



Tech Info Library

Applesoft: Editing files

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Security: Everyone

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These keystrokes can be used to edit Applesoft files on a IIe, Enhanced IIe, IIc, and (to a limited degree, depending on what keys are available) on a II or II+ in 40- or 80-column display mode.

<CTRL>X	Cancel an input line
<ESC>E	Clear from cursor to the end of the line
<ESC>F	Clear from cursor to the end of the text window
<ESC>@	Clear entire text window and home cursor to top left of screen
Left Arrow, <CTRL>H	Backspace (As you backspace over each character, Applesoft removes it from memory.)
<ESC>B	Left cursor one position at a time
<ESC>Left Arrow, <ESC>J	Left cursor one position with repeat mode
<ESC>A, Right Arrow, <CTRL>U	Right cursor one position at a time
<ESC>K, <ESC>Right Arrow	Right cursor one position with repeat mode
<ESC>C, Down Arrow, <CTRL>K	Down cursor one line at a time
<ESC>M, <ESC>Down Arrow	Down cursor one line with repeat mode
Up Arrow, <CTRL>J	No effect in Applesoft
<ESC>D	Up cursor one line at a time
<ESC>I, <ESC>Up Arrow	Up cursor one line with repeat mode

Notes:

1. Keys you press with the Escape key may be either upper- or lowercase.
2. To get out of the repeat (Escape) mode, press the space bar. Pressing any other key will also get you out of Escape mode, except the escape keys A, B, C, D, I, J, K, M, E, F, @, or the arrows; so, to avoid confusion, get into the safe habit of pressing the space bar.
3. About the right arrow key and POKE 33,33, it is a fact that, once you start editing a statement, you must use the right arrow key for two functions: to re-establish the statement in memory and to save your edits to memory.

The first consequence of this fact arises when you edit statements that are longer than 40 columns: Applesoft breaks the lines automatically and puts blanks after each break to display the statement conveniently as multiple lines. As you use the right arrow key to edit a multi-line statement, Applesoft inconveniently puts those spaces into memory. So, since you are more interested in efficient editing than readable display, issue an immediate POKE 33,33 statement; this prevents Applesoft from putting in spaces.

The second consequence is that, before you edit the statement in any way, you must get the cursor to the beginning of the statement, which is the first digit of the statement number. Once you get the cursor at the beginning, you can start editing, moving the cursor with the right arrow key and typing your edits to change the statement in memory. So, before editing a particular statement, get the cursor to the beginning of the statement as follows:

- a. Issue a LIST (statement number) command, which will display the entire statement--for example, LIST 100.
- b. Press <ESC>.
- c. Press the arrow keys to position the cursor over the first digit of the statement number.
- d. Press the space bar to get out of Escape mode.
- e. Start editing.

For a longer explanation of Applesoft editing, refer to the Applesoft Tutorial, pages 73-86.

Apple Technical Communications

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