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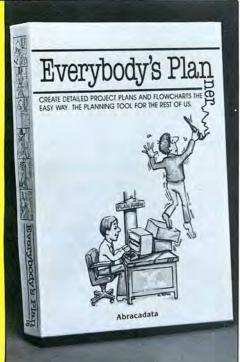
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SIDE TRACKS



Software Makers Discover the 1000

"m a great fan of computer games. Until recently, though, the pickings for MS-DOS machines have been slim and unimaginative. Companies that specialize in entertainment software concentrated on computers such as the Commodore 64/128 and Apple II. Anything done for MS-DOS was just ported over from another system, losing much in the translation.

But a couple of events in the MS-DOS market have forced these companies to adjust their emphasis. The cost of a basic MS-DOS system is now competitive with the traditional "home" computers, and some types of games have become popular among business users.

I recently attended the Consumer Electronics Show (CES) in Las Vegas. CES is Mecca for anyone selling home entertainment software and equipment. Spend a couple of days there and you quickly get a sense of where the market is headed.

MS-DOS had a big, if not the biggest, presence at the show. Software companies such as Electronic Arts, Spinnaker, Timeworks, and Cinemaware announced new MS-DOS game and entertainment software. All see Tandy as the leading vendor in the home computer market.

This is good news, because many of these same companies intend to release software that takes advantage of the 1000's special graphics and sound capabilities.

As I mentioned earlier, games, mainly graphics-based ones, do not port over to MS-DOS well. Resolution, the number of colors displayed, and sound quality are reduced because of the limitations of standard CGA graphics and one-voice sound (the lowest common denominators among PC clones).

The Tandy 1000's enhanced CGA allows for simultaneous display of up to 16 colors, and it can produce three-voice sound. In a demonstration of a soon-to-be-released paint program specifically for the 1000, the advantages of Tandy's CGA over standard CGA were obvious. I hope that demo was a sign of things to come; Tandy needs software like that paint program to drama-

by Michael E. Nadeau

tize the 1000's performance advantages.

I'm looking forward to the new 1000specific software. It's about time software companies took notice of both the 1000's features and market presence.

Speaking of Games

Again, I like games, and I like the trends I see in this area. Shoot-em-up arcade-style games are fast becoming passe. A new generation of games using state-of-the-art graphics, animation, and speech synthesis based on strategy, problem solving, and chance are moving to the forefront.

As a result, adults now represent a large portion of the game-buying public. Flight and sports simulators, role-playing adventures, and pure strategy games are all hot.

Although 80 Micro's primary mission is to provide you with practical, hands-on information to help you make better use of your Tandy, we will occasionally write about game software. You know what they say—all work and no play....

Tandy Warranty Update

In February, I criticized Tandy for its 90-day warranty on its computer products, suggesting that it put them at a competitive disadvantage. Since then, Tandy has changed its policy on its 3000 and 4000 line, and I've learned the probable reason for Tandy's reluctance to change its warranty policy.

All Tandy 3000s and 4000s sold after Dec. 1, 1987 now have a one-year warranty. Tandy changed its policy because many of its larger potential customers required a longer warranty.

I applaud Tandy for accepting the demands of the corporate marketplace. However, I hope Fort Worth doesn't stop there. Many small businesses and home users who stretch their budgets to buy Tandy 1000s and 1400s deserve the same consideration.

With ever more aggressive competition, Tandy risks finding itself alone on the wrong side of the warranty issue.

Who Pays for Warranty Work?

When you bring in a computer for repair under warranty, it's the retail outlet, not Tandy Corp., that bears the cost. Radio Shack store managers, therefore, don't want to see a longer warranty that might impact their bottom lines.

In fact, I was told of a survey Tandy sent to its store managers asking if they thought a longer warranty would increase computer sales. The store managers said, of course, that it wouldn't.

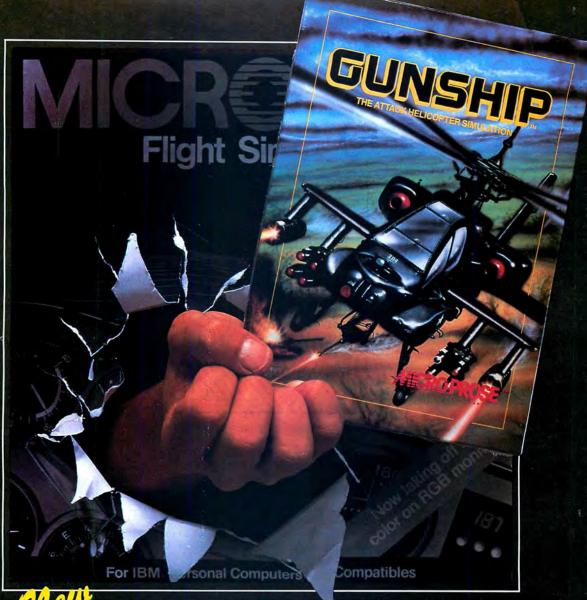
Tandy seems to have a good rationale for this arrangement. Radio Shack stores get a better-than-average margin on the computers they sell, partly to compensate for the cost of warranty work. Also, Tandy wants to encourage its dealers to solve their customers' problems, not just replace components or computers because it's convenient and at someone else's expense.

Of course, Tandy wants to keep its dealers happy and must respect their concerns. On the other hand, Tandy must also consider the competitive advantages of a longer warranty. Finding a solution that makes everyone happy—Tandy, its customers, and its dealers—won't be easy, but it's certainly possible.

Attention Professional Deskmate Users

Later this year, we plan to publish an article on using Professional Deskmate's networking features in a small-office environment. First, we need to hear from those of you who have already set up your networks with Professional Deskmate. Tell us how it performs, what problems you encountered, how you did or didn't solve them, and what software/hardware you are using in conjunction with it.

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and can be installed on a hard disk drive.

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FEEDBACK LOOP

edited by Beverly Woodbury

The 1000 SX Sound Chip

TALK TO ME

- **Q.** When I bought my Tandy 1000 SX, the Radio Shack dealer told me it had an onboard voice synthesizer capable of producing three voices. Apparently there is a difference between voice and speech synthesis. If the two are different, please tell me where I can get a speech synthesizer. If they're the same, I'd like to know how to make my SX speak or at least learn where I can get reference material that will teach me how to make my computer "talk to me."—Royce J. Phillips, Pearl Harbor, HI
- **A.** The 1000 SX contains a chip that has three tone (or voice) generators. They produce sounds that are more musical than speech-like. You can access and control these tones with the Basic commands, Beep, Sound, and Play (see The Next Step, January 1988, p. 82 and February 1988, p. 91). Covox Inc. (675-D Conger St., Eugene, OR 97402, 503-342-1271) sells a digital-to-analog hardware device that plugs into the joystick port to reproduce speech, sound, and music from software. It includes a variety of software and costs \$69.95.

MISTAKEN IDENTITY

- **Q.** I have a Tandy 3000 HL with BIOS (basic input/output system) ROM 1.00.00 and MS-DOS 3.02.03. Drive A is 5¼ inches with 1.2 megabyte (MB), and drive B is 3½ inches with 1.44MB. I ran Setup, but the 3½-inch drive formats 1,213,952 bytes. It won't format a 3½-inch, 720K disk. If I use Driver.SYS and assign drive E to B, and DRIVPARM = /D:4 /F:2, drive E will format 720K. Does the computer think the 1.44MB drive is 1.2MB? How can I correct this? If I use format B:/N:9 /T:80, I get an "Invalid parameter" error message.—Mack Brewer, Kettering, OH
- **A.** Apparently the computer thinks the 3½-inch drive is a 1.2MB drive. As of press time, Tandy is aware of the situation and is working on a solution. If you registered your DOS with Tandy, you should receive a solution as soon as one is available. You could also keep checking with your local Radio Shack. The latest 3000 HL BIOS ROM is 1.2. You may want to update your ROM to keep current.

DISSONANT CORDS

Q. I recently purchased an Amdek 410A monochrome monitor to use with my Tandy 1000. The power cord and TTL



(transistor-to-transistor logic) video cable appear to be incompatible with my computer. The power cord is designed to plug into the rear of the IBM PC/XT/AT. The TTL video cable is designed to plug into a video interface board and has a 9-pin "D" subminiature connector. Neither of these cords can attach to my computer in their present form. What must I do to use this monitor with my computer?—Robert G. Dupras, Cumberland, RI

A. The Tandy 1000 series is IBM compatible—almost. Sound and video are two major differences. The Tandy 1000 is much better as a musical instrument than most other computers. The 1000 also has video modes 5 and 6 that emulate the PCjr instead of the IBM PC. Video mode 5 is 320 by 200 pixels with 16 colors, and mode 6 is 640 by 200 pixels with four colors.

You can use a composite monochrome monitor that plugs into the composite video connector on the back of the computer. You can't use a TTL monitor because the pinouts differ, and the existing hardware doesn't have a switch to implement TTL. Also, the 1000 is not designed to let the video plug into the computer's power supply. The monitor is connected to its own AC outlet.

CLEAN UP THIS DUMP

Q. I have a 1000 SX with 384K, a DMP 130 printer, and a CM-5 monitor that I recently bought to replace my Color Computer. This does just about all I want, except I want to do computer-aided design in color. I added a Transtar-315 and can write text in any of seven colors using CHR\$(20) instead of CHR\$(27). However,

when I go into graphics mode, the screen dump is a mess. How can I print a color graphics screen? I am using DOS 3.2, GW-Basic, and Micro Illustrator.—Chuck Zoubek. Roseville, MN

A. To print from Micro Illustrator, type GRAPHICS when you're at DOS level, and press the enter key. (Be sure Graphics.COM, which is on your DOS disk, is in your directory.)

Bring your graphics up in Micro Illustrator, save it by choosing the save option, press enter, and then immediately press the shift-slash (/)-more than (>) keys. This causes Micro Illustrator to emulate the BSave (bit-image save) function of Basic. The Micro Illustrator file will be saved in Micro Illustrator format with the name you gave the file and in bit image format with the name Picture. (the period is part of the file name). Go into Basic, and load the picture into screen 5 with the following lines:

- 10 'Image
- 20 CLEAR,,,32776!
- 30 KEYOFF:SCREEN 5:CLS
- 40 LINE INPUT "Name of file to print ;A\$"
- 50 BLOAD A\$
- 60 GOTO 60

Now you can dump the screen to printer with shift-print. Since I'm not familiar with your printer, I don't know what special codes you need to send to your printer to print color before loading Picture. into Basic (see "Blazing Black and White," January 1987, p. 56).

BINARY SAVE

- **Q.** A colleague made major revisions to a billing program that took five years for us to develop. He did not make a backup or a printed copy but instead used the GW-Basic 3.20 command, SAVE "Pathname",P to save the program in binary. How can I convert this program to ASCII or compressed format?—Robin R. Loucks, Millersburg, IN
- **A.** Load your protected program into Basic, type NEW, and press enter. Type PRINT CHR\$(14), and press enter. A musical note character appears. Put the cursor on the note, and press the insert key. Type 10 PRINT". The quotation mark will be in front of the musical note character. Press enter, type LIST, and press enter again. The protected program should list. There may be garbage between the new first line and the protected program's second line.

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FEEDBACK LOOP

Save the program in ASCII with the command SAVE "filename", A. This will eliminate the first line of the protected program. You can now load the program into a text editor to remove any garbage and edit it. Be sure to save the program in ASCII when vou save it with the text editor.

The New command does not actually erase the program in memory. It changes pointers to indicate that no program is in memory and turns off program protection. This method puts a new first line in memory and links it with the rest of the program in memory.

DOIN' THE DATA FILE TRANSFER

G. My dad is a longtime Color Computer II owner. He recently bought a 1000 EX so his computer would be compatible with my 1000. How can I transfer a data file from the Color Computer II to the 1000 EX? It's a standard data file that was generated from a Basic program I wrote for him. I know I'll have to rewrite a Basic program on the 1000 EX to read the file once it's transferred, but that's no problem. This is a large data file that he doesn't want to rekey.

Also, can I put the external disk drive

from his Color Computer II on the 1000 EX?-James W. Moats, Columbus, OH

A. You could transfer the data file via a null modem cable (serial port to serial port) or via modem. The data file should be in ASCII format for the transfer. For the 1000 EX software, you can use Telecom-a part of Deskmate that's included with the 1000 EX. You would also need communications software for the Color Computer.

Let the Color Computer II keep its disk drive. Even if you could determine how to connect it to the 1000, the 1000's disk controller wouldn't recognize the drive. Also, the Color Computer uses a singlesided drive, and the 1000 controllers and MS-DOS software use double-sided drives.

COMPATIBILITY GAMES

G. I have an original Tandy 1000 with ROM 1.0. In the past two years, I've found several software packages that don't function properly on my machine. Most of these were games. Can I get a ROM upgrade that will make my machine more compatible?-Anthony Perez, Tumwater, WA A. You don't say what kind of problems

you've had with the software packages that won't work, but I can think of at least two potential problems. One is keyboard differences. In games, the placement of the arrow keys could be a critical problem. The IBM PC has the arrow keys on the numeric keypad. The Tandy 1000 clusters them separately. Sometimes, using the "2," "4," "6," and "8" keys to substitute for the arrow keys will work. Tandy has a keyboard adapter that will let you attach a standard IBM PC-compatible keyboard (for a review of Tandy's Universal Keyboard Adapter, see p. 23 of this issue).

Another potential problem is that some software, particularly games, will bypass the BIOS and talk directly to the hardware. That makes the game faster but limits its portability to the specific machine for which it was written. You can upgrade your ROM, but that will most likely have little effect on making your machine more compatible with most software.

The main improvements in ROM 1.01 are in its ability to work with hard drives and printers. Older 1000s had different ROMs: one had a one-chip ROM, and the other had a two-chip ROM. The ROM is under the disk drive, which makes it necessary to remove the disk drive to access the ROM. If you have a one-chip ROM,



FEEDBACK LOOP

remove the old ROM chip, and replace it with the new 1.01 ROM chip.

If you have the two-chip ROM, you'll need to cut wires and solder. The chip doesn't come with directions, so you may want your service center to upgrade the two-chip ROM.

Readers Respond MAKE IT SAY YES

Two readers sent in suggestions to John Schmidt, who was looking for an easy way to redirect LPrint statements to the screen (see "It Just Said No," November 1987, p. 11). Yoe Itokawa of Birmingham, AL suggests not using LPrint at all. Instead, open a file, and then use Print # statements. Include the following line at the beginning of the program:

10 OPEN "PRN:" FOR OUTPUT AS #3

Every subsequent use of the statement PRINT #3 followed by a list of data will print the data to the printer exactly as the LPrint statement would. To print to the screen, change line 10 to:

10 OPEN "CON:" FOR OUTPUT AS #3

To choose the output device every time you run the program, add the next routine to the program's beginning:

10 A\$ = "PRN:"

20 PRINT "Choose 1 or 2":INPUT "1 Printer - 2 Video", CH%

30 IF CH% = 2 THEN A\$ = "CON:" ELSE IF CH%< >1 THEN 20

40 OPEN A\$ FOR OUTPUT AS #3

Rick Perry of El Sobrante, CA suggests using an Input statement to obtain the name of the output file. Then, by using GW-Basic's Open statement, you could direct the output to the printer, screen, modem, or a disk file. For example:

10 INPUT "OUTPUT DEVICE":OUTDEV\$ 20 OPEN "0",1,OUTDEV\$ 30 PRINT #1,"Your text!"

With a routine similar to the one above, you could redirect output to any device by answering the prompt with a valid device name-LPT1: or PRN for printer; SCRN: for screen; COM1: for modem; and a valid file name for the disk file.

To avoid answering the query every time you run the program, change line 10 to read:

10 OUTDEV\$ = "LPT1:"

This would redirect output to printer 1. You would have to change the part of line 10 in quotation marks to redirect the output to another device.

Seeking Help

Wayne and Helen Sampson (235 West Forest St., Muskegon, MI 49441) are about to adopt three boys from the town of Fortaleza, Ceará, Brazil, where a local dialect of Portugese is spoken.

The Sampsons speak only Englishthey'd like to find a language program (or other resources) to help them learn a little Portugese (in the appropriate dialect) since the children will be adjusting to a new culture.

Send your problems and solutions to Feedback Loop, 80 Micro, 80 Elm St., Peterborough, NH 03458. Where applicable, include the proper program name and version, the computer you're using (including any non-standard system configuration), the DOS version you're using, your phone number (not for publication unless you request it), and a selfaddressed, stamped envelope.



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- PC-Write QModem ExpressCalc HomeBase MoneyMaster - Findex - Clone Utilities - AutoMenu
- FCC Class B Certified System Hardware Reset Switch on Front Panel.
- Keyboard Lock
- One Year Parts & Labor Warranty.

EGA CLONE. Turbo Clone with EGA card and EGA monitor ... \$1028

VGA CLONE. Turbo Clone with VGA card and MultiFrequency monitor \$1271



OUR GUARANTEE

Simply, if anything is wrong with your Clone, we'll fix it free for up to one year after you receive it. Our Warranty is so simple and straightforward you may be skeptical, so here is the fine print.

so here is the fine print.
You can void your warranty by failing to exercise normal care when hooking up or operating your Clone. Or trashing its guts with a hammer. Or running it over with something. Or burning it up.
You have 30 days after receipt of your Clone to see if you and it are going to be compatible. If you are not satisfied with your Clone for any reason within thattime, you may return it to us for a full refund, less shipping charges. Just don't write in the manuals and damage or lose anything that was in the original container, which lose anything that was in the original container, which also must be returned. Complete warranty details are

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14" CGA/RGB 640 x 200 resolution. Green text switch. Built-in tilt/swivel base. VCR and audio inputs. 16mHz 217

*Exchange price including CGA card.

EGA DISPLAY



14" EGA/CGA/RGB dark glass non-glare tube, 0.31mm dot diameter. 640 x 350 resolution. 64 colors, amber text switch, and a built-in tilt/swivel

14" EGA/CGA/RGB non-glare tube. 0.31mm dot diameter. 720 x 350 resolution. 64 colors, amber or

*Exchange price including EGA card.

MULTI-FREQUENCY DISPLAY



14" VGA/EGA/CGA/RGB/HERC/MONO. 15kHz to 34kHz horizontal scan. TTL and analog inputs plus audio, green text switch, and a tilt/swivel

NEC MultiSync II 702*

*Exchange price including VGA card.

HARD DRIVES



21.4MB Seagate ST225 kit as shown	279
32.7 MB Seagate ST238 kit as shown	309
42.8MB Seagate ST251 kit as shown	479
65.5MB Seagate ST277 kit as shown	

All sizes are after formatting.

FLOPPY DRIVES



360K 5.25" 40tk TEAC bare drive \$99
720K 5.25" 80tk TEAC bare drive 109 †
1.2M 5.25" 80tk 2-speed TEAC bare 119 *
360K 3.5" 40tk TEAC bare drive 99
720K 3.5" 80tk TEAC bare drive 109 †
720K 3.5" TEAC but in 5.25" bracket 129 †
1.44M 3.5" 80tk 2-speed TEAC bare 139†‡*
Dual 5.25" drive case/power supply 59
Dual 3.5" drive case/power supply 89
External drive cable for use with 37-pin
external floppy controller port 39
External drive cable for use with 2-drive
controller. Plugs into drive "B" connector
inside computer case
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Requires an AT type controller. † Requires DOS 3.2 or later.

‡ Requires a compatible BIOS. All floppy are half-height.

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Uses existing floppy controller. Multiple tape capability allows use of any size hard drive. Automatic backup included with software.

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Mountain 40MB internal, specify XT/AT	399
Data cartridge, specify 20 or 40MB	. 22
Adapter cable to use external tape in place of internal floppy drive "B"	39
place of litternal hoppy drive B	. 00

† Takes the place of floppy drive "B".

‡ For XT/AT with external 37 pin floppy controller port.

ADD-IN BOARDS

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Color graphics card w/printer port 49	
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software	
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internal cable	
Multi I/O PAr/Ser/Clk/Cal/Game/2-dr FDC 69	
XT I/O as above except no FDC 59	
AT I/O Par/2-Ser/Game ports 49	
2MB EMS XT Mem. card L-I-M w/OK RAM 79	
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MODEMS

	\$69
2400 Baud internal with software	179

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IBM AT type layout. 84 keys \$34° *With purchase of our computer, otherwise \$49.

IBM AT enhanced style. 102 keys \$30

*Exchange, otherwise \$69.

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NX-15 120/30cps, NLQ, 5K buffer, wide	299*
ND-10 180/45cps, NLQ, 12.6K buffer	279*
ND-15 wide carriage version ND-10	379*
NR-15 240/60cps NLQ, 12.6K buffer	
NB-15 300/100cps NLQ, 16K buffer	
NB24-10 216/72 LQ, 24 wire, 5K buff	
NB24-15 wide carriage version	569*

*With purchase of our computer.

PRINTER SWITCHES





2-pos DB-25 input/output connectors \$39 2-pos Centronics input/output connectors . . . 39
4-pos DB-25 input/output connectors 49
4-pos Centronics input/output connectors 49

All connections switched. May be used with multiple computers or printers.

CABLES









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 10' Standard IBM printer cable
 12

 10" DB-25, specify M/M or M/F
 20

 10' Tandy 1000 printer cable (26-1401)
 9

 6' coiled keyboard extender cable
 9

 6' DB9 M/F video extender cable
 9

 6' special IBM hooded power/IEC cable
 9

 Centronics M/M gender changer
 9

 DB25 gender changer specify M/M or F/F
 9

Cables are fully shielded with molded connectors and thumb screws (except Tandy).

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PULSE TRAIN

Over There

TANDYLAND

o those of us who started out with build-it-yourself crystal radio sets and grew up tinkering with electronic doodads, Radio Shacks are an indigenous part of the American shopping mall landscape. With outlets everywhere, the only things you're more likely to find spread across the country are post offices, McDonalds, and candidates for president.

But computer users in Europe, the UK, the Canary Islands, and the Ivory Coast feel as much at home in a Tandy/Radio Shack store as we do.

Tandy's business has grown so much in Europe since its first entry there in 1973 that last summer Tandy Corp. spun off Intertan Canada to handle its products overseas. Tandy retains control over outlets in Central and South America, though inroads are yet to be made in Japan.

While Intertan is a separate corporation from Tandy, John Roach is chairman of the board of both firms. With 2,150 outlets overseen by Intertan, one wonders why Tandy cut itself out of the direct control of a growing market.

"The management of Tandy thought the international group was not getting the full attention of management," explains Robert Mayes, vice president of merchandising for Intertan. "Canada had its own management team, but for the other countries, a VP from the United States would go over there for two or three years and then come back home. It was not a dedicated management team."

"At the same time, there was some feeling that some of the resources that could be used internally were being sent out of the country when they were needed at home."

Intertan still retains close ties with Tandy, scheduling regular meetings between their executives. Although Intertan has embarked on independent product development, most of the products it sells come from Fort Worth.

"We are Tandy in our minds," Mayes said. "We've been that for 16 plus years. That's the direction we're going in.'

That doesn't mean that Intertan does everything in Canada and Europe the same way it's done in the United States. The technologies of the countries necessitate changes in Tandy's exported products. Keyboard layouts, for example, may vary, and modifications are often necessary to adapt equipment for different electrical supplies, phone lines, and broadcast frequencies.

More subtle are some of the non-technical changes required to satisfy the local laws, customs, or aesthetic sense. The hightech black finish on video and audio equipment caught on in Europe sooner than it did in the United States, and sales of those items were in the red until the products turned black.

"In Europe, we started out with an American image and American-looking products. It didn't work," Mayes said. "You don't go in and give away a free flashlight. You just don't do that over there."

In Holland, advertising and promotions are hard sell, Mayes said. In France, design and color are more important in advertising; brochures are even a different shape. But the ads that work in France and the French-speaking regions of Canada bomb in the United Kingdom because they're not considered serious enough. In some countries, Tandy stores cannot legally advertise on television because Intertan isn't the manufacturer of Tandy merchandise.

One advantage of marketing Tandy computers in Europe is that the name doesn't carry the hobbyist connotation that stands between it and more serious acceptance as an office machine in America. The result, according to Mayes, is that there's more emphasis on direct marketing than on store-front computer centers.

Direct marketing and a hodgepodge of advertising is working, Mayes said, especially with the entry of Tandy's MS-DOS computers abroad and with healthy sales of Tandy 1400 laptops.

Although Tandy computers are up against familiar competition abroad-Compaq and IBM, as well as brands not as familiar in the U.S., such as Amstrad-Tandy's not yet feeling much competition from generic clones. But Mayes is already making plans to counter les clones when they appear in quantity, as they have in the United States.

Intertan isn't ready to invade the home of the generics: the Orient. "We want to put some maturity into the countries we're already in before we tackle any more," Mayes explained.

MICRO TRENDS

ast month, I wrote about Core Wars, a kind of ultimate hacker's game in which the participants write programs that battle each other for control of an imaginary computer system.

William R. Buckley, head of a society that sponsors Core Wars competitions, described a theoretical real-life version of the game in which a computer "virus" would spread from computer to computer. Sounded like science fiction, right?

In this case, fact is just as strange as fiction. Programmers at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem discovered that a computer virus was spreading among its MS-DOS computers. The virus attaches itself to the operating system, and each time a disk is used, the virus copies itself to the new disk. Analysis of the virus revealed that on the first Friday the 13th of 1988in May-the virus will erase the files of any disk it's on.

"It might do to computers what AIDS has done to sex," Shai Bushinski, a selfemployed computer expert, told the Associated Press. The virus was only discovered because of a flaw in its programming. The virus keeps replicating itself, and programmers noticed that files were growing inexplicably larger.

Members of the Hebrew University staff developed two counter-programs called "Immune" and "Unvirus" that tell users if their disks are contaminated and "disinfect" the disks if they are.

Meanwhile, the same virus (or one similar to it) turned up on disks in the alternative software library of the Tampa Amiga User's Group. The fact that such a virus has entered the U.S. means that if you don't have the antidote programs, you might not want to use your computer at all on May 13-although that's no guarantee as to what might happen when the next Friday the 13th comes around or even what will happen when you boot your machine on May 14.

he figures for Christmas sales of Tandy computers are in, and this year they have more than a dollars-and-cents significance. Sales of Tandy's MS-DOS computers during the fourth quarter of last year were up 28 percent compared to 1986. During the same period, sales of non-MS-DOS machines were down 25 to 44 percent, depending on the model. The non-DOS laptops did better than others.

What this means, if anyone still had any doubts, is that the days of the non-DOS machines are numbered. With prices for low-end DOS computers not much different than those for Color Computers and Model 4s, people are willing to pay a little more to be in the mainstream.

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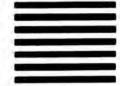
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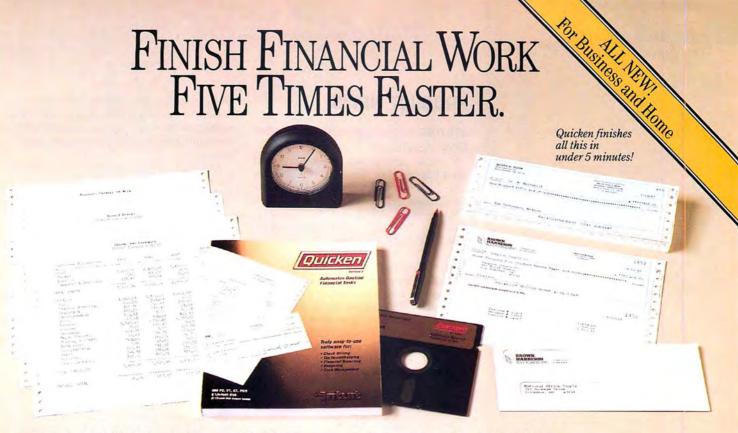
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"Extremely simple and fast." Esther Dyson, Industry Analyst

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INFO LINE

compiled by Mark Reynolds

PRODUCT NEWS

UTILITIES

Disk Accelerator

By disk caching and reorganizing and consolidating disk requests, Now! makes your hard and floppy disks read and write up to three times faster.

Soft Horizons, 310 E. 46th St., Suite 18T, New York, NY 10017, 212-972-1581, \$69.95. Circle 343 on Reader Service card.

Faster Floppies

With Floppy Driver installed in your Config.SYS file, your programs and DOS commands will use your floppy drives from 5 to 20 times faster than they do now.

Concept Technologies Inc., 7151 West Highway 98, Panama City Beach, FL 32407, 800-852-1177 (904-235-2821 in FL), \$79. Circle 344 on Reader Service card.

LITERATURE .

Two for Turbo Pascal

Robert Jourdain's *The Turbo Pascal Express*; 250 Ready-to-Run Assembly Language Routines (\$39.95) is a disk and book package offering a collection of assembly-language routines to make your Turbo Pascal programs faster and more efficient.

Kent Porter's Stretching Turbo Pascal (\$21.95) teaches those who have mastered the fundamentals of Turbo Pascal how to get even more from the language.

Prentice-Hall Press, One Gulf + Western Plaza, New York, NY 10023, 212-373-8140. Circle 349 on Reader Service card.

Desktop Publishing

Daniel Will-Harris's Desktop Publishing With Style tells you how to use your MS-

The Easyl PC tablet comes with an interface card that includes one port for the tablet and one for a serial device.

DOS machine to produce camera-ready documents mixing text and graphics. The author discusses the various available software and hardware and shows you design layouts.

And Books, 702 S. Michigan, South Bend, IN 46618, 219-232-3134, \$19.95.

Circle 350 on Reader Service card.

An Encyclopedia of Lotus's 1-2-3

The Encyclopedia of Lotus 1-2-3 defines and gives examples for every 1-2-3 concept, command, and function and offers useful tips. A three-part indexing system and inner cross reference make it easy to find the information you need.

Tab Books Inc., P.O. Box 40, Blue Ridge Summit, PA 17214, 717-794-2191, \$29.95 (hardbound), \$19.95 (paperback).

Circle 351 on Reader Service card.

EDUCATION

Gamco Math

In Gamco's Math Football: Whole Numbers (\$44.95) and Math Football: Decimals (\$44.95), one or two players can compete at one of four skill levels (addition and subtraction, multiplication, division, or mixed operations). Players gain yardage by correctly answering math problems.

Rounding (\$44.95) offers 10 lessons on rounding whole numbers and decimals and includes a game as a reward for good performance.

formance.

Gamco Industries Inc., Box 1911, Big Spring, TX 79721, 800-351-1404 (915-267-6327 in TX).

Circle 345 on Reader Service card.

HARDWARE |

Four More Slots

The Addcard plugs into the third expansion slot on your original Tandy 1000 (not the SX, TX, EX, or HX) to give you four slots that can accept 8-inch add-on boards.

Merak Industries, 8704 Edna St., Warren, MI 48093, 800-231-4310, x768, \$89. Circle 326 on Reader Service card.

Drawing Tablet

What you draw or trace with a regular pen or pencil on the pressure-sensitive, 1024-by-1024 pixel Easyl PC drawing tablet appears on your computer screen. The tablet supports popular graphics software in CGA (color-graphics adapter) or EGA (enhanced-graphics adapter) modes.

Inforite Corp., 1670 S. Amphlett Blvd., Suite 201, San Mateo, CA 94402, 415-571-8766. \$539.

Circle 327 on Reader Service card.

Portable Modem

The Hayes-compatible, 300/1200 baud Maxlink 1200 modem runs on a 9-volt battery (or optional AC adapter), connects to a standard modular phone jack or to an optional acoustic coupler, and turns itself on or off as required.

Maxcom USA Inc., 275 Wyman St., Waltham, MA 02154, 617-890-8822, \$175. Circle 331 on Reader Service card.

Overhead-Projection Panel

The Data Display is an electronic transparency panel you can use on an overhead projector to project computer images onto a wall or large screen.

Computer Accessories Corp., 6610 Nancy Ridge Drive, San Diego, CA 92121, 619-457-5500, \$1,199.

Circle 328 on Reader Service card.

Compact Laser Printer

Sharp's JX-9300 compact laser printer can produce six pages per minute at 300 by 300 dpi (dots per inch). It comes with 396K of memory (expandable to 1.5MB) and resident Courier and line-printer typefaces. You can download other fonts or add plugin font cartridges.

Sharp Electronics Corp., Sharp Plaza, Mahwah, NJ 07430, 201-529-9500, \$2,400.

Circle 329 on Reader Service card

Video Digitizing

The Computereyes slow-scan device connects your PC to any standard video source to capture black and white images that are compatible with popular graphics programs. The package supports Hercules, CGA, EGA, MCGA (multi-color graphics array), and VGA (video-graphics array).

Digital Vision Inc., 66 Eastern Ave., Dedham, MA 02026, 617-329-5400, \$249.95.

Circle 330 on Reader Service card.

BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL

Home and Small Business Accounting

The Clan Practical Accountant (CPA) lets you track loans and bills. It can export data to spreadsheets, includes an on-screen calculator, and produces one-page expense and income reports.

Sir-Tech Software Inc., P.O. Box 245, Charlestown Ogdensburg Mall, Ogdensburg, NY 13669, 315-393-6633, \$79.95.

Circle 333 on Reader Service card.

Integrated Package

Diamond incorporates a spreadsheet that's functionally compatible with Lotus's 1-2-3, a word processor, and a graphics The portable Maxlink 1200 modem connects to any computer with an RS-232 serial port connector.



Supra Modem 2400

Sharp's JX-9300 compact laser printer can produce six pages per minute.

program so you can integrate text, graphics, and numerical data.

Mosaic Marketing Inc., 1972 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge, MA 02140, 617-491-2434, \$195.

Circle 334 on Reader Service card.

Rory Tycoon

The Rory Tycoon Options Trader (\$49.95) retrieves quotations and analyzes over 50 possible option trades. It is designed for the conservative investor and the aggressive speculator and includes inter to Dow Jones News/Retrieval, Cc serve, and Lotus Signal.

The Rory Tycoon Portfolio A (\$150) manages your portfolio, char torical and real-time trading activit retrieves quotes from electronic inve ment services (Analyst interfaces to the sa e services as Trader does).

Coherent Software Systems, 771 Anthony Road, Portsmouth, RI 02871, 401-683-5886. Circle 335 on Reader Service card.

Business Planning

Venturplan helps you develop a comprehensive business plan complete with goals, timetables, strategies, policies, and financials. The package consists of nine integrated modules.

Venture Software, 222 Third St., Cambridge, MA 02142, 617-491-6156, \$495. Circle 336 on Reader Service card.

Business Graphics

Wingraph runs under Microsoft's Windows and automatically produces most types of charts and graphs from numerical data. You can display the images in several formats and in sequence, as a slide show.

Palantir, 12777 Jones Road, Suite 100, Houston, TX 77070, 713-955-8880, \$195. Circle 337 on Reader Service card.

Text Retrieval

Word Cruncher (\$299) can pre-index, retrieve, and manipulate text data. Its developer, Electronic Text Corp., is also marketing a series of texts to use with Word Cruncher.

The Constitution Papers (from \$39 and up) comprises an electronic compendium of documents dealing with the development of the U.S. Constitution. The American Bookshelf Series (also from \$39) includes electronic collections of writings from American novelists, poets, historians, and philosophers.

Electronic Text Corp., 5600 N. University Ave., Provo, UT 84604, 801-226-0616. Circle 338 on Reader Service card.

Office and Mail-Management System

Power Desk integrates a full-featured word processor and spelling checker with a name-and-address database, calendar/reminder, calculator, and timekeeper. With the program you can produce labels, envelopes, cards, invoices, reminders, and mail-merged letters with variables embedded in the text.

Software Studios, 8516 Sugarbush Court, Annandale, VA 22003, 703-978-2339, \$99. Circle 339 on Reader Service card.

Price Cut

EZX Corp. has dropped the price of EX Forms (from \$89 to \$19), the program that lets you create, store, and fill in your own business and personal forms.

EZX Corp., 403 Nasa Road., One East, Webster, TX 77598, 713-338-2238 or 800-999-6999, ext. C119.

Circle 340 on Reader Service card.

INFO LINE

FOR THE HOME

Three From Timeworks

PC Quintet (\$99.95) is a multi-tasking, multi-window word processor, database, spreadsheet, business graphics, and telecommunications program. You can work on one or several applications at once and integrate data between them.

Sylvia Porter's Your Personal Investment

Manager (\$149.95) combines portfolio management with graphics, communications, and analysis capabilities to help both beginning and advanced investors.

DOS R (\$59.95) is a set of memoryresident disk-management utilities.

Timeworks, 444 Lake Cook Road, Deerfield, IL 60015, 312-948-9200. Circle 565 on Reader Service card.

Tax Preparation

Turbotax helps you with your tax-return preparation, tax planning, and tax record keeping. It includes pop-up Internal Revenue Service instructions for the form you're working on and pin-feed 1040s that you

Circle 133 on Reader Service card.

SYLVIA PORTER'S PERSONAL FINANCE SERIES. # VESTMENT Alerts You To Investment Deadlines Unique Graphic

Sylvia Porter's Your Personal Investment Manager offers help to beginning and advanced

investors. can complete using an IBM- or Epson-

for omissions in the data you've entered. Chipsoft Inc., 5045 Shoreham Place, Suite 100, San Diego, CA 92122, 619-453-8722, \$75. Circle 341 on Reader Service card.

compatible dot-matrix printer. Turbotax can search for the form you need and look

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Caddylak Systems Inc., 201 Montrose Road, Westbury, NY 11590, 516-333-8221, \$89.95. Circle 342 on Reader Service card.



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Tandy 3000, 3000HL and 4000 Kits feature a Western Digital Floppy/Hard Controller and Segate High Speed Drives.
30-Megabyte Full Height Kit (40ms) \$ 799
40-Megabyte Hulf Height Kit (40ms) 749
40-Megabyte Full Height Kit (28ms) 899

Expansion Boards

80-Megabyte Full Height Kit (40ms)

for 1000/1000SX/1000TX Serial Board \$ 59 79 99 Serial with Clock **Dual Serial Board** 109 Dual Serial with Clock

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USER GROUPS

American Cryptogram Society

ACA deals with all aspects of cryptography and related puzzles. It is not Tandy specific. Membership is approximately 200. The club doesn't have a BBS but publishes its Computer Newsletter semiannually for \$15 per year (add \$2 for the computer supplement).

Contact Mike Barlow, editor of the newsletter, at 5052 Chestnut Ave., Pierrefonds, PQ H8Z 2A8, Canada, or write to ACS, P.O. Box 6454, Silver Spring, MD 20906-6454.

Beckley Area Youth Museum Users Group

BAYMUG meets at noon in the Youth Museum (Beckley, WV) on the fourth Saturday of every month. The first hour is dedicated to software copying, and then three meetings take place concurrently: one for beginners, one for telecommunications, and one for experts. It is not Tandy specific. Dues charged per member are \$25 per year. The club is 3 years old, has 225 members, and operates a BBS (304-877-5157, 300/ 1,200 baud). The club's public domain library has 1,500 disks.

Route 1, Box 116, Mount Hope, WV 25880. Contact Robert Painter, 304-877-6740.

Valley Computer Club

Southern California's oldest continuously operating user group has 195 members. It INFO LINE

is not Tandy specific but supports Tandy MS-DOS. The club has a monthly newsletter, access to PC-SIG, and a BBS (213-227-9684, 300/1,200 baud). Annual dues are \$20 per person.

P.O. Box 6545, Burbank, CA 91510, Contact Aaron Epstein, 818-769-1837.

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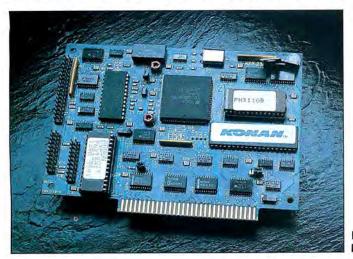
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Some Pain, Some Gain



Konan Drive Maximizer

by Thomas L. Quindry

The Konan Drive Maximizer is probably the most misunderstood new hard drive product on the market. Some reviewers have raved about its data-storage capabilities; others have panned it for being unacceptably slow. The truth lies somewhere in between.

The Konan is a replacement controller package designed to let you get the most out of your hard drive through increased file storage, automatic defragmentation of files, and error correction.

If you don't understand how to interpret its drive-analysis programs, you might think Konan creates far more extra storage space than it actually does. If you believe that Konan offers high access speed and maximum data compression at the same time, you'll be disappointed; you can have one or the other, but not both.

What Konan Does

With Konan, you divide your single physical drive into a maximum of eight partitions, or logical drives. The first partition should always be the booting DOS partition, while the others can be DOS partitions, "Edisk" (expanded disk) partitions, or non-DOS partitions (not recommended). The Edisk partitions are the key to Konan's maximizing functions; they perform data compaction and include automatic controls to ensure that all files are stored contiguously.

Konan's data-compaction function takes out the dead space between files. Under standard controllers, you don't really get 20 megabytes (MB) of data on a 20MB drive. DOS 3.0 and higher versions allocate a minimum file or cluster size of 2K; even a 30-byte batch file takes up a full 2K of storage under a regular controller. Konan isn't bound by cluster sizes, so a number of small files can occupy the same cluster. This feature alone can save you a tremendous amount of file-storage space if you have small files to store.

Depending on your needs, you may format each Edisk partition for high speed with maximum error correction, single-pass data compression, or double-pass data compression. When used with Konan's disk-caching feature, high-speed formatting provides fast access but at the price of a smaller increase in file storage than with the double-pass data compression format. Double-pass formatting lets you pack more data onto your disk, using an archiving process similar to that of programs like Arc and PKArc, but you pay a high price in access speed.

I found the middle of the road—single-pass data compression formatting—to be best. The high-speed format with disk-caching, which stores often-used programs in memory for faster access, was of little use on my 640K Tandy 1000. From trial and error, I estimate that even the smallest cache requires about 200K. The Konan controller uses 48K plus approximately 32K for each partition. If you were to add a hard-disk management or menuing system plus other background programs, allocating extra memory for a cache would leave no room to run your application programs.

The double-pass data compression format, on the other hand, was just too slow for everyday use—about three times slower than the other formats. I'd recommend this format only for storing seldom-used files. I store about 8MB of programs in archived files; since they were already compressed, I had little to gain from double-pass compression.

The Misconceptions

Konan supplies three programs, CHKEDSK, EDSKINFO, and EDSKBAR, to use with the DOS CHKDSK program for analyzing your Edisk usage. Unfortunately, the statistics you get are often meaningless.

The programs give both the Edisk's physical disk size (the actual size of the disk) and logical size (the amount of data you can theoretically store, using the maximizing functions). The logical sizes appear to be unachievable. For example, I configured three partitions and ran an analysis of each

one. For each partition, the analysis programs reported that I had 33.5MB of logical disk space and 7MB of physical disk space. Despite what you might think, this doesn't mean you could fit 100MB of data onto a 20MB drive. That 33.5MB is actually the total logical disk space, not the amount of space in each partition so you shouldn't total the sizes for all three partitions. The physical disk sizes, however, represent the amounts per partition, and should be totaled.

This means I had a maximum of 33.5MB available on my 20MB hard disk-not a bad improvement but not a dramatic one. either. Remember, though, that this is a maximum value; in reality, you won't get that much, especially if you opt for speed rather than storage space when formatting your partitions.

The Reality

After determining that the single-pass compression format was best for me. I reformatted my drive, creating one Edisk partition plus the DOS partition. The analysis programs told me that my new Edisk partition had a logical size of 67MB, which just wasn't so. When I copied my backedup files, which had nearly filled my 20MB disk under a regular controller, to the newly formatted disk, I found a barely perceptible increase in storage space. The 8MB of my files that were already archived (compressed) explained the small gain in space.

I then created separate directories and proceeded to "unarchive" many of my files, deleting others to make room. According to the Konan utility programs, I wound up with about 29MB of logical data and files on my 20MB disk. A total of the actual file sizes revealed that in fact I had 20MB of data. Since, as I explained earlier, you normally can't fit 20MB of data onto a 20MB hard disk, there was some benefit from using Konan. The effect of compression with this middle-of-the-road format was minimal.

The Pain and the Gain

With Konan, you gain in some areas and lose in others. You won't have to buy diskoptimizing software to defragment your programs, since defragmentation is automatic. Its file-compaction feature will let you store more than the normal amount of data on your hard drive-possibly 29 or 30 on a standard 20MB hard disk. Konan offers automatic disk caching to speed up file access. According to Konan, you also get advanced error correction.

All is not rosy, however. To take advantage of caching, you should probably buy expanded or extended memory. If you already use a file-compression utility such as Arc or PKArc, you gain little extra space by using Konan. Since Edisk formats are non-standard, some hard drive unformatting utilities might not work with them. Also, because Konan's analysis programs mix logical and physical drive statistics, you never really know how much disk storage you have. Although high-speed and singlepass compression provide adequate access speed, the double-pass format is painfully

To Spring or Not to Spring

Should you spring the extra money for a Konan controller? It's not a clear-cut decision. For me, the tradeoffs and the advantages just about balanced each other out. I found that the product comes close to doing what its manufacturer claims but felt that Konan Corp. should explain just what the controller does and doesn't do more explicitly.

Konan KXP-230Z Drive Maximizer requires MS-DOS 3.0 or higher and a hard disk drive. Konan Corp., 4720 S. Ash Ave., Tempe, AZ 85282, 602-345-1300, \$189,

Enhanced Keyboard and Universal Adapter



New keyboard and adapter increase software compatibility.

by Eric Grevstad

nything you spend hours a day running your fingers over is bound to be a matter of personal preference. Some people love the springy feel and noisy clatter of IBM keyboards. Others prefer a softer touch (I still miss my Model 4P). But a few PC programs show definite distaste for the Tandy 1000 keyboard.

If your favorite software boycotts the arrow keys or demands keypad plus and minus keys separate from the insert and delete keys, you can now plug your 1000 or 1000 SX into Tandy's Universal Keyboard Adapter-a small box with a ROM chip, cable, and socket that fits between your computer and a traditional five-pin, IBMstyle keyboard. Plug it in, add a device driver to your Config.SYS boot file, and you're all set.

The best, most reasonably priced mate for the Universal Adapter is Tandy's Enhanced Keyboard, the same unit shipped with the 3000 and 4000. Like others following IBM's 101-key pattern, it combines a grotesque inconvenience-the caps lock where control should be-with many conveniences, led by a numeric keypad with math function keys separate from a cluster

of duplicate cursor arrow, home, end, page up, and page down keys.

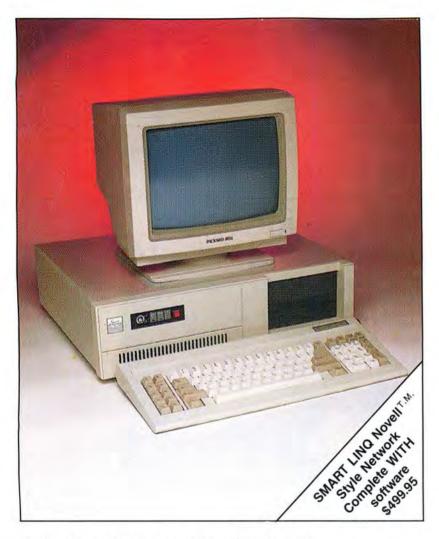
Measuring 21 by 9 inches, the Enhanced Keyboard almost dwarfs the 1000-place it centered in front of the machine, sit down as usual, and your hands will miss the home keys. It feels stiff and rubbery at first (like typing on a doormat) but my test unit improved after a few days' break-in.

Compatibility

While a 1000 with the Adapter is incompatible with some 1000-specific software like Deskmate, the adapter and the enhanced keyboard ran all the PC software I tried. Remember, however, that the keypad and cluster on a 101-key board generate different codes; some programs' complex shiftor alternate-arrow or control-shift-home commands, which worked with the keypad, didn't work with the duplicate keys when I reserved the keypad for numbers lock. But having regular cursor, insert, and delete keys along with a keypad is a pleasure.

Unfortunately, I had less luck using the Adapter with another IBM-type keyboard, that of my early-model 1200 HD, and two word processors. While all the keys worked, I occasionally got random extra characters or commands in the middle of typing words

(continued on page 58)



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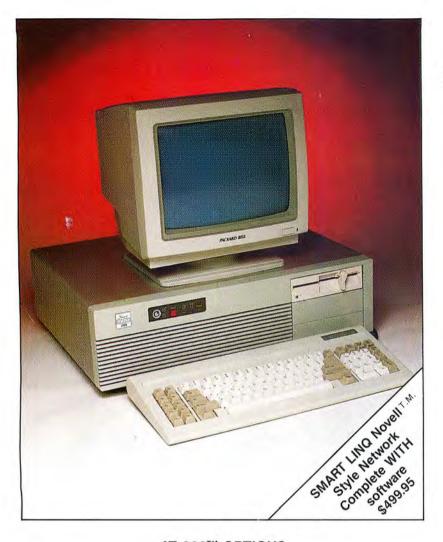
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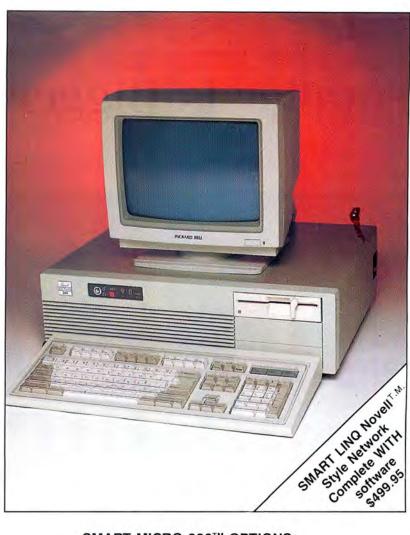
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by John M. Gregg

In step with the industry, Tandy recently introduced three new computers whose specifications include a 3½-inch, 720K floppy drive: the 1000 HX, 1000 TX, and the 1400 LT. With all major manufacturers marketing computers with built-in 3½-inch drives and all software vendors of consequence supplying software in the smaller format, there's little doubt that the new drives will eclipse conventional 5¼-inch drives.

Until recently, owners of earlier 1000-series computers who wanted to upgrade by adding third-party drives have found prices prohibitive. But reputable mail order firms now sell 3½-inch drives, almost ready to install, for just over \$100. As prices drop and software becomes increasingly available, the arguments for upgrading to the smaller drive become more compelling.

While 3½-inch disks cost more than 5¼-inch disks, they offer advantages: about one-third the size of the larger disks, they hold twice as much data. Many users will appreciate this feature.

Consider, for example, the task of backing up a 20MB hard drive. Using 360K disks, you'd need as many as 50 disks; with 720K disks, only half as many. You'd also cut the time it takes to do the job by half!

Laptop users whose machines employ 3½-inch drives find that adding a 3½-inch drive to the stationary system eliminates the need for a cable connection between the two computers. And in environments where careless disk handling is a problem—such as in schools—users find that a fully enclosed, rigid 3½-inch disk outlasts a dozen floppies.

Replacing The Drive

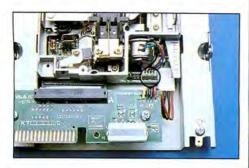
Because I wanted to make my own software available in the smaller format, I opted to replace my Tandy 1000A's drive B with a 3½-inch 720K drive. I chose the Mitsubishi drive, model MF353B, which was available by mail for \$119.95.

Tandy sells a similar drive with an installation kit for under \$200. IBM, Teac, Panasonic, and Toshiba also offer appropriate add-ons.

The vendor's technical support staff advised that I'd have to use DOS 3.2 because previous versions don't support the 720K format. (Though it appears that Tandy has no official policy on upgrading to DOS 3.2, your local store manager may be willing to help.) I did experience stack errors using the Basic supplied with DOS 3.2, but replacing it with the original Basic from DOS 2.11 solved the problem.

The project is fairly straightforward. If you're comfortable working with small tools (chiefly a medium Phillips-head screwdriver and a pair of needle-nose pliers) and keep your wits about you, you'll soon be using your new drive.

Turn your computer off. Disconnect the keyboard and monitor and set them aside. To protect chips, it's a good idea to wear an anti-static wrist strap that ties you to an appropriate ground; Radio Shack sells one for less than \$3.00. Don't stand on a carpeted floor while you work; don't even carry chips in your hands as you walk across a carpeted floor. If you must stand on carpet, consider spraying it with an anti-static compound (check the laundry supply aisle of your supermarket for anti-static spray), and be sure to discharge any static electricity you may have accumulated be-



fore you delve into your computer (just touch any metal object not near your computer).

Remove the two screws from the front of the computer and slide the cover forward and then off. Set it aside.

If drive B is already in place, remove the screws that secure it; two will be on the outermost side and one will be on the inside. The inside screw is likely to have an elongated head protruding from the mount to simplify removal. If the screw head doesn't protrude, you may have to remove any expansion boards and turn the computer on its side to get at it.

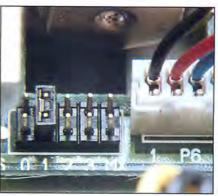
Once you've removed the screws, you should be able to push the drive back for clearer access to the connectors. Follow the gray ribbon cable coming from the rear of the lower drive to the upper drive. Remove the 34-pin edge card connector and the white power connector from the drive. Remove the drive by pulling it toward the front of the computer.

The new drive must be configured as drive B. On the back of the Mitsubishi drive, you'll see five pairs of jumper pins just behind the servomechanism. They're easy to see, but you won't be able to reach them easily. Check to make sure the left-hand jumper is attached to pin 1; if it isn't, you'll have to move it. To do this, remove the screw from the top cover of the drive. Using needle-nose pliers, detach the jumper and place it on pin 1. (I understand that the pins on the Toshiba drive are on the bottom and exposed, making this modification easier with that model.)

Insert the drive into the housing from the front. The Mitsubishi fits loosely; if you're using one of these, push it all the way in to make sure it makes contact with the connectors.

Note: The 34-pin connector on the Mitsubishi is configured exactly in reverse of the connector on the Teac drive usually found in the Tandy 1000. If you're installing the Mitsubishi drive, twist the ribbon cable so that it's reversed from its original position, then attach the connector. If you're using a different drive, be sure to check the documentation. The white power connector fits the same way as the original and is keved.

If you have a 1000 SX or TX, you'll probably need a longer drive cable. An 8-



to 10-inch length of ribbon cable, with the appropriate connectors attached, should be adequate. Crimp the connectors on to the ends, following the configuration of the original cable.

Because the new drive won't fit as snugly as the original, proper grounding is especially important. If no ground wire is included, make one. Crimp a ¼-inch spade connector on one end of a 16-inch length of wire and a U-shaped lug on the other. Secure the spade connector end of the ground wire to the spade connector provided, and fasten the other end under the screw that attaches the drive mount to the chassis on the outermost side.

Start, but do not tighten, one screw on each side of the drive. Start the third screw, then tighten all three, taking care not to strip the threads. If the front plate doesn't line up with drive A, adjust it slightly by loosening a screw on each side and then slowly retightening each screw as you press on the plate.

Replace the cover, then reconnect the monitor and the keyboard.

Testing and Troubleshooting

To test your work, try booting in the usual way. Does DOS look for the A and B drives in the usual way?

If both drive lights turn on and remain lit, shut the computer off and check the connection of the 34-pin ribbon cable. If the connection appears to be correct, verify the pin alignments by comparing the connector with the connector diagram shown in the installation instructions. If alignment is correct, pull the drive to verify that you've positioned the jumper pins correctly. If both of these are as they should be, call the tech department of your drive's manufacturer for help.

To configure your 3½-inch drive (left) as Drive B, connect jumper to pin set no. 1 (detail, right).





Slide the new drive into the empty drive bay above Drive B. Attach the power connector and the drive controller cable; be sure to invert the drive cable before connecting.

If everything seems in order, try formatting a disk in drive B. If you've completed the installation properly, your computer will format a 360K disk regardless of whether you're running DOS 2 or 3. Use the CHKDSK command; if your system recognizes B, you're ready to configure DOS to format 720K.

Other Possibilities

Though details may differ, you can follow these procedures to install a 3½-inch drive in the Tandy 1200 and other MS-DOS machines.

It's also possible to use a driver, the Bastech Data Doubler (R1.16), which will allow the use of DOS 2.2. At first I wasn't certain it would perform properly on the Tandy 1000—and sure enough, it didn't. But a telephone call to the supplier caught the driver distributor at that facility, and four days later I had a revised version of the Data Doubler that ran without difficulty. You type one command and the driver installs

Where To Buy Drives

Mitsubishi drives are available from the following suppliers:

Northeast Peripherals

106 Access Road Norwood, MA 02062 617-769-9110

P.C. Network 320 West Ohio

320 West Ohio Chicago, IL 60610 312-280-0002

Task Technology

244 Sobrante Way Sunnyvale, CA 94086 408-773-0600

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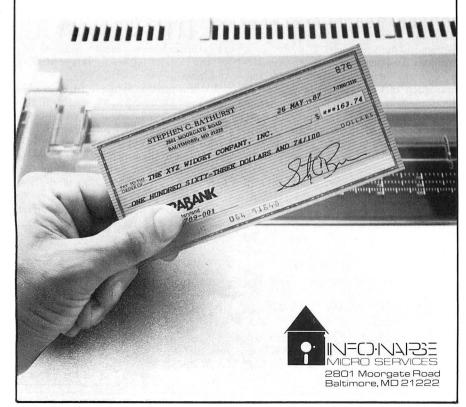
you'll rarely need it. That's because the system will communicate with you in plain English.

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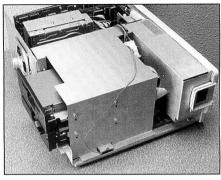
Send \$42.35 (includes shipping and handling charges) to INFO-NAPSE Micro Services, or for C.O.D. orders, call toll free 1-800-323-5669.



System Requirements: PC or compatible, MS-DOS 2.0 and above, 512 RAM and a printer. Tandy 2000 version available.



720K DRIVE



Completed installation.

itself. Shamrock sells it for \$15 with the purchase of a drive or \$25 separately; Manzana also sells an internal drive that can use DOS 2.11.

The only drawback I foresee with the Bastech driver is its use of Assign.COM so that the 3½-inch drive is recognized as drive B. In Tandy's MS-DOS 2.11, Assign.COM is on the hard disk utility. If you don't have a hard drive, use the drive as drive C or D. This isn't covered in the documentation, but all you have to do is remove the assign command from the Autoexec.BAT.

I tried two other drivers in hope of finding ways to use DOS 2.11 with the smaller drives. One appeared to work only with DOS 3.x. The other, Small Business Systems' Microdisk (available from Micro Sense for \$29.95), isn't as easy to install as the Bastech driver, but isn't difficult to install, either. It also offers the additional advantage of being able to format five sizes, including 720K, 360K, and three unusual sizes: 808K, 812K, and 408K.

I had problems using the Microdisk driver on the 1000. But once again I received good service from the distributor and the fix was easy, if undocumented: all I had to do was add a 1: to the line placed in the Config.SYS file. This driver leaves the drive number as the next logical drive, but you could use Assign.COM to change it.

These drivers offer an inexpensive solution for users who don't want to upgrade to DOS 3.2. I don't see enough difference between them to recommend one over the other.

If you do choose to remain with DOS 2.11, however, be aware that all commercial software sold on 3½-inch disks is formatted in DOS 3.2 or 3.3, and you may have difficulty using disks formatted with higher versions of DOS. Consequently, I'd recommend using only DOS 3.2 or 3.3 for use with 3½-inch drives.

Retired from the finance industry, John Gregg teaches science at the middle school level and markets an income-tax program of his own design. He can be reached at 1008 Alton Circle, Florence, SC 29501.



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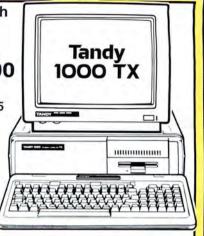
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	(4071)		DMP 106	(2802)	
	(4001)		DMP 130A	(1280)	
	(4002)			(2808)	
	(5000)		DMP 2110	(2810)	
	(6022)		DMP 2120	(2811)	
	(1070)		DWP 230	(2812)	
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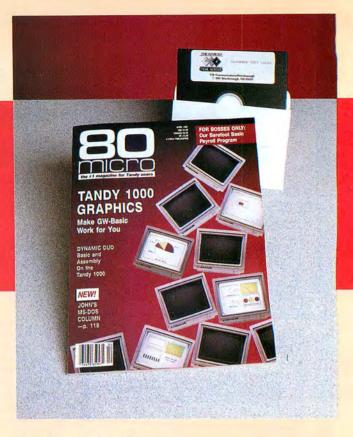
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Sending Printer Codes From Your 1000

Increase your typographical options with batch and command files.



by Bill Newmiller

erhaps you've just bought a new dotmatrix printer and can't wait to try out all its character formatting capabilities. Perhaps you're still puzzling over the vagaries of programming printer control codes in Basic. Maybe you've even given up trying because loading the Basic interpreter and then the program has become too much of a bother.

The techniques I describe in this article—how to use batch (BAT) and simple command (COM) files to send control codes from DOS to your printer—will work if you're using DOS 2.00 or greater and have a printer manual that specifies the control codes your printer understands.

Using Batch Files

You can use Edlin to create a short batch file that will place a Tandy printer (DMP-130) into a compressed, or 12-pitch, font. If your printer uses a different control code, you'll have to look it up in your manual

and substitute it for the one I've used.
Begin at the DOS prompt by typing:
A> EDLIN COMPRES.BAT

and pressing the enter key. Your computer will respond by loading Edlin and setting it up to create a batch file named Compres.BAT. After a few seconds, your computer will respond with the Edlin command prompt, which is comparable to the familiar A> in DOS:

New file

To tell Edlin that you want to insert a line, press the I key, and press enter. Edlin will respond with:

1:*

Now Edlin is ready for you to enter the line that will instruct your printer to use its 12-pitch capability. You'll need to send

System Requirements: Dot-matrix printer. Available on April—June Disk Series, on sale in May.

CODES

it a two-code sequence consisting of the escape character and a control-W (^W). Printer manuals express "escape ^W" in a number of different ways, including ESC ^W (keyboard equivalents), 27d 23d (decimal ASCII equivalents), and 1B 17 (hexadecimal ASCII equivalents).

Enter the following line:

1:*ECHO ^[^W > LPT1

The "^[" symbol represents an ASCII code decimal 27, or, as it's often called, an escape code. Because it's a special code, it demands special treatment on the keyboard. You can't enter it by holding down the control key while pressing the left bracket symbol; you have to type control-V first. Your entry will look like this:

1:*ECHO ^V[^W > LPT1

Press enter, and Edlin will respond with: 2:*

Leave the editing mode by typing control-Z or pressing F6. Your display will now look like this:

New file
1: ECHO ^V[^W > LPT1
2:*^Z

Press the E key, and press enter to tell Edlin you're ending the session. The familiar DOS prompt will return to your monitor. If you look at your directory, you'll notice that you now have a new file called Compres.BAT.

Now type COMPRES, and press enter. Press shift-print to print the screen and check out your new 12-pitch dot-matrix printer.

The Fine Print

Compres.BAT uses the DOS Echo command to redirect a control code to line printer one (LPT1). You may want to use this technique to experiment with control codes for special-purpose options such as double-wide print (great for speech manuscripts) or double-strike print (great for squeezing one more document out of an overused ribbon). You can even generate condensed subscript print.

Generating condensed subscript will require sending not one, but two sequences of control codes to your printer. That's no problem. String the two sequences together into another one-line file composed with Edlin:

1:*ECHO ^V[S1^V[^T > LPT1

Another way to make printer's output look like the fine print on a new-car warranty is to create two separate batch files: Condens.BAT, to place the printer in condensed mode, and Subscrip.BAT, to place it into subscript mode as well. Your entries

would look like this for CONDENS.BAT 1:*ECHO ^V[^T > LPT1

and for SUBSCRIP.BAT:

NEW FILE 1:*ECHO ^V[S1 > LPT1

This two-file approach offers the advantage of flexibility and a certain degree of simplicity. Used singly or in combination, these two files provide three different fonts: subscript, condensed, and condensed subscript. However, as you discover increasingly versatile and complex combinations of control codes, you may find it difficult or impossible to remember the sequences of codes you want to send. Using the one-file approach would eliminate the need to remember the correct combinations, but you'd lose the flexibility of the two-file approach.

You may already have thought of one possible solution: writing a batch file that calls the batch files that send the appro-

As long as you don't tell your friends how easy these programs are . . . only they need be intimidated.

priate printer codes. For instance, you could write a batch file that calls Condens.BAT and then Subscrip.BAT. Such a file might be called Consub.BAT and would contain the lines:

1: COMMAND /C CONDENS

2: EXIT

3: COMMAND /C SUBSCRIP

4:*EXIT

What's the purpose of Command /C and Exit? The problem with calling one batch file from another is that unless you use Command /C, the batch file will stop executing as soon as it reaches the last line of the first batch file called. See what happens if you write Consub.BAT like this:

1: CONDENS 2:*SUBSCRIP

Condens.BAT would run, but that would be all. Execution would stop before Consub.BAT could call Subscrip.BAT. The Command command gets around the problem but at some expense in the use of memory and with some loss in speed of execution. The Exit command will recover the memory used by the Command command.

I should point out an exception to DOS's perplexing difficulty in calling batch files. DOS 3.3 allows you to call other batch files and return from them by using the Call command instead of using the Command command. Nevertheless, you may still notice that as your batch files become longer and more complex, they also become much slower. You can improve your control over the printer—and mystify your friends—by moving on to the second technique for printer control, using Debug to write simple command files.

Using the COM File

Another way to send control codes to your printer involves using Debug to write an assembly language program to send the appropriate control codes to your printer. Don't be put off by the use of the term "assembly language." As long as you don't tell your friends how easy these programs are to understand and write, only they need be intimidated.

Begin at the DOS prompt by entering Debug. You'll soon see the Debug prompt: A>DEBUG

Press the A key (for assemble), and press enter. Debug will respond with:

XXXX:0100

You'll actually see four numbers or letters where I've shown X's. Those numbers define the first part of a memory address, which will vary depending upon your computer and its configuration. For our purposes, however, the first four digits are unimportant.

The second set of digits, 0100, contains the rest of the memory address; these numbers are important to us. For your first example, you'll create a COM file which, like the batch file shown above, sends the control code to make the printer type 12 characters per inch (cpi).

Type the first line:

XXXX:0100 MOV DL, 1B

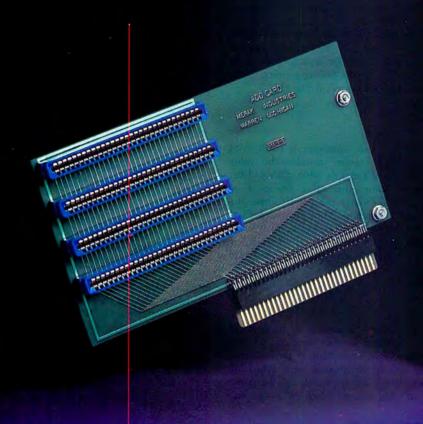
Complete the line by pressing enter, and you'll see your computer respond like this: XXXX:0100 MOV DL, 1B XXXX:0102

Notice that the memory address increased by two from XXXX:0100 to XXXX:0102, indicating that the first line of code will occupy two bytes of memory.

Continue entering the next five lines just as you entered the first line, remembering

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to end each with enter. Your monitor should look like this:

XXXX:0100 MOV DL, 1B XXXX:0102 MOV AH, 5 XXXX:0104 INT 21 XXXX:0106 MOV DL, 17 XXXX:0108 INT 21 XXXX:010A INT 20 XXXX:010C

That's all there is to the actual programming. You've probably noticed that I've used only two commands, MOV (short for Move) and INT (short for Interrupt). Here's how they work in the program, one line at a time:

In MOV DL, 1B, the hexadecimal (base-16) number, 1B, is moved to register DL. You may recall that the hex value, 1B, is the same as the ASCII escape character. In Compres.BAT we typed it as '[. Register DL is a special memory location in your computer's CPU; information placed there can be acted upon in special ways. We'll see how as we examine the next two lines of the program.

In MOV AH, 5, the hex number 5 is moved to register AH. The hex value, 5, when loaded into register AH, becomes a DOS function call when executed by the next line in the program. A DOS function call can be thought of as an order, and register AH is a memory location in the CPU where orders are posted—much like the refrigerator door at my house. The orders on my refrigerator door say things like "Todd, take out the trash." Translated into human terms, DOS function call 5 says, "Computer, take the value in register DL and send it to the printer."

INT 21 (Interrupt 21) is a type of general command that says to your computer, "Don't just sit there—do something!"—just as I sometimes have to tell my son to look at the list of chores posted on the refrigerator door and get moving. Similarly, Interrupt 21 tells your computer to carry out the function call specified in register AH.

The hex value 17 in MOV DL, 17 is moved to register DL. You might recall that hex 17 is equivalent to ^W. Since the DOS function call, 5, already resides in register AH, there's no need to post the order again.

In Interrupt 21, the order to execute the function call specified in register AH goes out once again. Our program has now sent both of the characters (or bytes) required to make it print 12 cpi. Interrupt 20 ends the program. It's like telling my son, "You've done enough chores for now. Go back to doing what you were doing before." For your computer, that will mean going back to displaying the DOS prompt and waiting patiently.

Before running the program, it's necessary to attend to administrative chores:

leaving the assemble mode of Debug, naming the program, writing it to a disk file, and quitting Debug. To leave the assemble mode of Debug, press the enter key one more time; the Debug prompt will return. To name the program, type "N" followed by the program's name:

- NCOMPRES.COM

Notice there's no space after the "N." Notice also that the name ends with the COM extension. This is important because the COM extension marks your file as special—a file that contains machine language commands your computer can run.

Before you can store the program to a disk file, you need to make sure that the proper information is loaded into a couple of other special memory locations, register BX and register CX. First, check register BX by using the R (for register) command. Type in RBX at the Debug prompt. Your computer should respond like this:

- RBX BX 0000

In this case, your computer is telling you that the BX register contains the value 0000, and that's exactly what it should be. If you see some other value, replace it by typing in 0000 after the colon. Once the BX register contains 0000, press enter and continue by checking the value in the CX register. Type in RCX at the Debug prompt. Once again your computer will respond:

-RCX CX 0000

You want the CX register to contain the number of bytes in your program. You can determine that by looking at the assembly listing of the commands you typed in, which should still be visible on the upper half of your screen. Notice the last two lines:

XXXX:010A INT 20 XXXX:010C

Notice that the four-digit value in the memory address following the colon on the last line is 010C and that when you first entered the assemble mode of Debug, the corresponding value was 0100. To find out how many bytes are in your program, subtract the memory address in the first line from the memory address in the last line displayed. Since the memory addresses are written in hex notation, the number of bytes for this program will be C, which is the hex equivalent of 12. So enter the hex value, C, into register CX, and press enter.

-RCX CX 0000 :C To write the program to the disk using the W command, press the W key at the Debug prompt, and press enter. Your computer will respond like this:

Wwriting bytes

All that's left now is to quit Debug by entering the Q command:

-O

and you're back to the A> DOS prompt. If you look at your directory, you'll see that you now have a new file called Compres.COM. While it will accomplish the same thing as Compres.BAT, you may notice that it runs a bit more quickly than a batch file and it doesn't cause your printer to execute a line feed. Another advantage of a COM file is that it's easier to include it in a batch file with a list of other commands. For example, a batch file to set up your printer and invoke your text editor could look like this:

1: COMPRES 2:*TEXT-ED

The second line invokes your editor.

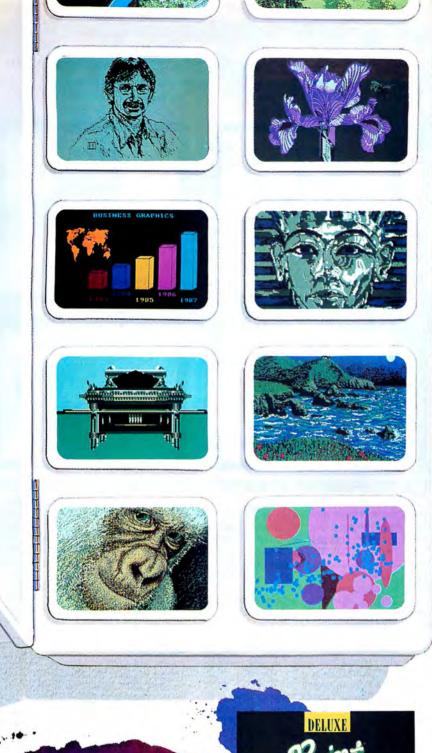
You can write several COM files, each of which would send a different control to your printer. You could then use them in batch files in any combination to give yourself complete control over your printer.

You may find that you want to write a COM file that will send two or more control codes to your printer. The most direct approach would be to add another block of code (prior to issuing Interrupt 20) that loads the control character in DL and issues an Interrupt 21. Using this approach, the assembly language listing for a COM file that places a printer into a condensed subscript mode would look like this:

MOV DL, 1B MOV AH, 5 INT 21 MOV DL, 14 INT 21 MOV DL, 1B INT 21 MOV DL, 53 INT 21 MOV DL, 1 INT 21 INT 20

The two techniques you've just learned should provide an unlimited number of options for putting your printer to work and open the way to a fuller appreciation of the power of DOS.

A computer hobbyist for eight years, Bill Newmiller is an Air Force pilot who teaches English at the Air Force Academy. You can contact him (enclose an SASE) at 7645 Hickorywood Drive, Colorado Springs, CO 80920.





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The Tandy 1000 HX: Easy Home Companion

Is this the new winner in the home computer wars?



The Tandy 1000 HX matches Apple's ease of use, beats Apple's price.

by Eric Grevstad

his is the best Tandy 1000 yet. I know it doesn't have a fast 80286 chip, its standard memory is too skimpy to run many popular programs, and it's one of the least expandable PC compatibles you can buy. But since the first 1000 appeared in 1984, Tandy's primary mission has been to get MS-DOS into America's homes-to replace the Apple II.

Apple's biggest advantage has been that you can put in a disk, turn it on, and start your program. With its pop-up program

menu and DOS in ROM, the 1000 HX matches Apple's ease of use while beating Apple's price. It's the new winner in the home computer wars.

The Face Is Familiar

In terms of hardware, the HX is a 1000 EX with a 31/2-inch, 720K disk drive mounted up front instead of a 51/4-inch, 360K drive on the side. (The EX is still available, but effectively obsolete-\$100 cheaper, but with half the disk storage, an earlier version of Deskmate, and no DOS in ROM.)

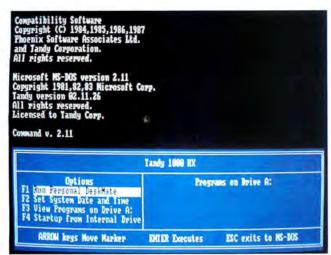
The HX's low profile puts the drive button too close to the keyboard, and I accidentally pressed a key while swapping disks during the Diskcopy "Press any key when ready" prompt. The microfloppy drive is quiet, sturdy, and fast, however, and there's room for a second 31/2-inch drive inside (\$169.95) and support for an external 51/4-inch drive (\$249.95).

Other specifications—such as ports for the external drive, a parallel printer, two joysticks, an earphone jack with volume control, and composite and RGB monitor ports for the 1000's built-in CGA (color-graphics adapter)-compatible video-match those of the EX. Both of the one-piece 1000s come with 256K of memory and one of Tandy's Plus expansion slots, as opposed to the five conventional slots of the SX or TX.

Because the HX steals at least 16K of system RAM for the video display, and 240K isn't enough for programs like PFS:First Choice and Microsoft Word, many buyers will opt to fill the expansion slot with Tandy's Memory Plus Expansion Adapter (\$129.95), which adds another 128K, a DMA (direct memory access) controller, sockets for another 256K RAM to reach the 640K limit (\$79.95), and two piggyback slots for Plus cards such as a serial port or modem. More budget-conscious

The Tandy 1000 HX (catalog no. 25-1053) comes with 256K RAM; one 31/2-inch (720K) disk drive; ports for a parallel printer, external disk drive, and RGB and composite monitors; and MS-DOS 2.11 and Personal Deskmate 2 software. Tandy Corp./ Radio Shack, Fort Worth, TX 76102. \$699.

1000 HX



Personal Deskmate 2 features unique self-booting menu.

buyers can use one of the handful of thirdparty Plus cards.

If you could see under the hood (the only motherboard component not hidden by metal shields and void-your-warranty warnings is the Plus slot), you'd find the same 7.16-MHz Intel 8088-2 processor used in the EX and SX. In the 256K unit, the higher clock speed is thwarted by the lack of DMA; the HX proved as fast at spreadsheet recalculations as a 4.77-MHz PC but 8 percent slower in a Wordstar search and replace, and it took 13 percent longer to draw a BasicA pie chart. Adding extra memory and DMA, the HX becomes roughly 20 percent faster than the PC.

Because the keyboard uses the same 90-key layout as other 1000s, you'll find the same keypad incompatibilities when you run certain PC programs. But it felt great—crisper and lighter than my old 1000. Unlike the SX and TX, the one-piece HX and EX don't have connectors to accommodate different keyboards or adapters.

The Built-In Boot

Ever since I watched a school secretary,

trained on an Apple II, try to start a PC by putting a Wordstar disk in the drive and turning on the power, I've realized the advantages of making the operating system invisible to novice users. Apple does this by licensing its DOS to software companies so that programs come on boot disks. Like Toshiba's T1000 laptop, the 1000 HX does it by putting MS-DOS 2.11 in ROM—a ROM disk seen as a bootable drive C.

While Toshiba's ROM holds almost all of DOS, including utilities like Format and CHKDSK, Tandy leaves the DOS 2.11.26 utilities and GW-Basic 2.02 on disk. ROM contains only the system files, some Deskmate core routines, and the HX's startup menu program. But that's enough to start the machine (3 to 5 seconds after you press the switch) and to run and leave applications without seeing messages like "Insert COMMAND.COM disk in drive A."

The HX not only boots by itself but does so to a friendly blue menu. The on-screen menu lists all the COM and EXE programs and batch files on your disk; selecting one with the arrow keys and pressing the enter key starts that program. Pressing the space bar moves it onto the DOS command line if you need to add parameters.

Pressing the escape key or just starting to type a command gives you a normal DOS prompt from which F12 returns to the menu (under Tandy DOS, naturally; IBM DOS 3.2 ran fine, but didn't recognize the ROM drive). Users who graduate from simple one-level program and data disks will have to type a command instead of using the menu to change subdirectories.

Pressing the F1 key launches Personal Deskmate 2, if it's on the current disk; F2 lets you set the date and time if you didn't spring for the \$39.95 Smartwatch chip. Pressing F3 updates the menu list after a disk swap, and F4 reboots the computer from a system disk.

What if you're an expert user and want to turn off the menu, start from an internal or external drive instead of ROM, or use an Autoexec.BAT or Config.SYS file on drive A? What if you're an inexpert user and always want to go right into Deskmate? A setup program on the DOS disk lets you specify these and other choices such as monitor type, CPU speed, or even the number of disk buffers and files used by the equivalent of Config.SYS in ROM. A 256-bit EEPROM (electronically erasable program ROM) stores your setup information.

I could wish for even more in ROM (such as DOS utilities and Basic), but the HX's self-booting menu is a landmark in MS-DOS home computing. It takes a great idea—DOS in ROM—and goes further, adding convenience for novices without sacrificing flexibility for advanced users. It even lets you stretch your language skills, changing the menu from English to French, Spanish, Dutch, or German.

Deskmate and Documentation

If the HX menu is friendly, its bundled software—Personal Deskmate 2, not the strongest but surely the cutest integrated software available—practically jumps into your lap and licks your face. This program combines seven applications, a clipboard for cutting and pasting between them, and helpful pop-up accessories like a calculator, note pad, and phone list, all on a customizable desktop. Similar to a Macintosh or Microsoft Windows package, Deskmate 2 is a snap to control with the keyboard, mouse, or joystick.

Compared to the Personal Deskmate shipped with the EX, version 2 steps further into Apple territory, adding more colors to the versatile Paint program (up to 16 at once) and a new Music program. The 1000's three-voice sound is no match for the 15-voice synthesizer of the Apple Ilgs, but the Music software is excellent, letting

VIDEO DISPLAY AUTOMATIC PROMPT FOR DATE AND TIME MEMORY DIAGNOSTICS ON START-UP	NO YES NO YES
PRIMARY START-UP DEVICE INITIAL START-UP PROGRAM	MENORY DISK MENU MS-DOS DESKMATE
COMPUTER SPEED NUMBER OF DISK BUFFERS (2-17)	FAST SLON
MAXIMUM & OF OPEN FILES (8-23) CHECK FOR CONFIG.SYS ON DRIVE A CHECK FOR AUTOEXEC.BAT ON DRIVE A DISKETTE DRIVE A DESIGNATION	IG NO YES NO YES IMPERIAL EXTERNAL
MS-BOS COUNTRY CODE START-UP MENU LANGUAGE TYPE OF KEYBOARD TYPE OF ELECTRICAL POMER	US UN FR CR JFN ENGAISH FRENCH BUTCH GERMAN SPANISH US UN CF FR CR II SP 50 HEALY 50 HERIZ

HX menu offers numerous choices, including language and power type.

1000 HX

you copy and paste measures like paragraphs in a word processor and arrange notes and instruments as you like.

The rest of Personal Deskmate 2 is a mixed bag. The desk accessories, calendar, and telecommunications program are impressive, but Text and Worksheet are simple introductions to using word processing and spreadsheet programs, respectively, and Filer is a mediocre card-style database (with the incredible feature of keeping required code in one of the sample data files, which you can't delete as you can the sample data files in other applications). In short, while Personal Deskmate 2 gets only fair marks for productivity, its two creativity programs are fun. It's a remarkably good, easy-to-use implementation of Macintosh-style menus, buttons, and dialog boxes.

The 1000 HX documentation is adequate. The setup and user's guide is fine, but the fat Personal Deskmate 2 manual is almost all reference and no tutorial, which seems odd for a program designed for beginners. Information on DOS is limited to a booklet listing most commands and a plug for Tandy's MS-DOS Reference Manual. A few

items on the DOS disk, from the mouse and RAM disk drivers to the keypad compatibility patch (KEYCNVRT.SYS), aren't mentioned at all.

Pretty Good Deal

Tandy's bargain prices on CPUs sometimes obscure omitted features (extra memory, a serial port) and steep prices on peripherals like video cards or hard disks. This criticism is only partly applicable to the home- and classroom-oriented HX, whose buyers won't need a video card and may never regret that they can't get an EGA (enhanced-graphics adapter). Thousands of families must have been happy to find Tandy's Christmas bundle of the HX and CM-5 monitor under their trees for under \$850.

Still, even if you pay list price for the sharper CM-11 monitor and other options, the HX holds its own. A unit loaded with the CM-11, 640K RAM, Smartwatch, an external 51/4-inch drive (for one drive of each size), serial port, and monitor stand retails for \$1,689—a huge jump over the cost of the HX alone but still \$300 or \$400 less than a comparably equipped Apple IIgs.

Savvy buyers can save money and get more expandability with a packaged PC clone, but they won't get Tandy's reassuring nationwide presence, the advantage of 720K disks, or the wonderful combination of DOS in ROM, the program menu, and bundled software that makes the 1000 HX the first MS-DOS home computer that truly outdoes Apple and Commodore.

As for those of us who aren't home computer customers, I can't help daydreaming about what Tandy or third-party engineers could do with the ingenious HX. How about one with an 80286 processor, 640K plus EMS (expanded memory specification), and a 31/2-inch hard disk in the second drive bay? Just because it's the best 1000 yet doesn't mean the HX is the best 1000 possible.

Eric Grevstad is a free-lance journalist who's been writing about computers since 1982. He is coauthor of The Computer Guide to the Tandy 1000 (Ashton-Tate, 1985). You can contact him at 80 Micro, 80 Elm St., Peterborough, NH 03458.

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Making Macros

Personalized key macro program eliminates needless keystrokes.



by Jack Alban

ne of the amazing functions of DOS is its ability to redefine the meaning of certain keys. For example, try putting DE-VICE = ANSI.SYS in your friend Arnie's Config.SYS file and typing:

PROMPT \$e["a";"Arnie's hair is thinning!"p

at the prompt. Now Arnie will remember you every time he tries to type the letter "a."

These key redefinitions, or key macros, can be quite useful for letters, lengthy commands, or any other character sequences you use repeatedly.

Unfortunately, the DOS macro function is limited. If your word processor uses the ROM BIOS (basic input/output system) but not the DOS services to read and interpret the key buffer, your "a" will appear as an "a" no matter how you redefine it in DOS.

Practical Applications

I developed Keymac.COM as a solution to this problem. With only three or four key presses, for example, you can type your complete name and address at the top of a letter.

The program can also help with machine compatibility problems. I wanted to run software designed for my Tandy 1000 on an NEC Multispeed. The 1000 has F11 and F12 keys, but other compatibles may not. With Keymac.COM, I was able to redefine the alternate-O and alternate-P to do the work of the two missing keys.

Each time you press a regular key, the keyboard sends out a unique scan code for that key and calls Interrupt (INT) 9. If the key pressed wasn't a shift or toggle key, INT 9 translates the scan code into the 2-byte code that's placed in the key buffer.

As the key is released, the keyboard sends out a second scan code that's the same as the first but with 128 added to it. INT 9 is called again, but this second scan code—called the break code—is discarded.

The 2-byte key code placed in the key buffer is different for each type of key pressed. The ASCII keys generate a code that contains the ASCII code in the low byte and the scan code in the high byte. Function keys generate a code that has zeros in the low byte and the scan code in the high byte.

The key buffer, where the codes are placed, begins at the memory address 0040:001E in hexadecimal (hex) code. The buffer is a circular queue; when the position at 0040:003C hex is filled with a key code, the buffer begins filling up again at 0040:001E hex. The buffer can hold up to 15 key codes at one time and has a 16th dummy position to assist in manipulating the buffer reads. This gives your Tandy 1000 the ability to keep up with the fastest typist in the world.

After each key press, the memory location 0040:001A hex (called the head pointer) contains the address of the next key code to be read from the buffer. The memory location at 0040:001C hex contains the address where the code of the next key you press will be placed.

If no key has been pressed, and no key codes are waiting in the buffer, the head and tail pointers are equal.

If the buffer is full, the tail position is two behind the head pointer position in most cases. A special situation occurs when the head pointer contains the value 01E hex. In this instance, the buffer is full if the tail pointer contains the value 3C hex.

How It Works

Keymac.COM changes the meaning of your last key press by actually putting new key codes into the key buffer. No matter if your program uses the DOS services or the lower ROM BIOS services to read the key buffer, your key macro will hold up.

The program takes advantage of the fact that the lower BIOS interrupts are re-entrant. That is, through a simple program-

System requirements: Microsoft Macro Assembler. Available on April—June Disk Series, on sale in May.

MACROS

ming trick, you can make INT 9 actually call itself and then return to a procedure that modifies the interrupt. This modification examines the code of the key last pressed. If it is one of your redefined keys, the procedure replaces the key code with a new code or codes. Thus one key press can do the work of 15.

To create Keymac.COM, first type Program Listing 1, Keymac.ASM, in ASCII format with your word processor or Edlin program. Then insert your Microsoft Assembler program in drive B and type: B:MASM KEYMAC;

Press enter. If the assembler points out no errors, link the program by typing:
B:LINK KEYMAC:

Press enter again. This will produce Keymac.EXE. To turn the program into COM file form, type:

B:EXE2BIN KEYMAC.EXE KEYMAC.COM Press enter and delete Keymac.EXE.

Installation

To install the program, type: KEYMAC

Press enter and the program will jump over the data area in Listing 1 to the procedure marked INSTALL:

The first thing INSTALL: does is turn off the interrupts; you're going to reset the vectors of two interrupts, and you don't want those interrupts to be activated while that's in process.

The next step determines the regular interrupt vectors for INT 9 by calling function 35 hex of INT 21 hex. The AL register contains the number of the interrupt being examined.

The vectors (addresses) of INT 9 are returned in the registers ES (segment address) and BX (offset address).

You want to point an unused interrupt (INT 90 hex) to these addresses, so you move the vectors into the DS:DX pair, move 90 hex into AL, and then call function 25 hex of INT 21 hex. From now on, when you call INT 90 hex, it will actually jump to the routine for INT 9.

Next you use the same routine to point INT 9 to your new procedure, which begins at the KEYBOARD: heading. Now turn the interrupts back on. You don't want to keep them off too long, because the time of day function in BIOS is updated 18.2 times a second. If that interrupt is turned off too long, the time of day count falls behind.

Finally, INSTALL: terminates your program, keeping everything before itself still resident in memory. This is done by pointing DX to the first procedure beyond your resident portion. DS is pointed to the current CS, then INT 27 hex is called.

		9		odes for le				====	
1 ESC	2	3 2	4 3	5 4	6 5	7 6	8 7	9 8	SCN CODE KEY
1Ø 9	11 Ø	12	13	14 BCKSPC	15 TAB	16 Q	17 W	18 E	SCN CODE KEY
19 R	2Ø T	21 Y	22 U	23 1	24	25 P	26 [27]	SCN CODE KEY
28 RET	29 CTRL	3Ø A	31 S	32 D	33 F	34 G	35 H	36 J	SCN CODE KEY
37 K	38 L	39	40	41	43	44 Z	45 X	46 C	SCN CODE KEY
47 V	48 B	49 N	5Ø	51	52	53	57 SPACE	BAR	SCN CODE

It's important that your data entries be at the beginning of your program. If they're at the end of your program, they'll be cut loose with the Install procedure and won't be available when you need them.

When the keyboard calls for INT 9, the computer will jump to your routine beginning at KEYBOARD: Your routine will call the real INT 9, which has been renamed INT 90 hex, and return to and execute your special key macro procedure. Control will be returned to the program or service in progress at the time you last pressed a key.

When you press a key and the keyboard calls INT 9, your special macro procedure again turns off interrupts. You're now going to compare and perhaps change key codes. If you press a key and INT 9 is called right in the middle of your procedure, it will throw everything into a tailspin.

Because you're about to change the flag settings and the value of a number of registers, it's best to preserve them at the outset by pushing them onto the stack.

The register ES is now set to the beginning of your current code segment. This is important because the ES:DI pair will be used to reference data in the data area of your key macro procedure.

First, however, you have to locate your ready key code (if there is one) in the key buffer. Check to see if the tail pointer and head pointer are equal. If they are, you have no key code waiting, and your routine ends.

If there is a code waiting to be read, determine its location using the head pointer at 0040:001A hex and move the actual key code into AX. This code is compared to the code at offset KEYCOMP1. If it's not equal, you drop to the next Compare, and so on. You can make 10 or so Compares without markedly slowing down your keyboard action.

Another Way

DOS provides an alternative method of entering ASCII characters and control

codes. To try it, hold down the alternate key and type the ASCII number for the character on the numeric keypad. For example, enter "A" by holding down the alternate key and typing 65. If a character or control code has been entered in this way, the low byte of the code will hold the ASCII value, and the high byte will be zero.

It doesn't matter to DOS whether you entered "A" by typing "A" or typing alternate-65. The key code for the first is 411E hex, and for the second, 4100 hex, but DOS puts an "A" on the screen no matter which key code was read.

This approach saves steps in creating your key macro program. You have to know the full key code, including scan code, to make the Compare. However, when you put the new key codes of your macro into the key buffer, you need only enter the ASCII value of the key press. The high byte of your key code can be zeros.

The only time you have to enter the full key code is when you're making a function key switch. To keep things simple, Keymac.COM won't allow you to enter a function key code in the middle of the longer ASCII macros at MACROn. The program does allow you to make a function key switch—one full key code for another full key code.

The full function key codes and the ASCII parts of the letter key codes (in decimal) can be determined using SCANASC.BAS, the Basic program provided in Program Listing 2. The scan codes for the letter and number keys are shown in the Figure.

In the sample program, Keymac.ASM, most of the ASCII characters at MACROn are entered in quotation marks. However, the carriage return is really an ASCII code you can enter by typing in 0D hex or 13 decimal (the ASCII for that key) outside of the quotation marks. Be sure to separate it from other characters with a comma.

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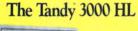
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MACROS

enter the full code. Remember to reverse the sequence here, because when the code is placed into memory, it will be reversed again.

Thus 003D hex must be entered here as 3D00 hex. The keycode for alternate-J, which is 0024 hex, must be entered as 2400 hex. The key code for "A," which is 411E hex, must be entered as 1E41 hex.

In Keymac.COM, the first macro causes alternate-J to print "80 Micro" and a carriage return. The second causes alternate-K to perform the function of the F3 key.

After the Compare is made and shown to be equal, the procedure tests to see whether this is to be a function key switch or a full macro substitution. If it is just a function key switch, you will have indicated this at FUNCn by putting a 1 there.

The program uses Boolean logic to test for the logical 1. The command:

TEST BYTE PTR CS:FUNCn, 01

behaves like the And instruction. The zero flag is set to ZR if a zero is found at the location FUNCn; if a 1 is in that location, the zero flag is set to NZ.

If this is a function key switch, your procedure makes the substitution in the key buffer and jumps to the end of your interrupt routine. If this is not a function key switch, your procedure gets the length of MACROn from LENn. It then jumps to a buffer flush routine. Discard any key

codes already in the buffer by making the value of the buffer tail pointer equal to the head pointer.

Before placing each new key code into the key buffer, your procedure tests for a buffer full condition as described above.

After the key code is placed in the buffer, the routine increments the tail pointer twice to indicate to the ROM and DOS services that a key code is waiting to be read. At this point it checks to see whether you have reached the 03C hex location. If

One key press can do the work of 15.

you have, the procedure sets the buffer tail position back to the beginning of the buffer at 01E hex.

As you progress to the end, it's important to remember to pop the CX off the stack. You must pop it both at END: and at OUT: because you pushed it on the stack

twice. Finally, all your other registers, including the flag register, are restored, interrupts are turned on, and your procedure returns control to the program or service that was in control before the last key press called INT 9.

You can easily add more key macros to the program. Just copy the key Compare blocks and substitute the new macro number (9, for example) for each number in the macro block names. Then do the same with the Compare loops. Remember to make the final Compare loop like the second one in the sample program.

Once you've typed in the program frame, you can develop different macro programs for different applications. However, you can't run more than one macro program at a time; if you try to do this, they'll interfere with each other.

If all you need are a few simple macros, this program should be adequate. If you need long, intricate key macros, you'll probably have to rewrite INT 9 and perhaps the ROM BIOS and DOS keyboard services as well or—if you prefer—just buy a key enhancer program for about \$50.

Jack Alban is an insurance agent who has been an avid computer hobbyist since 1984. You can contact him by self-addressed, stamped envelope care of 80 Micro, 80 Elm St., Peterborough, NH 03458.

Program Listing 1. To create Keymac.COM, type Keymac.ASM, shown below, in ASCII format, with your word processor or Edlin program.

	CODE	SEGMENT ASSUME	CS:CODE	KEYMAC.A PUBLIC ,DS:CODE,	'CODE'	,SS:CODE		CMP	AX,DS:[1CH]	;compar ;a keyc	e with tail ptr ode has been pl	. to see if ace in buffer
		ORG 1ØØ						JNE JMP	CONTINUE OUT			
	KEYS	PROC	FAR				CONTINU	IF.				
	START: MACROCT	JMP	INSTALL DW	2		;jump over data area	CONTING	MOV MOV	SI,AX AX,[SI]	; and se ; move k	t SI to that lo ey code into AX	cation
			DW	_				MOV	CX.CS:MACROCT	:set un	maximum number	of compares
; KEYC	OMPARE BI	LOCKS				;	:KEYCOMPARE LO					5400 FE600 FE600 FE600
	KEYCOMP	1	DW	24ØØH	" 10		• 5000000000000000000000000000000000000	JUP3				;
	MACRO1 LEN1 FUNC1 FUNCWRD1	L	DB DW DB DW	"80 Micr 09 0 0	ro",13		CMP1:	MOV CMP JNE	BX,CS:KEYCOMP1 AX,BX DLOOP1		;set up for an ;make first co ;if not equal, ;is it fnctn k	d mpare move on
	KEYCOMP2 MACRO2 LEN2 FUNC2 FUNCWRD2		DW DB DW DB DW	25ØØH Ø ØØ Ø1 3DØØH				TEST JZ MOV MOV JMP	BYTE PTR CS:FUNG MLOOP1 AX,CS:FUNCWRD1 DS:[SI],AX OUT	:1,01	;is it facta k ;if no jump, t	ey switch? o macro routine
	KEYBOARI	D: INT	9ØH	000011	;calls t	the real INT 9	MLOOP1:	MOV MOV	CX,CS:LEN1 AX,OFFSET MACRO: DI,AX	I	;get the macro ;set up DI to ;first key mac ;jump to buffe	point to
		CLI PUSHF PUSH PUSH PUSH PUSH	DS ES AX SI		;save fl	ff lower interrupts lags egisters to be used	DLOOP1:	JMP DEC CMP JNE JMP	FLÚSH CX CX,ØØ CMP2 OUT		;decrease coun :last compare?	t
		PUSH PUSH PUSH	DI BX CX				CMP2:	MOV CMP	BX,CS:KEYCOMP2 AX,BX			
		PUSH POP	CS ES		;point E	ES to beginning of CS		JNE TEST JZ	OUT BYTE PTR CS:FUNC MLOOP2	2,01		
		MOV MOV	AX,4ØH DS,AX		;point [;key but	OS to lower memory where ffer resides	We vere	MOV MOV JMP	AX,CS:FUNCWRD2 DS:[SI],AX OUT		;move into buf ;function key	
		MOV MOV	SI,1AH AX,[SI]		;point S ;move lo	SI to location of head ptr. ocation of head ptr. to AX	MLOOP2:	MOV	CX.CS:LEN2			Listing 1 continued

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1/111/4 74	Powermail Plus I/III/4
System Diagnostic I/III/4.	Specify 69
Specify 69	Powermail Plus w/Text
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Accel 3/4 Basic Compiler	Pro Mod I/III 69
I/III 49	SPS Statistical Analysis
Dostamer Mod 4 or	I or III 99
MSDOS 49	The Home Accoun-
Z-Basic Compiler 3.1 79	tant 69
Monitor 5 I/III/4	ENBASE (Data Base)
Specify 19	I/III 79
SuperUtility 49	ST-80 III Terminal/
Test Question Data Bank	Host I/III 69
III/MS 49	Ultraterm w/Auto log-
Test Generator/Drill III 34	on I/III 59
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Listing continued

	MOV MOV JMP	AX,OFFSET MACRO2 DI,AX FLUSH	
OUT:	POP POP POP POP POP POP	BX DI SI AX ES DS	;restore registers
	POPF STI IRET		restore flags reenable interrupts end modified INT 9
FLUSH:	MOV	AL,DS:[1AH] DS:[1CH],AL	;flush key buffer by making tail ;pointer equal to head pointer
PUTINB	PUSH MOV MOV CMP JE DEC DEC	CX BX,1AH CX,DS:[BX] S1,3CH BUFFEREND CX	;save the count :set up to move and then :move into CX the head pointer :is tail ptr. at buffer's end :if yes, jump to special routine :decrease CX by two and then
	CMP JE JMP	CX,SI END OK_TO_ADD	;test to see if equals tail ptr. ;if so, buffer is full, so end ;else go on to add code to buffer
BUFFER	END: CMP JE	CX,1EH END	; is head ptr. at start of buffer ; if so, buffer is full, end
OK_TO_	POP XOR MOV MOV	CX AX,AX AL,ES:[DI] DS:[SI],AX	restore the count clear AX to zeroes move letter of key macro into buffer
	INC INC INC CMP JA	DI SI SI, Ø3CH BUFBEGIN	point to next letter of macro reset SI to position where next key code will be placed in buffer are we at end of buffer? if so, jump to wrap procedure
RESETB	MOV LOOP JMP	DS:[1CH],SI PUTINBUFFER OUT	;set tail pointer to new position ;loop back if not at end of macro ;else jump to end of procedure
BUFBEG	IN: MOV JMP	SI,1EH RESETBUF	;end of buffer, wrap to buffer start
END:	POP	CX	
INSTAL	CLI MOV INT	AX,35Ø9H 21H	;turn off interrupts ;get interrupt vectors for INT 9
	MOV MOV MOV	AX,ES DS,AX DX,BX	;point ES and DX to old interrupt ;vectors for INT 9
	MOV	AX,259ØH 21H	;set unused INT 90H to ;INT 9 vectors

Program Listing 2. SCANASC.BAS determines the function key codes and the ASCII parts of the letter key codes (in decimal).

DX,OFFSET KEYBOARD AX,25Ø9H 21H

DX,OFFSET INSTALL

START

;set DS:DX pair to new procedure

reset INT 9 to this procedure

turn on interrupts set DX to just beyond proc. terminate, stay resident

PUSH

MOV

STI

MOV

ENDS

FND

KEYS

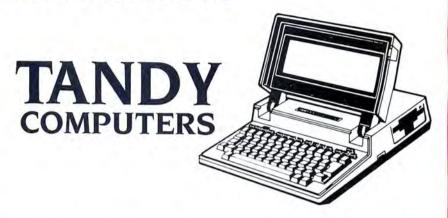
CODE

1140	Ø REM SCANASC.BAS
2358	10 KEY OFF: FOR X=1 TO 12: KEY X, "": NEXT
2954	20 PRINT"PRESS ANY KEY TO DISPLAY IT'S CODE."
3475	21 PRINT"TO RETURN TO MS-DOS, TYPE [CTRL] [BREAK]."
2029	22 PRINT"THEN SYSTEM[ENTER]."
1642	3Ø AS=INKEYS: IF AS="" THEN 3Ø
2075	40 IF LEN(AS)=2 THEN PRINT ASC(AS);
1551	50 PRINT ASC(RIGHTS(AS.1))
577	6Ø GOTO 2Ø



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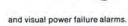
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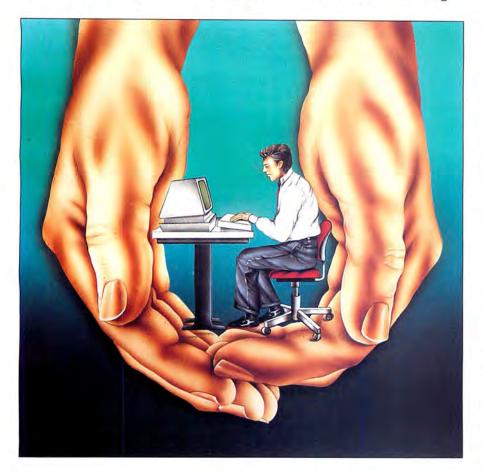
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A Routine to Watch Over Me

Avoid entering the wrong data and tedious editing.



by Leonard Jackson

Though foolproof data input, editing, and attractive screen design can be elusive, they need not be. Instead of using repetitive Basic Input and Line Input statements, you can use my protected-field input routines.

You can control your keyboard input completely without much internal editing. If you specify a numeric field, you can be sure you entered a number; you need only edit the range. You limit the number of characters that can be accepted when you specify the field size.

I used a seldomly noticed subroutine from Radio Shack's TRS-80 Model I, Level II Basic Reference Manual (p. H/1) as the basis for protected-field input routines you can use on MS-DOS machines in Basic and C.

Neither Basic Input nor Line Input statements give you adequate control over keyboard input. To avoid entering too many characters or the wrong data, you must painstakingly edit each entry. Your computer can help you by displaying instructions in a prompt or message, but this doesn't prevent you from pressing the wrong key (and getting a "Redo" message) or doing the wrong thing (and crashing your program).

When you include the protected-field subroutine in your program, you would have already established the field size and data type. The field size for the input is displayed as a series of discrete field indicator characters (see the Photo). You can enter only as many characters as will fit in the field, and the input of alphabetic data to a field designated for numeric input is prevented. It's easy to set up input editing so that if the program asks you to enter "1," "2," "3," or "4" from a menu and you press "5," it won't accept the incorrect entry. The subroutine verifies the entry, which means you don't need to include many error checking lines, and you won't crash your program.

Integrating the Subroutine

The first steps in preparing for data input (clear screen, write the menu title, etc.) are routine. This procedure doesn't change until you get to the prompts for data input. You might display one prompt and wait for the answer, but I prefer to display all

System Requirements: Basic or C compiler. Available on the April-June 1988 Disk Series, on sale in May.

Illustration by Anna Davidian 80 MICRO / APRIL 1988 51

WATCH

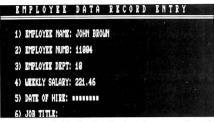


Photo. The field size is displayed as a series of discrete field indicator characters.

prompts for data input before I move the cursor for the first keyboard entry. This lets you determine in advance what information you need to make screen entries. In setting up the screen, you can use your artistic talents to place prompting statements and print messages at any location and in any order. You can then use the protected-field subroutine to service these prompts in any sequence you like.

To use the protected-field subroutine in a program, set FL, the field-length variable in the Protected Field Example (see Program Listing 1), to the appropriate number of characters to enter. This can be the number of allocated character spaces in a record field you'll use to store this entry or the number of columns available in a report where this data will be printed. If the input is numerical, express the length as a negative integer. In numerical mode you can use the field size to limit the range of values that can be entered. For instance, if the field size is set to -3, the largest number you can enter is 999 and the lowest is -99 (the minus sign in the -99 counts as one character).

Use the Locate statement in Listing 1 to position the cursor at the desired location, and call the protected-field subroutine with a Gosub statement. All data returned from the protected-field subroutine is in a common string variable, IN\$. Use an Assignment statement with the VAL function for numeric input to move the input to a program variable. Do additional editing before servicing the next input prompt message. After the last screen entry, give the user the opportunity to correct an error, start again, or exit. If the user selects the wrong choice from a menu, give the option to exit without answering all the prompts. Listing 1 shows how these considerations can be addressed in Basic and serves as an example of how you can use the protectedfield subroutine in your programming.

Design Considerations

Even if the protected field as presented here seems to be everything you need, it is important to understand it completely. Later, you might add a new twist or come up with an improvement on the routine.

By studying the pseudo code in the Figure,

you can see that the operations required in the protected field routine are as follows:

- •Getting a limited number of characters from the keyboard without echoing the characters to the screen as they are entered;
- Verifying each character as it is entered to ensure that it is appropriate for the type of data input required, and for numeric input, checking to ensure that any sign entered is accepted only in the first field position;
- •Accepting and displaying all appropriate characters.

For the following discussion, refer to Listing 1. Because the logic is the same regardless of the language you use, I will

explain only the Basic listing, Protected-Field Example (Listing 1), in detail. See Program Listing 2 for a protected-field function for a C compiler.

The Nitty-Gritty

In Basic, Inkey\$ reads a character from the keyboard without a screen echo (line 690). Other languages may not have this function, but you can use a call to function 08 hexadecimal (hex) of interrupt 21 hex or interrupt 16 hex. Listing 2 shows one way this can be done.

After reading a character from the keyboard, you must verify the character to

```
Endif.
Display field-indicator-characters to fill specified field size.
Reposition cursor to beginning of field.
getchr: Get character from keyboard - do not echo to screen.
Assign the ASCII value of input character to an integer variable.
If the input string variable is empty and ENTER was pressed
Assign a space to the input string variable
Goto exit
Endif.
If the input is a lower case character
Convert to upper case, (optional)
                         If the input is a lower case character Convert to upper case, (optional)
Endif.
If the field is full, no printable characters can be accepted Goto contrl
Endif.
                           If mode is alphanumeric and the character is printable
                          Goto accept
Endif.
If mode is numeric and the key pressed is Ø through 9
Goto accept
                           Endif.
                                 a decimal point was entered and the decimal-flag is false
Set decimal flag to true
                                     Goto accept
                          Goto accept
Endif.
If a sign was entered and sign-flag is false and input string is empty
Set sign-flag to true
Goto accept
Endif
  Goto accept
Endif.
contrl: If a backspace was not entered
Goto escape
Endif.
If the input string variable is empty, cursor is at start of field
If the input some Goto getchr
Endif.
Move cursor back one space.
Print a field-indicator-character.
Move cursor back one space again.
Decrement the accepted character count.
Set sign-flag and decimal-flags to false.
Inspect remaining accepted characters.
If a decimal point is found
Set decimal-flag to true
Endif.
If a sign is found
Set sign-flag to true
Endif.
Goto getchr.
escape: If the ESCAPE key was pressed
Move cursor to beginning of field
Goto start
Endif.
If ENTER was not pressed
Goto getchr
  Endif.

exit: Overwrite remaining field-indicating-characters with spaces. Return to calling module.

accept: Add the input character to the input string variable. Increment the count of accepted characters.

Display the accepted character.

If the specified field-size is one Goto exit
                          Else
Goto getchr
Endif.
```

Figure. Pseudo code for a protected-field subroutine.

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determine if it is appropriate. But first look at line 710. If the first and only key pressed is the enter key, control returns to the caller. I prefer to return a space instead of a null string. On some systems, VAL("") is not the zero you usually want in this instance.

Line 720 is a lowercase trap that converts all lowercase characters to uppercase. Depending on your application, you may choose to omit this line.

If you press a key other than enter and the field is full, the character cannot be accepted as part of the input string. In this case, the character is ignored unless you pressed the backspace or escape (ESC) key. Both will free space in the field.

Line 730 handles the field-full condition with a jump to line 780, where a backspace is serviced, or moves the program to line 840 to check for an escape key. At line 880, all characters found to be appropriate are displayed and added to the input string. This verification takes place in lines 740–770. In alphanumeric mode (field length specified as a positive integer), usu-

ally all printable characters with an ASCII value from 32–126 are accepted and displayed. You can easily change this range to meet your specific requirements by changing the appropriate constant in line 740.

Lines 750–770 are for numeric mode (field length specified as a negative integer) input verification. Line 750 accepts the character if it has an ASCII value of a digit character from zero to 9. Line 760 accepts a decimal point but only one. Line 770 accepts a sign but only one and only in the first position of the field.

Lines 780–820 handle the backspace. Line 790 causes the backspace to be ignored unless the count of accepted characters is greater than zero. Line 800 moves the cursor back one space, restores the field indicator character, decreases the count of accepted characters, and removes one character from the input string. If a decimal point is in the remaining input string after the backspace, line 810 sets the decimal flag (WD) to 1. Otherwise the decimal flag is reset to zero. Line 820 checks for a sign

after the backspace. If a sign is found, the sign flag (WS) is set. Otherwise it is reset.

Pressing escape results in a jump to line 840, where the cursor is repositioned at the beginning of the field. A jump back to line 650 restarts the protected-field subroutine. If the key pressed is not enter, line 850 is a jump back to get another character. If the key pressed is enter, line 860 overwrites the remaining field indicator characters with spaces. Line 870 is a return to the calling program.

If you're working in C, you may want to terminate your field of accepted characters with a zero byte or the backslash and zero characters (\0) to facilitate manipulations using string functions.

You'll need to work with the protectedfield subroutine for a short time before you'll be comfortable with it. After that, you won't want to be without it.

Leonard Jackson is a software engineer for Raytheon Service Co. in El Paso, TX. You can write him at 1721 Bruce Devlin, El Paso, TX 79935.

Program Listing 1. Protected Field Example, a program for demonstrating the use of a protected-field subroutine.

```
Program: PFLDEXMP.BAS
Written by: Leonard Jackson
1721 Bruce Devlin, ElPaso, Texas 79935
                      90 / PROGRAM TO DEMONSTRATE IHE USE OF A TAX. 2.2.2.6

80 / KEY OFF

80 CLS:FLAG=0

90 LOCATE 1,10:PRINT"E M P L O Y E E D A T A R E C O R D E N T R Y

100 LOCATE 4,10:PRINT"1] EMPLOYEE NAME:"

120 LOCATE 4,10:PRINT"2] EMPLOYEE NAME:"

130 LOCATE 8.10:PRINT"3] EMPLOYEE BUMB:"

130 LOCATE 8.10:PRINT"3] EMPLOYEE DEPT:"

140 LOCATE 10,10:PRINT"5) DATE OF HIRE:"

150 LOCATE 12,10:PRINT"5) DATE OF HIRE:"

160 LOCATE 14,10:PRINT"5) DATE OF HIRE:"

161 LOCATE 14,10:PRINT"5) DATE OF HIRE:"

162 LOCATE 14,10:PRINT"5) DATE OF HIRE:"

163 LOCATE 14,10:PRINT"6) JOB TITLE:"

174 LOCATE 23,10:PRINT"CHTER Y TO EXIT MENU>"

180 LOCATE 4,28:FL=20:GOSUB 620:NMS=INS

190 IF IMS="" GOTO 180

200 IF IMS="" GOTO 450

201 LOCATE 23,10:PRINT"<ENTER NUMBER GREATER THEN 9999>"

230 LOCATE 6,28:FL=-5:GOSUB 620:NUMB=VAL(INS)

240 IF NUMBC-9999 GOTO 230

250 IF N GOTO 450

260 LOCATE 23,10:PRINT"<ENTER 10,20,30, OR 40> "

270 LOCATE 8,28:FL=-2:GOSUB 620:DPT=VAL(INS)

280 IF (DPT<-)0 AND DPT<->20 AND DPT<->30 AND DPT<->40) GOTO 270

290 IF N GOTO 450

300 LOCATE 23,10:PRINT"<ENTER VALUE BETWEEN 120 AND 640>"

310 LOCATE 10,28:FL=-5:GOSUB 620:PAY=VAL(INS)

320 IF PAY<-120 OR PAY>640 GOTO 310

330 IF N GOTO 450

340 LOCATE 12,27:FL=8:GOSUB 620:DOH$=INS

350 LOCATE 12,27:FL=8:GOSUB 620:DOH$=INS
                                              PROGRAM TO DEMONSTRATE THE USE OF A PROTECTED-FIELD SUBROUTINE.
  3005
2377
1243
1946
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              81Ø IF INSTR(INS,".")=Ø THEN WD=Ø
82Ø IF INSTR(INS,"+")=Ø AND INSTR(INS,"-")=Ø THEN WS=Ø
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             820 IF INSTR(INS,"+")=0 AND INSTR(INS,"-")=0 THEN WS=0
830 GOTO 690
840 IF WV%=27 THEN PRINT STRINGS(WL%,CHRS(29));:GOTO 650
850 IF WV%<>13 THEN 690
860 PRINT STRINGS(ABS(FL)-WL%," ");
870 RETURN
880 PRINT WS;:INS=INS+WS:WL%=WL%+1
890 IF ABS(FL)=1 THEN RETURN ELSE 690
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    ***** END OF PROTECTED FIELD SUBROUTINE *****
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              End
97Ø
3495
2737
1997
965
3Ø62
                          JUNE 10-ATE 10/28:FEL-6:GSOUB 620:PAY=VAL(INS)
320 IF PAY<120 OR PAY>640 GOTO 310
330 IF N GOTO 450
340 LOCATE 23,10:PRINT"<ENTER MM/DD/YY>
350 LOCATE 12,27:FL-8:GOSUB 620:DOHS-INS
360 IF (MIDS(DOHS,3,1)<>"/") GOTO 350
370 IF (MIDS(DOHS,7,2)<"80" OR MIDS(DOHS,6,1)<>"/") GOTO 350
380 IF (MIDS(DOHS,4,2)<"61" OR MIDS(DOHS,7,2)>"87") GOTO 350
380 IF (MIDS(DOHS,4,2)<"61" OR MIDS(DOHS,4,2)>"31") GOTO 350
400 IF N GOTO 450
410 LOCATE 23,10:PRINT STRINGS(69,32)
420 LOCATE 14,24:FL=15:GOSUB 620:JOBS=INS
430 FLAG=-1
440 LOCATE 23,10:PRINT STRINGS(69,32)
450 LOCATE 23,10:PRINT STRINGS(69,32)
450 LOCATE 23,10:PRINT STRINGS(69,32)
450 LOCATE 23,00:PRINT STRINGS(69,32)
450 LOCATE 23,00:PRINT*ENTER LINE NUMBER TO CHANGE OR <ENTER> TO SAVE:";
460 FL=-1:GOSUB 620:N=VAL(INS)
470 IF N<0 OR N>6 GOTO 450
480 ON N GOTO 170,220,260,300,340,410
490 CLS
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  Program Listing 2. Protected Field in C, a protected-field function
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             written for a C compiler.
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     #include "stdio.h"
#include "dos.h"
pfld(size)
  int size;
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         /* Field size from calling function.
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 extern char hold[];
int wd,ws,wl,wv,i,j,scan_code;
char *ptr;
struct REGS regs;
struct REGS *rptr;
rptr= &regs;
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        /* Global array for up to 81 characters */
/* Integers used in this function. */
/* Pointer for array "hold". */
/* New structure from template REGS. */
/* Pointer for structure "regs".
/* Set rptr to point to address of regs */
                            48Ø ON N GOTO 170,220,260,300,340,410
49Ø CLS
50Ø LOCATE 5,10:PRINT"EMPLOYEE NAME IS ";NMS
51Ø LOCATE 7,10:PRINT"EMPLOYEE NUMBER IS ";
520 PRINT USING "######",NNB
530 LOCATE 9,10:PRINT"EMPLOYEE DEPARTMENT IS ";
540 PRINT USING "#####" ;DPT
540 PRINT USING "##",DPT
550 LOCATE 11,10:PRINT"WEEKLY SALARY IS ";
560 PRINT USING "S5## ##";PAY
570 LOCATE 13,10:PRINT"MEEKLY SALARY IS ";00HS
580 LOCATE 15,10:PRINT"JOB TITLE IS ";00HS
580 LOCATE 24,10:PRINT"JOB TITLE IS ";0BS
590 LOCATE 24,10:PRINT"PRESS ANY KEY TO CONTINUE: ";:FL=1:GOSUB 620
680 GOTO B0
  415
28Ø1
2781
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                1657
                                                                         +++++ PROTECTED FIELD SUBROUTINE +++++
******* WRITTEN BY LEONARD F. JACKSON ********
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              Listing continued
```

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| Second Processing Contents of the Contents o
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TRS-80 Corner.

HyperCross reads CP/M and PC-DOS on TRS-80s

Using HYPERCROSS 3.0 you can COPY files between TRS-80 disks and those from many CP/M and IBM-PC type computers on your own TRS-80 Model I, III, 4/4P or Max-80. If you have access to more than one kind of computer, or you are changing to a new machine then you need HYPERCROSS to transfer your files. You can FORMAT alien disks, read their directories, copy files to and from them, even copy directly from one alien disk to another.

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REVIEWS

(continued from page 23)

or sentences—single left quote and home in Xywrite III Plus and F7 and shift-F5 in Textra. My 1200 also refused to boot with the Enhanced Keyboard plugged in, no

matter which of the latter's dip switch settings (AT, XT, or AT&T mode) I tried. But I could start the 1200 with its own keyboard, then unplug the keyboard and install the enhanced board in its place.

The Universal Adapter and Enhanced Keyboard are a good combination for IBM typists or users whose programs stumble over the 1000's layout. Still, unless I had to do a lot of numeric data entry or longed

for a particular program that clashed with the 1000 keyboard, I'd spend the \$220 on more 1000 software instead.

The Universal Keyboard Adapter (catalog no. 25-1030, \$99.95) fits the Tandy 1000/1000 SX. The Tandy Enhanced Keyboard (catalog no. 25-4038, \$119.95) fits the adapter and the Tandy 3000/4000 and PC compatibles. Tandy Corp./Radio Shack, One Tandy Center, Fort Worth, TX 76102.

Magic Mirror: Conditional Integration

by David A. Williams

hen integrated software first came on the scene, one of the major features touted by the publishers was the ability to cut material from one program and paste it into another. Since then several companies have developed memory-resident programs that enable you to do this with stand-alone programs. With Magic Mirror, a recent entry into this field, you can cut and paste, then edit and format the cut material.

A typical application is cutting data from a spreadsheet and inserting it into a document in your word processor. In this case, your word processor can handle the editing or formatting, but suppose you want to go the other direction. Magic Mirror lets you cut text from a document, edit it, and insert the necessary commands to tell your spreadsheet if the material is column headings or numerical data.

Magic Mirror can keep several different blocks of data separate until you are ready to paste them into another document. You can adjust the buffer size used to store this data, but if you cut more than the buffer can hold, the excess will go into a disk file.

You can capture data manually by moving the cursor over the area you want to save, or use a stored capture pattern. The capture pattern is useful if you routinely cut the same kind of data in the same format. If you choose to use a capture pattern, the program presents a menu listing those available. Each time you create a capture image manually, the program gives you the opportunity to save it for future use.

Several formatting options are available to you, including the ability to insert characters, pad the data with spaces, adjust the line length, insert blank lines, and remove unwanted characters. You can insert characters, including control characters, before or after word fields, lines, or blocks. The collection of such formatting information is called an Image Style Control and you can save these too for use another time.

When you are ready to paste, place the program cursor where you want the data

to go and press the hot key. Magic Mirror enters the data just as if you had typed it.

All this power and flexibility doesn't come cheap. Magic Mirror requires 48K of RAM in addition to the data buffer, which defaults to 6K.

The manual, although somewhat wordy and repetitious, adequately describes the program's operation, but the screen dump illustrations are too small to read. The tutorial section walks you through some simple applications of the program, one of which requires a spreadsheet.

The installation program makes that task very simple. The program is not copy protected, but your name is embedded in the program file the first time you install it. This is periodically displayed along with a warning message about copying software when you load the program.

Cursor and Keyboard Control

How well Magic Mirror works depends largely on what programs you use it with. I had considerable difficulty. Since Magic Mirror depends on the BIOS cursor being on, there is a major problem with programs that use their own cursor. You can't see

where the cursor is until you start marking, making it difficult if not impossible to mark small, isolated areas.

Programs that use their own keyboard handler can also cause problems. Microsoft Word and Multiplan fall into this category. I couldn't get Magic Mirror to work with either one on any of three computers. For comparison I tried two cut and patch utilities I downloaded from a local bulletin board. These both worked with Multiplan, but not with Word. On the other hand, Magic Mirror had no problem cutting and pasting into my text editor or to and from the DOS command line.

Magic Mirror's features are impressive, although cutting and pasting has never been high on my list of priorities. Nevertheless, I have to rate the program unacceptable, unless you can determine if it will work with the programs you want to use it with. Softlogic Solutions says they'll correct the cursor problem in the next update. Check to make sure before you buy it.

Magic Mirror, Softlogic Solutions Inc., One Perimeter Road, Manchester, NH 03103, 603-627-9900, \$89.95.

Look What 10K Will Buy

by Ron White

an you spare 10K of RAM? Even if you think you can't, Microhelp Utility might make you reconsider. It's a memory-resident package crammed with useful functions, yet it takes up a mere 10K. It's worth every byte.

With Microhelp, you can speed up and reconfigure your cursor; retrieve and edit DOS commands; execute a series of DOS commands from the same line; and use aliases, single words that are shorthand substitutes for several DOS commands. You can change colors on a color monitor, eliminate snow, and use the last line on a CGA or EGA display to show the date,

time, and keyboard status.

A screen-save function protects your display from burn-in by turning it off if you don't use the keyboard for a while. You can set up a hot key that blanks the display instantly if someone snoops over your shoulder. And Microhelp makes an honest key of scroll-lock by using it to suspend text-scrolling; if you don't get to the scroll-lock key fast enough, you can reread text that's scrolled off the top of the screen by pressing page up or page down.

Actually, 10K is the minimum memory Microhelp uses. Screen-buffering, which lets you see text that's scrolled off the page, will cost you 8K for the first screen and about 6K for each additional screen you want to be able to review. You decide how

much memory, if any, you want to devote to buffering.

The same goes for aliases. If you're going to use any aliases, you have to give up at least another 1K, but you can fit a lot of aliases into 1K. Aliases are kept in a text file, which you can edit with any word processor so long as you can save the file in ASCII.

Unfortunately, Microhelp's screen buffering can cause problems with some computers. A Tandy 1000 SX hung up when I tried to suspend scrolling or review buffered displays. The function worked fine on more IBM-compatible computers.

Though Microhelp Inc. claims its program should increase cursor speed 300 percent or more, I found that, on the average, it increased speed by only 50 percent-a less dramatic improvement than might have been expected, but an improvement just the same. And the speeding cursor stops immediately when you release the arrow key.

There's only one thing about Microhelp that I couldn't live with: a problem that turned up on some systems. The program is supposed to stop the annoying flashing of color monitors during scrolling. This function didn't work with Lotus's 1-2-3 or Word Perfect on a Compag with an Amdek monitor. In fact, it reintroduced flickering that a special device driver had eliminated. But Microhelp's anti-flashing feature worked fine on the 1000 SX.

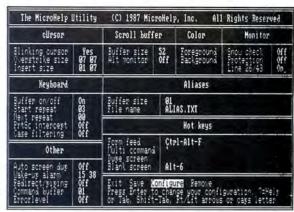
That's the worst of it. The rest of Microhelp is too good to pass up.

The control it gives you over DOS command lines is alone worth 10K of memory space. If you enter a mistyped command and get an error message, all you have to do is press the up-arrow key and your command reappears. Now you can use cursor-control and editing keys to correct your command painlessly.

With Microhelp's alias feature, though, you don't have to type in frequently used commands. For example, your alias text file could contain a line that reads hom = = cd c:\finance\budget\home. This assigns the change directory command to the right of the equals signs to the alias "hom." Thereafter, when you type hom, Microhelp executes the associated command. You can also include multiple commands in aliases, so that, for example, you could change to a subdirectory and run a program by typing a single alias.

The ability to ad lib several commands on one line is also nifty. Want to change directories and then display a directory? Just type the Change Directory command, press a special hot key, and a right arrow appears. After the arrow, continue with the next command. You can add commands as long the total number of characters doesn't exceed 128.

You can set up Microhelp's defaults using a menu that comes with on-line help screens, or you can change the defaults temporarily from batch files if some of your programs balk at Microhelp's assistance. Since Microhelp is already memory resi-

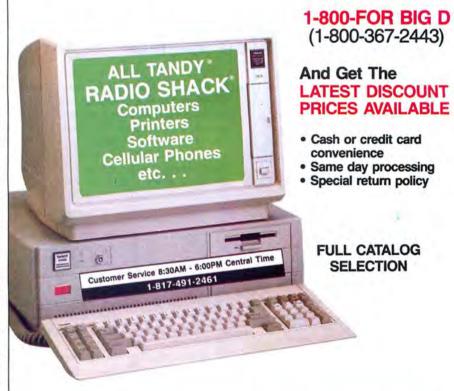


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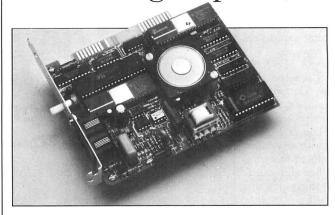
dent, it's a shame you can't pop it up from inside another program. That might have taken more memory than the creators of Microhelp thought it was worth.

Microhelp's DOS command-line en-

hancements and scroll-back feature will make your life much easier. They're the heart of the program; the other functions are nice frills that you probably could live without. Once you see what Microhelp does for DOS, chances are you'll never want to go back.

The Microhelp Utility requires 256K and MS-DOS 2.x. Microhelp Inc., 2220 Carlyle Drive, Marietta, GA 30062, 404-973-9272. \$59.

The Zoom/Modem HC 2400 Offers High Speed, Low Price



HC 2400-everything you need for \$199.

by Harry Green

odem prices have been dropping so rapidly that 2400-baud models now sell for far less than what a 300-baud modem cost only a few years ago. The Zoom/Modem HC 2400 internal modem, for example, comes bundled with the popular Procomm telecommunications program, supplying everything you need for high-speed telecommunications for only \$199.

Up to Standard

The Zoom is compatible with AT&T and the Consultative Committee on International Telephone and Telegraph (CCITT) standards for line discipline. Unlike many other modems that support only AT&T standards for lower speeds, the Zoom also supports CCITT V.21 and V.22 standards at 300 and 1200 baud as well as V.22 standards at 2400 baud.

This compatibility can be important if you plan to take the modem out of North America, or if you plan to communicate directly over the telephone lines to another country. Like most modems, the Zoom/ Modem HC can downshift automatically to meet the speed requirements of a slower device.

The Zoom has several other unusual features. Its optional call-progress mode enables it to listen for a dial tone before dialing. This is useful if your local central office is sometimes slow in returning dial tone, or if you use a private branch exchange (PBX) or long-distance service that returns a second dial tone.

The mounting plate on the modem has two jacks: one for connecting the telephone line, and another for connecting a telephone. The telephone jack connection is handy for manual dialing. The modem has a self-test feature that is activated when power is applied.

It also offers a local analog loopback feature, which transmits a test pattern that is looped to its own receiver to determine whether the modem is sending and receiving correctly.

The Hardware

The Zoom/Modem HC is on a halflength card, which fits the Tandy 1000. There are some drawbacks to internal modems, but if you can afford to give up an expansion slot, they're convenient to use, particularly in portable computers.

The best thing to say about the Zoom is that there isn't much to say. The only option to set is a jumper to select the communications port. You can set the modem's registers with software, but if you're willing to accept the defaults, the Zoom will work right out of the box.

I plugged in my review unit, moved the telephone cord from a Hayes Smartmodem 1200 to the Zoom, and told my telecommunications program, Transend PC/Complete, that it was now talking to a Hayes Smartmodem 2400.

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REVIEWS

The only perceptible difference between the Zoom/Modem HC and the Hayes 1200 at 1200 baud was the sound of the speaker during call setup. Compared with the Hayes's external speaker, the Zoom's speaker sounds tinny-which isn't surprising with an internal modem, since the speaker is inside the computer's case. If you want better sound quality, the modem offers a jack for an external speaker.

The Software

The Zoom comes with a copy of Datastorm Technologies' Procomm, a user-supported telecommunications package, and a paid-up license to use the program. The marriage is a good one because you can initialize the Zoom/Modem HC as COM ports 1 through 4 on your computer, and Procomm is one of the few telecommunications programs I'm aware of that supports more than COM ports 1 and 2.

Procomm is versatile, yet easy to set up and use. It comes in compressed form on a single disk-it takes a few minutes to decompress the program into usable form. Unfortunately, the 110-page manual is also compressed on disk, and printing it out is no small task.

You operate Procomm by selecting func-

tions from a main menu. Just enter telephone numbers and set operating parameters such as speed, odd or even parity, and so on, and you're ready to start communicating.

Procomm has several features that many telecommunications programs lack. It can set up your computer as a bulletin-board system; in host mode, Procomm sends a string of your choice as a greeting message, synchronizes itself with the caller's baud rate, and offers two levels of password protection. Its versatile command file can be used to operate effectively in unattended mode or to perform automatic log ons.

Procomm supports most common filetransfer protocols, including ASCII, Xmodem, Ymodem, Modem7, Telink, Kermit, WXmodem, and Compuserve B. It includes a translate table that you can use to strip unwanted characters from an incoming file. Procomm will also emulate nine popular ASCII terminals.

Conclusion

Communicating at high speeds saves you time and money, especially if you use your modem to download files. If you're thinking of moving up to a higher-speed modem, or if you're just getting started in telecommunications, the Zoom/Modem HC 2400 with Procomm is an excellent value.

The Zoom/Modem HC 2400. Procomm requires 130K, two floppy-disk drives or one floppy and a hard drive, and MS-DOS 2.x. Zoom Telephonics Inc., 207 South St., Boston, MA 02111, 617-423-1072 or 800-631-3116, \$199.

Useful Kibitzer

tell me that for edisk d: I have 33.5 megs of logical disk space and 7 megs of physical disk space. For edisk e: and f:, it tells (% i7. LONG SENTENCE 33 UNDES *))

(% i8. COPPLEX SENTENCE *))

(% i9. PUNCTUATION? *)>

ne the same thing. Uow! you say 100 megs of data will fit on a 20 meg drive. What has been missed is that the logical disk space

((* 21. PASSIVE VDICE: been missed *))
of 33.5 megs is really the total logical space rather than the
logical space for each partition and should not be added while
(* 21. PASSIVE VDICE: be added * *)^
the physical disk space is per partition and should be added. You

really have a maximum possible 33.5 megs per your

really isn't too shabby anyway but not as dramatic. You must ^{(* 6. COLLOQUIAL: shabby *)) remember, though that this is a maximum value and in reality, you

DILY KONON OUT

Doc 1 Pg 5 Ln 8

Rightwriter analyzes writing style.

by Harry Bee

hy would I want a writing-style analyzer? Why would anyone? As I approached Rightwriter for the first time, I figured I already knew everything the program could tell me. If I didn't, I'd do well to take up fishmongering. I expected to be seriously aggravated by it, or thoroughly amused, or both. I had visions of Miss Stahl, my 11th grade English teacher,

who believed the rules of grammar ranked higher than the immutable laws of the universe. And I'd seen evidence of the conceptualizing powers of computer software in the nonsense ground out by poetry gen-

Having used Rightwriter for a couple of months, I've changed my mind. True, the program is as exacting as a high school English teacher, and now and then it makes a truly comic judgment; but then I learned a lot from Miss Stahl, and occasionally (not often) even I've come to a ridiculous conclusion.

Contrary to what I expected, Rightwriter is not judgmental. It doesn't presume to correct you. Instead the program analyzes your writing according to prevailing standards of style and points out possible errors and possibly troublesome constructions. You can react to the analysis as you wish.

For Comment

Rightwriter couldn't be much easier to use. You start the program and name the document file you want it to read; it does its analysis and quits. If you're using floppy disks, you need enough room for the program to write its marked-up file. It uses the output of most popular word processors without your having to convert it. In many cases it writes its report in the same format. If all else fails, it can always handle ASCII text files.

Rightwriter delivers up to four kinds of reports. The program always displays a summary on your monitor. This includes the number of words in the document, contrasted with the number of unique words, and four statistical measures of your writing. The four indexes consider the readability and strength of your writing, and how you've used adjectives, adverbs, and jargon.

Unless you order otherwise, Rightwriter creates a second copy of your document into which it inserts specific comments. Each comment, bracketed by symbols that are easy to find when you're editing, appears directly after the word or phrase to which it refers. The comment might suggest a change or ask a pertinent question. For example, it points out catch phrases, such as "there is evidence," with a question like, "Is this explained?"

It remarks on odd punctuation and capitalization; most words that end with "-ization"; negative, wordy, or ambiguous phrases; long or complex sentences (like this one); repetitions; overworked expressions; and verbs and pronouns that don't agree, to name a few. Rightwriter is thorough. And though it can't consider the context of your writing, many of its remarks prove apt and worth considering.

The documentation explains Rightwriter's indexes and comments in detail. Fully half the 70-page manual covers each comment the program can deliver, what it may or may not mean, and what you can do about it if you want to. While the manual is full of textbook information, it's not dry. The section on cliches cautions, "Avoid them like the plague."

At your option, Rightwriter attaches an extended summary to the end of the marked-up document it produces. This repeats the four indexes from the displayed summary, but offers, after any index that falls outside the acceptable range, specific ways to bring the index within tolerance. In addition, the extended summary includes a list of questionable words marked variously as negative, colloquial and possibly offensive, jargon and possibly meaningless to your average reader, misspelled, and misused.

Finally, the program can provide a list of all the words you've used and the frequency with which you've used each one.

Conclusion

While I made changes in response to Rightwriter's suggestions far less often than I dismissed them, I still found the software occasionally valuable. I can't call it an essential writer's tool, but it's a useful one, if a bit too expensive. Whether you're writ-

ing for a general audience, for colleagues, clients and customers, or for grades, it never hurts to reconsider your writing on the basis of clarity and readability.

Rightwriter (version 2.1) runs on the Tandy 1000/1200/2000/3000 (256K) and requires two disk drives. Rightsoft Inc., 2033 Wood St., Suite 218, Sarasota, FL 33577, 813-952-9211, \$95.



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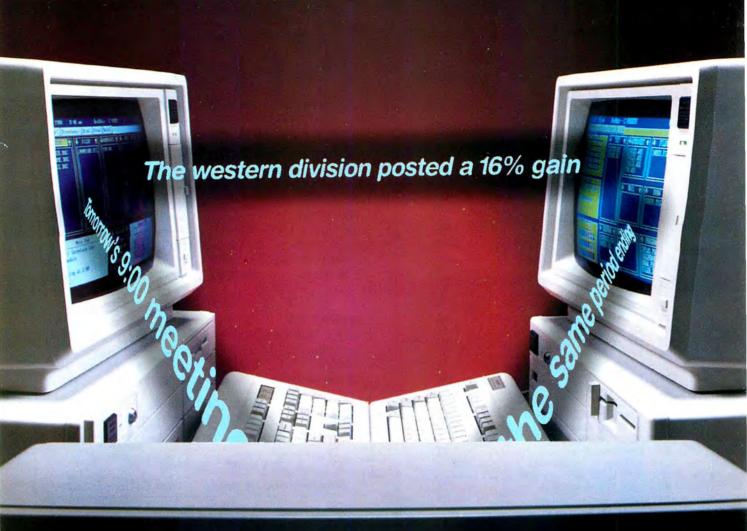
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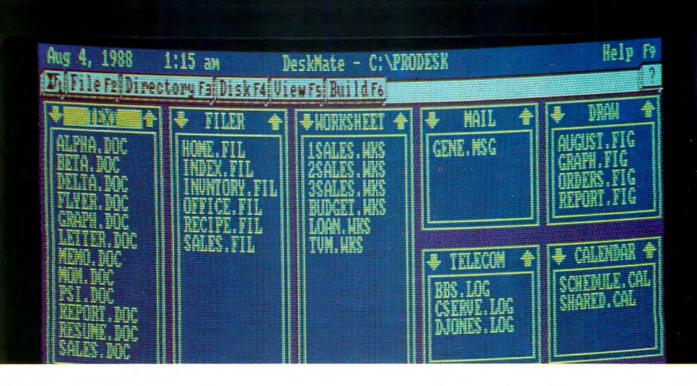
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(continued on page 78)

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READER FORUM

edited by Mare-Anne Jarvela

TIMELY MESSAGES

■I keep my letters and messages organized by putting them into batch files. From the DOS prompt, type COPY CON file name.BAT, and press the enter key. Type TYPE file name, press enter, and then press the F6 key to end the batch file. DOS will respond with "1 file(s) copied".

To view your newly created file, type file name.BAT from DOS, and press enter. Your file will show on the screen, and you can print by pressing the print key.

You can arrange your files by date. For example, for a file called Mary.TXT made on Nov. 12, type:

COPY CON NOV12.BAT TYPE MARY.TXT

Remember to press enter after each line, and end the file by pressing F6. To see your file, type NOV12.BAT from DOS.

This method of filing is good for short messages and reminders. I keep these files on one floppy disk with Com-



mand.COM. The disk will boot, and the remaining disk space is free for the BAT files. If you have a hard disk, you can keep all these special files in one subdirectory.

Clyde W. Preble, Mill Valley, CA.

IT'S IN THE KEY

■On the Tandy 1000, using the Basic command On Key () Gosub interferes with the Inkey\$ function when both are used together. The Program Listing demonstrates how you can access the arrow keys and the page up (PG UP) and page down (PG DN) keys by using Inkey\$.

The characters sent by other keys and key combinations can also be determined and used as control keys with the Inkey\$ function. Lines 10–30 and 140 display the character returned by any key that shows a character when you enter it from the keyboard. This section also displays the string length and the ASCII code for the first character in the string. Lines 40–130 demonstrate how you can use this information to access the arrow keys and the page up and page down keys when you use Inkey\$ functions.

Robert A. Hood, Bremerton, WA

Program Listing. Use Inkey\$ to access the arrow keys and the page up and page down keys.

5674 1	10 CLS:PRINI"Usage of INKEYS Function with Arrow and Page Reys PRINI
18Ø6	2Ø IK\$=INKEY\$:IF IK\$="" THEN 2Ø
4Ø62	3Ø PRINT"IK\$ = "; IK\$;" LEN(IK\$) ="; LEN(IK\$);" ASCII Code = "; ASC(IK\$)
3Ø54	4Ø IF RIGHT\$(IK\$,1)="H" THEN PRINT"OK Up Arrow"
3274	5Ø IF RIGHT\$(IK\$,1)="P" THEN PRINT"OK Down Arrow"
3947	6Ø IF RIGHT\$(IK\$,1)=CHR\$(133) THEN PRINT"OK Shift Up Arrow"
4160	70 IF RIGHT\$(IK\$,1)=CHR\$(134) THEN PRINT"OK Shift Down Arrow"
3259	8Ø IF RIGHT\$(IK\$,1)="K" THEN PRINT"OK Left Arrow"
3377	9Ø IF RIGHT\$(IK\$,1)="M" THEN PRINT"OK Right Arrow"
4190	100 IF RIGHT\$(IK\$,1)=CHR\$(135) THEN PRINT"OK Shift Left Arrow"
4205	11Ø IF RIGHT\$(IK\$,1)=CHR\$(136) THEN PRINT"OK Shift Down Arrow"
3289	120 IF RIGHT\$(IK\$,1)="I" THEN PRINT"OK Page Up Key"
35Ø9	13Ø IF RIGHT\$(IK\$,1)="Q" THEN PRINT"OK Page Down Key"
624	14Ø GOTO 2Ø

OPTIMIZED HARD DISK

■ Many programs for unfragmenting or optimizing files on hard disks are available for PC-compatible computers. But there's a less expensive, but more time-consuming, method of doing this on the Tandy 1000 HD with nothing but DOS.

Just back up your hard disk with the DOS Backup command, reformat it (with the command FORMAT C:/S, if you have DOS version 3.2, or HFORMAT C:/S if you have version 2.11), and restore all the files to the empty hard disk. The hard disk should now be completely unfragmented and ready for work.

Zachary Ives Redwood Valley, CA

DIFFERENT APPROACH

■I have a different approach to Robert Doerr's INSTR() routine (December 1987, p. 26). The Program Listing works on all Tandy MS-DOS machines. It lists fewer lines in the On...Goto portion of line 20 and requires less setup of any constructs. The Inkey\$ routine is reusable by other routines from other parts of the program, and it automat-

ically limits entry to one character. If you want to see the character you type, you can change line 100 to:
100 INPUT H:IF LEN(H)<>1
THEN 100 ELSE RETURN

If you want more than upperand lowercase possibilities, you can replace "/2" with "/3" and the construct can then be "Aa#Bb\$Cc%".

> David L. Kuzminski Petersburg, VA

Program Listing. An INSTR() routine you can modify to fit your needs.

1216	1Ø CLEAR: DEFSTR A-H
4114	2Ø GOSUB 1ØØ:ON ABS(INT(-INSTR("AaBbCc",H)/2)) GOTO 3Ø,4Ø,5Ø:GOTO 2Ø
116Ø	3Ø PRINT 3Ø:GOTO 2Ø
1162	4Ø PRINT 4Ø:GOTO 2Ø
1164	5Ø PRINT 5Ø:GOTO 2Ø
2517	100 H=INKEYS:IF H="" THEN 100 ELSE RETURN

DUMP THAT SCREEN

■This Basic program (see the Program Listing) lets you screen dump what you want, where you want it, on your printer. It lets you determine the parameters (I use x and y coordinates).

The sample shown in the Listing clears the screen, turns the function keys off, and draws a box. The box starts at row 1, column 1, and continues through row 25, column 80. Press any key after the box has been drawn and the screen will be dumped to the printer. (Make sure the printer is on.) You can change the character pitch of the printer in line 160 to any pitch you want.

Steve Tennison Safety Harbor, FL

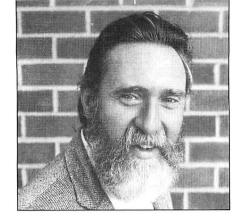
Program Listing. How to use x and y coordinates to dump a screen to the printer.

2513	110 PKINI CHK\$(218) SIKING\$(78,"-") CHK\$(191)
3769	12Ø A=2:WHILE A<25:LOCATE A,1:PRINT " "TAB(8Ø)" ";:A=A+1:WEND
3268	13Ø LOCATE 25,1:PRINT CHR\$(192)STRING\$(78,"-") CHR\$(217);
1560	14Ø WHILE INKEY\$<>"":WEND
1712	15Ø A\$=INKEY\$:IF A\$=""THEN 15Ø
5284	16Ø X=1:WHILE X<26:Y=1:WHILE Y<81:LPRINT CHR\$(SCREEN(X,Y));:Y=Y+1:WEND:X
	=X+1:WEND

3091 | 100 CLEAR: KEY OFF: FOR A=1 TO 10: KEY A, "": NEXT: CLS

Illustration by Chris Demarest 80 MICRO / APRIL 1988 69

FINE LINES



The Serial Connection

ast month, you reversed strings and turned sleek into keels and fires into serif. I forgot to ask at the time: Can anyone think of a practical application for a string reversal routine? I can't. That's why I'm asking.

Series Contender

In January, I presented you with six puzzles, each based on a series. The idea was to write routines to reproduce each series and add the next few elements. Among your typically clever responses, Dr. Michael W. Ecker threw me a bone of contention on the subject of series. Doctor Mike, a mathematics professor, is also a regular Fine Lines correspondent, an author, an editor, and publisher of the *Recreational and Educational Computing Newsletter* (129 Carol Drive, Clarks Summit, PA 18411, \$24.00/year.)

Regarding a series of numbers, Mike contends, "There is no such thing as the next number. That is because, given any finite number of numbers, by various means one can always find many formulas that produce those numbers for the first several values but then produce different values for the next number." Mike says that's why you won't find this kind of question on aptitude tests any more. "If you don't provide the rule (on which the series is based), the question is meaningless, as there are infinitely many correct answers." And if you give the rule, you don't leave much of a puzzle to solve.

Mike's exception is worth noting for two reasons: First, it's entirely valid. Second, I disagree.

A couple of examples from your solutions this month show how right Mike is. Take the series 149, 162, 536, 496, ... Much to my surprise, several of you actually found an expressable relationship among those numbers. For instance, Norman Turkel (Manalapan, NJ) came up with the following:

A = 13:B = .46156:C = 11 D% = A*(C + B) FOR X = 1 TO 4 C = C + 1 D% = A*(C + B) B = B/2:C = C + 28 + 32*(X = 2) NEXT X

The routine makes the next number in the

by Harry Bee

series 872.

Coming from another direction, Hamilton Gaillard (New City, NY) figured it this way:

FOR N = 1 TO 6 E = (-775*N^3 +5733*N^2 -11696*N +7632)/6 NEXT N

This makes the next two numbers -733 and -3926. (And I'm here to tell you that's one fine of an example of a derived third degree equation.)

Since both solutions reproduce the four given elements of the series, both must be correct, which proves Mike's point. So how can I disagree with him?

If Mike's right, then scientific method is worthless, and all science is meaningless. Scientific method depends on inducing, rather than deducing, rules (science) from necessarily incomplete information. There's no way you can examine every star in the universe in order to prove, absolutely, a rule about stars. But if you examine enough stars and star-like things and look at them through the right prism, you can find a rule about stars that you know is true. Science does it all the time and comes up with rules true enough for moon shots and brain surgery, which ain't bad.

Next-in-the-series puzzles are not only fun, they're solvable without equivocation. Mike's point of contention overlooks the puzzler's ethic: A good puzzle gives you enough information to separate the *true* answer from the (sometimes) infinitely many correct ones. A really successful puzzle also includes enough slight of hand to make the information you need less than obvious.

Among January's puzzles were a couple of successful ones, including the one I mentioned above. Below and in Program Listing 1 is what you did with them. Almost everyone nailed the series 99, 98, 94, 76, -20, ... as one of factorials (1, 1 x 2, 1 x 2 x 3, etc.) subtracted from the constant value 100. The factorials are a distinctive set of numbers, and the give-away here is the -20. Line 100 of Program Listing 1 holds Ham Gaillard's elegant extension of

the series through -40,220.

A lot of hard work and persistence can produce any number of "correct" next numbers—as Ham and Norman did. On the other hand, the true solution to the series 149, 162, 536, 496, ... depends on ignoring the way I presented the data. Seen through a different filter, the numbers 1, 4, 9, 16, 25, 36, and 49 make a clear picture. The 6, then, is the first digit of 64, which makes the next few elements of the series 481, 100, and 121. The trick here is to find a way to group the set of perfect squares into triplets. Mike Guerard (Wenonah, NJ) does it in line 200 with a loop that depends on the length of an accumulator string exceeding 4. Mike's method represents an excellent and instructive use of While...Wend.

Responses to the series 3, 6, 1, 4, 7, 2, 5, 0, 3, ... included amazing attempts to find a pattern of plus or minus 3 or 5 and make it work. A few of you recognized this series as the remainders of incrementing by 3 and dividing by 8, (N + 3) MOD 8, of which Steve Krattiger's (Valencia, CA) clean routine in line 300 is a clear example. I didn't do it this way. Modulo arithmetic isn't in the top tray of my toolbox. Instead, I used (N + 3) AND 7, which does the same thing differently.

As soon as you translate the characters of the series !#&*?5<D... into their AS-CII codes, the arithmetic series becomes clear. The increment between each character code increases by one each time. Frank Darr (Houston, TX) walks away with the prize, not only for the beautiful simplicity of line 400 but for his singular way of calculating the incremental increment.

Almost everyone recognized the series 23, 52.9, 121.67, 279.841, . . . for what it is—successive powers of 2.3 x 10 or a variation thereof. Only two of you, however, were able to maintain the precision of the numbers through the next few elements. Mike Guerard was one, and Ed Garcia (Youngsville, LA) was the other. Even with the correct arithmetic, most routines broke down at the sixth element, with 1480.359 instead of 1480.35889. Ed's routine in line 500 renders the numbers precisely for several elements beyond the sixth by declaring

even the constants as double precision numbers. To see what a difference a declaration makes, remove the double precision declarer (#) from the constant 2.3 and see what happens.

To solve the series 182764125216343 . . . , you have to supply your own divisions between the numbers. Once you do that, you see that the next seven digits clearly are 5127291000. Here you have the series of cubes of positive integers literally strung together. David Chestnut (Pataskala, OH) doesn't bother building a string in line 600 but prints everything directly to the screen.

Connect the Dots

Here's another kind of puzzle, which needs a graphic solution. Start with 16 dots in four rows of four each:

. . . .

All you need do is connect all 16 dots with six (and only six) straight lines drawn without lifting pen from paper and without retracing any part of any line.

The short program in Program Listing 2 sets up the dots. Actually, using Tandy's character set, it puts diamonds on a medium resolution graphics screen. If you don't get diamonds, check your manual for the code to substitute in the CHR\$ function at line 80. If you're using a composite monochrome monitor, make the background color black by changing the Color statement in line 40 to COLOR 0,1. The program also marks the center of each diamond and leaves the graphics cursor at the upper left-hand diamond/dot.

Because this was recently the Space Age, and it's now the Data Age, Information Age, Age of Harmonical Convergings or middle age, depending on whom you read, you don't get to use pen or pencil for this exercise. You get to exercise Basic's Graphics statements to complete the program and solve the puzzle. The rules remain in force, though-each new line must begin from the end of each preceding line. You can't stop to reposition the graphics cursor.

This is a variation of a classic puzzle that calls for nine dots and four lines. It's more difficult with 16 dots, but the idea is the

Lava Lamps

Speaking of the Age of Aquarius, if you were young and alive and American in the 1960s, you remember lava lamps. For those of you who were none of the above in that age, a lava lamp is a transparent container, usually some variation of cylindroidal, filled with two fluids, neither one soluble in the other. I always assumed the fluids were oil and colored water, but now that I think about it, that can't be right. (I could make a phone call and find out, but I honestly prefer not to know.) Anyway, the container sits above a light bulb. In its dormant state, the denser fluid lurks on the bottom. When you turn on the lamp, it not only casts a sickly, coloredwater-filtered glow, but the light bulb also heats the fluid on the bottom, from which long globules rise to the top of the cylinder where they cool and drift down again. The constant motion casts watery shadows over the shag rug and across the Woodstock

In short, a lava lamp is a fish tank for folks who can't remember to feed the fish, something to look at while listening to Pink Floyd or the Electric Prunes' Mass in F Minor.

I speak of the lava lamp in the present tense because while shopping this past holiday season, I was surprised to see it on sale. It hasn't gone the way of the dodo bird, however much it deserves to. Moreover, it has cousins, a whole category of low-tech fish tanks for the forgetful. I'll presume to call this category lavalampalia.

Of course I recognized the fiber-optic lamp-sculptures, kin to the wind chime, also capable of random motion. A couple of vendors had specials on them. At three for \$99.00 they were hard to resist. The most popular of the genre seemed to be something called a wave-incarcerated surf. My favorite specimen was one that used sand and some sort of heavy liquid to create exquisitely desolate landscapes.

I got to thinking. Since this category of lavalampalia seems to have longevity-two decades isn't bad these days-and seems to be growing, who am I not to contribute what I can? In that spirit I wrote Program Listing 3, which I call Pink Champagne.

The number 4 in line 100 defines five bubbles, the most the slowest Tandy 1000 running MS-DOS 2.11 can handle. Running under DOS 3.2, the program will take a couple more. If you have a speed-up kit, a model with a faster CPU, or if you compile the program, you can increase the bubbles to taste. The idea is that they float smoothly to the surface of the very expensive, very brut wine.

OK. Now that I've humiliated myself, there's no reason for you not to join the fun. Besides, it will give you a chance to play with graphics commands to no worthwhile purpose, just to see what they'll do. So send me your contributions to lavalampalia: programs that do nothing useful but do it constantly and prettily enough to stare at. If you send enough of them, I'll spread the printing of them over several issues.

The Rules:

- 1. Write your program(s) or routine(s) in Basic. 2. Your solution(s) to this month's poser(s) must reach us by April 15, 1988, to be considered for the July 1988 issue and a T-shirt if we use it.
- 3. Employees of CW Communications already have T-shirts and are not eligible.
- 4. Send your solutions, comments, criticism, suggestions, and T-shirt size to: 80 Micro, Fine Lines, 80 Elm St., Peterborough, NH 03458. We cannot return entries.

Harry Bee is a free-lance writer, programmer, puzzle creator, and dreamer. You can contact him at P.O. Box 567, Cornish, ME 04020, or on Compuserve (74076,3461).

Program Listing 1. Series solutions.

```
| 180 | PRINT "A.";:N=1:FOR L=1 TO 8:N=N*L:PRINT STRS(180-N)+",";:NEXT L:PRI NT "...":PRINT "B.";:L=0:CS="".while L<12:L=L+1:N=1*L:BS=MIDS(STRS(N),2):CS=C S+BS:WHILE LEN(CS)<4:PRINT "LEFTS(CS,3)",";:CS=RIGHTS(CS,LEN(CS)-3);).WEND:WEND:PRINT "...":PRINT "LEFTS(CS,3)",";:CS=RIGHTS(CS,LEN(CS)-3);).WEND:WEND:PRINT "...":PRINT "LEFTS(CS,3)",";:CS=RIGHTS(CS,LEN(CS)-3);).WEND:WEND:PRINT "...":PRINT "LEFTS(N+3) MOD 8:PRINT STRS(N);",";:NEXT L:PRINT "...":PRINT "..."
```

Program Listing 2. A dotty puzzle.

```
' ******** Connect the dots with 6 straight lines. ******** ' Draw the lines in one pass.
                   30 / 40 KEY OFF:SCREEN 1,0,0:COLOR 1,1
50 R=6:C-12:X=92:Y=43:RSTEP=4:CSTEP=5:XSTEP=40:YSTEP=32
60 FOR L=0 TO 3
70 FOR LL=0 TO 3
80 LOCATE R+L*RSTEP,C+LL*CSTEP:PRINT CHR$(4) ' Diamonds.
90 PST (X+LL*XSTEP,Y+L*YSTEP),2 ' Centers.
100 NEXT LL
2002
3612
892
1001
2953
2184
712
605
                   FOR LL=9 IO 3
80 LOCATE R+L*RSTEP,C+LL*CSTEP:PRINT CHR$(4) ' Diamo
90 PSET (X+LL*XSTEP,Y+L*YSTEP),2 ' Cente
110 NEXT LL
110 NEXT LL
120 PSET (X,Y),2 ' Start in the upper left-hand corner.
```

Program Listing 3. Here's looking at you.

```
10 KEY OFF:DEFINT A-Z:SCREEN 1,0,0:COLOR 7,1:CLS
20 DRAW "c1;bm30,60;m157,140;nm163,140;m157,190;m100,199"
30 DRAW "c1;bm290,60;m163,140;m163,190;m220,199;1120;bm160,142"
40 PAINT (160,142),cHRS(&H44)+cHRS(&H11),1
50 LINE (47,70)-(273,70),2,,&H9249:CIRCLE (160,137),1,2
60 DIM BUBBLE(4),SPRAY(37):GET (158,136)-(162,138),BUBBLE:PUT (158,136),BUBBLE:PUT (158,136),BUB
                                                                                                  70 LOCATE 1,14:PRINT "Pink Champagne";
100 FOR L-0 TO 4:IF Y(L)>70 THEN GOSUB 1100 ELSE IF Y(L)=70 THEN PUT (X(
L),Y(L)), BUBBLE:W(L)=5:Y(L)=Y(L)-1 ELSE IF Y(L)>60 THEN GOSUB 1200 E
LSE IF Y(L)=60 THEN GOSUB 1300:Y(L)=0 ELSE GOSUB 1000:PUT (X(L),Y(L)
                                                                                                      ),BUBBLE | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 1
                                                                                                         1020 RETURN
                                                                                                      1020 RETURN
1100 PUT (X(L),Y(L)),BUBBLE:Y(L)=Y(L)-1:PUT (X(L),Y(L)),BUBBLE:RETURN
1200 FOR Y=Y(L) TO Y(L)-2 STEP -1
1210 PSET (X(L)+INT(W(L)*RND),Y):PSET (X(L)+INT(W(L)*RND),Y)
1220 W(L)=W(L)+2:X(L)-X(L)-1
1230 NEXT Y:Y(L)=Y:RETURN
1300 GET (X(L),60)-(X(L)+W(L),69),SPRAY:PUT (X(L),60),SPRAY:RETURN
4265
1928
3678
16Ø6
```

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How to Use 80 Micro Program Listings

Basic program listings in 80 Micro include a checksum value at the beginning of each line. This value is the sum of the ASCII values of all characters and spaces in the line. If a line begins with an apostrophe as the first character after the line number, no checksum is calculated. If a remark is at the end of a line of code, it is not included in the checksum. Use Checksum to enter Basic programs found in 80 Micro, and test the accuracy of your typing a line at a time as you enter the program.

To enter a program, load and run Checksum. Enter the program exactly as listed, omitting the checksum number and bar at the beginning of the line. Omit the indentations when program lines continue to a second or third magazine line. Do not type in comments at the end of a line.

When you press enter, the line will be redisplayed with a checksum.

Compare this number with the one found in 80 Micro. If they are not the same, you made a typing error. Use the arrow keys to move the cursor to the first space of the line just typed. Press the delete key seven times to delete the checksum. Move the cursor to the error, and correct it by typing over the error or use the insert and delete keys to add or delete information. Press enter and recheck the checksum number.

After you enter the entire program, save it to disk with the Save command.

Checksum simulates Save, List, LList, Load, Files, and New commands and adds three new commands: Basic, Check, and LCheck. The Basic command exits the Checksum program back to Basic, leaving Checksum in memory. Check and LCheck work like List and LList, except they show the checksums along with the listing.

Checksum saves the new program as an ASCII file. By saving the program again with Basic, you shorten it on disk and make it load faster, but you can no longer edit it with Checksum unless you convert it back to an ASCII file by using the SAVE"file name", A command in Basic.

Program Listing. Checksum.

```
| 10 'Automatic Checksum Program Version 1.0 by Randall D. Hamilton
| 20 DIM L$(500),LNUM(500):COLOR 13,1,1:KEY OFF:CLS:MAX=0:LNUM(0)=65536!:C
                                                                                  20 DIM LS(500),LNUM(500):COLOR 13,1,1:KEY OFF:CLS:MAX=0:LNUM(0)=65536!:C LS
30 DEF SEG=&H40:W=PEEK(&H4A)
40 ON ERROR GOTO 620:PRINT:PRINT"Checksum Program Ready."
50 LINE INPUT LS:Y=CSRLIN-INT(LEN(LS)/W)-1:LOCATE Y,1
60 DEF SEG=0:POKE 1050,30:POKE 1052,34:POKE 1054,0:POKE 1055,79:POKE 105
6.13:POKE 1057,28:LINE INPUT LS:DEE SEG:IF LS="" THEN 50"
70 IF LEFTS(LS,1)=" " THEN LS=MIDS(LS,2):GOTO 70"
80 IF ASC(LS)>57 OR ASC(LS)<48 THEN 210"
90 BL=INSTR(LS, "):IF BL=0" THEN BLS=LS:GOTO 100 ELSE BL$=LEFTS(LS,BL-1)
100 LNUM=VAL(BLS):TEXTS=MIDS(LS,LEN(STRS(LNUM))+1)
110 IF LNUM>65529! THEN PRINT"LINE number greater than 65529":GOTO 30"
120 IF TEXTS="" THEN GOSUB 540:IF LNUM=LNUM(P) THEN GOSUB 550:GOTO 50 EL
SE 500
130 WORKS=TEXTS
             3089
                                                                                     SE 50
130 WORKS=TEXTS
140 IF LEFTS(WORKS,1)=" " THEN WORKS=MIDS(WORKS,2):GOTO 140
150 IF LEFTS(WORKS,1)=" " THEN AS=" ":LOCATE Y,1:GOTO 180
160 CKSUM=0:FOR I=1 TO LEN(LS):CKSUM=CKSUM+ASC(MIDS(LS,I)):NEXT:LOCATE Y
12314 | 170 IF CKSUM<10 THEN AS=" "+STR$(CKSUM)+" " ELSE IF CKSUM<100 THEN AS = " "+STR$(CKSUM)+" " ELSE IF CKSUM<1000 THEN AS=" "+STR$(CKSUM)+" " ELSE A$=STR$(CKSUM)+" " ELSE A EL
                                                                          "ELSE IF CKSUM<10000 THEN AS-
"180 PRINT AS+LS
"190 GOSUB 540:IF LNUM(P)=LNUM THEN LS(P)=TEXTS:GOTO 50 'replace line
200 GOSUB 560:GOTO 50 'risert the line
210 TEXTS="":FOR 1=1 TO LEN(LS):A=ASC(MIDS(LS,I)):TEXTS=TEXTS+CHRS(A+32*
(A>96 AND A<123)):NEXT
"220 DELIMITER=INSTR(TEXTS," "):COMMANDS=TEXTS:ARGS="":IF DELIMITER THEN
COMMANDS=LEFTS(TEXTS,DELIMITER-1):ARGS=MIDS(TEXTS,DELIMITER+1) ELSE
DELIMITER=INSTR(TEXTS,CHRS(34)):IF DELIMITER THEN COMMANDS=LEFTS(TEX
TS,DELIMITER-1):ARGS=MIDS(TEXTS,DELIMITER)
230 IF COMMANDS="LLIST" THEN GOTO 330
240 IF COMMANDS="LLIST" THEN OPEN "IPI1:" FOR OUTPUT AS #1:GOTO 340
250 IF COMMANDS="LCHECK" THEN CKFLAG=1:OPEN "IPI1:" FOR OUTPUT AS #1:ARGS=""
  16376 | 220
       221Ø
4283
491Ø
                                                                               240 IF COMMANDS="LLIST" THEN OPEN "ptl:" FOR OUTPUT AS #1:GOTO 340
250 IF COMMANDS="LCHECK" THEN CRELAG=1:OPEN "ptl:" FOR OUTPUT AS #1:GOT
0 346
260 IF COMMANDS="CHECK" THEN CKELAG=1:GOTO 330
270 IF COMMANDS="CHECK" THEN GOSUB 570:OPEN ARGS FOR OUTPUT AS #1:ARGS=""
:GOTO 340
280 IF COMMANDS="NEW" THEN GOSUB 570:OPEN ARGS FOR OUTPUT AS #1:ARGS=""
:GOTO 340
290 IF COMMANDS="NEW" THEN INPUT "frase program - Are you sure":LS:IF LE
FTS(LS,1)="y" OR LEFTS(LS,1)="y" THEN MAX=0:LNUM(0)=655361:GOTO 30:E
LSE 30
300 IF COMMANDS="BASIC" THEN COLOR 7,0,0:ON ERROR GOTO 0:CLS:END
310 IF COMMANDS="FILES" THEN GOTO 520
320 PRINT"Syntax error":GOTO 30
330 OPEN "scrn:" FOR OUTPUT AS #1
340 IF ARGS="" THEN FIRST=0:P=MAX-1:GOTO 380
350 DEL INITER=INSTR(ARGS,"-"):IF DELIMITER=0 THEN LNUM=VAL(ARGS):GOSUB 5
40:FIRST=P:GOTO 380
360 FIRST=VAL(LEFTS(ARGS,DELIMITER)):LAST=VAL(MIDS(ARGS,DELIMITER+1))
370 LNUM=FIRST:GOSUB 540:FIRST=0:LNUM=LAST:GOSUB 540:IF P=0 THEN P=MAX-1
380 FOR X=FIRST TO P:NS=MIDS(STRS(LNUM(X)),2)+"
390 IF CKFLAG=0 THEN AS="":GOTO 450
400 WORKS=LS(X)
410 IF LEFTS(WORKS,1)="" THEN MORKS=MIDS(WORKS,2):GOTO 410
420 IF LEFTS(WORKS,1)="" THEN MORKS=MIDS(WORKS,2):GOTO 410
420 IF LEFTS(WORKS,1)="" THEN AS="
"+STRS(CKSUM)+" "ELSE IF CKSUM<100 THEN AS=
""+STRS(CKSUM)+" "ELSE IF CKSUM<100 THEN AS=
"" "+STRS(CKSUM)+" "ELSE IF CKSUM<100 THEN AS="" "+STRS(CKSUM)+" "ELSE IF CKSUM<100 THEN AS=
"" "+STRS(CKSUM)+" "ELSE IF CKSUM<100 THEN AS="" "+STRS(CKSUM)+" "ELSE IF CKSUM<100 THEN AS=
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       2839
5Ø11
          4Ø28
2265
2381
2172
          2954 2049
       881
3512
277Ø
4635
  12314
                                                                                       45Ø PŔINT #1, A$+N$+L$(X)
46Ø IF INKEY$<>"" THEN X=P
47Ø NEXT :CLOSE #1:CKFLAG=Ø
48Ø GOTO 3Ø
                                                                               470 NEXT :CLOSE #1:CKFLAG=Ø
480 GOTO 3Ø
490 GOSUB 57Ø:OPEN ARGS FOR INPUT AS #1:MAX=Ø:P=Ø
50Ø WHILE NOT EOF(1):LINE INPUT #1,LS:BL=INSTR(LS," "):BLS=LEFTS(LS,BL-1)
11 NUM(P)=VAL(BLS):LS(P)=MIDS(LS,LEN(STRS(VAL(BLS)))+1):P=P+1:WEND
12 IF ARGS="" THEN ARGS="":"ELSE SEL=1:GOSUB 57Ø
130 FILES ARGS:GOTO 3Ø
1520 IF ARGS="" THEN ARGS="":"ELSE SEL=1:GOSUB 57Ø
1540 P=Ø:WHILE LNUMENLNUM(P) AND P<MAX:P=P+1:WEND:RETURN
1550 MAX=MAX-1:FOR X=P TO MAX:LNUM(X)=LNUM(X+1):LS(X)=LS(X+1):NEXT:RETURN
1560 MAX=MAX-1:FOR X=P TO MAX:LNUM(X)=LNUM(X)=LNUM(X-1):LS(X)=LS(X-1):NEXT:RETURN
1560 MAX=MAX-1:FOR X=MAX TO P+1 STEP -1:LNUM(X)=LNUM(X-1):LS(X)=LS(X-1):NEXT:RETURN
1570 IF LEFTS(ARGS,1)=" "THEN ARGS=MIDS(ARGS,2):GOTO 57Ø
1580 IF LEFTS(ARGS,1)=(NEKS(34) THEN 32Ø ELSE ARGS=MIDS(ARGS,2)
1590 IF RIGHTS(ARGS,1)=(RRS(34) THEN 32Ø ELSE ARGS=MIDS(ARGS,2)
1590 IF RIGHTS(ARGS,1)=(RRS(34) THEN 32Ø ELSE ARGS=MIDS(ARGS,2)
1600 IF SEL=Ø:RETURN
1600 PRINT "Error #";ERR:RESUME 500
```



THE NEXT STEP

Simple Arithmetic

by the end of fifth or sixth grade, most of us could perform the simple arithmetic operations—addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division—confidently and accurately with any numbers given to us. It might take a little time to multiply a pair of 60-digit numbers, but the task is not difficult.

Despite its power, a computer, especially one running Basic, can't do as well. Interpreted Basic can't even subtract 20 from 20.2 without introducing inaccuracies. If your application requires accurate arithmetic, as many financial programs do, interpreted Basic is a poor choice.

Basic and most other popular languages can perform arithmetic accurately if the values remain in integer range, from -32,768 to +32,767. Most implementations of C and some of the new compiled Basics such as Microsoft's Quick Basic and Borland's Turbo Basic can also use long integers, which are accurate between positive and negative 2,147,483,647. One way to write financial programs with such languages is to do all arithmetic with long integers representing cents, not dollars, and then place the decimal point appropriately during input and output. Extensions that manipulate numbers of any length accurately using an internal representation called Binary Coded Decimal (BCD) are available for some languages. If you often write financial programs, even if they're intended only to handle your personal finances and accounts, one of these solutions may be sufficient.

It's interesting and sometimes instructive to find ways around a computer's inherent limitations. This month's program (see the Program Listing) illustrates one method of performing simple arithmetic on integers of almost any length. If you write the program in Quick Basic (as I have) or in Turbo Basic, the numbers can be up to 32,766 digits long. If you use interpreted Basic, you'll be able to use numbers up to 254 digits long. Either should fulfill almost any requirement.

Representing Numbers

Once you leave the realm of a language's

by Hardin Brothers

internal numeric formats, you must pick a new method of storing and manipulating numbers. Two methods are frequently used. Long numbers can be stored in integer arrays, with a single digit in each array element, or in strings, with each digit stored in its ASCII form. Both solutions have advantages and disadvantages.

If you use arrays to store large numbers, you'll run headlong into Basic's inflexible memory-management techniques. You must dimension arrays to the largest possible size that might be needed and can resize an array only by erasing it completely and then redimensioning it. Also, if you store a single digit in each array location, you'll be using 16 bits (2 bytes) to hold each digit. If you store more than one digit in each array element in order to save memory space, multiplication and division algorithms turn out to be extremely cumbersome to program.

On the other hand, if you store large numbers in strings, you can take advantage of Basic's flexible string storage techniques. Space is allocated and de-allocated as necessary, without intervention by the programmer. You'll also be able to store one digit in every 8 bits (1 byte), thereby doubling the efficiency of your memory use. On the other hand, your program will run more slowly because you'll have to convert digits to numbers and back again as you work. At the very least, you'll have to work with ASCII codes instead of actual numeric values.

In the past, I've implemented several longnumber schemes using arrays, so I decided to use strings to hold the numbers this month. I also decided to write this month's program using Quick Basic 4.0, because it has some of the best built-in program development tools available. I've found I can develop programs in Quick Basic 4.0 about twice as fast as I can with any other language or compiler in my library.

Exploring the Program

This month's listing is intended to serve

as a guide to the algorithms you'd need to add long-integer arithmetic to your own programs. The listing works as a program in its own right, but you'll probably soon tire of merely performing arithmetic on arbitrary numbers. Throughout the program, I've used lowercase names for variables and mixed-case names for functions and subprograms. Words shown entirely in uppercase letters are Basic's keywords.

The function and sub declarations at the beginning of the program show the logical grouping of the program's procedures. Quick Basic 4.0 insists on listing the procedures in alphabetical order, but the groupings shown in the declarations are more natural to the logic of the program and indicate the order in which I will discuss the parts of the Listing.

The main body of the program follows the declarations. First, you're asked to type in two numbers, which are stored in strings. Although Quick Basic allows strings up to 32,767 characters long, its input routine allows only 255-character strings. If you want to allow longer strings, you'll have to use a different input technique.

Next, the strings are sent to two different functions. Fixup turns the input strings into the format the rest of the program expects: a plus or minus sign followed by a string of digits. You may enter the numbers with commas or other interior characters; if so, Fixup and its subfunction RemoveJunk will extract those characters. The second function, Format, turns the strings into a form suitable for output. Leading plus signs are removed, and commas are added between every three digits to make the numbers more readable. The Format function is something like Basic's Print Using, but it accepts the numbers in string form and can handle large numbers. The only limit is that the strings Format creates cannot be more than 32,767 characters long (in Quick Basic or Turbo Basic).

System Requirements: Quick Basic 4.0. Available on the April—June Disk Series, on sale in May.

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Next, the two numbers you've entered are sent to the four arithmetic routines: Add, Subtract, Multiply, and Divide. Each accepts two strings in the program's internal format and returns a result that's in the same format. The original numbers and the result of each operation are displayed with a subprogram called Display.

The first declared subprogram, ErrorRpt, prints an error message, waits for you to read it, and then returns. It uses Basic's key-ready function, Inkey\$, in two While ... Wend loops to first empty the computer's type-ahead buffer and then wait for a keystroke.

The Fixup function first removes leading and trailing spaces from the strings and then extracts the sign of the number if it exists. If no sign is attached to the number, Fixup assumes that it is positive. Next, it removes any leading non-digits and any leading zeros. If anything remains of the number, Fixup calls RemoveJunk to extract any extraneous characters such as commas. Otherwise, it returns a +0, the standard representation of zero within the program. RemoveJunk merely steps through the string one character at a time, taking out all non-digits. Fixup is also used to put the results from the arithmetic functions back into standard format.

The Format function takes a string in the program's internal format, removes leading plus signs, and adds commas as necessary to prepare the string for output. The Display subprogram begins by creating a string long enough to hold the longest string it has to print on the screen. Then it uses Basic's RSet command to put each of the numbers into that string and display them in a right-justified format. RSet is more often used with random-access files, but it can be helpful if you need to print any strings in right-justified form, a job that Print Using refuses to do. The output from Display looks pleasant on the screen if the numbers are short enough to fit on a single line. If your input or output numbers are more than 78 characters long, your screen output will look messy in any case.

Performing Arithmetic

The rest of the functions in the program do the actual arithmetic. The function Add takes two strings in the standard internal format. It uses the subfunction, Larger, to determine which operand has the higher absolute value, and therefore the sign of the result. If the signs of the two operands are the same, Add calls the Carry routine because an actual addition must be performed. If the signs are different, Add calls the Borrow function because adding numbers with opposite signs is the same as subtracting two

numbers with the same sign.

The Carry and Borrow functions have similar structures. Each begins by making the operand strings the same length and then adding or subtracting from right to left, much the same as most people do. They both have to check for a possible carry or borrow before saving each digit of the result. Notice that neither routine has to worry about possible overflow because the operand in a\$ is larger or equal to that in b\$, and the signs in each operand are replaced by zeros.

The Subtract function is particularly simple. It merely reverses the sign of the second operand it receives and then calls Add.

The Multiply function is more complicated. Multiply could be implemented by calling Add repeatedly, but if the multiplier were at all long, your computer might take forever to calculate a result. Instead, Multiply begins by determining the sign of the result and then removing the signs from both operands. It then moves from left to right through the multiplier, picking out one digit at a time and sending that digit, along with the multiplicand, to a separate function called Mult. Mult returns a partial product, which is added to a running total. The total is also multiplied by 10 before each new partial product is added. The resulting algorithm is similar to the way most people perform long multiplication, except that it moves from left to right instead of vice versa.

Divide is the most complicated function in the program. Like Multiply, it could have been implemented by subtracting the divisor from the dividend repeatedly. Instead, I chose to implement divide using the standard "long division" algorithm that most of us learned in elementary school. The divisor is padded on the right with the appropriate number of zeros and then sent, along with the dividend, to a function called Div to find one digit of the result. Then a multiplication and subtraction are used to adjust the dividend before the next quotient is found. If you trace through Divide using Quick Basic's debugger to watch all of the strings in the routine, you'll soon see how the function works.

The Div routine can't use Basic's builtin division operators to find a digit since it might be sent numbers of immense length. Instead, it repeatedly subtracts the divisor from the dividend to find a digit for the quotient and counts the number of subtractions necessary.

The addition and subtraction routines are relatively quick, but multiplication and division can bog down the computer. The time required to multiply two numbers is proportional to the length of the shorter number. The time required to perform a division, because the subtraction routine must be called repeatedly, is proportional to the sum of the digits in the quotient. Small quotients can be found quickly, as can quotients with many 1's and zeros.

However, a division problem that results in a quotient of all 8's and 9's might take a long time to calculate.

As you study the listing or type it into your computer, pay particular attention to which parameters are passed by value and which are passed by reference. When a parameter is passed by reference to a function, the function can change the original value. When a parameter is passed by reference, either by enclosing the variable in a second set of parentheses or by specifying an expression as the parameter, the called function cannot change the original value. Sometimes the program doesn't care what happens to an operand and passes it by reference, which is faster. At other times,

operands can't be destroyed, so they're passed by value.

If you're going to rewrite the program for interpreted Basic, you'll have to change each of the functions into a subroutine and develop a personal convention for passing strings back and forth between subroutines. Since most of the functions in the program receive either one or two strings, you might want to use two dedicated variables to send values to subroutines and a third to receive results. You could adopt a similar convention if you want to translate the program into a different compiled Basic.

Some of the algorithms in this month's program were adopted from Wayne Amsbury's Data Structures from Arrays to Priority Queues

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(Wadsworth Publishing Co., 1985), which is written as a textbook but contains a clear explanation of how several different kinds of data structures can be implemented, both in pseudo-code and Pascal.

Write Hardin Brothers at 280 N. Campus Ave., Upland, CA 91786. Enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope for a reply. You can also contact Hardin on Compuserve's WESIG (PCS-117).

Program Listing. Quick Basic program performs simple arithmetical operations on integers of almost any length.

```
IF difference < Ø THEN
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                'If we need to borrow
              Multi-precision arithmetic routines
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          loan = 1 'Set borrow value 
difference = difference + 10 'Make column result positive
          Input accepted as nnnnnnn, +nnnnnnnn, or -nnnnnnnn for each number. Stored internally as +nnnnnnnn or -nnnnnnnn Original strings are not destroyed by arithmetic routines
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         'Else no borrow in next column
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          loan = Ø
                                                                                                                                                                                                                             END IF
c$ = MID$(STR$(difference), 2) + c$ 'Save the result
                                                                                                                                                                                                              CS = MIDS(SIRS(differen

NEXT 1p

cS = FixupS(cS)

IF cS <> "+0" THEN

MIDS(cS, 1, 1) = signS

END IF
              Written for QuickBasic 4.0
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      'Normalize result
'Then set the sign
DECLARE SUB ErrorRpt (a$)
                                                                          Report input errors
DECLARE FUNCTION Fixup$ (a$)
DECLARE FUNCTION RemoveJunk$ (a$)
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       'Return the result
                                                                                                                                                                                                              END FUNCTION
DECLARE FUNCTION Format$ (a$)
DECLARE FUNCTION Reverse$ (a$)
                                                                                                                                                                                                                   Add two numbers with the same sign. Carry out of each column as necessary.
                                                                       'Display three numbers
'Find longest of 3 lengths
DECLARE SUB Display (a$, b$, c$)
DECLARE FUNCTION Maxlen% (a$, b$, c$)
                                                                                                                                                                                                              /________ (as, bs)
FUNCTION Carrys (as, bs)
Signs = LEFTS(as, 1)
MIOS(as, 1, 1) = "\textit{\textit{m}} | \textit{MIDS(bs, 1, 1)} = "\textit{\textit{\textit{m}}} | \textit{MIDS(bs, 1, 1)} = "\textit{\textit{m}} | \textit{DO HHILE LEN(bs)} \textit{LEN(as)} | \textit{bs} = "\textit{\textit{m}} + \textit{bs} \textit{LEN(as)} | \textit{LOOP}
DECLARE FUNCTION Add$ (a$, b$)
DECLARE FUNCTION Larger% (a$, b$)
DECLARE FUNCTION Carry$ (a$, b$)
DECLARE FUNCTION Borrow$ (a$, b$)
                                                                         'Add two numbers
'Is |a| >= |b| ?
'Add using carry algorithm
'Add using borrow algorithm
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       'Make operands the same length
                                                                                                                                                                                                            DECLARE FUNCTION Subtract$ (a$, b$)
                                                                         'Subtract a - b
                                                                         'Multiply two numbers 'Multiply nnnnnnn by m
DECLARE FUNCTION Multiply$ (a$, b$)
DECLARE FUNCTION Mults (a$, b$)
DECLARE FUNCTION Divide$ (a$, b$)
DECLARE FUNCTION Div$ (a$, b$)
DEFINT A-Z
CONST FALSE = Ø
CONST TRUE = NOT FALSE
                                                                                                                                                                                                                             over = Ø
END IF
c$ = MID$(STR$(sum), 2) + c$
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        'Else no carry to next column
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            'Save the result
                                                                                                                                                                                                              NEXT 1p

cS = FixupS(cS)

IF cS <> "+0" THEN

MIDS(cS, 1, 1) = signS

END IF
Start:
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        'Normalize the result
              CLS
LIME INPUT "first number: ", item1$ 'Get and check input
IF INSTR(item15, ".") THEN
ErrorRpt ("You may only enter integers")
GOTO Start
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       'If necessary
' include result sign
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       'Return the result
               LINE INPUT "Second number: ", item25
IF INSTR(item25, ".") THEN
ErrorRpt ("You may only enter integers")
GOTO Start
                                                                                                                                                                                                                   Display two operands and result in a standard format
                                                                                                                                                                                                              SUB Display (aS, bS, cS) outputS = STRINGS(Maxlen(aS, bS, cS), " ") 'Set length of each output string PRINT
                                                                                                                                                                                                              PRINT
RSET outputS = a5
PRINT outputS = 85
PRINT outputS = 85
PRINT outputS = 95
PRINT TOUTputS = 05
PRINT STRINGS(LEN(outputS), "=")
RSET outputS = c5
PRINT outputS = c5
END SUB
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      'Display first operand
               iteml$ = Fixup$(iteml$)
item2$ = Fixup$(item2$)
first$ = Format$(item1$)
                                                                                   'Coreect any problems
' and put in normalized form
'Prepare for later output
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       'Display second operand
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      'Display the result
               Display " "+ first$, "+" + second$, Format$(Add$((item1$), (item2$)))
Display " "+ first$, "-" + second$, Format$(Subtract$((item1$), (item2$)))
Display " "+ first$, "" + second$, Format$(Multiply$((item1$), (item2$)))
Display " + first$, CHR$(246) + " " + second$, Format$(bivide$((item1$), (item2$)))
                                                                                                                                                                                                                   Find a partial quotient by subtraction. Input is the current value of
the dividend (in a$) and the divisor, possibly with trailing zeroes.
Both are positive.
      Add two numbers. If signs are the same, use carry algorithm;
if signs are different, use borrow algorithm
                                                                                                                                                                                                               FUNCTION Div$ (a$, b$)
 FUNCTION Add$ (a$, b$)
IF Larger(b$, a$) THEN
SWAP a$, b$
                                                                                                                                                                                                               DO WHILE Larger(as, bs)

as = Subtracts((as), (bs))

count = count + 1
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      'No subtractions yet
'Subtract as long as a > b
'Perform the subtraction
'Count this subtraction
                                                                         'Put larger absolute value in a$
 END IF IF LEN(b$) = 2 AND MID$(b$, 2) = "8" THEN Add$ = a$ 'Leave early if no work needed
                                                                                                                                                                                                               LOUP
Div$ = Fixup$(STR$(count))
END FUNCTION
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      'Return result in normalized form
               IF LEFT$(a$, 1) = LEFT$(b$, 1) THEN
    Add$ = Carry$(a$, b$)
 Adds = Borrow$(a$, b$)

END IF
END FUNCTION
                                                                                            'Use carry if signs are the same
                                                                                                                                                                                                                    Divide a by b, using a version of the "5th grade" long division algorithm. Each digit of the quotient is found be subtraction instead of by memorizing "division facts"
                                                                                          'Otherwise use borrow
                                                                                                                                                                                                                FUNCTION DivideS (aS, bS)

IF LEN(aS) < LEN(bS) OR VAL(bS) = Ø THEN
DivideS = "+Ø"
EXIT FUNCTION
 '-----
' To add numbers with opposite signs, we essentially have to subtract, borrowing from each column as necessary
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   'Maybe no work is needed at all
                                                                                                                                                                                                                END IF
IF LEFT$(a$, 1) = LEFT$(b$, 1) THEN
sign$ = "+"
ELSE
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       'If signs are the same
' result will be positive
'If signs are different
' result will be negative
 FUNCTION BOTTOWS (as, bs) signs = LEFTS(as, 1) MIDS(as, 1, 1) = "\textit{g"} MIDS(bs, 1, 1) = "\textit{g"} OWHITE LER(bs) < LEN(as) bs = "\textit{g"} + bs
                                                                                                                                                                                                              ELSE sign$ = "-"
END IF MID$(a$, 1, 1) = "+"
MID$(b$, 1, 1) = "+"
C$ = "+"
                                                                          'Get sign of result
'Remove signs of opperands
                                                                         'Make operands the same length
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         'Make both operands positive
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         'Result temporarily starts with '+'
'Count quotient digits
                                                                                                                                                                                                                c$ = "+"
loops = LEN(a$) - LEN(b$)
  'No borrow yet

c$ * "

FOR lp = LEN(a$) TO 1 STEP -1

difference = VAL(MID$(a$, lp, 1)) - VAL(MID$(b$, lp, 1)) - loan
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    Listing continued
```

THE NEXT STEP

```
Listing continued
                    FOR lp - loops TO Ø STEP -1

CS - CS + "B"

dS - DivS((aS), bS + STRINGS(lp, "B")) "Find one digit

CS - AddS((cS), (dS)) "Add it to the quotient

eS - FixupS(Wlltipl)yS((dS), (bS)) + STRINGS(lp, "B")) "Find number to subtract

aS - SubtractS((aS), (eS)) "Find new value of dividend

NEXT lp | STEP | Loop | STEP - Loop |

NEXT lp | Loop | STEP - Loop |

NEXT lp | Loop | STEP - Loop |

"Find new value of dividend
                    as = Subtract$((as), (e

NEXT lp

cs = Fixup$(cs)

IF cs <> "+8" THEN

END IF

Divides = cs

END FUNCTION
                                                                                                                                                'Result in normal form
'Does it need a new sign?
'Set result sign
                                                                                                                                               'Paturn recult
                      '-----'
' Report an error and wait for user to read it
                     SUB ErrorRpt (a5)
PRINT
PRINT a5 + CHR$(7)
PRINT a5 + CHR$(7)
PRINT "Press any key ...";
WHILE INKEYS > "": WEND
WHILE INKEYS = "": WEND
PRINT : PRINT END SUB
                                                                                                                                                 'Erase type-ahead buffer
'Wait for keystroke
                              Accept string as entered by user or returned from arithmetic function and convert to 'normalized' format: no leading or trailing spaces, no leading \theta's, and an explicit leading sign ('+' or '-')
                      FUNCTION Fixups (as)
                      FUNCTION FixupS (aS)
aS - LTRIMS(aS)
aS - RTRIMS(aS)
signS - LEFTS(aS, 1)
F signS - "+" OR signS - "-" THEN
aS - MIDS(aS, 2)
                                                                                                                                                'Frase leading & trailing blanks
                                                                                                                                             'Get sign if one exists
                                                                                                                                                   'Erase sign if it exists
                      sign$ = "+"
END IF
DO
                                                                                                                                                              'Otherwise number is positive
                       DO 'Erase other leading non-digits | Finst$ - LEFT$(a$, 1) 'Erase other leading non-digits | Finst$("0123456789", first$) = Ø THEN a$ = MID$(a$, 2) | LOOP UNTIL INSTR("0123456789", first$) | DO WHILE LEFT$(a$, 1) - "Ø" 'Erase leading Ø's | LOOP | a$ - MID$(a$, 2) | LOOP | a$ - MID$(a$, 2) | The middle of the 
                      LOOP
IF LEN(a$) THEN
a$ - RemoveJunk(a$)
                                                                                                                                                 'If there's anything left
'Remove non-digits (commas, etc.)
                      a$ = "Ø"
END IF
                                                                                                                                                              'Nothing left = Ø
                        Fixup$ = sign$ + a$
END FUNCTION
                                                                                                                                                 'Put sign back on
                     sign = TRUE
                      END IF
b$ = MID$(a$, 2)
IF LEN(b$) > 3 THEN
b$ = Reverse$(b$)
c$ = ""
lp = 3
D0
                                                                                                                                                 'Remove the sign
'If it needs commas
' reverse the number
'CS will hold reversed result
'A comma every 3 places
                                             DO

c$ = c$ + MID$(b$, lp - 2, 3) + "," 'Get three digits and a comma
lp = lp + 3
LOOP UNTIL lp > LEN(b$)
c$ = c$ + MID$(b$, lp - 2)
b$ = Reverse$(c$)

'Until we're done
'Put extra characters on
'Back to normal order
                      END IF
IF NOT sign THEN
b$ = "-" + b$
                                                                                                                                                              'Add minus sign if needed
                        Format$ = b$
END FUNCTION
                                                                                                                                                   'Return new string
                             Return TRUE if |a| >= |b|
                        FUNCTION Larger (a$, b$)
IF LEN(a$) > LEN(b$) THEN
Larger = TRUE
                                                                                                                                                'Longer number is larger
                        ELSE
                                               IF LEN(b$) > LEN(a$) THEN
Larger = FALSE
                                                                       'lengths are the same -- compare
IF MIDS(aS, 2) >= MIDS(bS, 2) THEN 'compare absolute values
Larger = TRUE
ELSE
                                             Larger = FALSE
END IF
                           '-----'
' Given three strings, return the length of the longest
                          FUNCTION Maxlen (a$, b$, c$)
1 = LEN(a$)
1F LEN(b$) > 1 THEN 1 = LEN(b$)
1F LEN(c$) > 1 THEN 1 = LEN(c$)
                                                                                                                                                           'Return the length
                          Maxlen = 1
END FUNCTION
                               Multiply a number (a$) by a digit (b$). Both are positive.
                       FUNCTION Mults (as, bs)

• VAL(bs)

cs = ""

cver = \( \text{$\gamma}\)

FOR 1p = LEN(as) TO 1 STEP -1

digit = VAL(MIDS(as, lp, 1))

over = digit \( \text{$\gamma}\)

cs = MIDS(STRS(digit MOD 1\text{$\gamma}\)) + cs 'Result between "\( \text{$\gamma}\) and "9"

NFYT 1b
                        NEXT Ip

IF over <> Ø THEN

cs = MIDS(STRS(over), 2) + cs 'Result between b' and s

'If carry out of leftmost column

cs = MIDS(STRS(over), 2) + cs

'add it to the result
                           END IF
MultS = "+" + cS
                                                                                                                                                  'Return a positive result
```

```
END FUNCTION
        Multiply two numbers. Multiply one number by each digit in the other number, keeping the partial products in c$
 FUNCTION Multiply$ (a$, b$)
IF Larger(b$, a$) THEN
SWAP a$, b$
                                                                                                            'Save some time by putting
'smaller value in b$
END IF

EXIT FUNCTION

END IF

EXIT FUNCTION

EXIT FUNCTION

IF LEFTS(aS, 1) = LEFTS(bS, 1) THEN

signs = "+"

(15 signs are the same

result will be positive

(15 modult will be negative
ELSE signs = "+" result will be pust

END IF as = MIDS(as, 2) 'Now remove the signs bs = MIDS(bs, 2)

CS = "+" 'Result starts positive over = 0

FOR IP = 1 TO LEN(bs) 'Move from right to left cs = cs + "0" cs = AddS(cs, Mults(as, MIDS(bs, 1p, 1))) 'Add this digit

NEXT In
                                                                                                                         'Else result will be negative
CS = AddS(cS, MultS(aS,
PCS = FixupS(cS)
IF cS <> "+0" THEN
MIDS(cS, 1, 1) = signS
END IF
                                                                                                           'Normalize result format
'If answer is not Ø
' insert proper sign
 END IF
Multiply$ = c$
END FUNCTION
                                                                                                           'Return result
         Remove extraneous interior characters from a number string
  FUNCTION RemoveJunks (as)
                                                                                                            'Start at first position
                                                                                                                       'Get the character
                    chs = MIDS(as. lp. 1)
     Maxiem = 1
END FUNCTION
             Multiply a number (a$) by a digit (b$). Both are positive.
   CS = MIDS(STRS(digit Mod iB), 2) + CS = MiDS(STRS(digit Mod iB), 2) + CS = MIDS(STRS(over), 2) + CS = MIDS(STRS(digit Mod iB), 2) + CS = MIDS(STRS(digit Mod iB),
     'Multiply two numbers. Multiply one number by each digit in the other number, keeping the partial products in cs'

FUNCTION MultiplyS (aS, bS)

FUNCTION MultiplyS (aS, bS)

FUNCTION MultiplyS (aS, bS)

'Save some time by putting smaller value in bS'

'Save some time by putting smaller value in bS'
     END IF IF LER(LS) = 2 AND MIDS(LS, 2, 1) = "0" THEN 'Maybe we have nothing to do MultiplyS = "+0" EXIT FUNCTION
     END IF IF LEFTS(aS, 1) = LEFTS(bS, 1) THEN 'If signs are the same signS = "+" 'result will be positive
    sign$ = "-"
                                                                                                                               'Else result will be negative
     a$ = MID$(a$, 2)
b$ = MID$(b$, 2)
c$ = "+"
                                                                                                                 'Now remove the signs
                                                                                                                 'Result starts positive
     CS = "+"

over = 0

over = 0

FOR lp = 1 TO LEN(b5)

c5 = c5 + "0"

(*Multiply result be 10

c5 = Add$(c5, Mult$(a$, MID$(b$, lp, 1)))

Add this digit
     CS = Adds(cS, Mults(aS,
pc$ = Fixup$(cs)
IF cS <> "+8" THEN
HIDS(cS, 1, 1) = sign$
END IF
Multiply$ = c$
END FUNCTION
                                                                                                                 'Normalize result format
'If answer is not Ø
' insert proper sign
      '.....' Remove extraneous interior characters from a number string
       FUNCTION RemoveJunk$ (a$)
   'Else move to next position
     '.....' Reverse a string. This is a non-recursive function to save stack space.
       FUNCTION Reverse$ (a$)
                                                                                                    'Room for result
'Move from right to left
'Copy each character to result
     FOR IP - LEN(a$) TO 1 STEP -1

DS - DS - MIDS(a$, lp, l)

NEXT lp

REVERSES - DS

END FUNCTION
             Subtract b$ from a$ by reversing the sign of b$ and then adding
     FUNCTION Subtracts (as, bs)
signs = LEFTs(bs, 1)
IF signs = "+" THEN
signs = "-"
                                                                                                                 'Get original sign
                                                                                                                        'Change it
      ELSE
                        sign$ = "+"
     END IF
MID$(b$, 1, 1) = sign$
Subtract$ = Add$(a$, b$)
END FUNCTION
                                                                                                                  'Change the original 'And then add a$ and b$
```



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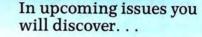
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90 Days Aren't Enough

Tandy's 90-Day Warranty

■ I agree with Michael Nadeau's position on the 90-day warranty that comes with Tandy MS-DOS systems (see "Are 90 Days Enough?" Side Tracks, February 1988, p. 8).

I bought a Volvo 144S in 1968. It had a six-month warranty, which I accepted because I had confidence in the product. Ten months later, I had an engine problem that the local mechanic said was due to a manufacturing problem. He told Volvo, and it paid for the repair even though the warranty had already expired. Volvo accepted the expense without the advantage of public credit. They could have given me a seven-year warranty. I'm still driving the car (225,000 miles and counting).

I've had two Model 4 and two Model 4P machines for about six years. Five-year warranties on my machines wouldn't have cost Tandy one cent.—Charles E. Dills, San Luis Obispo, CA

Last year at this time my Tandy 1000A was not quite 11 months old when the RGB monitor died.

The monitor, for which I paid extra, was a CM-2 (I bought the computer when it was bundled with the CM-5). I never abused it; the problem, when discovered, was clearly the result of a production flaw.

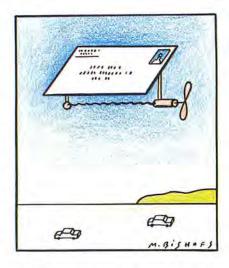
I was shocked to receive a \$300 estimate to repair a monitor that was less than a year old. Tandy wasn't willing to give me any kind of a break on the repairs or the new monitor.

Finally, the store manager paid for half the repair with his own money. He certainly wasn't obliged to do this, since he wasn't even the manager when I bought the computer.

To make matters worse, I'd never been pleased with the images from the RGB monitor that came with my Tandy 1000A. According to former 80 Micro technical writer Dave Rowell, the problem occurred because the monitor's manufacturer slightly changed the electronics so that some 1000A/RGB monitor combinations delivered fuzzy images (see "Keeping Dates," July 1986, p. 84).

Clearly, this was a design flaw, but Tandy's service department insisted on charging me \$60 for the "enhancement." When they returned the monitor, it wasn't even adjusted properly. I've been able to see scan lines across the screen ever since.

80 Micro's BBS is open 24 hours a day. It offers programs you can download, special-interest groups, and a classified section. You can reach the board at 603-924-6985; UART settings are 300/ 1200 baud, 8-bit words, 1 stop bit, no parity.



I didn't appreciate Tandy's extremely limited 90-day warranty that time. Next time I'll know better.—Stephen King, Riverside, CA

Corrections and Amplifications

- The correct address and phone numbers of the Tandy SIG of the Chicago Area Computer Hobbyist's Exchange (CACHE) are 1718 N. Long Ave., Chicago, IL 60639, 312-622-4442 (300/1200 baud), or 312-622-5969 (voice). The correct address of CACHE, the parent organization, is Box C-176, 323 S. Franklin, no. 804, Chicago, IL 60606-7092, 312-653-4114.
- In the January 1988 Side Tracks column ("Welcome to the New 80 Micro," p. 8), Code Works was identified as a monthly magazine covering Models I/III/4. It is published bimonthly.

Roll With the Changes

■ I just read the Input column ("TRSDOS Users Respond," p. 94) in the January 1988 80 Micro. It's always bad when a computer line is discontinued or loses support. A computer is an investment; nobody wants to see a computer go the way of the 8-track tape deck, but it happens. As much as we hate it, computer magazines have to adjust their coverage to suit the current trends.

It's more than just a matter of money and advertising. Readers won't read a magazine that covers a computer that is five years out of date just to satisfy a few diehards who love their "antiques" so much that they're going to keep them all the way to the retirement home.

I've also owned a computer that lost support. I didn't like it, but I knew that I could either keep what I had and try to make the best of it or upgrade to a better

system and enjoy the unlimited capabilities in software and hardware support.

I'm not a millionaire, but I've been able to sell my older systems to first-time users and upgrade from an Altair 8800B to a Tandy MS-DOS machine. Let's not act like babies who've just lost their favorite stuffed animals!

Don't blame the magazines for changing their content. They are responding to the current trends in computing-not just for the advertising dollars but also because readers demand information on these new models. Face it; as good as they were, the days of TRSDOS are over. If you love your TRSDOS machine so much, give it to your kid and get an MS-DOS system (they're on sale).-Marc Chiarello, Oconomowoc, WI

A Vote for Basic

■ If a language allows awkward construction and a certain amount of misuse but can still be understood, it's a good language. Richard Crimi said he refuses to program in Basic because it allows for "sloppiness," but if he'd followed his own criterion, he wouldn't have learned English (see "A Vote for Fortran," November 1987, p. 114).

Basic permits awkward construction, but dosen't require it. The fact that both clean and dirty code can do the same job in Basic is a strong point in its favor. Subroutines are a fact of life in programming. Does it really make a difference what mnemonic you use in telling a computer to use a subroutine? The complaint I have with Basic, I would probably have about any interpreted language: It is slow.

Basic compilers don't always speed things up the way you'd expect, but an interpreted Basic program can be tested statement by statement. You can see the values of constants and variables in a program and change them by pressing the break and continue keys. Using the break key to suspend operation of a program, you can resume execution at any line with a direct Goto statement. You can test, save or discard changes without recompiling.

I have a feeling Mr. Crimi studied programming in school. I've observed a similar syndrome among graduates of conservatories of music: They know which music is good and which is bad, and they know why it must be so because they have been told. If the bad music is more popular, that is only confirmation, is it not?-Patrick A. Gainer, Tanner, WV

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SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS
IBM Personal Computer and 100% compatibles (with 8086, 8088, 80286 or 80386 processors) with monochrome or color display; IBM Personal System/2 Memory: 640K recommended; for DESQview itself 0-145K Expanded Memory (Optional): expanded memory boards compatible with the Intel AboveBoard; enhanced expanded memory boards compatible with the AST RAMpage Disk: Two diskette drives or one diskette drive and a hard disk Graphics Card (Optional): Hercules, IBM Color/Graphics (GGA), IBM Personal System/2 Advanced Graphics (VGA) Mouse (Optional): Mouse Systems, Microsoft and compatibles Modem for Auto-Dialer (Optional): Hayes or Compatible Operating System: PC-DOS 20-3.3; MS-DOS2.0-3.2 Software: Most PC-DOS and MS-DOS application programs; programs specific to TopView 1.1, GEM 1.1 and Microsoft Windows 1.03 Media: DESQview 2.0 is available on either 5½" or 3½" floppy diskettes

		DESC	Qview 2.0	\$129.95	\$
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