

## **MicroPoint for Macintosh User Guide**

### **About Micropoint for Macintosh**

Congratulations on your purchase of the revolutionary Micropoint by Altra MicroPoint for Macintosh replaces the standard one-button Macintosh mouse with programmable three-button functionality. It combines the ergonomics of a trackball with the precision of a mouse to give you absolute cursor control and allow you to program your own shortcuts and automate common tasks. Computer users experiencing wrist, arm, or shoulder pain while using a mouse report that their pain disappears after switching to MicroPoint.

Your MicroPoint will work with the standard mouse drivers that ship with Macintosh System. However, installing the MicroPoint drivers (included on a floppy disk in your package) enhances your experience while using your MicroPoint. It adds one-for-one cursor mapping, extreme cursor precision, and programmable three-button functionality. One-for-one mapping means that moving the MicroPoint from one edge of the pad to the other moves the cursor from one edge of your screen or precision window to the other. By using optical tracking with the custom drivers, MicroPoint gives you unprecedented precision when moving the cursor. This feature is especially useful when running high-end graphics programs or when working with very small text. Additionally, the flexible programming options allow you to customize your MicroPoint in ways that no other pointing device can match!

### **System Requirements**

MicroPoint is compatible with any Macintosh with an ADB port running System 6.0.5 or later and is 100% System 7 and 100% Power Mac compatible.

(ADB Port Symbol)

If MicroPoint won't operate after proper installation as above, contact us at support@altra.to before installing the supplied MicroPoint Control Panel.

Note: You may experience a problem when running your MicroPoint in conjunction with some digitizing tablets. If so, please contact Altra Technical Support

### **Micropoint Driver installation**

#### **Control Panel**

MicroPoint will work with standard Macintosh mouse drivers. However, because the standard Macintosh mouse has only one button, you will only be able to use the primary (top) Micropoint button unless you install the custom MicroPoint drivers.

Use the following steps to install the Micropoint drivers:

- Insert the Altra Installation Disk in your Macintosh's floppy drive. Double-click Micropoint icon on the desktop to open the disk.
- Copy the MicroPoint control panel from the floppy disk into the Control Panels Folder in your System folder.

- Restart your computer. When it reboots, you should see the MicroPoint icon appear along the bottom of your screen. You may now access the MicroPoint Control Panel from the Control Panels within your Apple Menu.

To uninstall the Micropoint Control Panel, access the Control Panels folder in your Systems folder, remove the Micropoint Control Panel from the folder, and restart your computer.

## **Using Micropoint for Macintosh**

This section explains how your MicroPoint buttons work and provides detailed instructions for using your MicroPoint drivers.

### **Your MicroPoint Buttons**

It is important to note the correlation of the three MicroPoint buttons to the standard three-button mouse layout. When looking at the MicroPoint, the side with the cord emerging from the base is the top. The three MicroPoint buttons function as follows:

### **WINDOW MANAGER**

Clicking the Window Manager radio button opens the Window Manager window, which allows you to set your MicroPoint to automatically perform various functions when you place the cursor in one or more corners of the screen and click the left button. The Window Manager window displays four pull-down menus, one for each corner. For each corner, you can define one of the following functions:

- New: opens a new file within the current application
- Open: opens the current application's Open menu
- Close: closes the current file or window
- Print: prints the current file
- Save: saves the current file
- Quit: exits the current application
- Custom: allows you to define custom functionality. Select this option and enter any desired keyboard macro. Your selection will appear in the drop-down menu.
- None: removes any previously defined functionality

Close the Window Manager Menu when you are finished selecting your desired functions. Your settings are saved automatically. Clicking Defaults restores the factory default settings. Also, disconnecting your MicroPoint and rebooting with a regular mouse restores the factory default settings when you re-connect your MicroPoint.

### **Button Manager**

The Button Manager window allows you to define various

functions for each of the three buttons on your MicroPoint. Clicking the Button Manager radio button displays three pull-down menus, one for each button. Please refer to the section Your MicroPoint Buttons, above, for information on how the MicroPoint buttons work. For each button, you can define one of the following functions:

- None: disables the selected button
- Single Click: acts like a single click on a standard Macintosh mouse
- Double Click: acts like a double click on a standard Macintosh mouse
- Click Lock: This feature is analogous to pressing and holding the mouse button. You may use it to click and drag, or to
- activate your Macintosh's built-in scroll function. When this
- button is pressed, moving the cursor over a scroll arrow
- automatically scrolls the open window in the indicated direction. To stop scrolling, move the cursor away from the scroll arrow.
- Cut: removes the selected item(s) from the current file and places them in the Clipboard
- Copy: copies the selected item(s) to the Clipboard
- Paste: pastes Clipboard contents to the current application
- Undo: undoes the previous action
- Save: saves the current file
- Open: opens the current application's Open menu
- New: opens a new file in the current application
- Print: prints the file in the current application
- Close: closes the current file
- Quit: exits the current application
- Clear: clears the screen
- Toggle Precision: toggles the Precision Window function on and off. By default, this function is assigned to the middle button.
- Switch Screens: If your system has dual monitors, you will see your cursor appear on both screens at system startup. Moving your MicroPoint moves both cursors on both screens. When you toggle this function, your cursor will appear in one screen at a time and will jump back and forth each time you activate this
- feature.
- Custom: You may record a keyboard macro and assign that
- functionality to a button. Close the Button Manager Menu when you are finished selecting your desired functions. Your settings are saved automatically. Clicking Defaults restores the factory default settings. Please refer to the section Your MicroPoint Buttons, above, for a listing of the factory default button settings.

NOTE: You must always have 1 button selected to single click in order to change the other buttons.

## **Precision Window**

The Precision Window is a floating square area on your screen that allows you to perform detailed, pixel-by-pixel editing of graphics or small text. During normal operation, moving your MicroPoint from one edge of the pad to the other moves your cursor from edge of the screen to the other. When the Precision Window is enabled, moving your MicroPoint from one edge of the pad to the other moves your cursor from one edge of the Precision Window to the other. The smaller the Precision Window, the greater the degree of cursor precision.

When

toggled on, the Precision Window appears in your selected size roughly centered on your cursor's position when you pressed the toggle keys.

NOTE: The Precision Window has no border. Thus, you cannot see the window boundaries on your screen. When the Precision Window is active, your cursor will move about a limited portion of the screen inside the border.

To set up your Precision Window preferences, click the Precision Window radio button and click the appropriate radio button to select between the various available sizes for the Precision Window. Further, you may use the pull-down menu to select the keyboard combination for toggling the Precision Window on and off. Your available choices are: [CTRL]+[A], [CTRL]+[X],[CTRL]+[Z], [CTRL]+[.] or [CTRL]+[/] or CUSTOM.

Please select a key

combination that will not conflict with your graphics application(s). To create a custom toggle, select Custom and record your desired keyboard macro.

When you are finished selecting your desired functions, close the window. Your settings are saved automatically. Clicking Defaults restores the factory default settings.

Care and Maintenance

MicroPoint requires virtually no maintenance because, unlike a mouse or trackball, it does not require disassembly or other cleaning. Simply wipe it down periodically with a dry cloth.

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

How do I install the software?

Simply drag the MicroPoint control panel into the Control Panel folder in your System Folder and restart.

Must I install the AltraPoint software and what does it do?

No, you don't have to install the software. The MicroPoint will function without it. However, to take full advantage of MicroPoint, including its easy three-button programmability, you first have to install the software. If you use standard mouse drivers with your MicroPoint, you may experience cursor float. To alleviate this, adjust your cursor speed.

What are the extra buttons on the unit used for?

You can easily program them to perform many different shortcuts and macros.

Will the MicroPoint for the Mac work on my computer?

The MicroPoint for the Mac will work on any Macintosh computer using System 6.0.5 or later including the Power Mac.

Is the MicroPoint for the Mac more precise than the standard Apple mouse?

Yes. The MicroPoint is far more precise than mice or trackballs. Absolute cursor positioning, dynamic sensing, optical tracking, and triple-standard dpi resolution give you tremendous control and precision.

I have repetitive stress injury, arthritis, wrist, elbow or neck problems. What is the safest way to use MicroPoint to avoid further injury?

Dramatic results have been reported within a week or two of proper use of Altra's pointing products. For best results, lay your hand in front of (not directly on) your MicroPoint, and move the button handle with your fingertips. This limits the range of motion required of your wrist and hand joints. A wrist pad or support is recommended as well.

What sort of maintenance does my MicroPoint require?

MicroPoint requires little or no maintenance on your part. From time to time, simply wipe the unit with a soft, dry cloth to keep it dust-free. Do keep the device out of prolonged direct sunlight, away from heavy smoke or a heating vent of any kind.

Will MicroPoint work with a laptop system?

Yes. The MicroPoint will work with your laptop.

Where can I find updated driver files for my MicroPoint?

Please visit [www.altra.to](http://www.altra.to) and click Support.