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Basic Operations

3-D Keyboard adds a "third dimension" to your keyboard. While it is running, you are no longer limited to the rows of keys on your physical keyboard; you can select among many keyboard layouts provided with *3-D Keyboard*, or create your own.

For example, you can switch to a Spanish layout, an Italian layout, etc., simply by pressing a key or choosing from a menu. You can then switch back to the standard U.S. keyboard (or to any other layout) by pressing another key or choosing from a menu again.

If you do not use foreign languages, you can select the Enhanced U.S. keyboard layout and easily type a cent sign, a British pound sign, a bullet, a section sign, a dagger, a copyright sign, etc. in addition to the English alphabet and punctuation.

For added flexibility, *3-D Keyboard* lets you easily customize the arrangement of letters and symbols in any keyboard layout.

This installation program will copy *3-D Keyboard* to your hard disk and create a Program Manager group with an icon for *3-D Keyboard*.

After installation, you will be given the option to start *3-D Keyboard*. If you take this option, you can consult its Help system for more information.

Note that this installation program does not modify any system files on your computer.

If you later decide to remove *3-D Keyboard* from your computer, consult [Files Used by 3-D Keyboard](#) in this Help system or in the Help system for *3-D Keyboard*.

To Start Installation

When asked to enter the directory where you want to install *3-D Keyboard*, type or edit the full path, e.g. C:\3DKBD or D:\KEYBOARD\EXCELLER. If an acceptable path is already shown in the box, leave it as is. Click the Begin button or press Tab until the Begin button is outlined, then press Enter.

If you see an error message, click the Help button for additional instructions.

To Exit Installation

Press the Esc key, click the Cancel button, or close the program via its Control menu (also called System menu). The Control menu is activated by clicking the program icon, typing Alt+Space, or clicking the small box in the upper left corner of the program's window.

To Interrupt Installation

To abort the installation after it starts, press Esc or Enter, or click the Cancel button.

Files Used by 3-D Keyboard

When installing *3-D Keyboard*, the four distribution files described below are placed in the directory that you indicate. The INI file, also described below, is not distributed by the [publisher](#); it is created in the Windows directory when you make a change in the default settings of *3-D Keyboard*. In network environments, your Windows directory is always located on your local hard disk, even if some of the Windows files are located on the network server.

3DKBD.EXE is the executable program file. Its name, together with the directory name, is used when creating a Program Manager item for *3-D Keyboard*.

3DKBD.DLL is an auxiliary file that is required for operation of the program.

3DKANSI.FON contains the 3-D Key Caps screen fonts. You should not use these fonts in your documents, because they have a very limited range of point sizes and were not designed for printing text.

3DKBD.HLP contains the help system for the program.

3DKBD.INI is the initialization file that is read by *3-D Keyboard* when the program starts. This file is created in your Windows directory, and updated as you customize various options of the program. The format of this file is described in [The initialization file](#). If this file is deleted, all settings are returned to their default values.

The Initialization File

The initialization file, 3DKBD.INI, is located in the Windows directory. In network environments, your Windows directory is always located on your local hard disk, even if some of the Windows files are located on the network server.

The initialization file is created the first time you make a change in one of the *3-D Keyboard* settings, such as a hot key setting, the color scheme, etc. After that, a corresponding section in the initialization file is updated every time you change a setting.

If the initialization file is deleted, all settings are returned to their defaults.

You should not need to edit this file: all settings are recorded automatically by *3-D Keyboard* as you make changes via the Options menu. The file format is explained below for those who like to know such things.

The following is an example of the entire contents of an initialization file:

```
[Hot Keys]
EnhancedUS=48
France=112
Germany=189
Italy=191
LatinAmerica=0
US=65
```

```
[Colors]
NormalCharacter=128 0 0
ThirdSymbol=0 128 0
DeadKey=255 255 0
```

```
[Settings]
SymbolKey=3
PhysicalKeyboard=4
FontSize=1
```

```
[Keyboard Layouts]
France=&é"(-è_çà)=q...p!^$as...lmù<*wxcvbn,;:!!123... etc. (only part of this line is shown;
ellipses indicate the omitted parts)
; The line above is the last line of John's 3DKBD.INI file.
```

The Hot Keys Section

The names of those layouts whose hot keys have been customized are listed here. All spaces and punctuation are removed from the layout names. The numbers to the right of the equal sign are the virtual key codes used by Windows programmers; they are published in Microsoft technical reference manuals. For letters and digits these are the same as ASCII numbers.

The Colors Section

The names are the same as on the Colors dialog box in *3-D Keyboard*, with spaces and punctuation removed. The numbers are the decimal values for the red, green, and blue components, in that order. These values must be between 0 and 255. The following combination, for example, defines pure red: 255 0 0. The Windows Paintbrush shows these numbers as you use the Edit Colors command on the Options menu in Paintbrush.

The Settings Section

SymbolKey defines the setting for the Third symbol key.

PhysicalKeyboard defines the setting for the Physical keyboard.

FontSize defines the setting for the size of the letters and symbols that are used to mark key caps in the *3-D Keyboard* window.

The numbers stand for the options shown on the respective menus, the top choice being 1.

The Keyboard Layouts Section

The names for the layouts are the same as in the Hot Keys section. The characters to the right of the equal sign show the current key assignments; they roughly follow the order of the keys on the keyboard; more precisely, they follow the order of scan codes. An exclamation point precedes every dead key. An exclamation point that does not mark a dead key is shown twice. We do not recommend editing this section of the initialization file; any key assignments may be done with more precision and ease by using the Edit keyboard layout command in *3-D Keyboard*.

A semicolon may be used to introduce a comment line: all text on the line that follows a semicolon is ignored by *3-D Keyboard*.

[Control Panel and 3-D Keyboard](#)

Control Panel is a program that is included with Microsoft Windows. It lets you change the configuration of your system, including the default keyboard layout. In order to use *3-D Keyboard*, the default keyboard layout must be set to "US." If you think that your setting is different, choose the International command in Control Panel and reset the keyboard layout.

This requirement does not impair any flexibility of Windows, since *3-D Keyboard* provides an easy way to switch between keyboard layouts.

The rest of the settings, e.g. the date and currency format, may be selected as desired.

Target Directory Same as Source Directory

You have just typed the name for the directory where you want to install *3-D Keyboard*. The installation program discovered that you indicated the same directory for the source files (i.e. the distribution files). Continuing the installation under these conditions would be meaningless.

Click the OK button (or press Tab until OK is outlined, then press Enter). Then correct the directory name by typing a new path, e.g. C:\3DKBD or D:\KEYBOARD\EXCELLER.

Too Many Disks

The distribution package that you received contains a "too many disks" error. The file INSTALL.INI must have been modified since it was shipped. Please contact the [publisher](#).

Source Directory Same as Target Directory

You have just typed the name for the directory that contains the distribution files. The installation program discovered that you indicated the same directory as the target directory for the installation of *3-D Keyboard*. Continuing the installation under these conditions would be meaningless.

Click the OK button (or press Tab until OK is outlined, then press Enter). Then correct the directory name by typing a new path, e.g. A: or D:\3DKBD\DISTRIB.

Cannot Run Application

The installation program tried to run *3-D Keyboard* and failed. The failure is probably due to a disk error, network error, or to someone deleting the program file after it was installed. It may also be due to lack of memory.

Make sure that the disk where *3-D Keyboard* is installed is currently accessible and click the Retry button. If this fails, click the Cancel button and try running *3-D Keyboard* from Windows as you would any other Windows application.

Successful Installation

The installation of *3-D Keyboard* has been successfully completed. You now have the option of starting *3-D Keyboard*.

Click the OK button to run *3-D Keyboard*. Click the Cancel button if you have a reason not to do so at this point. When *3-D Keyboard* is started, you may click its Help button for more details.

Out of Memory

Click the Cancel button and close some of the applications you are using in order to free more memory, then repeat installation.

Not Enough Free Space on Disk

Click the OK button and delete some files to make more space available on the disk, or use a different target drive for *3-D Keyboard*.

Illegal Target Directory

You have just typed a name for the directory where you want to install *3-D Keyboard*, but the installation program failed to find or create this directory. This may be due to an illegal name for the directory or the drive. For example, the name `:\\KEYBOARD` is illegal, but `\\KEYBOARD` is legal and refers to the directory `\\KEYBOARD` on the current drive.

Note that only one directory can be created at a time. For example, if you want to install *3-D Keyboard* in `C:\\KEYBOARD\\EXCELLER`, but the directory `C:\\KEYBOARD` does not exist, then the subdirectory `EXCELLER` cannot be created.

Click the OK button and correct the directory name.

Error When Writing to Disk

The installation program tried to copy a file to your hard drive, but failed. This usually means that the disk is full. It may also be due to a network error.

Click the Retry button. If this fails, click the Cancel button and check the accessibility of the drive and the available space.

Illegal Source Directory

You have just typed a name for the drive and directory where the distribution files are located, but the installation program failed to find this directory. This may be due to a misspelled name for the directory or the drive.

Click the OK button and correct the directory name.

Error in INI File

One of the lines in the distribution file INSTALL.INI has an error; it must have been modified since it was shipped. Please contact the [publisher](#) of *3-D Keyboard*.

Illegal Source Drive

You have just typed a name for the drive and directory where the distribution files are located, but the installation program failed to find this drive.

Click the OK button and correct the drive name.

Cannot Find Source File

The installation program failed to find a distribution file in the directory on the hard drive that you indicated earlier. This is probably due to a misspelled directory name.

Click the OK button, then correct the directory name. If you think the directory name is correct, make a note of the file that cannot be found and search your hard drive or the distribution diskettes for this file.

If you cannot find the file, please contact the [publisher](#).

Next Disk Required

The installation program failed to find a distribution file on the diskette in the floppy drive that you indicated earlier. The drive door may be open, or the files may be on a different distribution diskette.

Check the drive door. If you have more than one distribution diskette, insert the next one in the drive and click the OK button.

Incomplete INI File

A required line is missing in the distribution file INSTALL.INI; it must have been modified since it was shipped. Please contact the [publisher](#).

Limitations of This Version

This version of *3-D Keyboard*:

- includes keyboard layouts only for those languages that are supported by the Windows 3.0 ANSI fonts; it does not work with the Symbol font or the Terminal font, but it does work with the Terminal program when an ANSI font is selected
- cannot be used with versions earlier than 1.80 of the network communication program *Da Vinci eMAIL*
- may be incompatible with some screen saving programs that use the keyboard in unconventional ways; when setting the password in the screen saving program *After Dark*, always use the standard U.S. keyboard layout, and before typing the password, press Caps Lock so that you type in upper case

If you use the macro Recorder that is part of Microsoft Windows, do not assign your macros to Alt key combinations because they are not played back correctly while *3-D Keyboard* is running. Use Shift and/or Ctrl key combinations instead.

3-D Keyboard does not translate keystrokes properly when used with the Microsoft Windows Calculator.

Future and Related Products

Future versions of *3-D Keyboard* will support more languages and eliminate other limitations of this version.

If future versions of Microsoft Windows use an expanded character set, future versions of *3-D Keyboard* will support this character set.

Russian and all modern Slavic languages are supported by a package called *Cyrillic Support*, available from the publisher of *3-D Keyboard*. In addition to a keyboard program similar to *3-D Keyboard*, this package includes Cyrillic-and-Latin screen fonts and matching fonts for dot-matrix and laser printers.

Other laser printer fonts are also available from the publisher of *3-D Keyboard*.

[Sending Suggestions for Improvement](#)

The creators of *3-D Keyboard*, Peter Cassetta and Slava Paperno can be reached c/o Exceller Software Corp., 223 Langmuir Lab, Ithaca NY 14850 or c/o Department of Modern Languages and Linguistics, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY 14853. Several other computer programs for teachers and students of foreign languages have been written at the Department by this team and by other linguists.

Publisher

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- b) copy the software for backup
- c) transfer possession of the software to another party.

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[Windows Keys](#)

This general information about the use of the keyboard in Windows was prepared by Microsoft. Some of the sections may be easier to read if you enlarge the Help window

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Cursor movement keys

Key(s)	Function
DIRECTION key	Moves the cursor left, right, up, or down in a field.
End or Ctrl+Right Arrow	Moves to the end of a field.
Home or CTRL+Left Arrow	Moves to the beginning of a field.
PAGE UP or PAGE DOWN	Moves up or down in a field, one screen at a time.

Dialog box keys

Key(s)	Function
TAB	Moves from field to field (left to right and top to bottom).
SHIFT+TAB	Moves from field to field in reverse order.
ALT+letter	Moves to the option or group whose underlined letter matches the one you type.
DIRECTION key	Moves from option to option within a group of options.
ENTER	Executes a command button. Or, chooses the selected item in a list box and executes the command.
ESC	Closes a dialog box without completing the command. (Same as Cancel)
ALT+DOWN ARROW	Opens a drop-down list box.
ALT+UP or DOWN ARROW	Selects item in a drop-down list box.
SPACEBAR	Cancels a selection in a list box. Selects or clears a check box.
CTRL+SLASH	Selects all the items in a list box.
CTRL+BACKSLASH	Cancels all selections except the current selection.
SHIFT+ DIRECTION key	Extends selection in a text box.
SHIFT+ HOME	Extends selection to first character in a text box.
SHIFT+ END	Extends selection to last character in a text box

Help keys

Key(s)	Function
F1	<p>Gets Help and displays the Help Index for the application. If the Help window is already open, pressing F1 displays the "Using Windows Help" topics.</p> <p>In some Windows applications, pressing F1 displays a Help topic on the selected command, dialog box option, or system message.</p>
SHIFT+F1	<p>Changes the pointer to  so you can get Help on a specific command, screen region, or key. You can then choose a command, click the screen region, or press a key or key combination you want to know more about.</p> <p>(This feature is not available in all Windows applications.)</p>

Menu keys

Key(s)	Function
Alt	Selects the first menu on the menu bar.
Letter key	Chooses the menu, or menu item, whose underlined letter matches the one you type.
Alt+letter key	Pulls down the menu whose underlined letter matches the one you type.
LEFT or RIGHT ARROW	Moves among menus.
UP or DOWN ARROW	Moves among menu items.
Enter	Chooses the selected menu item.

System keys

The following keys can be used from any window, regardless of the application you are using.

Key(s)	Function
Ctrl+Esc	Switches to the Task List.
Alt+Esc	Switches to the next application window or minimized icon, including full-screen programs.
Alt+TAB	Switches to the next application window, restoring applications that are running as icons.
Alt+PrtSc	Copies the entire screen to Clipboard.
Ctrl+F4	Closes the active window.
F1	Gets Help and displays the Help Index for the application. (See Help Keys)

Window manipulation keys

Key(s)	Function
ALT+SPACEBAR	Opens the Control menu for an application window.
ALT+Hyphen	Opens the Control menu for a document window.
Alt+F4	Closes a window.
Alt+Esc	Switches to the next application window or minimized icon, including full-screen programs.
Alt+TAB	Switches to the next application window, restoring applications that are running as icons.
Alt+ENTER	Switches a non-Windows application between running in a window and running full screen.
DIRECTION key	Moves a window when you have chosen Move from the Control menu. Or, changes the size of a window when you have chosen Size from the Control menu.