
Subject: Powerbook 2400 and other Powerbooks internal Compact Flash

Posted by [Alex Santos](#) on Fri, 02 Jan 2015 23:48:40 GMT

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2400 diehards

I found this totally cool little project:

Replace the internal mechanical HD with compact Flash. Obviously this is best with only pre OSX because OSX is just too chatty and will likely kill your compact flash.

All the steps are here in Japanese but you can always use google translate.

http://s.webry.info/sp/powerapple.at.webry.info/201110/article_1.html

There are 5 steps so just modify the article_1.html to article_2.html and so on, 5 parts in total.

You will need something like this, a Compact Flash CF Card to IDE 44Pin 2mm Pitch Male 2.5" HDD Adapter Card

http://www.newegg.com/Product/Product.aspx?Item=9SIA4SR1WT8821&cm_re=compactflash_2.5_IDE_HDD_-_9SIA4SR1WT8821_-_Product

see <http://www.newegg.com/Product/ProductList.aspx?Submit=ENE&DEPA=0&Order=BESTMATCH&Description=compactflash+2.5+IDE+HDD&N=-1&isNodeId=1> for more options

OR search for compactflash 2.5 IDE HDD on newegg or amazon what have you...

You will also need one of these Transcend Information 16gb Cf Card 133x, Type I or something compatible.

<http://www.amazon.com/Transcend-Information-16gb-Card-ts16gcf133/dp/B007W7ST48>

I think this is great for a silent vintage portable or even desktop. I DO NOT recommend this for OSX only system 7, OS 8 or 9.

Anyone have feedback on this? Has anyone already done it?

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Subject: Re: Powerbook 2400 and other Powerbooks internal Compact Flash
Posted by [Geke](#) on Sat, 03 Jan 2015 20:06:59 GMT

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I've done this on a 520 PPC long ago, if I remember correctly it was with a 1GB 16MB/s Compact Flash card and I loved it!

It was running 7.6.

I bought a more expensive card (with a slightly different architecture; I forget the name) to avoid fast wear and tear.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/CompactFlash#Use_in_place_of_a_hard_disk_drive

The article mentions NAND type CF cards as the better type, and current cards doing "wear leveling" which seems critical for IDE/ATA use.

16 MB/s is now quite slow, but it's almost as fast as the system bus in the 520, so more than 25 MB/s doesn't make sense. More than a few GB doesn't, either.

The only "problem" was that the keyboard is resting partially on the HD and the adapter module didn't quite do the same thing; otherwise it was a breeze with Apple's take-apart guide. Some fumbling with the IDE cable and that was it.

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Subject: Re: Powerbook 2400 and other Powerbooks internal Compact Flash
Posted by [Jeff Hubatka](#) on Sun, 04 Jan 2015 00:32:30 GMT

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If you did it in a blackbird 500-series computer then you must have included a SCSI-IDE bridge in there too.

Just for kicks I put a 4GB CF card in a Lombard and installed OS9. I don't remember the speed but the quiet was fantastic.

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Subject: Re: Powerbook 2400 and other Powerbooks internal Compact Flash
Posted by [Andrew Kershaw](#) on Sun, 04 Jan 2015 00:48:03 GMT

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That is pretty sweet. Interestingly, the PCMCIA slots are also bootable and do ATA. With a CF->PCMCIA adapter, you can get the same effect. I built a couple of digital picture frames running OS 9 and JPEGView using this method. At the time (2002-2005 ish), the PC Card adapters were ubiquitous and much cheaper than IDE adapters.

Here is an example (although it uses a full sized ATA flash PC card instead of a CF card, but you get the idea):

http://www.alksoft.com/5300_stuff/5300_picture_frame.php

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