MadLibs!

Instructions

Just about every one has done some form of a MadLib, wether in a book, part of a game, or from their own imagination. Most people though, have not done a MadLib with their computer. Well, you will. This program enables you to do premade MadLibs, or one of your design. This software takes you to The Next Generation of MadLibs, the computer.

Contents:

What is a Madlib?

A MadLib is a paragraph or short story where some words are missing, and must be filled in. The blanks are filled with answers to various questions like "Name a hotel". Once all the questions are answered, the filled in paragraph or story is shown.

Most MadLib books have a list of questions on one page, and the story on the next. You fill in all the questions without looking at the next page, then you transfer the answers to the next page and read the story.

With the program, you answer a list of questions, pressing ENTER or clicking "Next", until you have answered all the questions. After all the questions are answered, the story is displayed and can be printed or saved. If you skip a question, or decide you want to change an answer, you can click "Back".

Madlibs are the most fun when you fill it with words that aren't at all related.

What you need

System requirements:

- **286 or better math processor**
- **640K RAM (It will run faster with more memory)**
- **Windows 3.x**
- **1MB free hard drive space**

What should be with this software:

- **MADLIB.EXE**
- **MADLIBS!.WRI**
- **CMDIALOG.VBX**
- **COMMDLG.DLL**
- **VBRUN300.DLL**

You may have various MAD files.

P.S. Another helpful thing is creativity.

How to Make a MadLib

I advise you to first design it on paper, decide the questions, then type it. An example would be:

I went to the _1_ to get the _2_. On my way I saw _3_. I also saw _4_ the next day.

1. Name an object in the room
2. Name another object
3. What is your friend's name?
4. Use #3

Once you have your plot worked out, open MadLibs, then either click on the picture of 'symbols flying out of a piece of paper, or open the file menu and click "Make."

You will have an open window with three buttons, and two input areas. The cursor, by default should be in the MadLib name box, if it not, put it there by clicking in the box. Type the title of you MadLib there. (Note: If you don't have a mouse installed you can change where you are by pressing TAB, until you are where you want and then press ENTER if it is a button. A button is selected when there is a dotted outline around the button's label. An Input area is selected when the cursor inside it is blinking.)

Now click on the box with the scroll bar. Type the first part of your MadLib, up to the first question. Click "Insert Question" any type the question, and press ENTER. (Note: Questions are only added to the end of a madlib.)

Type the next part until the question, then click "Insert Question", type the question, and press ENTER. Repeat this until you have completed the entire MadLib.

DO NOT erase the marks made by the Inserting a question, they are place holders for where the answer will be inserted. If they are deleted, the program will cause errors when trying to fill in the MadLib.

Once you finished the madlib, the one above will look like this:

I went to the º to get the º. On my way I saw º. I also saw º the next day.

Since the fourth question is supposed to be the same, you have to click "Review Questions". Then click "Advanced...", for the Input question, choose the third question, and for the question to receive data, choose the last question. (Note: When using this method, the question that receives the input must me before the question that receives the data. You cannot relate one question to it self. Once a question is set up that way, It cannot be changed, unless it is being referred to another question. When a question has been related, it is preceded by a "±", then the question number.)

Now that the MadLib is done, Click "Make", press CTRL-W, or open the file menu and Click "Save". You will be prompted for a file name, your name and a short comment.

You may print your madlib at any time during the development process. It will print all the questions, then the madlib with blanks that can be filled in.

Your madlib is done. (To close the window, Double click the box at the top left of the window.)

Having Fun

OK, you have the MadLibs, now what do you do? If you don't already have MadLibs loaded, do it now! Click the "THE MAD" image on the Button Bar, or open the file menu and click "Open Madlib".

An "Open" window appears and you must select the madlib file in which you want to do.

Now you are in an input area where you must type the answer to the above question. You will have to answer all the questions to complete a MadLib. Then once the final question is answered, the filled-in MadLib is displayed and can be saved or printed. (Note: It is designed for 8.5"x11" size paper, it will not fill all of a larger size paper, and won't fit on a smaller sized paper.)

Help!

If you have any questions, comments, or suggestions, E-Mail me via Internet at: TedOnline@AOL.COM , or on America Online at: TedOnline .

If you are having problems, first try every thing you can think of to fix it, then if you can't fix it, ask me for help.

Extra Stuff

Testers:

Wendy Schundler

Peter Farrell

Shortcut keys:
(ALT activates menus)
General:

CTRL+W	**Save current file**
CTRL+P	**Print**
CTRL+Z	**Undo last edit**
CTRL+X	**Cut**
CTRL+C	**Copy**
CTRL+V	**Paste**

Make MadLib:

ALT+R	**Review Questions**
ALT+Q	**Insert Question**
ALT+M	**Same as CTRL+W**

MadLib:

ALT+B	**Back**
ALT+N	**Next**

Tech Stuff

Here's some stuff that unless you are an experienced computer user or programmer, will be of little value.

The MAD File Format:

The MadLib file format is a standard Binary file with the following format:

Byte1: The Length of the Madlib Name (as an Integer)
. Madlib's Name (as a string x (Length of Madlib Name))
. Length of Madlib (as Integer)
. Madlib (as String x (Length of Madlib))
. Number of questions (as Integer)
The following loops (Number of Questions) times.
. Length of Question (as Integer)
. Question (as String x (Length of Question))
End of loop.
. Length of Name (As Integer)
. Name (As String x (Length of Name))
. Length of Comment (As Integer)
. Comment (As String x (Length of Comment))
End Byte

For VB users:

The sub routine for printing a multi-line text box is available on America Online. Use keyword "Schundler" in file search to find the Sub routine (It is as a *.BAS file). I also plan on Uploading the VB code for this program.

This program was written in Visual Basic 3.0.

For AOL Users:

This program was upload first on AOL by TedOnline (The author). E-Mail is welcome. For a list of files the author has uploaded use keyword: Schundler . If you are interested in learning about programing in VB or most other languages, enter the PC Development forum (keyword: PDV). For Online Classes check "Programmer U". For a schedule of conversation times, read the file describing the forum.

For Other BBS Users:

The author can be contacted via Internet using the address: TedOnline@AOL.COM .

Most BBS's have classes on programing, and conversations about programs.

Uploading is welcome and encouraged.

For Those who are never satisfied:

Expect an upgrade to come out in six months to a year, and expect a DOS madlib reader in about three to six months.

This was written on Feb. 4, 1994.

For The Legally Minded: