
Back panel and connectors

The Apple IIe has a metal back panel with space for several D-type connectors. Each peripheral card you add comes with a connector that you install in the back panel. Chapter 1 includes a description of the back panel; for details, see the installation instructions supplied with the peripheral cards.

The Apple IIc back panel has seven built-in connectors.

Soft switches

The display and memory features of the Apple IIe and the Apple IIc are controlled by soft switches like the ones on the Apple II Plus. On the Apple IIe and the Apple IIc, programs can also read the settings of the soft switches. Chapter 2 describes the soft switches that control the display features, and Chapter 4 describes the soft switches that control the memory features.

Built-in self-test

The Apple IIe has built-in firmware that includes a self-test routine. The self-test is intended primarily for testing during manufacturing, but you can run it to be sure the Apple IIe is working correctly. The self-test is described in Chapter 4.

The Apple IIc also has built-in diagnostics.

Forced reset

Some programs on the Apple II Plus take control of the reset function to keep users from stopping the machine and copying the program. The Apple IIe and Apple IIc have a forced reset that writes over the program in memory. By using the forced reset, you can restart the Apple IIe (or Apple IIc) without turning power off and on and causing unnecessary stress on the circuits. The forced reset is described in Chapter 4.