

Virtual Silicon

It sounds too good to be true, but it really works in many situations. Just install RAM Doubler software and you'll have twice as much RAM at your disposal for practically every application on your Mac's hard drive.

Although RAM Doubler does a little bit of memory compression, the main way it accomplishes memory expansion is by rerouting the inefficient memory allocation routines that Apple built into the original Macintosh ROMs. The program actually scans through the Mac's memory and harvests RAM that the Mac thinks is being used by the system or an



Ram on floppy disk.

application and makes it available to other apps.

I tried RAM Doubler on my 4 Mbyte Mac IIvx and was blown away to have my machine suddenly performing like an 8 Mbyte system. Although Connectix claims that RAM Doubler can make smaller systems run up to 10 percent more slowly, my Mac actually runs faster with it, because I'm not constantly quitting and restarting applications. It's priced at US\$99, but I've seen it as low as \$55 by mail order. - *Simson L. Garfinkel*

RAM Doubler: US\$99. Connectix:
(800) 950 5880,
+1 (415)571 5100.

Secure Your Site

For darkside backers, there's hardly a more juicy target than research.att.com, the stomping grounds of the very gurus who wrote the Unix operating system. Break into Bell Labs, and you're talking mondo bragging rights.

Being that research.att.com is such a holy grail, it's not surprising that its host computer would have a sophisticated firewall and security system. What is surprising, in this age of corporate paranoia, is that AT&T's Cheswick and Bellovin were able to write about their intrusion countermeasures systems in such detail.

Firewalls and Internet Security is an item-by-item description of main network security tools that AT&T uses to



protect its trusty research secrets. Good computer security doesn't depend on "obscurity" or hidden tricks. Instead, we learn that security rests on rigorous application of fundamental principles: small, simple programs are easier to vet than large, complicated ones; be careful who (and what) you trust; and never underestimate your adversary.

If you can put up with the smug attitudes of these high masters of Unix computer security, this book will teach you a lot about firewalls, TCP/IP protocols, and interesting ways of breaking into computers on the Internet that are ostensibly less defended than research.att.com. — *Simson L. Garfinkel*

Firewalls and Internet Security, by William R. Cheswick and Steven M. Bellovin. US\$26.95. Addison-Wesley: +1 (617) 944 3700.