the desk accessory in the list of open applications in the Application menu, and also gives the active desk accessory its own About command in the Apple menu that includes the name of the desk accessory. This makes the user interface for desk accessories more consistent with the user interface of small applications.

You can achieve greater control over other applications using the **Process Manager** routines. You can bring an application to the front, get information about other applications, and launch other applications without terminating your own application. Your application can also receive notification if any application that it has launched terminates.

System 7.0 provides greater support for launching applications and documents at startup. All desktop objects in the Startup Items folder are automatically opened at startup. All background applications in the Extensions folder are launched early in the startup sequence before the Finder is started. Background applications generally perform a specific task and are invisible to the user. The Startup Items folder and Extensions folder are located inside the System Folder.

See the **Process Manager** for information on launching other applications and getting information on currently running processes.