MRPrint: A detabbing print utility for the Amiga

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Requires the ARP library, V1.1 or later.

MRPRint prints Amiga text files to the printer device or standard output. **MRPrint** provides several processing options which afford the user some flexibility in determining the output format. Perhaps the most important feature is tab expansion. **MRPrint** expands embedded tabs to blanks, according to the user's tab spacing specification (default=4). **MRPrint** also will optionally generate page headers, line numbers and new margins. Input lines that are too long for the current margin settings will be split across multiple lines, maintaining correct pagination and line numbering. A form feed character detected at the beginning of an input line will be recognized and cause a page eject.

MRPrint is invoked from the CLI with Un*x style command line parameters. Wildcarding of file names is supported, allowing either AmigaDOS or Un*xstyle wildcard specifications. All parameters, including the file name(s) to be printed are optional. In the case of formatting options, defaults are used if no option is explicitly given. All options must precede file names on the command line. To see a list of options, invoke **MRPrint** with:

          MRPrint -?

Of special note is the fact that **MRPrint** will automatically detect and reject files which have binary (non-printable) content. You can therefore invoke **MRPrint** in the following form

      MRPrint *

to print all files in the current directory without having to worry about object, program data, or directory files being printed.

If no file names are passed on the command line, **MRPrint** will put up a file name requester. Multiple files may be printed in this fashion, terminating **MRPrint** by pressing the CANCEL gadget on the requester.

The current default values for **MRPrint** are:

```
left margin:            1
right margin:           80
tab spaces:             4     headers:              enabled
line numbers:           disabled
```

Of course, having the source (nice rhyme, eh?), you can change
these so that you don't have to constantly type in your favorite
options. *Be sure that your margin settings in preferences don't
interfere with MRPrint's behavior.* **MRPrint** expects the left
margin to be set to 1 and the right margin to be at least as wide
as what you specify on the command line. I usually set my
preferences to 1, 255. Of course, if you're ambitious, you'll add
the code to get the Preferences settings and adapt.

There are lots of things that can be done to improve this
program. A 'copies' option would be nice as well as options to
support letter quality, draft, condensed print, etc. The Amiga
supports these things in a fairly nice, generic way if you have
the right printer driver. I hope you find **MRPrint** to be a useful
addition to your tool box. By the way, I love ARP. It's a good
example of the way things should be done. My compliments to
Charlie Heath and his crew for developing such a fine product and
making it freely available to the public.

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