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Use this option to amend the name and address details stored in the rockbase.ini file. These details are used when you print a corrections sheet or export new data to be sent to Terry Hounsome. This means that if he has any queries he can write or phone you. If you do not wish him to be able to do this please enter your name but leave the other details blank.

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# Print selected data

Send the list of data obtained from the last search to the printer. This list may contain albums, singles or both depending on the preferences option. It may also be the result of a search on the full data or a search of the data obtained from a previous search. You cannot print more than 1,500 releases at one time.

The data printed will be a list of the titles along with the Artist details, Record company details and other release information. The track titles and musicians for each release will not be printed using this option. To print track and musician information for a specific title you must use the <u>Print Selected Title</u> option. You have the choice of printing reports landscape or portrait, for more info see the <u>preferences</u> screen.

# Print Selected Title

Print all the details (including Tracks & Musicians if available) for the one title selected. Place the cursor over the title you are interested in and click the left mouse button twice to obtain track and musician information (if available), now choose the print / print selected title option. This will print all the available information for the one title selected.

# Print Country Table

Print the list of country codes along with the full name for the country.

# Print Corrections Sheet For Selected Entry

Whilst every attempt has been made to ensure the accuracy of the data there are bound to be some inaccuracies. Use this option to print out the current details for a release. Mark on the form any changes you believe need to be made along with any useful comments about the data. Return the forms to Terry Hounsome, at the address on the form who will incorporate the changes in the data for future releases of RockBase *Plus*. Where users have made a useful contribution to future releases their names will appear on the list of contributors.

Better still why not correct the entry using the Amend or Add Entry option, this means you get the benefit of the data on most searches and you can use the Export Data option to send all your corrections to Terry at the push of a button.

# Print Blank Corrections Sheet

Whilst every attempt has been made to ensure the accuracy of the data there are bound to be some inaccuracies and omissions. Use this option to print out a blank form with space for information about any releases missing from RockBase *Plus*. Mark on the form any relevant information along with any useful comments about the data. Return the forms to Terry Hounsome at the address on the form, who will incorporate the changes in the data for future releases of RockBase *Plus*. Where users have made a useful contribution to future releases their names will appear on the list of contributors.

Should you have any information in any other format which you feel may be of use to Terry Hounsome then he is more than happy to receive data both on paper or diskette.

Better still why not correct the entry using the Amend or Add Entry option, this means you get the benefit of the data on most searches and you can use the Export Data option to send all your corrections to Terry at the push of a button.

# Amend or Add Entry

Whilst every attempt has been made to ensure the accuracy of the <span style="color:green">data</span> there are bound to be some inaccuracies. Use this option to amend the current details for a release or add a completely new title. Make any changes you believe need to be made. These changes are saved to a database on the hard disk. Corrections and additions can be exported to a file, using the <span style="color:green">Export Data</span> option, for sending via modem or diskette to <span style="color:green">Terry Hounsome</span>, who will incorporate the changes in the data for future releases of RockBase *Plus*. Where users have made a significant contribution to future releases their names will appear on the list of <span style="color:green">contributors</span>.

# Export Data

Having made corrections or additions to the data using the <u>Amend Selected Entry</u> option you will want, at some stage, to send these corrections to <u>Terry Hounsome</u>. This can be done using the Export Data option. The Export Data option saves the corrections and additions to a file which you can then send to Terry for him to enter in future releases of RockBase *Plus*. The file can be sent via modem to our bulletin board on (+44) 01923 218152, or E-Mailed to 101363.2371@compuserve.com or sent to Terry Hounsome, c/o Cravenplan Computers Limited at 22 Lawn Avenue, West Drayton, Middlesex, UB7 7AQ on diskette. The Export Data option should be used in preference to the <u>Print Corrections Sheet</u> option whenever possible as this saves Terry re-keying the data.

You will usually only export the items added since last sending data to Terry, if however you believe Terry has not received data sent previously or if for any other reason you wish to re-send data then set the radio button option to "All data" rather than "New data only". When sent, the items in the corrections database are date stamped so that they will not be sent again.

# Exit

Quit from the program using this option. You can also use the usual Windows short cuts such as Alt + F4. A confirmation message box is displayed in case you change your mind. If you do not wish to see the message box use the preferences option Don't Show Exit Message.

# Cumulative Search Mode

By using the small pin icon on the RockBase toolbar or the Cumulative Search Mode option (F3) it is possible to toggle between clearing the previous search result each time you do another search or adding to the previous search result. E.g. if you search for all the releases by Paul Simon then all the releases by Art Garfunkel then all the releases by Simon & Garfunkel you could build a list with all these releases on display if the add to previous search result option is set. This would allow you to print the complete list of releases by these three artists. This composite list could be sorted by date if you wish.

When the Cumulative Search Mode is set then the previous search function will display the last search done before cumulative search mode was engaged.

# Search Full Data

The main way to find data. This option must be used before the search selected data option will be made available. This option allows the full database to be searched for the selected data. Start by limiting the data as much as possible, e.g. if you require a list of all Eric Clapton releases on Polydor records use this option to find all the releases where the Artist Last Name is "Clapton" and the Artist First Name is "Eric". You can then choose the Search Selected Data option to search these finds for a subset of information e.g. all releases on Polydor. If you search the full data for Polydor releases then search these for Eric Clapton the time taken will be longer due to the fact that the first search will make more finds. It is possible to search for the following items:

**Artist First / Last / Other Name (Band Name)** - The name of the group or solo artist on the record, the full name of the group will normally appear in the Last Name / Band Name field, e.g. "Fairport Convention". Where the group name contains the name of a person, then the group name is likely to be split amongst the fields, e.g. "Derek & The Dominoes" is arranged as Last Name - "Derek", Other Name - "& The Dominoes". By limiting the initial search to the last name field using the "Starts With" option it will usually be possible to restrict the releases for any given group. Where an artist may be known by another name you may find more details by looking at the nicknames table.

**Musician First / Last Name** - the name of a musician who played on a release. This may be the same as the Artist Name in some instances. e.g. Eric Clapton is the Artist who released 461 Ocean Boulevard, unsurprisingly he also played Guitar and sang Vocals on the album. Yvonne Elliman also sang vocals on some of the tracks on the album and therefore appears as a musician on the album. Where a musician may be known by another name you may find more details by looking at the nicknames table.

**Title** - The title of a Single or Album release.

**Track** - The title of a track on a single or album release.

**Country** - the country of release for an album or single.

**Record Format** - The style of the release e.g LP = vinyl album, MC = musicassette - the hierarchy is the number of discs first followed by the main format of release. e.g. LP or CD etc., followed by special formats, such as MONO, e.g. LPM followed by size. Therefore 2LPM10 would be a double LP set of 10 inch mono vinyl albums. A more complete list of abbreviations is available in the Glossary.

**Year** - The year of release of the particular version of the album or single.

**Record Company** - The company which released the album or single.

**Catalogue Number** - The catalogue number allocated by the record company.

Details of the search parameters as well as the number of finds will appear in the status bar at the foot of the screen. If the search parameter information is preceded by "..." then the search was carried out on data from a previous search.


**Search All Tracks for Artist** - This search option allows you to search the full database for all the tracks listed for any one artist. If the track is featured on more than one Album or Single then it will be displayed more than once unless the Show One Line Per Track option is set in the preferences screen.

**Search All Musicians for Artist** - This search option allows you to search the full database for all the musicians listed for any one artist. If the musician has played on more than one Album or Single then he/she will be displayed more than once unless the Show One Line Per Musician option is set in the preferences screen.

**Search Notes** - Allows you to search any of the custom fields you have set up to contain your own release notes.

Search Options:

**Equal To:** Selects all items equal to the defined parameters.

**Not Equal To:** Selects all the items that do not match the defined parameters.

**Identical To:** Only selects items where the selected field is identical to the text entered. E.g. if you enter the text "Zapp" you will find only the band Zapp not Frank Zappa. (RockBase *Plus* is not however case sensitive - it does not matter whether you type the text in upper or lower case or even a mixture of both).

**Contains:** Selects items which contain the text entered anywhere in the field(s) selected. E.g. Artist Last Name contains "man" would find items by Roger Chapman as well as Manassas. This is a very time consuming process and should normally only be used when using the Search Selected Data option on limited quantities of data.

**Starts With:** Selects data only if the text entered appears at the start of the field chosen, (this is the default selection process), it means you only need to enter sufficient information to limit the search to your chosen items. By entering an Artist Last Name of "C" with an Artist First Name of "Eric" all Eric Clapton releases will be displayed, so too would releases by Eric Camel and Erica Campbell if indeed there were such artists.

**Ends With:** Selects data only where the text entered appears at the end of the field chosen. This is a very time consuming process and should normally only be used when using the Search Selected Data option on limited quantities of data.

**Comes Before:** Selects any items which appear before the text entered. E.g. Artist Last Name "B" when used with this option will produce a list of all artists whose last name appears before "B" in the alphabet, i.e. any Artists starting with "A" or numeric characters. This option can also be used with numeric data e.g. Year "74" when used with this option will produce a list of all releases issued before 1974. This is a very time consuming process and should normally only be used when using the Search Selected Data option on limited quantities of data.

**Comes After:** Selects any items which appear after the text entered. E.g. Artist Last Name "Y" when used with this option will produce a list of all artists whose last name appears after "Y" in the alphabet, i.e. any Artists starting with "Z". This option can also be used with numeric data e.g. Year "74" when used with this option will produce a list of all releases issued after 1974. This is a very time consuming process and should normally only be used when using the Search Selected Data option on limited quantities of data.


## Cumulative Search Mode

By using the small pin icon on the RockBase toolbar or the Cumulative Search Mode option it is possible to toggle between clearing the previous search result each time you do another search or adding to the previous search result. E.g. if you search for all the releases by Paul Simon then all the releases by Art Garfunkel then all the releases by Simon & Garfunkel you could build a list with all these releases on display if the add to previous search result option is set. This would allow you to print the complete list of releases by these three artists. This composite list could be sorted by date if you wish.

# Search Selected data

Having searched the full database for a list of releases it is then possible using the Search Selected Data option to further search the finds made for a subset of data.   Start by limiting the data as much as possible, e.g. if you require a list of all Eric Clapton releases on Polydor records use this option to find all the releases where the Artist Last Name is "Clapton" and the Artist First Name is "Eric". You can then choose the Search Selected Data option to search these finds for a subset of information e.g. all releases on Polydor. This new list of releases (i.e. all Eric Clapton's Polydor records) may then also be searched again also using the Search Selected Data option to further refine the search e.g. find all the releases which feature Yvonne Elliman on vocals, at which point the list of releases would show only the Eric Clapton releases issued on Polydor which also feature Yvonne Elliman on vocals. If the full database was first searched for "Polydor" then the search will take substantially longer because the result of the first search will produce a much higher number of finds than searching for "Eric Clapton" first.

**Show All Tracks** - This search option allows you to list all the tracks for the selected data from a previous search. If the track is featured on more than one Album or Single then it will be displayed more than once unless the <span style="color:green">Show One Line Per Track</span> option is set in the preferences screen. e.g. you have searched all the Albums by Eric Clapton on Polydor records and then use this option to give a list of all the tracks on those albums. Release information is not displayed following this search. This means that any custom notes fields will also not be shown.

**Show All Musicians** - This search option allows you to list all the musicians for the selected data from a previous search. If the musician is featured on more than one Album or Single then he/she will be displayed more than once unless the <span style="color:green">Show One Line Per Musician</span> option is set in the preferences screen. e.g. you have searched all the Albums by Eric Clapton on Polydor records and then use this option to give a list of all the musicians who featured on those albums. Release information is not displayed following this search. This means that any custom notes fields will also not be shown.

# Preferences

**Show Albums:** When this check box is selected only Album releases will be displayed. Albums include Compact Discs and Cassettes but do not include CD Singles, 12 Inch or 7 Inch singles

**Show Singles:** When this check box is selected only Singles releases will be displayed. Singles include CD Singles, 12 Inch and 7 Inch Vinyl Singles as well as Cassette singles. Most of the singles data contained within RockBase *Plus* relates to the period from the mid 1950's up to 1990.

**Show Both:** When this check box is selected both singles and album releases will be displayed.

**Show One Line Per Title:** By default RockBase *Plus* displays information about each release of a title, therefore if an album has been released in 1974 on Cassette and Vinyl in both the USA and UK you will see 4 entries. If in addition the album was re-issued in 1990 on CD in both countries you will see 6 entries. In some cases this can lead to large numbers of releases being displayed. With the one line per title check box ticked you would only see one line on screen for each title. If the same title was used for both a single and an album you will see two lines. If this option is set then the display at the bottom of the RockBase screen will show the number of Titles displayed and the total number of releases found. Please remember that notes are linked to an individual release and will therefore not be displayed on screen if you select this option.

**Show One Line Per Musician:** By default RockBase *Plus* displays information about each title where the musician has played, therefore if a musician has appeared on four different titles you will see 4 entries. In some cases this can lead to large numbers of titles being displayed. With the one line per musician check box ticked you would only see one line on screen for each musician and instrument combination. When this option is in use, any listings printed will show only the musician and artist names as any titles shown are irrelevant.

**Show One Line Per Track:** By default RockBase *Plus* displays information about each track on each title, therefore if a track featured on four different titles you will see 4 entries. In some cases this can lead to a very   large number of tracks being displayed. With the one line per track check box ticked you would only see one line on screen for each track recorded by that artist. When this option is in use, any listings printed will show only the track title and artist names as any titles shown are irrelevant.

(When any of the above preferences are changed the data is re-displayed with only the relevant items showing).

**Print Reports Portrait:** When printing reports you have a choice of printing format. If you have a normal 80 column dot matrix printer use this option which prints down a page.

**Print Reports Landscape:** If you have a laser printer or a 132 column dot matrix printer you may prefer to use this option which prints across a page. This allows more space for each column of information and is particularly useful when printing Musician or Track listings where a large number of columns are displayed.

**Print Preview:** If you check this option then after using the Print Selected Data option from the File menu then you will see a representation of the report on screen before the actual printing takes place. This allows you to check that the data will fit neatly and that the number of pages to be printed is not excessive. Without this option selected printing takes place immediately after the printer selection dialogue box has been displayed.

**Save Table Column Widths:** If you amend the width of the displayed columns in window zero by dragging the edge with your mouse you can save these new column sizes. If this option is set to "Auto save" then the new column sizes will automatically be saved when you exit from RockBase *Plus*. If the option is set to "Prompt for Save" then RockBase will ask before saving the new column widths. If the option is set to "Never Save" then unsurprisingly the column sizes will not be

saved.

**Don't Show Splash Screen at Start:** When starting RockBase *Plus* a logo is displayed for 5 seconds whilst a short piece of music is played. If this option is set the logo will not be displayed. This option is saved as default without having to press the save as default button. If you want to see the logo but don't want to wait the full five seconds then click with the mouse over the logo and it will disappear.

**Don't Show Exit Message:** When leaving RockBase *Plus* a confirmation message box is displayed, asking if you really wish to <span style="color:green">exit</span>. If this option is set the message will not be displayed. Press the save as default to save this and any other options as the default.

**Save as default:** If you click on this button any preferences are saved for future sessions with RockBase *Plus*.

# Nicknames

Many artists and musicians are known by more than one name. This option displays a table with alternative names. For example Elton John was originally christened Reg Dwight. The table can be searched by entering some text in the Search Text window then pressing the Find First button. This displays the first line containing that text. Pressing the Find Next button displays the next line, (if any), containing the text. It is also possible to browse through the table by using the scroll bar on the right hand side of the list.

# Reset columns to default sizes

It is possible to amend the displayed width of any of the columns in the data grid by dragging the edge of the column using the mouse. If having done this you would like to reset the column sizes back to the defaults select this option. Column size changes are not saved for future sessions using RockBase *Plus,* unless the preferences option to save grid sizes has been set. Note that if you decrease the size of a field sufficiently the field will no longer appear, in this case using the reset columns option will restore the field.

# Previous Search

Allows you to revert to the data from the previous search. If you have searched for all albums by The Beatles and then done a search for all albums by Eric Clapton you can re-display the releases by The Beatles without re-doing the search by using this option. It is only possible to save two search results at any one time, however you can continue to page round between them using this option. When the Cumulative Search Mode is set then the previous search function will display the last search done before cumulative search mode was engaged.

# Sort order

If you wish to change the displayed order use the Sort Order option. It is possible to sort the data either ascending or descending by any of the fields displayed in the main portion of the data grid.

If you choose the Musician First Name, Musician Last Name, Instrument or Track options for sorting and the relevant field is not on display then the default sort order will be used for the current display. The chosen sort order will be used again next time the relevant field is displayed.

In addition it is possible to create your own custom sort orders by specifying up to 10 levels of sort. These custom sort orders can be saved and any one of them can be set to be the default order if you wish. After clicking on the Custom Sort radio button in the Display Order dialogue box then a Custom Sort Order dialogue window is displayed. Select each level of sort (up to a maximum of 10 levels). The Clear All button just clears the current selections to save having to select None on unwanted levels.

Tracks are displayed in the order in which they appear on the album or single where known.

# New Window

It is possible to have up to 10 Windows open at a time, (memory permitting), when using RockBase *Plus*. Use this option to open another window. Each window can have it's own search data displayed. There are several uses for this feature. One window could, for example, show all the albums by Eric Clapton released on Polydor whilst another shows all Eric Clapton albums released in 1989. By using the Tile Window command, these could then both be displayed at once, and the data compared.

# Tile Windows

When more than one window has been created in RockBase *Plus* this option will display all the windows side by side, in order that a part of the data from each can be viewed. The more windows in existence the smaller each will be when displayed using this option. The windows may be re-sized using the mouse in the normal way.

# Cascade Windows

When more than one window has been created in RockBase *Plus* this option will display all the windows in an overlapping way so that the title bar from each can be viewed. The windows may be re-sized or paged between, using the mouse in the normal way.

# Close All

Closes all windows currently created in RockBase *Plus*. All the data in these windows will be lost and any searches will have to be performed again.

# Contents

Gives a list of all the help topics. Click on a topic, using a mouse to see further information about the topic.

# Search For Help On...

Allows the locating of a help topic using keywords. Enter the word you feel will lead to a help topic and select from the list of topics shown below.

# Contributor

The data contained within RockBase *Plus* has been painstakingly collected over almost 20 years by Terry Hounsome. This is done with the help of enthusiasts like you. If you would like to assist in making the data even more accurate and extensive, then Terry would welcome your suggestions and corrections. Where users have made a useful and substantial contribution to future releases, their names will appear on the contributors list. If you have any queries, comments or complaints about the data Terry would be pleased to hear from you, please call us at Cravenplan and we will be happy to pass on Terry's contact details.

# The Data

RockBase *Plus* contains information relating to over 337,000 Album and Single releases by 43,500 artists on over 11,000 different record labels. All the singles and many of the albums contain details about which tracks appear on the release. In addition many albums also contain information about which musicians featured on the album. To reveal Tracks and Musicians for any release, position the mouse cursor over the item and double click with the left mouse button. The same technique can be used to list all releases containing a track, double click on the desired track in the lower left area of the screen. For all releases featuring a Musician, double click on the musician in the lower right area of the screen. Details of over 542,200 tracks and 330,615 musician credits by over 50,000 different musicians appear in RockBase Plus.

Terry has attempted to list every known release by the artists included. Current availability of the records is not noted. The data for each entry is governed by the amount of information available at the time of going to press, not on the relative importance of each artist. He has included as much information as possible even if it is incomplete (maybe the year of release is unknown). If the catalogue number is different in a different country it is listed as a separate release. Re-issues are listed as separate releases. If a record's track listing is different (e.g. the CD contains extra or different tracks to the vinyl album) then they are treated as different titles (not just 2 releases of the same title).

Instruments are listed as type of instrument, not necessarily as a specific instrument or make of instrument, Moog and Roland would both come under "Synth", whilst Gibson, Slide guitar and acoustic guitar would all be included in "guitar".

Whilst most of the information could loosely be linked to Rock and Pop Music, RockBase *Plus* also includes much information on Reggae, Blues, Soul, Jazz, Country and Folk.

The data is checked whenever possible before entry, however it is often the case that there is no way of being one hundred percent sure about some of the more obscure items. It is also true that when dealing with so much data there are bound to be a few mistakes which have crept in. You are therefore encouraged to send any corrections or further information using the Print Corrections Form option or better still the Amend Selected Entry and Export Data options. These will be passed on to Terry Hounsome who will use the data collected to improve the accuracy and extent of the data. in future releases.

# Terry Hounsome

Brought up in Southampton, Terry has been collecting records since 1957. He started collecting data about music from a very early age and got serious about 20 years ago.

For the past eight years he has lived in rural West Wales. He spends most of each day pouring over catalogues, magazines, record company release sheets and scraps of paper sent in by avid readers of his book Rock Record which is now on it's 6th issue. He also produced the "Single File" book, released in 1990, now sadly out of print. His wife Eve, and his 3 children, Claire, Steven & Jon and stepson Richard, have also been recruited from time to time when data entry services are required.

If you would like to buy a copy of Rock Record 6 you can contact Terry Hounsome via [Cravenplan Computers Limited](#) on (+44) 01895 444603 or write to us at 22 Lawn Avenue, West Drayton, Middlesex, UB7 7AQ.

The ISBN number of Rock Record 6, should you wish to obtain a copy from your local bookstore, is 095066506 1.

# The Publisher (Cravenplan Computers Limited)

Cravenplan Computers Limited was founded in 1984 by Chris Stanbury, a keen music fan, Cravenplan specialize in the writing of bespoke database applications as well as the supply of computer hardware and software.

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# Quick Introduction

RockBase *Plus* contains information about 337,600 Album and Single releases by 43,500 artists on over 11,000 different record labels. All the singles and many of the albums contain details about which tracks appear on the release. In addition many albums also contain information about which musicians featured on the album. To reveal Tracks and Musicians for any release, position the mouse cursor over the item and double click with the left mouse button. The same technique can be used to list all releases containing a track, double click on the desired track in the lower left area of the screen. For all releases featuring a Musician, double click on the musician in the lower right area of the screen. Details of over 542,200 tracks and 330,615 musician credits by over 50,000 different musicians appear in RockBase Plus.

Whilst most of the information could loosely be linked to Rock Music, RockBase *Plus* also includes much information on Pop, Reggae, Blues, Soul, Jazz, Country and Folk.

The main way to find data is the Search Full Data option. This option allows the full database to be searched for the selected data. Data may be searched for in several ways. It is recommended that you read the Help topic How to find all titles for an artist, in order to gain some tips about what data is available for each title.

# How to find all titles for an artist

Use the <u>Search Full Data</u> + Artist options or the icon showing a person standing at a microphone to display the search dialogue box. Enter the Artist Last Name and if required First Name and / or Other Name. In the case of a Band you will usually enter the full band name in the Last Name / Band Name field, e.g. "Led Zeppelin". If you entered the full name choose the "identical to" radio button option then OK. If you entered only the first part of the name then choose the "Starts With" radio button, (the default), and then OK. All releases for that artist will then be displayed in the top part of the grid. By double clicking with the mouse on a line in the top part of the grid, the track titles and musicians will be displayed in the relevant lower parts of the grid if the information is available. For more details about this look up the <u>data</u> section in help.

# How to find all albums/singles containing a specific track

Use the Search Full Data + Track options or the icon showing a CD with a chunk missing to display the search dialogue box. Enter the Title you are looking for. If you entered the full title choose the "identical to" radio button option then OK. If you entered only the first part of the title then choose the "Starts With" radio button, (the default), and then OK. All releases containing that track will then be displayed in the top part of the grid. By double clicking using the mouse on a line in the top part of the grid, the remaining track titles and musician information will be displayed in the relevant lower parts of the grid if the information is available. For more details about this look up the data section in help.

# Speed (or lack of it)

Whilst it is very quick to look up the releases for an artist or musician, it can take quite some time to search for some items in RockBase *Plus.* This is largely due to the size of the database involved and the relative inefficiencies of PC programming languages/databases. There are however some ways that speed can be improved.

Wherever possible use the "identical to" search option when looking for data, failing that try to use the "Starts With" option, especially when searching the larger parts of the data e.g. track title. Searching for the track "Hello, Goodbye" (identical to) returns 50 finds in approximately 6 seconds, whereas searching for the same track "Hello, Goodbye" using the "Starts With" option takes about 10 seconds. The "Ends With" option took 9 minutes 18 seconds and the "Contains" option took 10 minutes 32 seconds. (All timings done with the data in a quad speed CD-ROM drive on a fast Pentium PC). Using the "Ends With" and "Contains" options should normally only be done on limited quantities of data, for more details see Search Selected Data.

 Start by limiting the data as much as possible, e.g. if you require a list of all Eric Clapton releases on Polydor records use this option to find all the releases where the Artist Last Name is "Clapton" and the Artist First Name is "Eric". You can then choose the Search Selected Data option to search these finds for a subset of information e.g. all releases on Polydor. This new list of releases (i.e. all Eric Clapton's Polydor records) may then also be searched again also using the Search Selected Data option to further refine the search e.g. find all the releases which feature Yvonne Elliman on vocals, at which point the list of releases would show only the Eric Clapton releases issued on Polydor which also feature Yvonne Elliman on vocals. If the full database was first searched for "Polydor" then the search will take substantially longer because the result of the first search will produce a much higher number of finds than searching for "Eric Clapton" first.

Some searches, such as instrument, can produce a huge number of finds. Searching for all musicians playing "Guitar" on the full data would be foolish if you expect a quick result, however we felt it may be important for a user to be able to search for a particular instrument, you just need to be patient. Our policy when designing the searches in RockBase Plus has been to allow any search even if it would take all night!

The next thing to consider is the performance of the PC itself. Surprisingly the most important factor is often not the processor but the amount of RAM (memory chips) fitted to the PC. A 486 with 8Mb is likely to run slower than a 386 with 16Mb not only with RockBase *Plus* but also with many other Windows programs.  Another important consideration is the speed of the CD-ROM drive. CD drives are considerably slower than hard disks but there are now double, triple, quad, six, eight and even twelve speed CD-ROM drives available. Because RockBase *Plus* is accessing huge quantities of data the speed of the CD-ROM drive can have a large effect on the speed.

Although it is possible to run RockBase *Plus* directly from the CD it is strongly recommended to install the program and it's components to the hard disk. Where extensive use of RockBase *Plus* is envisaged, it will be worthwhile copying the database to the hard disk.   You will require approximately 250Mb of hard disk space for the full installation.   If you do this by any means other than the setup program, you will need to change the entry in the file "rockbase.ini" which points to the data - it would normally read "DataBase=*D:*\RockBase\data\full\rockbase.mdb" where *D:* is the drive letter associated with your CD-ROM drive. You will need to change the drive letter and path to match the new location for the data. **N.B. You must have the RockBase *Plus* CD in the CD-ROM drive in order to use the program.**

As an example of the difference in speed gained by having the data on the hard disk, the time to search for the track "Hello, Goodbye" (identical to) comes down from 6 seconds to 2 seconds whilst the contains option comes down from 10 minutes 32 seconds to 9 minutes.

# What is the difference between an Artist and a Musician

An artist is an individual or a band who have released singles or albums in their own name. For example The Beatles and Eric Clapton are both artists. A musician is an individual who has performed on an album which may or may not have been released under his or her name. Eric Clapton is a musician who has performed both on his own releases as well as releases by many other artists including Cream, Derek & The Dominoes etc. Other musicians such as Jim Fox, who played drums on Stephen Stills' album, Stills, as well as album's by Eric Clapton and others, have not released albums or singles under their own name and you would therefore not find any releases by searching for Jim Fox as an artist.

# Short Cut Keys

For the sake of speedy operation certain operations are available by key combinations. The Following combinations are available:

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|---|---|
| Ctrl + A | Search full data for Artist Name |
| Ctrl + B | Display previous search result |
| Ctrl + C | Search full data for Country |
| Ctrl + D | Reset columns to default sizes |
| Ctrl + E | Search full data for Record Format |
| Ctrl + F | Show/search Nicknames table |
| Ctrl + G | Search full data for Catalogue Number |
| Ctrl + H | Print correction sheet for title |
| Ctrl + I | Search full data for Instrument |
| Ctrl + K | Search full data for Track Title |
| Ctrl + L | Search all Tracks for Artist |
| Ctrl + M | Search full data for Musician Name |
| Ctrl + N | Search full data for Notes |
| Ctrl + O | Preferences |
| Ctrl + P | Print Selected Data |
| Ctrl + R | Search full data for Record Company Name |
| Ctrl + S | Change sort order |
| Ctrl + T | Search full data for Title (Album or Single Title) |
| Ctrl + U | Search all Musicians for Artist |
| Ctrl + X | Exit from RockBase *Plus* |
| Ctrl + Y | Search full data for Year of release |
| Ctrl + Z | Print selected Title |
| F1 | Help |
| F2 | Toggle between One Line per Title and One Line per Release |
| F3 | Toggle between Cumulative and non-cumulative search mode |
| F11 | Add/amend notes for selected entry |
| F12 | Amend Selected Entry / Add new entry |

# How to list all musicians who have appeared on an artist's recordings

Use the Search Full Data + Search All Musicians for Artist options to display the search dialogue box. Enter the Artist Last Name and if required First Name and / or Other Name. In the case of a Band you will usually enter the full band name in the Last Name / Band Name field, e.g. "Led Zeppelin". If you entered the full name choose the "identical to" radio button option then OK. If you entered only the first part of the name then choose the "Starts With" radio button, (the default), and then OK. All the musicians who have recorded with that artist will then be displayed in the top part of the grid. Each title on which a musician has featured will be displayed unless the One Line Per Musician option is set in which case only one line for each musician / instrument combination will be displayed. This allows an easy way to produce a short list of all the musicians who have played in or with a band or other artist.

# How to list all tracks recorded by an artist

Use the Search Full Data + Search All Tracks for Artist options to display the search dialogue box. Enter the Artist Last Name and if required First Name and / or Other Name. In the case of a Band you will usually enter the full band name in the Last Name / Band Name field, e.g. "Led Zeppelin". If you entered the full name choose the "identical to" radio button option then OK. If you entered only the first part of the name then choose the "Starts With" radio button, (the default), and then OK. All the tracks recorded by that artist will then be displayed in the top part of the grid. Each occurrence of each track will be displayed unless the One Line Per Track option is set in which case only one line for each track will be displayed. This allows an easy way to produce a relatively short list of all the tracks recorded by a band or other artist.

# Release Notes

It is possible to personalise your copy of RockBase *Plus* by adding your own information about releases on the database.

Five Notes fields are available for custom data. These can be defined as text, numeric, currency or date fields. For most purposes text fields will be suitable, if, however you wish to enter price information or current value for albums or singles you own then you should define a field as currency. This enables a quick total to be produced by RockBase *Plus.*

For more information on setting up custom fields view the topic <u>Configure Custom Fields</u>.

To add notes to a release:

With the release on display in the top half of the main display screen click once to select the line to which you wish to add notes then press the F11 key. A notes dialogue box will be displayed allowing you to type notes for the individual release. When you have finished typing notes for this release then click on the [Exit] button to return to the main display screen, changes are saved automatically and displayed on screen immediately.

Please remember that notes are linked to an individual release and will therefore not be displayed on screen if you select the one line per title option in the <u>preferences</u> screen, or in any other circumstances where individual releases are not displayed.

# Configure Custom Fields

To set up the field names and types:

Select the Configure Custom Fields option to display the five available fields. You may type in a name for each field you wish to display then use the Type drop down to select the type of data you want to store in the field. For most purposes choose "Text", if however you want to store the price paid or current value of releases you should choose "Currency". If you want to store a date choose "Date (Short)" or   Date (Long)". The only other option is for numeric data - if you know the field will only ever contain a number (no letters or other characters) then you may wish to choose "Number". Only fields of type "Currency" or number can be totaled using the quick total function.

Don't forget to tick the "Show in table" box for each field you wish to display on the main display screen.

If you later **change the type of field**, for example from Currency to Text then a warning will be displayed and **any existing data will then be removed**. This means that all data you have added for any releases in the field being changed will be lost forever, this does not just apply to the data on display (if any).

# Glossary

**Record Format** - The style of the release - The following abbreviations can be combined in several combinations along with the number of disks in the set and the size of media. The hierarchy is the number of discs first followed by the main format of release. e.g. LP or CD etc., followed by special formats, such as MONO, e.g. LPM followed by size if not standard. Therefore 2LPM10 would be a double LP set of 10 inch mono vinyl albums.

+78 = also 78 RPM version

1 SIDE = Single Sided

8TRK = Eight Track Tape

BADGE = with Badge

BOX = Boxed set

BOOK = with book

CARD = with Card

CD = Compact Disc

CV = Coloured Vinyl

DAT = Digital Audio Tape

DCC = Digital Compact Cassette

EP = Extended Play (Single)

FLEX = Flexi disk

FREE = Free

GF = Gate Fold Sleeve

KIT = with Kit (often Promo kit)

LP = Vinyl Album

LTD = Limited edition

M = Mono

MC = Musicassette

MD = Mini Disk

MINI = Mini LP

PD = Picture Disk

PO = Poster

PROMO = Special Promotion Release

PS = Picture Sleeve

Q = Quadrophonic

S = Single

ST = Stereo (only mentioned if special reason)

TAPE = Tape (reel to reel)

# Adding New Albums / Singles to the data

When you purchase new albums or singles that are not included in the data you may   wish to add these releases so that they can be searched, displayed and printed along with the releases already provided on the CD-ROM.

To add a new release press the F12 key or use the File + Add new release options - if you had a release on display when calling this option the details will be displayed in case you wish to use them as the basis for the new release. For example we may already have details of a CD but you may want to add details for a cassette version (different catalogue number etc). If you do not want to keep any particular field e.g. artist name just start typing and the existing data will be replaced.

When you have entered all the info for that release you can either press [Done] to return to the main display or if you wish to enter another release then you must press [New] which will clear part of the data ready for you to type in the information for another release.

Having made corrections or additions to the data you will want, at some stage, to send these corrections to Terry Hounsome. This can be done using the Export Data option. The Export Data option saves the corrections to a file which you can then send to Terry for him to enter in future releases of RockBase *Plus*. The file can be sent via modem to our bulletin board on (+44) 01923 218152, or sent to Terry Hounsome, c/o Cravenplan Computers Limited at 22 Lawn Avenue, West Drayton, Middlesex, UB7 7AQ on diskette.