Subject: My G5 problems (resurrecting two PowerMac G5 computers)
Posted by TVirkkala on Mon, 22 Aug 2016 08:58:07 GMT
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It's been years since I've been active on these lists. I come out of lurkage a bit confused, largely because, well, I've forgotten some things I used to know about my Macs.

I've had two PowerMac G5s for some time, a 9,1 and an 11,2 — that is, a Late 2004 1.8GHz and a final year model G5, as in the signature at bottom.

The slower G5 occasionally starts up with system error - non-GUI command line stuff. It has asked me, in recent months, to ask if I really wanted to start the computer, etc. I type in what it says to, and the thing comes up again.

I assume the hard drive is going down, corrupting the system. Does this seem reasonable?

If the hard drive is no good, then this is what I thought I'd do:

a. Get a new hard drive for the 2x2.3 device. Install.
b. Clone my main drive onto the new drive. Shut down.
c. Take out the newly cloned drive and place it in the 1.8Ghz PowerMac, make it the main drive.
d. Get another new hard drive. A much bigger hard drive. Clone my current drive and then use the new, larger drive as the primary drive.

Does this sound reasonable?

I thought I needed special sleds for these things. But the 1.8Ghz didn't seem to need sleds at all, but used hard drive with screws on the bottom. Are the hard drive hardware the same between the two computers?

Sorry this is so basic, but I haven't been playing with the innards of Macs for nearly a decade.

I'm writing on the G5x2.3GHz PowerMac right now. I've been using it for the last few weeks. It seems to be working well, though Web browsing is now difficult, and the best browser seems to be TenFourFox.

I stopped using it regularly when Avid M-Powered-8 ceased to write ("bounce") my MIDI files to disc. I hope to resurrect this program this month, and fix the error. I cannot afford to by LogicPro for my MacPro because I'm spending all my money on repairing my iPads this month.

Sorry for the long story.

I do love my faster PowerMac. It has 13GB of RAM, and seems to work most operations just fine. It handles my Photoshop needs very well — though I'm afraid to try editing movies on it. Previous movie editing on G5s seems slow and "problematic" to me.

Timo V

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Subject: Re: My G5 problems (resurrecting two PowerMac G5 computers)
Posted by DLC on Tue, 23 Aug 2016 03:45:00 GMT
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Hi Timo,
Welcome back. Hopefully it is your hard drive and not the SATA controller chip on the motherboard. The drive is certainly a strong consideration, and of course the cheaper of the two to troubleshoot.

You do not need railings or sleds for the HDs on a G5. You DO need four convex standout screws that screw into the hard drive sides are are used as guides for the drive to slide down the visible channels in the HD bay sides - top drive goes in first, starting in the middle channel (it corrects itself as the drive is inserted, ending in the top channel), then the

second drive goes straight into the bottom third channel.
The screws are plastic, and of course, being Apple, unique in design-the heads are rounded and polished - regular HD screws will catch on the glides.
Hope this helps.
Regards,
Dana
(Collins - Ft. Wayne, IN)

On Mon, Aug 22, 2016 at 4:58 AM, TVirkkala <multimax@wirkman.com> wrote:

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Subject: Re: My G5 problems (resurrecting two PowerMac G5 computers)
Posted by TVirkkala on Thu, 25 Aug 2016 20:54:00 GMT
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Thanks, Dana, re:

> You do not need railings or sleds for the HDs on a G5. You DO need
> four convex standout screws that screw into the hard drive sides are
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> The screws are plastic, and of course, being Apple, unique in design-
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I probably have them in one of my little parts bins hanging around the
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Subject: Re: My G5 problems (resurrecting two PowerMac G5 computers)
Posted by g3-5-list on Thu, 25 Aug 2016 21:43:09 GMT
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IIRC, I used four 6-32 UNC metal round head screws to add a second HD to my G5 a few years ago. It was not a perfect fit and it may have been more difficult to install the drive than it would with the standard Apple scews but it worked for me. I think the trick was not to screw them in all the way and leave a little space for the head to catch the guides. But that was a long time ago so my memory is a bit fuzzy.
However, I would not recommend shipping the G5 with the HD installed with these screws. --glen

From: TVirkkala <multimax@wirkman.com>
To: LEM G-List <g3-5-list@googlegroups.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 25, 2016 4:54 PM
Subject: Re: My G5 problems (resurrecting two PowerMac G5 computers)

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