

Welcome to...

# SurveyEdit v1.0

(it is recommended that you print this manual and keep it in a convenient place)

SurveyEdit v1.0 was created by Allan Wellenstein and Adam Glass, both of Master Software.  
Master Software is a Massachusetts based software company committed to high quality  
software programs for Macintosh users. © 1988

## SurveyEdit 1.0 Documentation

I'll start out by saying that SurveyEdit (along with MenuEdit) may be one of your most vital editor programs. SurveyEdit lets you write survey files for Red Ryder Host 1.4 and up. These surveys can be written so quickly and easily, that you'll save countless hours. No longer has writing surveys been a task! Now anyone, even with little or NO PROGRAMMING EXPERIENCE, can use this program to create complex surveys.

I used to be a little scared and apprehensive of writing a survey. It might not work, and I would have wasted so much valuable time. But now, writing surveys is a joy. SurveyEdit handles branching, text files, large screen monitors, full screen text, and much, much more. I'm sure you'll soon decide it's an invaluable tool for survey creation. However, with all this power comes a little bit of difficulty. The program is a little confusing, even with the wonderful Mac Interface. This difficulty will be easily overcome, as long as you read and understand the manual. This manual is written in a simple and friendly fashion.

**Note well! This program is not free. Yes, this is the usual shareware pitch. I don't expect all of you Host Sysops to be responsible enough to pay, but I must insist that you do. You may use this program for three weeks. After that three week period, you must either send in the Shareware fee, or delete ALL copies you own. The fee is a modest \$5. You should send it (checks are preferred) to:**

Master Software  
c/o Adam Glass  
P.O. Box 151  
Waban, MA 02168

**All checks should be made out to Adam Glass. Thank you.**

This is to promote further "Host-Aides". We at Master Software are currently working on a new version of SurveyEdit, letting the user double-click on the lines and call up an edit box for that command. Also, we are working on three more Host related programs. Two online games and an online Host-Sysop program. This will let you modify user's calling from locations, times on, preferences, passwords and all the other information in the userlog. It will also let you edit text files, delete files, get and change file information, delete files, change CONFIG preferences, and much more. However, without further funding from the Sysop community, we will be unable to continue these projects. We need your help - without it, these revolutionary "Host-Aides" will never be released, and **you** will lose out in the long run. Please support us by sending in the token fee of five dollars.

Now that I've gotten that out of the way, let's get on the good stuff. For your convenience, the first page of documentation will start on the next page. This is for those of you who choose not to include these "General Info" pages in your manual.

Starting with the File menu, I'll go through all the menus, command by command, making sure you understand each. The only exception will be the Commands menu. You will get only basic help here, to understand this completely you must at least read the documentation on Survey Files in the Red Ryder Host manual. **If you have not already, please read Red Ryder Host's Survey Files Documentation before you read any more of this manual! This will make it much easier on both of us!!**

(On to the Manual...)



The File menu has all the standard options usually found in Mac programs. Let's talk about the individual commands now:

**New** - This lets you create a new survey. Survey Edit does not check for free disk space and disks not present. Therefore you should be very careful when saving files to make sure everything is correct. If you do not do this, you could lose a lot of information!

**Open...** - This command lets you open existing SurveyEdit surveys. Note: trying to open a non-SurveyEdit survey will result in an error. SurveyEdit lets you edit existing surveys, as well as add more commands to the end of old ones. This is where SurveyEdit really is "head-and shoulders" above any other existing Survey File Makers. This is why we called it SurveyEdit, and not SurveyMaker or SurveyCreator.

**Close** - This lets you close an opened survey file. If you've made changes since the last save, SurveyEdit will ask you if you would like to save it before closing. You may also click in the "go-away" box in the main window as a shortcut for closing.

**Delete...** - This lets you delete a text file (survey). For your convenience, SurveyEdit makes you confirm deletions so you don't accidentally delete an important file. This is useful for deleting old versions of a survey to keep your "desktop" free and uncluttered.

**Save** - This command lets you save your surveys to a disk. If you have not saved your survey previous to selecting this command, you will be prompted for a name to save it as. If you save your survey with a name that already exists, you will be asked if you want to write over the old file. Unless you're sure about this, just pick a unique name.

**Save As...** - This command lets you specify a new place (path) to save your survey. It then saves your survey with that new name.

**Print...** - This command prints your survey on a printer. You may use the Chooser DA to select the printer driver you want. Print asks you if you would like to print a survey summary, exactly as you see it on the screen, or the actual survey that Red Ryder Host reads.

**Quit** - Quit simply returns you to the Finder. If you haven't saved after the last change, SurveyEdit will ask you if you want to.



Undo - Lets you cancel the last action. If you select this again, it re-does the action you just erased with undo. Some commands (such as FULL PAGE TEXT and IMPORT TEXT) cannot be undone. Be very careful when you do this, as you will not be able to undo these commands.

Replace command... - This command prompts you for a command to fix, and then lets you fix that command. You can't type in a number greater than the amount of commands, and you can't type in an number less than one. You can't replace a one line command with an IMPORT TEXT or FULL PAGE TEXT command. You must replace single line things with other single line things. Replace prints "replace" where you have selected to replace. The next command you make will replace the command number that now reads "-=> REPLACE <="". To cancel the replace command, simply select Undo from this menu (the Edit menu).

Insert command... - Lets you stick in a command you may have forgotten. Insert asks you for a command to insert before. Like replace, you can't do an IMPORT TEXT or FULL PAGE TEXT command in Insert. You'll have to insert one line at a time. Also, insert is not undo-able. Insert prints the word insert on the screen. Then, to add in your command, you select replace and replace the number SurveyEdit just created (next to "-=> Insert <="").

Delete command... - This command lets you delete a line you entered. Delete command prompts you for a command to delete. You can't delete a nonexistant command.

## Commands

All the commands (and brief descriptions) are listed in this menu. For information on exactly what these commands are, please read page 54 of the Red Ryder Host Manual. This will also help you to understand what our program is really doing for you.

**Tricks**

**Add a Space**  
**Skip a Number**  
**Enter a String & Last Input To Scratch**  
**Full Page Text**  
**Import Text**

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**Insert Length-Bar**

**Add a Space** - Lets you add a blank line of text for spacing out the survey's output. Not as much of a trick as an often used feature.

**Skip a Number** - Lets you leave a space in your survey for a command you may decide to put in later.

**Enter a String & Last Input to Scratch** - This is an often used feature.

Very often when you write something to the scratch file, you want to add a text line explaining what the following text is. So you tell the program what this data is (the string of text) and it'll write the text and the last input to the scratch file. It ends up looking like this in the responses file:

	<u>Entered string</u>	<u>Last input</u>
HOME PHONE:	617-964-6866	
WORK PHONE:	617-964-6088	

(For more experienced survey makers, all this command does is a Command #13 and a Command #5, in that order.)

**Full Page Text** - Lets you enter a lot of text at once, much like a text editor would. Actually, what you have here is some editable text fields.

Returns are allowed, so to save what you've typed in, you have to click "done", rather than just hit return. After you click "done", the text is printed on the screen and entered into the survey.

**Import Text** - Import Text is a simple but powerful command. It lets you import a TEXT file into survey text commands. This is useful for converting a system bulletin into a survey file. There may or may not be a wait depending on how long the imported file is.

**Insert Length-Bar** - Is a feature not utilized in this version of SurveyEdit.

However, in future versions, it will insert a length bar, which is useful for long inputs. Length-Bars, for those who aren't sure, have nothing to do with the "singles scene".

They are, in fact, ruler type text lines that show users how much space they have for their input.

**Info**

**Open file: Survey.Test2**  
**Path: Survey File Disk:**  
**Memory: 701k of 761k free**  
**Commands: 1482 of 1487 remaining**

The Info menu shows you information about your survey and your system. If the current file is not saved, the Info menu will say that the survey is not saved, and thus, there is no path. The Info menu will also show you how many commands are remaining and how much memory is reserved for SurveyEdit.

Now that we're done with the documentation, we'll go through making a sample survey that will help you to understand how SurveyEdit works.

For simplicity (and time comparison) we'll make a survey similar to the one on pages 54-55 in the Red Ryder Host Documentation on survey files. The example will assume you have already launched SurveyEdit, and it has completely loaded.

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Wait for the info box to appear at the bottom of your display screen.

Select "New" from the "File" menu, and an empty main window will appear.

•1• Let's start by giving our survey a title. Select **Command#1 (Display text line)** under the **command** menu. Type "New User Survey" in the Edit box. Now move your mouse to before the text you just typed in and click the button. Now add spaces until it is centered in the middle of the box and press the Done button.

•You will see your text appear on the screen•

•2• Ok, let's add a space before we go on. Select **Add a Space** in the **Tricks** menu.

• -=> Space <=- will appear on your screen under the first command•

•3• Now let's continue with our survey. Let's take this time to explain how to use the survey. We could write the text in line by line using command #1. But, let's see if we can't speed this up with a "Trick". Let's write the text we want and save it as a text file. (You can use MacWrite and save your file as a text file or you can use text editing DAs like RedWriter.) We have already made the text file that we will be using now. Select **Import Text** from the **Tricks** menu and open the file named "Instructions.TXT".

-The text in the file instantly comes to your screen.-

•4• Let's ask the user some questions now. Select **command # 9 (Get input from user)** in the **Commands** menu. When prompted for the text, write "Enter your FIRST name: ", (notice the space following the colon). Press the OK button. When prompted for the length to allow for, enter 15 and press the Done Button.

-You will see your text followed by "15" in parentheses-

•5• Now we have to check if they entered something or if they just pressed the carriage return. Select **Command #4 (If empty branch to...)** under the **Commands** menu. When prompted for the number to branch to enter the number to the left of the question you just asked. In this case the number should be "9".

•6• We know they entered something, so now let's save it. Before we write the information to the scrap file, let's write a string identifying it first. We could do this by using **Command #13 (String to Scratch W/O C/R)** and then **Command #5 (Write last input to scratch)** both under the **Commands** menu. We will take a short cut with one more command from the **Trick** menu. Select **Enter string and last input** and when prompted for the string, type a text line referring to the last input. In this case we will write "FIRST NAME: " (note trailing space again).

-you will see text to scratch and last input to scratch on your screen-

- 7• Repeat steps 4, 5 and 6 with the following questions:
  - "Enter your LAST name: " (with a length of 20)
  - "Enter your phone number (XXX) XXX-XXXX: "(15)
  - "What is the best time to call: "(30)
  - "Enter your age: "(3)And observe spacing exactly as printed here.
- 8• Add a space - like in step 2
- 9• Now let's see if he/she entered every thing correctly. Ask "Have you entered all the questions correctly? " by using **Command #10 (Get Y or N input from user)** You will not be asked to enter a length. It is automatically 1.
- 10• Now check to see if the answer was left blank - repeat step 5
- 11• If the answer is "y" then we will skip (Branch) to line number 35 (This is skipping one number to start the survey over-because the answer would have been "n")
- 12• He/She did not enter the info correctly so let's start the survey over. Use **Command #8 (Start over)** in the **Commands** menu.
- 13• After you write to the responses file, the user is returned to the BBS after it. So you must do everything like saying thank you before you write to the reponses. In the surveys you write, please be nice to the people who spent hours of potential homework time writing SurveyEdit. Select **Add a Space** from the **Tricks** menu. Now Select **Command #1 (Display Text Line)** from the **Commands** menu, type in "This survey was written with Survey Edit, by Master Software." and press the Done button.
- 14• He/She did answer the questions correctly so let's save the information to the responses file. Select **Command #6** from the **Command** menu. Now the user is returned to the BBS.

## Save your work frequently!

(Or use a desk accessory similar to Saviour, available on better BBSs around the country!)

## SurveyEdit 1.0 Documentation

Special thanks to all the people who helped us out, including:

Curt Morrison ("Newton's Corner BBS" (617) 964-6088)

David L'heureux ("MacEast BBS" (617) 776-8722)

(Bug testing),

as well as Cider, Tasso, Tiger and Tony (our pets).

Love and peace to Mac users everywhere!

Allan Wellenstein

Adam Glass

(Support available on the Boardwalk BBS, (617) 964-6866, located in Newton, a suburb of Boston, MA)