About Font

Font is a desk accessory which lets one use fonts from external Font/DA Mover files within many applications possessing a menu called "Font" or "Fonts"; it similar in function to Loftus Becker's FKEY resource Fontsie. For a more complete description of Font see Features and **Limitations** below. But first, a message from your sponsor:

Font may be freely copied and used for non-commercial purposes. If you like it and wish to show your appreciation, a contribution equal to whatever you think Font is worth to:

> The Graduate Breakfast Fund
> Department of Mathematics and Computer Science
> Dartmouth College
> Hanover, NH 03755
> U.S.A.

would be much appreciated.

It is a tradition in our department that once a week in the fall quarter, usually Thursday morning, a graduate student or faculty member prepares his or her favourite breakfast (occasionally, lunch) for the rest of the department and its hangers-on. After the fall quarter the breakfasts continue sporadically - partly because we usually run out of money for them. Should you contribute to the cause and find yourself in Hanover, ring up the department to see if there's a breakfast in the works and come on over if there is one. The event always take place in the graduate student lounge in the subbasement of Bradley Hall.

Whatever else you do, please note: Font may not be distributed commercially without permission from the author. If you have any comments or suggestions, or would like a copy of the source code, please write the author at the above address or send a message by e-mail to **stefan@dartvax.uucp**.

Caveat

The author assumes no responsibility for problems resulting from the use of Font or from errors in this document. See Limitations for a description of known difficulties. Sorry about the new ones you may discover…

Features

When Font is opened, it first checks to see if there is a menu called "Font" or "Fonts" in the menu bar. If there is no such menu, Font puts up a dialog box telling the user about this and then closes itself when the OK button of this box is clicked. Otherwise, Font puts up a window containing a copyright notice and the standard SFGetFile dialog box. Using this box, the user may select the Font/DA Mover font file whose fonts he or she wishes to add to those available. Font opens the chosen file and adds the names of the fonts in the file not already listed in the "Font" or "Fonts" menu to the end of the menu. After opening the file and adding the extra fonts in it to the menu, Font closes itself. If the user clicks the Cancel button of the SFGetFile dialog, Font closes itself without any further action.

Once fonts from an external file have been added, they are, depending on the application (see Limitations below), available for editing and printing.

Note that Font can only be used while running an application which has a menu called "Font" or "Fonts". It cannot, for example, be used to add fonts while running the older versions of Microsoft Word.

Font may be called repeatedly to add fonts from a number of external files. Trying to add the fonts from a given file twice will result in no change from the result of the first try the second time around. However, once added the fonts cannot be removed without quitting the current application. On quitting the application, the external font files are automatically closed and access to the fonts in them is lost.

Font can be run from an external Font/DA Mover DA file using the author's previously distributed AA desk accessory. In testing, this method of using Font has not encountered any problems, except when AA was installed on a RAM disk created by RamStart 1.23.

Limitations

As noted above, Font will accomplish nothing without a "Font" or "Fonts" menu to which to add the new fonts. Unfortunately, the existence of such a menu in an application's menu bar is no guarantee that the new fonts will actually be usable by the application. In particular, those applications which include style or size items in the "Font" menu usually do not handle selections from the menu in such a way as to permit the added fonts to be used. Such applications include MacDraw, MacDraft, and Microsoft Word 3.0. The moral: just because the new fonts are appended to the appropriate menu by Font is no guarantee that the application will be able to use them. In fact, at least one editor, Consulair's Edit, which has nothing but fonts in its "Font" menu is nevertheless unable to use the fonts added by Font. The same is true of DarTerminal, a communications program.

MacWrite also keeps nothing but fonts in its "Font" menu. It can use the fonts added by Font, but fails to check off the extra fonts after they have been chosen, and also fails to outline the available sizes in the "Style" menu. While this is no bar to using Font with MacWrite, it is a little annoying.

The following problem problem appears to hold for all applications for which Font can add fonts: If a font already present is added by Font, then only the sizes of the font present in the new file are available.

As noted above, when an application terminates, the font files opened by Font are automatically closed and access to the fonts is lost. So if one opens a new application, one will have to run Font again to add extra fonts. A document including an extra font(s) added by Font will be saved correctly, but the font(s) will not automatically become accessible if you open the document again. This needs to be kept in mind when printing from the finder. One can get around this by starting up the application, using Font to add the necessary extra font(s), and then opening the document. If you opened the document first, close it before using Font; otherwise the text in the extra font(s) will probably not be updated properly.

Font may not work properly from a RAM disk or with Switcher, even with applications which it normally does work for. If you use a RAM disk or Switcher, please test Font carefully in your favourite setting before using it for something that matters.

No doubt there will be various mysterious difficulties. The author would like to apologize in advance for any trouble these may cause, and asks that you let him know of any.

With the above caveats, Font seems to work with MacWrite, MacPaint, FullPaint, MEdit, WriteNow, MathWriter, QUED, and MindWriter. It should work with various other applications which use fonts. Font was tested for MacWrite, MacPaint, and MEdit on a 512K Macintosh™ with external drive and on a Macintosh Plus™ with external 800K drive. Less extensive testing was carried out on various other configurations and applications. On the basis of limited tests, Font seems to get along well with the AST4000 70 megabyte (accessed via AppleShare) and Dataframe 20 megabyte SCSI hard disks.

<u>The Fontsie FKEY Resource</u>

F🔥nt was partly inspired by rumours of the FKEY resource Fontsie, written by Loftus E. Becker, Jr. After writing F🔥nt, the author finally tested a copy of Fontsie 1.52 and discovered it was quite similar in functionality. Those who prefer giving commands with the keyboard over the mouse, and those who wish to take advantage of the difference in functionality between F🔥nt and Fontsie (described below), may wish to get hold of Fontsie. If you cannot find one locally, Mr. Becker's address is:

> Loftus E. Becker, Jr.
> 41 Whitney Street
> Hartford, CT 06105
> U.S.A.

According to the documentation for Fontsie, Mr. Becker will send a disk with the latest version, plus documentation, for $10.

The main advantage of Fontsie over F🔥nt is that in certain situations Fontsie, unlike F🔥nt, permits the user to use extra fonts in applications which have no "Font" menu. In particular, this can be done with the earlier versions of Microsoft Word.

F🔥nt has some minor advantages over Fontsie 1.52. First, unlike Fontsie, F🔥nt will work with applications, such as MathWriter, which have a menu called "Fonts" rather than "Font". Second, F🔥nt seems to have no problems with font files containing more than one font; Fontsie often adds only the first font in the file. Third, Fontsie blindly adds the name of the extra font or fonts to the end of the "Font" menu; F🔥nt will do so only if the name does not already appear in the menu. This helps keep the menu from getting needlessly cluttered, especially if the same file is chosen for a second time. Fourth, F🔥nt is a desk accessory rather than a FKEY resource, so one needs only Font/DA Mover to install it, as opposed to ResEdit or a FKEY installer. Also, if one has 🔥🔥 or a similar "DA sampler" desk accessory, one can run F🔥nt itself from an external file.

A new version of Fontsie, which operates quite differently, has been released as version 2.0. It permits extra fonts to be used with almost any application, including MacDraw, at the cost of having to choose the extra fonts before starting up the application.