Apple II CD-ROM Info

discQuest CD-ROM Drive & SCSI Interface Compatibility List

Manufacturer	Model	Apple High Speed SCSI	RAMFast SCSI
Apple	CD-150 (Sony CDU-8002)	✓	✓
	CD-SC (Sony CDU-8001)	✓	✓
	CD-SC+ (Sony CDU-8002)	✓	✓
	CD-300 (Sony CDU-8003)	1,2,4	4
NEC	CDR-38	3	✓
	CDR-25	3	✓
	CDR-74	3	✓
	CDR-84	3	✓
Texel	DM-3x1S	1	✓
	DM-3028	1	✓
	DM-5028	1,4	✓
Sony	CDU-8002	✓	✓
	CDU-8003	1,2,4	✓
	CDU-555S	4	✓
Toshiba	3401-200	1,2,4	4
Pioneer	DRM-600	✓	✓

✓ - No known problems.
1 - No CD audio in discQuest (digitized audio on the Encyclopedia will work fine).
2 - Must reboot computer to put in a new CD.
3 - Requires special driver (not included with discQuest).
4 - No Audio CD's

CD-ROM Drive Specifications / Info

discQuest* CD25 Drive (NEC CDR25 mechanism)

Based on NEC's CDR25 mechanism, the discQuest CD25 CD-ROM player is a 'single speed' top-loading (caddy-less) design. This low cost unit has an external power supply and is light and portable. The interface is SCSI standard, and Macintosh compatible. A terrific value!

Specifications:
- Average Data Transfer Speed: 150KBytes/second
- Access time (typical): 650ms
- Interface: SCSI-1, 50-pin connector
- Caddy: none

discQuest* CD210 Drive (NEC CDR210 mechanism)

The discQuest CD210 is a Double-speed CD-ROM player based on the NEC CDR210 mechanism. The interface is a standard SCSI-2 connector and is compatible with the Macintosh. It features a caddyless, sliding tray design and includes a rugged steel enclosure with two full SCSI connectors on the rear.

Features:
- SCSI-2 CD-ROM Interface
- Caddyless, sliding tray loader design
- Double speed
- Multi-session Photo CD* compliant
- External front audio jack with volume control
- Can be used with Macintoshs, IBM compatibles and Apple IIGS

Specifications:
- Average Data Transfer Speed: 300KBytes/sec
- Access time (typical): 400ms
- Interface: SCSI 2, 50-pin

Apple CDROM 150

Apple's CD-ROM 150 is a single speed drive that is single session PhotoCD compatible.

For IIGS owners with the Apple High Speed SCSI card, the CDROM 150 would appear to an excellent choice.

Features:
- SCSI-1 CD-ROM Interface
- Caddy
- Single speed
- Single-session Photo CD* compliant
- Front External audio jack and volume control on front of drive
- Rear RCA audio jacks

Specifications:
- Average Data Transfer Speed: 150KBytes/sec

- Access time (typical): 650ms (????)
- Interface: SCSI 1, 50-pin

Apple CDSC and Apple CDSC+

Older CDROM drives than the Apple CD-150 that work with the HS SCSI card, the firmware and standard GS/OS CD-ROM drivers.

Apple CDROM-300 and CDROM-300 Plus

Both the Apple CDROM-300 and CDROM-300 Plus are the same drive mechanism, but the Plus has a caddy-less, sliding tray loader design. Drives have extra functionality on Macintosh (e.g. can play audio CDs, etc); unknown if it can be used with IBM compatibles (unlikely).

Features:
- SCSI-2 CD-ROM Interface
- Caddyless, sliding tray loader design (300 Plus model)
- Caddy with 300 model
- Double speed
- Multi-session Photo CD* compliant
- External front audio jack with volume control
- External rear RCA lacks
- Two 50 pin SCSI port connectors
- 256Kb buffer size

Specifications:
- Average Data Transfer Speed: 300KBytes/sec
- Access time (typical): 295ms
- Interface: SCSI 2, 50-pin

Apple II compatible SCSI Interface comparisons

RAMFast - A High-performance SCSI Interface for the Apple IIe and IIGS

Features:
- High speed DMA (direct memory access) operation for up to 1 MB/sec transfer rates
- Ideal for hard drives, CD-ROM, tape backup, Syquest, floptical, & many other SCSI devices

- Built-in configuration and hard drive backup software
- Trouble-free 4-layer circuit board; low-power design
- 256K or 1MB cache memory for excellent performance on any

Apple High Speed SCSI - Apple SCSI Interface card for the Apple IIe & IIGS

Features:
- High speed DMA (direct memory access) operation for up to 1 MB/sec transfer rates

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General Comments

Apple IIGS High Speed SCSI card owners.

For IIGS owners with the Apple High Speed SCSI card, the "best" CDROM drive may be the Apple CD-150. Although only a single speed CDROM drive, it works fine with the HS SCSI card and the drivers that come with GSOS System Software 6.01. It can be used to access Macintosh and MS-DOS format CDROM's, discQuest CDROMs as well as being able to play Audio CD's with the System 6.01 drivers and NDA.

NEC CD-ROM drives can also be used with the HS SCSI card but require a driver from Tulin which will allow the CD-ROM drive to be used to access files, programs, etc, but it is unknown if the NEC drives could be used to play audio CDs.

Apple IIGS RamFast SCSI card owners

If you haven't gotten a SCSI card for your IIGS yet, the "best" may be the RAMFast SCSI Interface Card ROM Revision D Version 3.01e (or later). It is able to drive most if not all CD-ROM drive without any extra drivers required (exception: playing audio CDs). There are driversavailable on the internet - "RFMedia.shk" - that can be used to play audio CDs easily; also available from Sequential Systems by request if you order their discQuest software.

As well as better support for CD-ROM drives, it also has better support for hard disk drives (can supply termination power), SCSI Tape backup units, CD-ROM drives, Syquests, Flopticals, etc.

RAMFast SCSI cards can be purchased together in a bundle from Sequential with discQuest software, NEC CDR-210 double speed CD-ROM drive and some CD-ROMs, or in a bundle with discQuest Encyclopedia.