

This document briefly describes LayerManager™ II from a lowly apprentice production. As a demonstration version, it is exactly like the production version. However, note that while loaded, any demonstration XTension® alters QuarkXPress® such that saved documents cannot be opened by normal versions of QuarkXPress, and all printed pages include a “QuarkXPress Demo” banner.

Introduction

LayerManager II simplifies shuffling the order of the various elements in QuarkXPress spreads. You can easily move items (lines, picture boxes, text boxes) one or more layers forward or backward, and you can create “view” groups that can be moved or made invisible or visible as a unit. This can eliminate the need for multiple versions of a partially variable document. For example, for a regional ad in which only dealer addresses change, each region’s address information would be assigned to a separate view group and made visible or invisible as necessary. (This also lets you hide pictures while you work so you don’t have to wait while they redraw.)

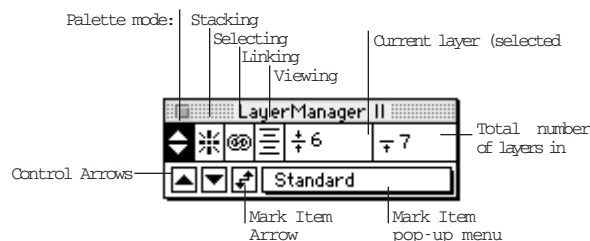
Overview

LayerManager II adds two commands to QuarkXPress: **Show (Hide) LayerManager II** is found in the View menu, and **LayerManager II** is added to the **Preferences** submenu of the Edit menu.

Show LayerManager II opens the LayerManager II palette. The **LayerManager II** command in the **Preferences** submenu opens the LayerManager II Preferences dialog box.

The LayerManager II palette

The palette has four modes of operation: Stacking, Selecting, Linking, and Viewing. Select a mode by clicking the appropriate button on the palette.



Stacking mode

Click up Control Arrow to move selected item to front (top of stack); click down Control Arrow to move selected item to back (bottom of stack). Option-click Arrows to move item forward or back one layer. Enter a new value for Current Layer to move selected item to that layer.

Assign a “home” level to the selected item with the Mark Items pop-up menu (Near Top and Near Bottom are respectively behind and before top and bottom layers; Standard unmarks item). Click Mark Arrow at any time to move selected item to its home level.

Selecting mode

Click up Control Arrow to select item above currently selected item; down Control Arrow selects item behind currently selected item. Option-click either Control Arrow to select item and scroll window so it is visible. Enter a new value for Current Layer to select an item numerically.

Linking mode

The Control Arrows let you select the next or previous linked text box. Option-click either arrow to select text box and scroll window so it is visible.

Total Layers is number of text boxes in chain. Current Layer is currently selected link in chain; enter a new value to select another text box in chain.

Viewing mode

Lets you hide and show one or more items assigned to “View Groups.”



Click Add button to create a new View Group of selected item(s). Add selected item(s) to existing group by clicking group name in list (not checkbox); remove selected item(s) from group by clicking *None*.

Checkboxes preceding View Group names in list show and hide individual groups; Show and Hide buttons make all View Groups visible or invisible.

Compatibility

LayerManager II is compatible with QuarkXPress version 3.2 or later. LayerManager II has also been optimized for the Power Macintosh, to take advantage of this enhancement you must also be running the Power Macintosh version of QuarkXPress.

For More Information

To obtain more information about LayerManager II, or to purchase a copy, please contact:

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KitchenSink

Does everything but the dishes! Featuring Command Pad and the Co-Pilot palette. This XTension provides one-click access to nearly every QuarkXPress menu item plus some other commonly used features. For example: one click opens a document; show or hide the Measurements palette with a click; scroll to any part of the page with one click; click to check spelling; and so on.

KitchenSink also includes window-management controls, a page pop-up menu, a customizable document-magnification menu (define your own magnification levels up to 1200%, three times the QuarkXPress limit), a Nudge palette and a palette for control of text scaling & baseline shift.*

And that's not all: advanced copy and paste features; quick color conversion from spot to process colors and back; preference settings for image import, interface appearance, and measurements; an option that fits a box to a picture.... And we're probably forgetting to mention something—this is not just an XTension, it's everything but the kitchen sink!

ScaleIt

Have you ever wished there was an easy way to resize items in QuarkXPress? How about a command, or better yet, a tool you could use for scaling, just like in most graphics programs? Well, with ScaleIt, you can use the Scale tool or the Scale command to quickly and easily scale lines, text boxes, picture boxes (and their contents) in seconds—you can even scale groups!

FaceIt

At last! Completely flexible character level text styling with the ease of Style Sheets....

Changing the attributes of a word or phrase within a paragraph used to involve choosing a variety of options from the Style menu and the process had to be repeated for each instance of the word or phrase. Further, if you changed the Style Sheet assigned to the paragraph, all such refinements were lost. Now, *faceIt* provides the same flexibility for highlighted text that Style Sheets provide for paragraphs.

StyleIt

A major breakthrough in the selection of text in Quark XPress. StyleIt will change the way you work in QuarkXPress forever. So smooth in its use and application, StyleIt will quickly become that extra pair of hands you've been wishing for! Here's how it works.

StyleIt places a special marquee tool in the Quark XPress tool bar. With this tool you draw a marquee around the text you wish to select. All the text within or touching the marquee will be selected, including text that is not contiguous!

The selection of the text is only the first part of the process. Once you drag a marquee across an area on the spread containing text, you have the choice of applying styles in a variety of formats and combinations to that selected text. The styles can be, character level attributes you choose from the StyleIt dialog, *faceIt* styles created with the *faceIt* XTension (also from alap), or paragraph style sheets used in the document.

You'll soon get used to the ease and power of StyleIt and it will become a valued tool in your production repertoire.

MarkIt

You do everything else to get your job ready for printing, why not place the press marks too? With MarkIt, you can make your pages completely press-ready. Position press marks such as trim lines, registration targets, and color/gray-scale bars — simply by dragging them into a proxy of the active document. You can customize MarkIt by adding your own marks (created in any graphics program and saved as EPS files).

Adding custom-marks such as trim lines, registration targets, and color/gray bars to QuarkXPress is easy with MarkIt. You can even add your company logo.

Crop&RegIt

Select any element or group of elements on a QuarkXPress page and instantly have crop marks, registration targets, color indicators and gray-scale bars drawn around that selection. The marks Crop&RegIt places on the page are completely editable items so you can easily modify them.

LayerManager II

As you know, doing more in QuarkXPress means more boxes, more lines and more time spent moving between them. Fortunately, whatever the job, from newsletter layout to magazine design, LayerManager II makes dealing with QuarkXPress elements much simpler.

LayerManager II lets you create “view” groups—items in a view group are moved and made visible or invisible as a unit. This can eliminate the need for multiple versions of a partially variable document. For example, with a regional ad in which only dealer addresses change, each region’s address information would be assigned to a separate view group and made visible or invisible as necessary.

And, while you are working, you can use LayerManager II to hide those pictures that take so long to redraw....

With LayerManager II you can, lock layers, easily move items from layer to layer, send layers forward or backward, automatically return items to pre-set layers. As well as, view the total number of layers (items) per spread, you can even specify the layer to which an item is to be moved.

ScriptIt

ScriptIt, featuring the Script Player and NameIt, bring new power and accessibility to QuarkXPress by making AppleScript and other OSA compliant languages readily available and compoundable. Multiple scripts are linked into a chain that is executed as if it is one script, thus, each script becomes part of a larger “script-chain.”

The Script Player is a sizeable palette with two adjustable, scrollable lists. The top list is composed of scripts loaded into the Script Player roster. The bottom list is of “script-folders” that each contain a “script-chain.” To launch a single script from the top list, just double-click the name of the script. To launch a script-chain from the bottom list, just click on the name of the script-folder. To create a script-chain, you can drag the name of each of the the scripts from the top window onto the name of a folder in the bottom window.

NameIt, actually part of the Script Player, is a useful tool for those users writing or performing scripts within XPress. When activated, a small, non-printing box is placed at the bottom of any object. NameIt will display either a number indicating the box’s position in the stacking order of the page or the box’s name, or both. You can also use NameIt to apply a custom name to an object, thus allowing that object to be referenced by name from a script.

ScriptIt represents a conceptual shift in the way XTensions are developed. Scripting can tailor QuarkXPress to fit your precise publishing needs.

WhatzIt

If you’ve ever worked on a project containing numerous images, such as a catalog, you know how frustrating it can be. Not only in getting information about the placed images, but also accessing the various image controls buried in layers of menus.

WhatzIt gives you quick access to information and controls of images and graphics placed in a QuarkXPress layout. The WhatzIt pop-up palette is summoned by clicking on a small gold triangle placed on the upper left corner of all picture boxes. Information regarding the placed graphic is displayed on the palette. Buttons to access control dialogs are also displayed.

In addition, WhatzIt will produce a complete report of the settings and status of all placed images in the document.

WhatzIt is a step toward reversing the direction you currently use when working with QuarkXPress. Rather than working from the program to the item, try working from the item to the program.

LinkIt

LinkIt is the comprehensive answer to those linking/unlinking challenges faced by all QuarkXPress users. LinkIt offers features not existing in QuarkXPress, such as, the joining of two or more existing text chains, easily creating a series of linked textboxes, splitting a text chain into smaller chains, duplicating or deleting a textbox containing text, “Smart Paragraph” sensing that will retain the proper appearance of text when chains are split or boxes unlinked.

LinkIt is not only a time saver but a much needed tool when working with linked text in QuarkXPress.

UnGroupIt

UnGroupIt addresses a frustrating task users often face in QuarkXPress. Many times boxes and lines are combined in a compound group or one that contains groups that are grouped themselves. Ungrouping a compound group can be a repetitive task of clicking, ungrouping, clicking, ungrouping, etc.

UnGroupIt makes it a one step process. Just click on the group and select UnGroup All from the Item menu. That’s it. Done.