

PowerEdit 1.0

A Powerful Desk Accessory Editor for Programmers

There are already a number of very good DA editors around like MiniWrite and MockWrite, but none of them really address the needs of a programmer. PowerEdit is designed to bridge the gap between full-blown program editors like QUES/M and the small DA editors.

PowerEdit is not limited to the 32K limit imposed by textEdit and supports a host of features designed specially for program editing:

- Auto Indents
- Block Shifts
- Search and Replace
- Auto Save
- Strips and Adds Linefeeds
- Bracket Matching
- Open Last File
- Open File Using Selection
- Remembers Last 4 Positions
- Convert to Upper or Lowercase
- Full Printer Support
- Undo on Editing

PowerEdit is distributed as a Shareware product. This means that you are free to try out the program before paying for it, but if you want to keep the program after 30 days you must purchase the product. To purchase PowerEdit and become a registered user, send **\$20.00** to:

**Anson Tsao
3100 Bayview Ave.,#6
Willowdale,
Ontario, M2N 5L3
Canada**

As a registered user, you will receive the next version of PowerEdit automatically. I intend to make PowerEdit into a user-supported product, constantly updating the product according to your suggestions and bug reports. But unless there is enough support for my efforts both in terms of honoring the Shareware agreement and user feedback, my continuing support for PowerEdit may not be feasible.

Revision Notes

This is Revision B of version 1.0 of PowerEdit. The reason for this bizarre numbering is caused mainly by a bizarre bug in the original version. This bug is fixed in this revision and DO NOT use or keep the old version around it is extremely unsafe.

As a compensation for my mistake, I have included the UNDO feature in this revision. At the moment UNDO only works for the basic editing commands: typing, cut, copy, paste and clear but I am working on a host of new features on the later versions that will include a more comprehensive UNDO.

Again, use ONLY PowerEdit version 1.0b.

You can tell which version you have got looking in About PowerEdit...

Basic Editing

- PowerEdit
- Using the Mouse
- Using Cursor Keys
- Going back to the last cursor positions

PowerEdit

PowerEdit is based on the Capps' Editor Construction Set™ [Begin Footnote] --- Capps' Editor Construction

Set™ is a C library for using with the LightSpeed C™ compiler (both from Think Technologies, Inc.) Highly recommended.--- [End Footnote]instead of the ROM based TextEdit. Because of this PowerEdit does not have the 32K limit on the size of the documents but it is a line based editor with no word-wrap. The result is an extremely fast editor that is great for editing programs; but don't throw away your other favorite DA editor for writing short memos.

The advantage of using a DA for editing your programs is that it can be used within many compilers like the Microsoft Fortran™ or in terminal programs when you are working as a remote terminal to a mainframe without switching between programs.

A few of restrictions have been placed on PowerEdit (more because of the precious menu space than anything else). First you cannot change the width of tabs, they are set to spaces wide and secondly PowerEdit will use the font and font size that was last saved with the document (or the default Monaco - 9 is none saved).

The line number that the cursor is on is always displayed in the box at the bottom left of the window next to the horizontal scroll bar.

Using the Mouse

PowerEdit uses the mouse the same way as any other Macintosh editors.

- Clicking inside the PowerEdit window puts the cursor there.
- Double clicking selects the word that the cursor is on.
- Triple clicking selects an entire line.
- Click and dragging the mouse selects a range of characters.
- Double click and drag selects a range of words.
- Triple click and drag selects a range of lines.
- Clicking with the shift key down extends the selection to the cursor position.

Using Cursor Keys

The cursor keys on the Mac plus and ADB keyboards are supported for moving the cursor position. There are a number of other features that can be accessed though the cursor keys in conjunction with the command and/or shift keys.

- Command - Left Arrow moves the cursor to beginning of the line.
- Command - Right Arrow moves to the end of the line.
- Command - Up Arrow moves to the beginning of the file.
- Command - Down Arrow moves to the end of the file.
- Pressing the shift key with any of the cursor key combinations will extend the selection range the new cursor position.

Going Back to the Last Cursor Positions

PowerEdit remembers the last four cursor positions or selections ranges that you positioned with the mouse and allows you to cycle through them quickly using the ENTER key. This feature makes editing different parts of a document very easy.

Menu Commands

- | | |
|--------------|-------------------|
| • New | • Replace |
| • Open... | • Shift Left |
| • Save | • Shift Right |
| • Save As... | • Go to Line #... |
| • Revert | • AutoIndent |
| • Print... | • AutoSave |
| • Find... | • Save with LF |
| • Find Again | • About PowerEdit |

New

Opens a new empty text window.

When PowerEdit is first started, the New command is automatically executed but you can have PowerEdit to automatically ask you for a file to open by holding down the option key while selecting PowerEdit from

the apple menu.

Open

Opens an existing 'TEXT' file using the standard file dialog box. You can only open one file at a time but PowerEdit will remember the last one you opened and allow you to flip between the two easily (more about this later...)

Upon opening a file, PowerEdit automatically strips away any line feed characters in the file. This makes editing files from other computers a whole lot easier since the OTHER computers add line feeds after every carriage return. You can later reinsert line feeds using the Save with LF feature.

Save (Command - S)

Saves the current text to the disk. If the text is currently 'Untitled', you will be asked for the name to save the file under just as using the Save As... command.

If the AutoSave feature is selected, saving a file will automatically generate a backup file of the last saved version by renaming the file with a '.bak' extension.

Save As...

This command also saves the file to disk but it asks for the name of the file.

Revert

Revert allows you to get back to the last saved version of the file. There is a dialog box confirming whether to revert to the saved file or not.


Print... (Command - P)

PowerEdit supports the Macintosh Printing Manager fully, this means that you can print the documents on both Imagewriters or LaserWriters. PowerEdit automatically include a heading to the pages printed with the file name, date, time and page number. Currently, this cannot be overridden.

Unlike most Macintosh programs there is not a separate Page Setup... menu item for selecting paper size and other things. In PowerEdit the Page Setup... command is integrated with the Print command. When Print... is invoked, you will be presented first with the standard Page Setup... dialog box; if you click 'OK' to that, you will then be presented with the familiar Print... dialog box.

Find... (Command - F)

The Find command brings up the following dialog box



The screenshot shows a dialog box with two main sections: 'Find:' and 'Replace:'. Each section has a text input field. Below the 'Find:' field are three checkboxes: 'Case Sensitive', 'Whole Word', and 'Wrap Around'. Below the 'Replace:' field are two buttons: 'Replace All' and 'Find'. To the right of the 'Replace All' button is a checkbox labeled 'Confirm'. To the right of the 'Find' button is a button labeled 'Cancel'. A mouse cursor is pointing at the 'Find' button.

You can enter the Find and/or Replace String. The strings can also include tabs and carriage returns by using option-tab and option-CR respectively. An empty replace string will delete the found string. PowerEdit starts to look for the find string from the current cursor position.

If there is a selection range in the text when the Find... command is invoked, the selection range will become the default find string in the dialog box.

The search can be specified case sensitive or to match the find string only if the destination is a whole

word. The Warp Around option allows search to wrap around the end of the file.

The Replace All button starts the search from the beginning of the file and replaces all the strings found with the replace string. If the Confirm Replace box is checked a dialog box will appear every time there is a match and gives you the options to replace the match, skip it or cancel the whole thing.

Find Again (Command - A)

Finds the next occurrence of the find string.

Replace (Command - R)

Replaces the selection string that matches the find string with the replace string.

Shift Left (Command - I)

Shifts the lines that are spanned by the selection range to the left by one tab space. If any one line in the range cannot be shifted, the entire block stays unchanged.

If the option key is down when this command is invoked, the block is shifted by one character to the left instead of an entire tab space.

Shift Right (Command - J)

Shifts a block to the right by one tab space. Like Shift Left... if the option key is down, the block will be shifted by one character instead.

Go To Line #... (Command - G)

Puts the cursor the line specified in the dialog box.

AutoIndent

This item toggles the on and off the AutoIndent feature. If AutoIndent is enabled, PowerEdit will automatically insert the same number of spaces and/or tabs at the beginning of the line above when you press return. You can override this feature temporarily by pressing option-return instead, this will always bring you to the beginning of the line.

AutoSave

PowerEdit will save the file you are working on automatically when this feature is enabled. The file is saved about every 500 characters you type, and you will be notified when a save occurs by a short beep. For added security, PowerEdit will generate a backups by renaming the last saved version with an '.bak' extension before saving the new version. PowerEdit will also save the file automatically when you close the window.

Save with LF

In order to generate text files that for the OTHER computers, PowerEdit can insert a line feed character after every carriage return in the text. If this option is enabled the line feeds will be inserted when you next save the file, although you will not see them on the screen.

About PowerEdit...

About PowerEdit... is about PowerEdit.

Invisible Commands

- Open Selection
- Open Last File
- Matching Brackets

- Change the Selection to Upper or Lowercase

Due to the precious menu space, these more advanced commands can only be invoked by command key combinations. Hopefully in future versions of PowerEdit after I have figured out how to do hierarchical menus they will appear in the normal menu like any self-respecting Macintosh programs would. But in the mean time...

Open Selection (Command - D)

This command will attempt to open the file name in the current selection. The file must be in the default folder, i.e. the folder that the current file came from. If the file cannot be found, a beep will be the warning.

Open Last (Command - L)

PowerEdit remembers the last file that was open. This command will open the last file. So if you are working on two different files Open Last will allow you to toggle between the two with the simple command key combination.

Matching Brackets (Command - B)

This command recognizes three bracket pairs '(' & ')', '[' & ']' and '{' & '}'. The search begins from the current selection and spreads outwards to select the next level of brackets. Both the bracket type and level must be matched for a selection and if they do not, a beep will be sounded.

To Uppercase (Command - comma)

Changes all of the letters in the selection to upper case. If the option key is pressed with this command, the selection will be changed to lowercase instead.

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- Dr. Szabados of McMaster University, Canada, whose editor is inspirational, after using it writing this editor becomes more than imperative.
- And especially to IBM: without their Personal 'Computers', I would not have bought my Macintosh.