

## # 65 Using Meta-Characters in the Menu Editor

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This document discusses using non-standard characters in the menu editor

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When in the Menu editor use of certain Meta-Characters can change the characteristics of the menu items being displayed. These characters are used by Apple's Menu Manager to modify a menu item.

The "/" in a menu will cause the Letter immediately following it to become the command key equivalent, and both characters will not show up in the Menu.

When you use both the Menu editors Keyboard equivalent box and the "/" sequence, the Menu editor will hold precedence and that will be the command key used in the corresponding menu.

Technical Note #48 explains the use of the "^" character in the menu editor to allow for icons in your menus.

If you use the "<" Character in the menu editor, all characters to the right of it as well as the command key equivalent will be blank.

If you use the "!" character in a menu, it as well as the character following it will be omitted from the Menu. It is similar to using the "/" character but there is no effect on the command key.

If a semicolon ";" is used in the menu editor all characters following the semicolon as well as the command key equivalent will show up on a separate line in the menu and will be deselected.

If the "(" character is used in a menu it will be ignored.

In Summary

Meta Character	Effect
;	All Characters to the right show up on separate line disabled
^	Causes Icon in menu
/	Causes next character to become command key equivalent and omits both characters from menu.
!	Same as "/" except doesn't effect Command key
(	Is ignored by menu editor
<	All characters to the right and the command key will be blank

