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Apple IIGS: How to Access the Clock

Revised: 8/21/89
Security: Everyone

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This article last reviewed: 14 July 1989

TOPIC -----

I have a customer using Z-BASIC on his Apple IIGS under ProDOS, running as an Apple IIe. Although there are no toolbox calls for accessing the Apple IIGS clock from Z-BASIC, is there a way to do this from Z-BASIC with PEEKs and POKes or a machine language call?

DISCUSSION -----

The preferred method is to use the ProDOS GET_TIME call. Note: You need ProDOS 8 version 1.2 or later to get the time on the Apple IIGS.

This method works on any Apple II running under ProDOS and with most Apple II-compatible clocks (because they all come with ProDOS patch routines). More information on the format of the GET_TIME call and other ProDOS commands is in the ProDOS Technical Reference Manual. The GET_TIME call is documented on page 71. Additional information is on page 99 and pages 104 through 106.

When the GET_TIME routine is called, the system date and time are placed into the documented locations. Using PEEKs, the data in those locations can be extracted.

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Tech Info Library Article Number:4151