



Introduction

Thank you for choosing the Imagine 128 Series 2 for Power Mac, one of the world's fastest and most powerful 128-bit graphics accelerators. This section contains introductory information that you may find helpful in

- understanding the purpose of a graphics and multimedia accelerator
- understanding the features and benefits of the Imagine 128 Series 2 for Power Mac
- handling the accelerator to avoid damaging it
- completing the Warranty Registration Card
- getting customer support from Number Nine Visual Technology

Enhancing Performance with an Accelerator

A graphics and multimedia accelerator is a combination of hardware and software that can be added to a computer to enhance the graphics capabilities of the computer. The accelerator speeds the drawing and redrawing of graphics on the monitor. It may also allow graphics to be displayed at higher resolutions and in more colors.

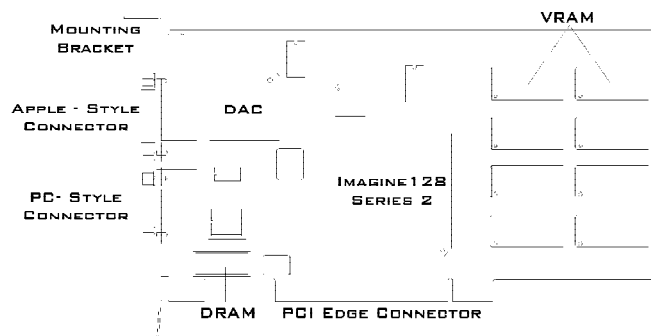
Without an accelerator, graphics are drawn and redrawn by the computer's CPU (central processing unit) and then sent to the video graphics adapter (VGA) for display on the monitor. The VGA has no processing capability. In contrast, an accelerator has processing capability in its own on-board processor. When an accelerator is added to the computer, many of the functions performed by the CPU can be performed by the accelerator, with only minimal input from the CPU. The result is an enormous performance gain during most common graphics operations, such as opening and closing windows, filling objects with colors and patterns, drawing lines, and transferring bitmaps and pixels.

Understanding Features and Benefits of the Imagine 128 Series 2

The Imagine 128 Series 2 for Power Mac is the only graphics card capable of keeping up with the superfast processor speeds of the new Power Macs. It has been designed to handle the graphics display requirements of today's most demanding applications.

To achieve its superior performance, the accelerator features

- a dedicated 128-bit graphics processor
- a 128-bit internal bus
- 4 or 8 MB high-speed VRAM
- Apple-style and PC-style connectors

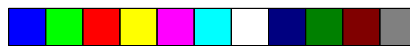


The accelerator supports

- 14" through 24" monitors, and is highly suitable for monitors 21" and larger
- resolutions up to 1920 x 1200
- refresh rates up to 100 Hz
- up to 16.8 million colors

A set of easy-to-use configuration utilities provides on-screen controls for

- on-screen help
- a screen saver
- color adjustment
- zooming up to x4, with hot key assignment for instantaneous switching of magnification
- autopanning



- cursor characteristics
- window-drag

The Imagine 128 Series 2 offers you the benefits of

- simultaneous processing of sixteen 8-bit or four 32-bit pixels in a single instruction cycle
- sustained drawing bandwidths in excess of 500 MB/sec
- constant speed across all color modes, with no noticeable performance loss when color depth is increased to thousands or millions of colors
- true-color images
- real-time control over numerous display characteristics
- switching between resolutions without restarting (for multifrequency monitors)
- energy savings (for DPMS-compliant monitors)

Checking the Contents of the Kit

Your Imagine 128 Series 2 for Power Mac kit contains the following:

- Imagine 128 Series 2 accelerator (card), in an antistatic bag
- Imagine 128 Series 2 disk
- Imagine 128 Series 2 User's Guide
- 2 ferrite cores
- Warranty Registration Card

If any of these items is missing or damaged, contact your dealer or reseller.

Handling the Card

Your Imagine 128 Series 2 accelerator contains delicate electronic components, which can be damaged by improper handling or electrostatic discharge. To help protect your accelerator from damage, take these precautions when handling it:

- Leave the accelerator in its antistatic bag until you are ready to insert it into a slot. This bag protects the accelerator against electrostatic discharge.
- Before opening the antistatic bag, ground yourself by touching any exposed metal on your Power Mac chassis or connector brackets while the computer is plugged in.



- When you remove the accelerator from the antistatic bag, grasp it by the mounting bracket. Do not touch the PCI connector edge.
- If you must lay the accelerator down after you remove it from the antistatic bag, lay it on the bag with the components facing up.
- Avoid touching the monitor—even if it is turned off— while you are holding the accelerator. (A monitor can build up and store an electrostatic charge.)

Completing the Warranty Registration Card

Your Imagine 128 Series 2 kit includes a Warranty Registration Card. To assure compliance with warranty requirements and to receive authorized service, mail your completed Warranty Registration Card to Number Nine within 30 days. Be sure to include on the Warranty Registration Card, in the space provided, the accelerator serial number. You will find the serial number on the back of the accelerator.

Getting Customer Support

Number Nine offers you unlimited free customer support. If you want to download drivers, get product information, or send e-mail, you can get convenient on-line support any time through the following:

- World Wide Web. Visit the Number Nine Web site. The address is <http://www.nine.com>.
- CompuServe. Go to the Graphics Vendors Forum C under the name Number Nine. Type *Go Nine* or *Go Gravenc*.
- Number Nine Bulletin Board System (BBS). Access the BBS. Set your modem to 8 data bits, 1 stop bit, no parity and dial (617) 862-7502.

You can also call the telephone support line Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. Eastern time. The telephone number is (617) 674-8595.

For a complete list of contact information, see the Reference section of this User's Guide.

