MicroDrive/Turbo Notes

Congratulations on your purchase of the MicroDrive/Turbo for the IIgs. Please see below if you plan to use the MicroDrive/Turbo in a IIe.

Your MicroDrive/Turbo is fully setup and ready to use. No further setup is needed. We do however recommend reading the following:

We recommend installing the MicroDrive/Turbo in Slot 2 or Slot 7 due to the fact that these Slots are normally available, however it can be installed in any Slot you so desire (except Slot 3).
As a reminder, please be sure to set the Slot the in the IIgs Control Panel as 'Your Card'. You may also went to set the 'Startup Slot' to the same as the MicroDrive/Turbo since you will probably now be booting from it more than your other devices.

We next recommend you make a backup copy of the MicroDrive/Turbo setup and utilities disk.
Upon boot you will be taken to Volume 1 which holds the ProDOS 8 utilities. Here you will see folder named 'SHRINK.IT'. Using the arrow keys, highlight the folder and press Enter. You will now see 'SHRINK.IT.V3.4'. Press Enter to execute it. Press 'O' to open an archive. The 'MICRODRV.IIE.S1' is for 5.25" disk, and "MICRODRV.TURBO' is for 3.5" disk. Select one and press Enter twice, then select the Drive on which to write. This disk will be for backup purposes or if you need to setup a new CF Card.

Use the MicroDrive Setup Utility to check the DMA setting.
Currently the MicroDrive/Turbo has DMA enabled, and 99% of the time this isn't an issue. We do however recommend setting it to the actual revision IIgs it is used in to avoid any possible issues, however remote. You can either boot your setup floppy or run the utility from the CF Card. Upon boot of the MicroDrive/Turbo you will be taken to Volume 1 which holds the ProDOS 8 utilities. Here you will see folder named 'MICRODRIVE'. Using the arrow keys, highlight the folder and press Enter. You will now see 'MICRODRV.SETUP'. Use the letter 'D' to set the correct ROM revision. Failure to set the DMA setting correctly can cause issues and intermittent crashing of GS/OS.

Other Useful Info:
ShrinkIt can also be used to help extract the disk images that you download from the Internet once you have moved them to your CF Card. For accessing the CF Card on your PC we recommend using the Windows based ProDOS Apple file utility called CiderPress to assist you. The most recent version of CiderPress can be downloaded from the Internet. It can unpack files and images and we highly recommend becoming familiar with CiderPress and all the options available to you.

One of the most powerful features of the MicroDrive/Turbo is the ability to select the volume from which you would like to temporally boot or even skip the card on boot. Hold down the "Open-Apple" key when turning on the computer or rebooting and press the corresponding number key of the desired partition from which to boot, or press "0" (zero) to skip the MicroDrive/Turbo (just holding "ESC" also skips on boot). When holding down the "Open-Apple" key the boot process will pause until either a number key is pressed or the Apple key is released. Releasing the "Open-Apple" key and not pressing a number key will cause the default volume to automatically boot. You are able to boot from ANY of the first sixteen (16) partitions on the CF Card you desire. To boot from partitions ten (10) to sixteen (16) use the letter keys 'A' to 'F'. The default boot volume can also be changed in the MicroDrive/Turbo setup utility. GS/OS is by default on volume 2, and DOS.MASTER on volume 3. Volume 4 is blank but formatted.

There are 4 volumes currently created on your CF Card. You can use the MicroDrive Setup utility to create more volumes should you desire.

Apple IIe Note
If you purchased the IIgs version of the MicroDrive/Turbo then the card WILL NOT work in an Enhanced IIe by default. If you wish to use the card in an Enhanced IIe then you will need to either purchase a new MicroDrive/Turbo with the Enhanced IIe firmware already installed and tested, purchase the Enhanced IIe firmware and ship back the card and the Enhanced IIe version of the Firmware will be installed on your MicroDrive/Turbo and tested, or should you have the PLCC extraction tool you can purchase the Enhanced IIe firmware EPROM and install it yourself. The Enhanced IIe version of the Firmware is forward compatible and will run in a IIgs albeit a bit slower than the IIgs only firmware as the IIgs firmware is optimized for the 816 CPU.

There can be issues when formatting partitions on your MicroDrive/Turbo using some programs, such as Copy II Plus.
If you try to format a partition and the size is different than expected we recommend using the MicroDrive format utility which is located on the MicroDrive/Turbo utility disk and ProDOS 8 partition called "IIE.PART.FORMAT". This utility format partitions correctly.

Thanks for purchasing the MicroDrive/Turbo. Without the active support of members from the Apple II Community such as yourself, new projects wouldn't be possible.

You can follow us on Facebook if you're interested following our projects under development and related news:
www.facebook.com/reactivemicrousa

Please don't hesitate to contact us if we can be of any help, answer questions or resolve any technical issues.
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