

WORDSTAR COMMAND SUMMARY

By Victor Frank

The Editor of the Sanyo PC Hackers Newsletter, Victor Frank, is an unabashed WordStar loyalist, having purchased and used almost every version of this program from the CP/M-80 versions developed by Seymour Rubinstein, founder of MicroPro International to the 7.0D version which may be still available on disk from The Learning Company. This article by Mr. Frank is reprinted from Volume 13, Number 8 (December 1996) of the Sanyo Newsletter.

In his own words...

I have faithfully upgraded despite the fact that MicroPro, the company that developed and published WordStar used to be as callous and unresponsive as a company could be. For one thing, their manuals were wretched. Their attitude toward their customers seemed to be: "Thanks for your hard-earned money, sucker. Don't expect any support or improvements from us."

Amazingly, WordStar somehow managed to survive this, and even prospered in spite of it. After years of not providing any significant updates, MicroPro brought out WordStar Professional Release 4 in 1987. This wasn't actually an enhancement of earlier versions of WordStar, but rather an adaption of NewWord, a WordStar look-alike written by disgruntled programmers who left the old MicroPro several years earlier. (Some of the above material is from Supercharging WordStar by Arthur Naiman and Kelly Horan, ISBN 0-940235-10-2).

Version 4.C is the CP/M-80 of WordStar 4. It is not the only CP/M upgrade of the Osborne vs 2.26 which I also have. My Sanyo MBC-1150 came bundled with version 3.30 WordStar customized especially for Sanyo. Unfortunately the disk was damaged, and while I have a good WS.COM file for this CP/M version, I do not have usable overlay files. During a span in excess of 15 years, four companies, and all these non-Windows versions, WordStar maintained backwards command compatibility; this is no small accomplishment. I can (and do) use versions from 2.26 to 7.0D with no confusion.

Well, perhaps I don't use (and am not familiar with) all of the commands in the newer versions. That was one of my incentives for writing the following summary of commands for those versions of WordStar with which I am familiar. Another reason is that my memory isn't that hot and I wanted the commands written down in one place where I could access them. I also figure that not all of you readers have upgraded to version 7.0D, and I'll let them know what they are missing. KEY:

- 1-Most of the commands are available in version 7.0D.
- 2-A command with no "X's" on the line is for WS7 only.
- 3-Commands available only in earlier versions, like ^PP (which, by the way, was an undocumented and unsupported version 3.3 command) are suffixed with an asterisk (*).
- 4-A few commands (like ^KF) have changed between versions, and these are noted.

In order to shoehorn the commands into our limited space, I have made liberal use of abbreviations, most of which are noted below:

^	control key	del.	delete
->	go to	dir.	directory
<-/	Enter key	lib.	library
ans.	answer	nr.	number
beg.	beginning	para.	paragraph
c.	cursor	prev.	previous
comm.	command	ren.	rename
curr.	current		

Control Key Commands

-----	6.0	5.5	4.0	4.C	3.3	2.26
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
^^ same as ^6 in DOS*				X		
^- enlarge window	X	X				
^- delete prev. char.*						X
^\ clear/refresh screen	X	X				
^[Esc key-Shorthand menu	X	X	X	X		
^6 auto-indent (N)	X	X				
hard to soft CR (D)	X	X				
^A c. left one word	X	X	X	X	X	X
^B reformat paragraph	X	X	X	X	X	X
^C scroll down one screen	X	X	X	X	X	X
^D c. right one char	X	X	X	X	X	X
^E c. up one line	X	X	X	X	X	X
^End c. end of file	X	X				
^F c. right one word	X	X	X	X	X	X
^G del. char. at c.	X	X	X	X	X	X
^H del. prev. char.	X	X	X	X		
^H cursor char left*					X	X
^Home c. to beg. file.	X	X				
^I insert tab	X	X	X	X	X	X
^J help	X	X	X	X	X	X
^J? help with screen layout*				X		
^J. help for dot comm.	X			X		
^JD help with print directive*						X
^JF help with flag symbols*						X
^JH set help level*					X	X
^JI command index*						X
^JM help with margins/tabs*						X
^JP help with place markers*						X
^JR help with ruler line*						X
^JS help with status line*						X
^JV help with text moves*						X

6.0 5.5 4.0 4.C 3.3 2.26

	6.0	5.5	4.0	4.C	3.3	2.26
^K accept all answers in dialog box	X					
^K block and save menu	X	X	X	X	X	X
^K\ Create fax file						
^K] copy to clipboard						
^K[copy from clipboard						
^K" convert block to u/c	X	X	X	X		
^K' convert block to l/c	X	X	X	X		
^K. convert first letter each sentence to u/c	X	X				
^K? Word/byte count of block or file	X	X				
^K< Unmark block						
^Kn insert place marker (0-9)	X	X	X	X	X	X
^KA copy block between windows	X	X				
^KB beginning block marker	X	X	X	X	X	X
^KC copy block	X	X	X	X	X	X
^KD save file & ->opening menu	X	X	X	X	X	X
^KE rename a file	X	X	X	X	X	X
^KF run a DOS command	X	X				
^KF file directory display*			X	X	X	X
^KG move block between windows	X	X				
^KH display/hide block/markers	X	X	X	X	X	X
^KI column replace mode switch	X	X	X	X		
^KJ delete a file whil/editing	X	X	X	X	X	X
^KK mark end of block	X	X	X	X	X	X
^KL change logged drive/dir.	X	X	X	X	X	X
^KM block math	X	X	X	X		
^KN column mode switch	X	X	X	X	X	
^KO copy a file while editing	X	X	X	X	X	X
^KP print a file while editing	X	X	X		X	X
^KQ exit & abandon changes	X	X	X	X	X	X
^KR insert file into document	X	X	X	X	X	X
^KS save file & resume edit	X	X	X	X	X	X
^KT save and name file	X	X				
^KU mark previous block						
^KV move block	X	X	X	X	X	X
^KW write block to file	X	X	X	X	X	X
^KX save file & exit WS	X	X	X	X	X	X
^KY delete block	X	X	X	X	X	X
^KZ sort block	X	X				
^L repeat prev. find/replace	X	X	X	X	X	X
^<- c. left one word	X					

	6.0	5.5	4.0	4.C	3.3	2.26

^M insert hard carriage ret*	X	X	X	X		X
^M macro menu						
^M! insert time						
^M# insert math expression						
^M\$ insert last math result as dollar amount						
^M* insert current filename						
^M. insert current directory						
^M: insert current drive name						
^M= insert last math result						
^M@ insert today's date						
^M\ insert current path and filename						
^MD edit/create macro						
^ME rename macro						
^MO copy macro						
^MP play macro						
^MR record macro						
^MS single step						
^MY delete macro						
^N insert blank line	X	X	X	X	X	X
^O onscreen format menu	X	X	X	X	X	X
^Ox other than char x in find#					X	
^O? display status screen						
^O] right-align line	X					
^O# page number						
^O<-/ Enter closes dialog box						
^OA auto align text	X	X				
^OB change screen settings	X	X	X	X		
^OC center line	X	X	X	X	X	X
^OD command tags on/off	X	X	X	X	X	X
^OE soft hyphen	X	X	X	X	X	X
^OF paragraph style menu	X					
^OF ruler line from text*			X	X	X	X
^OFD create/edit para. style	X					
^OFE ren. a doc. para. style	X					
^OFO copy para. style to lib	X					
^OFP ->previous. para. style	X					
^OFR ren. a lib. para. style	X					
^OFS select a para. style	X					
^OFV view a para. style	X					
^OFY delete lib. para. style	X					

	6.0	5.5	4.0	4.C	3.3	2.26
^OG temporary indent	X	X	X	X	X	X
^OH auto-hyphenation switch	X	X	X	X	X	X
^OI tab settings	X	X	X	X	X	X
^OJ justification switch	X	X	X	X	X	X
^OK open/switch window	X	X				
^OL left margin	X	X	X	X	X	X
^OM size current window	X	X				
^ON clear tab stops*			X	X	X	X
^ON notes menu	X	X				
^ONA create annotation	X					
^ONC nonprinting comments	X	X				
^OND view/edit notes/index	X	X				
^ONE create endnote	X					
^ONF create footnote	X					
^ONG find note	X	X				
^ONI index entry	X	X				
^ONL check spelling in notes	X	X				
^ONN change note number						
^ONU reformat text in note	X	X				
^ONV convert notes	X	X				
^OO copy curr. ruler to text	X	X	X	X		
^OP page preview	X	X	X			
^OP page breaks display switch					X	X
^OR right margin	X	X	X	X	X	X
^OSn line spacing	X	X	X	X	X	X
^OT ruler line display switch*	X	X	X	X	X	X
^OU columns (newspaper style)	X					
^OV center text vertically	X	X				
^OV variable tab switch*					X	X
^OW word wrap switch	X	X	X	X	X	X
^OX margin release	X	X	X	X	X	X
^OZ paragraph numbering	X	X				

WordStar for DOS: Commands - Part II
by Victor Frank

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3.3 command) are suffixed with an asterisk (*).
- 4-A few commands (like ^KF) have changed between versions, and
these are noted.

Note: If you are receiving Scroll by e-mail, please set your internet browser or reader with a right margin of 65 and select a monospaced font of 10 characters per inch. This will enable the "X's" below to line up with the correct column headings.

In order to shoehorn the commands into our limited column space, I have made liberal use of abbreviations, most of which are noted below:

^	control key	del.	delete
->	go to	dir.	directory
<-/	Enter key	lib.	library
ans.	answer	nr.	number
beg.	beginning	para.	paragraph
c.	cursor	prev.	previous
comm.	command	ren.	rename
curr.	current	eof.	end of file
bof.	beginning of file		

Control Key Commands	WordStar Version Number					
	6.0	5.5	4.0	4.C	3.3	2.26
^P enter control character in dialog boxes	X	?				
^P print controls menu	X	X	X	X	X	X
^P! custom printer code	X	X				
^P& start Inset within WS	X	X				
^P* insert graphic tag	X	X				
^P# print page # in head/foot*					X	
^P- change color/shading	X	X				
^P- insert hard hyphen*					X	
^P. insert dot leader to tab	X	X				
^P= change font	X	X				
^P? change printer	X	X				
^P@ fixed position printing			X	X		
^P<-/overprint line	X	X	X	X	X	
^P\ literally print next char#					X	
^P0 display ext character set	X	X				
^PA alternate font	X	X	X	X	X	
^P^A wild character in find*					X	
^PB bold switch	X	X	X	X	X	X
^PC pause print	X	X	X	X	X	
^PD double strike switch	X	X	X	X	X	X
^PE custom printer code #1	X	X	X	X	X	X
^PF phantom space	X	X	X	X	X	X
^PG phantom rubout	X	X	X	X	X	X
^PgDn scroll down a line	X	X				
^PgUp scroll up a line	X	X				
^PH overprint character	X	X	X	X	X	
^PI insert tab character	X	X	X	X	X	
^PJ insert line feed	X	X	X	X	X	
^PK index entry switch	X	X	X	X		
^PK alt left/right head/foot*			X	X	X	
^PL form feed	X	X	X	X	X	
^PM carriage return						X
^PN normal font/pitch	X	X	X	X	X	
^PO binding space	X	X	X	X	X	X
^PP proportional printing*					X	
^PQ custom printer code #2	X	X	X	X	X	X
^PR custom printer code #3	X	X	X	X	X	X
^PrtSc save and print file*	X					
^PS underline switch	X	X	X	X	X	X
^P^S wildcard symbol in find*					X	
^PT superscript switch	X	X	X	X	X	X
^PV subscript switch	X	X	X	X	X	X
^PW custom printer code #4	X	X	X	X	X	X
^PX strikeout switch	X	X	X	X	X	X
^PY italics switch	X	X	X	X	X	X

	6.0	5.5	4.0	4.C	3.3	2.26
^Q quick menu	X	X	X	X	X	x
^Q= go to font tag	X	X				
^Q? byte count to present c.*	X	X	X	X		
^Q<-/go to style tag						
^Qn go to marker #n (0-9)	X	X	X	X	X	X
^QA find & replace characters	X	X	X	X	X	X
^QB c. to block beginning	X	X	X	X	X	X
^QC c. to end of block	X	X	X	X	X	X
^QD c. to end of line	X	X	X	X	X	X
^QDel delete line left of c.	X	X	X	X	X	
^QE c. to begin. of screen	X	X	X	X	X	X
^QF find characters	X	X	X	X	X	X
^QGn c. to next char n	X	X	X	X		
^QG_/ c. to end of paragraph	X					
^QHn c. to prev. char n	X	X	X	X		
^QI# c. to page/line #	X	X	X	X		
^QJ Thesaurus	X	X				
^QK c. to block end	X	X	X	X	X	X
^QL spell check rest of file	X	X	X			
^QL find SpellStar flags*					X	
^QM onscreen calculator	X	X	X	X		
^QN check spelling of a word in text	X	X	X			
^QO check spelling of a word you enter	X	X	X			
^QP c. to prev. position	X	X	X	X	X	X
^QQn repeat keystroke n times	X	X	X	X	X	X
^QQ^C scroll dn screen to eof	X	X	X	X	X	
^QQ^R scroll up screen to bof	X	X	X	X	X	
^QR c. to beginning of file	X	X	X	X	X	X
^QS c. to beginning of line	X	X	X	X	X	X
^QTn delete to char n	X	X	X	X		
^QU reformat rest of file	X	X	X	X		
^QV c. recent find/replace or block	X	X	X	X	X	X
^QW scroll up continuously one line at a time	X	X	X			X
^QX c. to end of screen	X	X	X	X	X	X
^QY del. line to right of c.	X	X	X	X	X	X
^QZ scroll down continuously one line at a time	X	X	X			X
^R repeat last ans. at prompt	X	X	X	X		
^R scroll up one screen	X	X	X	X	X	X
^-> c. right one word	X					
^S c. left one character	X	X	X	X	X	X
^T delete word	X	X	X	X	X	X
^U undo last deletion	X	X	X	X		
^U stop operation	X	X	X	X	X	X
^V insert/overtyping switch	X	X	X	X	X	X
^W scroll up one line	X	X	X	X	X	X
^X c. down one line	X	X	X	X	X	X
^Y del. current line	X	X	X	X	X	X
^Z scroll down one line	X	X	X	X	X	X
^Z scroll file directory	X	X	X	X		