![Apple logo]

Important Information About AppleShare 5.0.2

AppleShare 5.0.2 has two improvements not mentioned elsewhere in the documentation:

- It is fully compatible with Mac OS 8.

- It supports WebStar-compatible plug-ins.

Note: Several sections in this document instruct you to restart the Web server so that settings changes can take effect. To save time, read this entire document and make all changes before you restart the server.

Using WebStar plug-ins

Plug-ins add speed and functionality to your Web server. They act like CGI (Common Gateway Interface) scripts but are faster and more efficient. You can use plug-ins to

- record the number of visitors to your Web pages

- process forms

- access databases such as customer lists or product catalogs

- conduct on-screen chats

- check passwords

- let users search for information on your Web site

You can purchase plug-ins from software vendors or download them from the Internet.

Installing plug-ins

■ **To install a plug-in, follow the instructions that came with the plug-in software.**

If no directions came with the software, drag the plug-in to the Plug-Ins folder inside the current Web folder, chosen in the Web & File Sharing Settings window.

Setting aside memory for plug-ins

The documentation that came with your plug-in may tell you how much memory the plug-in needs to load and to work properly. (All the plug-ins in the Plug-Ins folder load when your Web server starts.)

Important Do not adjust the memory set aside for plug-ins by using the server's Information dialog box. Instead follow the instructions in this section.

1 Open the Web & File Admin program.

2 Choose Web & File Server Settings from the Server menu.

The Web & File Server Settings window appears.

3 Choose Web Plug-Ins from the pop-up menu.

<<Picture "Web Plug-ins Settings PICT">>

4 Increase the number in the box labeled Maximum Plug-in Memory Usage by the amount of memory that your plug-in requires.

To increase this number, click the up arrow.

The total in the box should be at least as large as the sum of required memory for all plug-ins in the Plug-Ins folder, plus any special plug-ins that reside elsewhere. (See "Special Plug-in Settings," later in this document.)

5 Click Save.

Before you save changes, you may want to read the next section and make changes to other settings.

6   To make your changes take effect, restart the server.

If the server is running, choose Stop Web & File Server from the Server menu. Then choose Start Web & File Server from the Server menu.

Changing other plug-in settings

To change other plug-in settings, follow these instructions:

1   Open the Web & File Admin program.

2   Choose Web & File Server Settings from the Server menu.

The Web & File Server Settings window appears.

3   Choose Web Plug-Ins from the pop-up menu.

<<**Picture "Web Plug-ins Settings PICT"**>>

4   To enable plug-ins, click to put an X in the box labeled Enable Plug-ins.

5   To allow plug-ins to maintain a log of their actions, click to put an X in the box labeled Enable Plug-in Logging.

6   To select special plug-ins to handle preprocessing, postprocessing, or error-handling tasks, click the appropriate button and locate the plug-in you want to use.

See the next section for details.

7   Click Save.

8   To make your changes take effect, restart the server.

If the server is running, choose Stop Web & File Server from the Server menu. Then choose Start Web & File Server from the Server menu.

Special plug-in settings

AppleShare IP lets you activate specific plug-ins to handle preprocessing, postprocessing, and error-handling tasks.

Preprocessor plug-ins examine requests for information before your Web server acts on them. For example, the plug-in might display a password dialog box to make sure that a user who is trying to connect to your site is authorized to do so.

Postprocessor plug-ins manipulate information after your Web server has been used, for example to file information about what internal links the most recent visitor activated.

Error plug-ins process information about problems such as "file not found" errors. This kind of plug-in might record the error in a log and send a message to the user suggesting what to do.

To activate a specific preprocessor, postprocessor, or error plug-in, follow these instructions:

1 Open the Web & File Admin program, if it's not already open.

2 Choose Web & File Server Settings from the Server menu.

The Web & File Server Settings window appears.

3 Choose Web Plug-Ins from the pop-up menu.

4 Click the button next to the kind of plug-in you want to activate.

5 Locate the plug-in you want to activate, then click OK.

6 If you wish, repeat steps 4 and 5 to activate other plug-ins.

You can activate one of each special type.

7 To make your changes take effect, restart the server.

If the server is running, choose Stop Web & File Server from the Server menu. Then choose Start Web & File Server from the Server menu.

Seeing the plug-in log file

Plug-ins can maintain information about what happens when they execute. This information varies from plug-in to plug-in, but it's all stored in the same text file.

■ **To see the log information, double-click the file named "Plug-In Messages" in the HTTP Logs folder.**

The HTTP Logs folder is in the AppleShare IP Preferences folder within the System Folder's Preferences folder.