



Tech Info Library

Applesoft: Internal program storage format

Revised: 11/7/84
Security: Everyone

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Applesoft programs are stored one line at a time starting at memory location \$801 and ascending in order by line number. Each line is stored in this format:

\$8xx														
00	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	0A	0B	0C	0D	0E
00	0D	08	0A	00	97	3A	BA	22	48	49	22	00	00	00
E	LINK	LINE #	H	:	P	"	H	I	"	E	LINK			
O			O		R					O				
L			M		I					L				
			E		N									
					T									

The first two bytes are pointers to the absolute address of the beginning of the next line. The first byte is the least significant.

The next two bytes are integers representing the line number of that line. Again, the first byte is the least significant.

The next byte, a token, stands for the first Applesoft keyword. When the line starts with "A = 1", the variable name (in ASCII) is first. The remaining command consists of keywords and symbols reduced to one byte tokens and unmodified ASCII text.

A list of Applesoft's tokens appears on page 121 of the Applesoft Reference manual.

The subsequent bytes are either "\$00"s signifying the end of this line, or "\$3A"s, indicating multi-statement lines, followed by a "\$00.

If the link field for a line is 00 00, then Applesoft considers it the last line in the program while running or listing. The SAVE command uses a different pointer for the end of the program. \$AF,B0 normally points to the high byte in the line number of the line beyond the last line.

Apple Tech Notes

Tech Info Library Article Number:57