

OPERATING-SYSTEM COMMAND COMPARISON

Here's a quick cheat-sheet of operating-system commands for MS-DOS, ProDOS, Apple DOS 3.3, and CP/M. You'll notice that to perform certain operations in ProDOS, you must go into the FILER utility program, whereas in MS-

DOS you simply type in the command at the system prompt. Similarly, you must use the FID and COPYA program in Apple DOS 3.3 to perform the equivalent of certain MS-DOS commands. Some commands have no equivalents in other operating systems. Some MS-

DOS commands are loaded into memory from disk when you enter the command. A command that the computer loads into memory from disk when you issue it is known as a transient command, because it is deleted from the computer's memory after you finish using it.

Command Description	Microsoft MS-DOS ⁽¹⁾	Apple ProDOS	Apple DOS 3.3	CP/M
Changes the active directory	CHDIR	PREFIX	(2)	USER ⁽³⁾
Checks disk and reports status	CHKDSK	Use FILER	Use FID	STAT
Compares two files	COMP	Use FILER	(4)	(4)
Copies a file	COPY	Use FILER	Use FID	PIP
Displays/changes the date	DATE	(8)	(5)	(5)
Lists filenames in a directory	DIR	CATALOG	CATALOG	DIR
Copies a disk	DISKCOPY	Use FILER	Use COPYA	PIP
Deletes a file	ERASE	DELETE	DELETE	ERA
Formats a disk	FORMAT	Use FILER	INIT	FORMAT
Renames a disk volume	LABEL	RENAME	(7)	(7)
Creates a disk directory	MKDIR	CREATE	(2)	(3)
Renames a file	RENAME	RENAME	RENAME	REN
Removes a disk directory	RMDIR	DELETE	(2)	(3)
Displays/changes the time	TIME	(8)	(5)	(5)
Displays contents of a text file	TYPE	(6)	(4)	TYPE
Verifies integrity of a file	VERIFY	VERIFY	VERIFY	(4)

1. Versions 2.0 or higher
2. Apple DOS 3.3 does not have commands such as CHDIR, MKDIR, and RMDIR because it uses only one directory.
3. CP/M has multiple user areas within a single directory. It does not have a hierarchical directory structure like that of MS-DOS or ProDOS.

4. No standard command
5. Apple DOS 3.3 and CP/M do not time- and date-stamp files.
6. It is possible to add a TYPE command to ProDOS when Applesoft is active. See "A TYPE Command for ProDOS," *Softalk*, June 1984, pp. 157-165, and "Adding a TYPE Command to ProDOS."

- Call-A.P.P.L.E.*, May 1984, pp. 42-49.
7. Apple DOS 3.3 and CP/M do not use volume names.
 8. ProDOS does time- and date-stamp files, but it has no standard commands for setting the time and date.