

Lecture v1.0 READ.ME! file

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CHANGES & ADDITIONS TO THE MANUAL:

Table 3.1 (additions)

Ctrl+E edit the currently running lecture file
Ctrl+P print the currently displayed slide

Chapter 3.2 (changed)

Flipping slides

Choose the "Slide/Next" menu item to present another slide in a lecture file. Or press the right mouse button, or press the Spacebar, or press Enter, or press PgDn, or press Ctrl+N -- they all do the same thing.

Choose the "Slide/Prior" menu item to present the previous slide in a lecture file. Or press the Backspace key -- it does the same thing.

Chapter 3.a (new)

Restart a presentation

Choose the "File/Restart" menu item to start over at the beginning of a lecture file. Lecture will immediately interpret commands in the file.

Chapter 3.b (new)

Edit a lecture file

Choose the "File/Edit file" menu item or press Ctrl+E to edit the currently running lecture file. Lecture will stop processing and display the file in NotePad so you can edit it. Note: you can use a different editor program if you wish. See below for details.

Chapter 3.c (new)

Printing slides

Choose the "Options/Printer setup" menu item to set options for the currently selected printer or to change printers.

Choose the "Slide/Print" menu item to print a copy of the currently displayed slide in a lecture file. Or press the Ctrl+P key -- it does the

same thing.

Chapter 3.d (new)

Executing other programs

Some lecture files include one or more Execute commands so the presentation can launch other applications. You can tell the program whether to accept any such command with the "Options/Execute allowed" menu item. (A checkmark appears next to the menu item when activated. Choose the menu item again to deactivate it.)

Chapter 3.e (new)

Zooming/iconizing lectures

Some lecture files include one or more Zoom, Unzoom, Iconize, and Uniconize commands so the presentation can automatically resize itself within the Windows desktop. You can tell the program whether to accept those commands with the "Options/Zooming allowed" menu item. (A checkmark appears next to the menu item when activated. Choose the menu item again to deactivate it.)

Chapter 4.1.2 (additions)

Editor=WindowsDirectory\NOTEPAD.EXE

When you choose the "File/Edit file" menu item or press Ctrl+E, Lecture will tell NotePad to bring up the currently running file for editing. By default, the program expects to find NOTEPAD.EXE in the main Windows directory. This entry tells it to call on the services of a different editor, or you can optionally specify where to find NotePad if you moved or renamed it.

StartupFile=LectureFilename

Lecture will process the named file each time it starts up. (However, the program will ignore this item if the command line specifies a startup file.) If you don't specify a path to the file, Lecture will search for it just like it searches for a _DEFAULT.LEC file. (See below.)

Chapter 5.3.1 (Accept command; additions)

Syntax ACCEPT [AUTOSHOW] [BEEP] [COMMENT] [EXECUTE] [ICONIZE] [MESSAGE] [ZOOM]

MinVersion Execute, Iconize, and Zoom: Lecture=102, Windows=300. All others: Lecture=100, Windows=300.

See also AutoShow, Beep, Comment, Execute, Iconize, Ignore, Message, Zoom

Chapter 5.3.4 (ColorBackground command; additions)

Syntax COLORBACKGROUND DEFAULT

Function Syntax #3: resets the background to the Windows-default color.

MinVersion syntax #1 and #2: Lecture=100, Windows=300. Syntax #3:
Lecture=101, Windows=300.

Example ColorBackground Default

Chapter 5.3.a (Execute command; new)

EXECUTE

Syntax EXECUTE [ICONIZE] command
EXECUTE [ZOOM] command

Function launches a program just as if you had chosen Program Manager's "File/Run" menu item (no relation to Lecture's similarly named menu item).

MinVersion Lecture=102, Windows=300.

Example Execute Zoom calc.exe

See also Iconize, Zoom

Comments you can run DOS programs, batch files, and .PIF files as well as traditional Windows applications.

Chapter 5.3.15 (Ignore command; additions)

Syntax IGNORE [AUTOSHOW] [BEEP] [COMMENT] [EXECUTE] [ICONIZE] [MESSAGE]
[ZOOM]

MinVersion Execute, Iconize, and Zoom: Lecture=102, Windows=300. All
others: Lecture=100, Windows=300.

See also Accept, AutoShow, Beep, Comment, Execute, Iconize, Message,
Zoom

Chapter 5.3.21 (RunFile command; additions)

Comments if you don't specify a drive/directory for the file, Lecture
will search for it in the following places:

1. the current directory;
2. the directory where LECTURE.EXE resides;
3. each directory on the DOS PATH (consult your DOS or Windows manual for details about the PATH command).

Chapter 5.a (new)

_DEFAULT.LEC file

Whenever you specify a lecture file to run, Lecture searches for a file called _DEFAULT.LEC. The program will search for it in the following places:

1. the default directory;
2. the directory where LECTURE.EXE resides;
3. each directory on the DOS PATH (consult your DOS or Windows manual for details about the PATH command).

If Lecture finds _DEFAULT.LEC, it processes it before processing the lecture file. This lets you set fonts & colors, turn off sound effects, and so on, for every lecture file.

Note: Lecture only processes _DEFAULT.LEC once during each presentation. It doesn't process it again as part of a RunFile command.

Appendix A (additions)

Couldn't find NOTEPAD.EXE. Would you like to specify an editor program for future reference?

- * You chose to edit the currently running lecture file but Lecture couldn't find NOTEPAD.EXE in the main Windows directory. (You may have moved it to a different directory, deleted the file, or renamed it.) If you specify an editor program here, Lecture will add it to LECTURE.INI (see above for details).

Couldn't find specified file (or one of its components). Recheck the path and filename for correctness, and make sure Windows knows where to find any required library files. Continue?

- * An Execute command couldn't find the program, batch file, or .PIF file in order to "launch" it. You may have specified an incorrect drive, path, or filename. Edit the lecture file so it specifies the correct filename & path.
- * Windows couldn't locate a file the launched program itself needed (sometimes a missing .DLL file). Try to run the application outside of Lecture to determine the cause of the problem.
- * You tried to run a lecture file from a floppy disk but failed to close the drive door.

RunFile command called for a lecture file currently in use. Continue?

- * A RunFile command tried to invoke a lecture file already in use. This would have created an "infinite recursion" situation: file A calls B, which calls A, which calls B again, which calls A again...
- * A RunFile command tried to run its own file. This would have created an "infinite recursion" situation such as the one described above.

RunFile command exceeds the maximum allowable 'nested' level. Continue?

- * A RunFile command can name a lecture file with its own RunFile commands, but you cannot "nest" these commands more than four levels (counting the original lecture file which first processed a RunFile).

Appendix B.2 (additions)

"I want to put the program on a floppy and have it automatically process a specific lecture file. How can I do this?"

You'll want to include a LECTURE.INI file with a special "StartupFile" entry. See above (chapter 4.1.2 additions) for details.

"I need to run other programs during one of my lectures and I'd rather not have to start them myself from Program Manager. Can I do something about it in a lecture file?"

The Execute command will launch programs for you, including .PIF and batch files. You can even specify whether to zoom or iconize the other program's window at startup.