

PageMaker 4.2 — The Good Side of the Story

By Lynn Lanning

PageMaker 4.2 makes booklets. Let's hear some cheers from all of you who've called to find out if this was possible with previous versions. It wasn't then, but it sure is now! No more folding paper dummies, numbering pages, taking sheets apart, dividing landscape views into pages to be hand-numbered, etc. Set up your document with facing pages together. Use automatic page numbering. Make as many changes as you like. When you're through with the changes, select Options—Aldus Additions—Make booklet..., type in your page range, tell it whether or not to save your recent changes, sit back and relax. (Figs. 1-3) It creates a new untitled document for you. Page numbers will be frozen and pages to be printed on a single sheet of paper will be matched up. On a lisi, turning twenty 5.5x8.5" pages into a booklet took less than 5 minutes. My MUG newsletter's 24 pages of 8.5x11" paper took about 10 minutes to become a booklet. When I think of the hours I've spent on this in the past...!

In the process, the screen will display empty textblock & graphics handles. Ignore them. And don't panic when it finishes sorting and you see blank pages before you. Look at the bottom left of the screen and notice that those are master pages you're looking at. Your copy is safely paired, ready to print, on its new pages.

If you need to laser-print the booklet for reference, 11x17" copy will fit onto one sheet of 8.5x11" paper if you set Scaling at 65% or print Thumbnails, 1 per page. Never be out of sorts

You can reorganize pages easily, too, since Sort pages... is another option under Aldus Additions. Choose between grayed-out thumbnails or detailed thumbnails which will, of course, take longer on screen redraws. Pages can move individually or in pairs, can be placed between pairs or between two facing pages. Page numbers are automatically changed, but the original page number appears in parentheses to the right of the new one while you are still in Sort pages... (Fig. 4) so you can keep track of what you're doing. Stories stay threaded in the same order. That was always a problem for me before. I couldn't cut and paste because stories came unthreaded, so I did a lot of dragging and working at Fits in World sizes.

The pain of Indents/Tabs is also a thing of the past — PageMaker has added an "Apply" button that lets you preview tab changes and make adjustments without quitting the tab dialog box. Hallelujah! (Fig. 5)

Why newsletters are getting larger...

Those features alone will save me hours of work and are more than worth the price of the upgrade.

PageMaker 4.2 can import stories from other PageMaker publications, just as you would place a story from your word processing program. Using System 7.0's Publish and Subscribe, you can even import charts from Excel 3.0.

Preferences has an Options section for typographer's quotes (about time!) and using ATM (2.0 & above) for faster screen redraws.

It's adding up fast

A third party addition to rotate graphics is already on the market—Rotate This! for \$49. Incremental text rotation won't be far behind. Sure, Quark-aholics could already sort pages and apply tabs within their program, and they could buy a third-party extension to do Booklets — known to them as Signatures — but so what! Quark has loads of extensions, with more appearing all the time. Aldus, for years the industry leader in desktop publishing, won't be far behind. The first file of Aldus Additions is on

AOL now for downloading, and it will be on a May disk of the month. New ones are expected shortly. Aldus Additions is probably *the* single most useful feature of this version, because a judicious selection of additions will allow you to customize PageMaker to meet your own

needs. PageMaker is making giant strides with this upgrade. PageMaker users will definitely be happy with the features 4.2 has to offer.

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