

1. About Windows Editor

Windows Editor (WED) 2.0 is a freeware text editor. It's like Windows Notepad -- but with more features. Despite the added features, WED is actually smaller than Windows Notepad.

This HELP file focuses on WED's special features. I'll presume that you know the common commands that are used in Notepad and other Windows programs.

2. The FILE Menu

You can OPEN any file -- of whatever size -- including program files. You can edit and save small text files -- of less than 32-K size. Other files can only be viewed. With binary files (e.g., programs) you can view the whole file or only the text elements.

You can also drag files to WED from the Windows File Manager.

LAST CHOICE in the "Open" and "Save As" dialog boxes remembers the last file pattern (e.g., "r*.txt") that you entered.

REVERT restores the file on the screen to what it was when you last saved it to the disk.

PRINT prints the file on your default printer using the font your printer is set to and the line breaks that you see on the screen. Use your word processor if you want fancier printing.

Note that you can use Ctrl hot-key equivalents for most of the common menu items (like OPEN and EXIT).

3. The EDIT Menu

The EDIT items work in a normal way.

The EDIT menu is disabled for files that you can't edit with WED -- namely files of 32-K or larger and binary files. You can still use Ctrl+C to copy text to the clipboard.

4. The SEARCH Menu

The SEARCH items work normally.

Unlike Windows Notepad, you have "Replace" in addition to "Find" -- and both dialog boxes get out of the way when you find a phrase.

BEGIN FILE moves you to the beginning of the file.

Those who are used to the Macintosh hot keys can also use Ctrl+A for

FIND NEXT.

5. The DISPLAY Menu

WORD WRAP toggles ON or OFF. WED adjusts this setting automatically when you open a new file,

LOCATION NUMBERS toggles ON or OFF. When it's ON, you'll see at the right side of the menu bar how far you are into the file in terms of number of characters .

TAB changes the size of the tabs. This will also change how the file prints.

COLOR CUSTOMIZING lets you set colors for WED's screen and dialog boxes. DEFAULT COLORS returns to the colors that you've set for Windows programs in the Control Panel.

FONT CUSTOMIZING lets you set WED's display font to any font on your system; you can set the TrueType fonts to any size. There are special menu choices for six other fonts. Windows Notepad uses the "NORMAL FIXED FONT."

Your color and font settings only change how the text shows on the screen -- not how the text prints.

6. The HELP Menu

The HELP items work normally.

7. Scrolling

Scrolling works normally with files under 32-K. It works a little funny with larger files, until you get used to it. Recall that Windows Notepad won't even read files over 32-K.

With larger files, only a 32-K part of the file is kept in memory. When you scroll close to the end of a part, WED loads another part from the disk. The "thumb" on the vertical scroll bar will normally show you your place in the PART of the file that's in memory. But when you move this "thumb" up and down with your mouse and then release it, WED will move to that place in the TOTAL file. As you move the "thumb," the LOCATION NUMBERS display where you are relative to the TOTAL file.

8. Further Details

WED uses three files: WED.EXE (the executable program), WED.HLP (the help file). and WED.INI (to remember your settings).

You might prefer to open .TXT files with WED (instead of with Notepad) when you double-click on them in the File Manager. If so, you can use "Associate" (on the File Manager's "File" menu) to associate files with extension TXT with WED.

WED requires Windows 3.1 or above. I wrote it in Turbo Pascal for Windows. WED 2.0 is much fancier than version 1.0. It's also much smaller and takes less RAM -- mainly due to using conventional programming instead of the trendy but inefficient object oriented methods used in version 1.0.

WED is a FREEWARE program by Harry Gensler (Philosophy Department, Loyola University, 6525 North Sheridan, Chicago, IL 60626).