

# Edit and DeskEdit Hints

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Rounded up by Lee Calcraft

The letters E & D have been used to indicate which of the two editors each hint refers to.

## E/D FINDING SPACES AT THE ENDS OF LINES

If you want to eliminate spaces at the end of source code lines, one good way to show them up is to mark the whole text. Any spaces will then be clearly visible. You could also search for the two-character sequence space-newline.

## D SHIFT-DRAG INSERTS FULL FILENAME

If you drag a file to a DeskEdit window with Shift held down, the file will not be loaded, but its filename (including the full pathname) will be put into the text at the caret. This is particularly handy when editing Boot files and the like.

## E/D ADJUST-CLOSE TO OPEN DIRECTORY

If you close an Edit or DeskEdit window with Adjust rather than Select, the window will close as usual, but the directory that the file came from (or was last saved to) will be opened and/or brought to the top of the stack, just as with a filer window.

## D NEAT BASIC PROGRAM LISTINGS

If you set DeskEdit's Overhang parameter in the Page Setup dialogue box to -2, your printed Basic listings will take on a similar look to those listed directly from Basic. Note also that you can include DeskEdit printer codes within a Basic program to embolden, italicise and underline chosen sections. Simply put a suitable code on a REM line - any of the <|> codes will work.

## E/D WINDOW SHRINKING

We have mentioned before that if you set the Right justify flag on Edit's or DeskEdit's text

window using a template editor, you will still be able to read the filename in the title when the window has been shrunk to a very small size. This is handy since it means you can park a number of shrunken windows on the Desktop when not in use, and still see the name of the file that they refer to.

You can extend this idea by adjusting the size and position of the text window template (again using a template editor). Try making it about one inch high by about two inches across, and locate it at the far left-hand side of the screen. This will mean that when text files are loaded, they will park themselves conveniently away, ready for use. With DeskEdit you can further capitalise on this trick by supplying a list of files to load at start-up from a boot file (Edit will only let you nominate one) - all will then be neatly parked in a corner instead of cluttering the whole Desktop.

## E/D USES FOR UNDO

The Undo feature in both Edit and DeskEdit can be very handy for moving to a part of your text or source, checking on it, and then moving back to where you were. Simply move to where you want to go, observe, and use Undo to take you back.

You cannot of course perform any editing on your visit, since that would also be undone. DeskEdit gets around this problem by providing invisible markers which can mark a chosen position for return at will.

There are also two features of DeskEdit whose activities are unknown to Undo: Undelete and the Clipboard. This means that you can use either of these features to collect some text, then use Undo to take you back to your starting point without losing your booty.

## E/D HOW MANY CHARS ON A LINE?

To determine the position of a particular character on a line (i.e. to find its column

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number), press F5 with the caret at the chosen character. Note the character count, then move the caret to the start of the line, press F5 again, and subtract.

## D CONFIRMING WINDOW CLOSURE

Holding Ctrl while clicking on a DeskEdit window's Close icon closes the window without asking for confirmation. But if you close it without using Ctrl, you can still duck answering the question and force a window closure by pressing Ctrl and clicking a second time on the Close icon.