

**Text Print**  
(versions 1.2 & 2.0)

A Productivity Desk Accessory

Print geoWrite text files using printer's text features!

**This Program is Shareware**

Sending the shareware fee of \$10 makes you a registered user of this program. Registered users will be sent version 2.0 of Text Print. *Italicized* portions of this documentation refer to features available only with version 2.0.

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## INTRODUCTION

Text Print is a program to print geoWrite files (Write Image V2.0 or V2.1) using your printer's resident fonts and features. It is structured as a Desk Accessory in order to use it within an application as well as from the DeskTop. Custom Print is an application that allows you to customize Text Print to the text features of your printer. (Note: Text Print will not print graphics or the special fonts within Geos.)

### Motivation for this Program

(1) I am "hooked on" word processing and geoWrite is my word processor of choice. I ran into a problem when I wanted to print business letters using my printer's NLQ mode. I wanted to underline certain words and geoWrite will not do it when printing in NLQ mode. Rather than using two word processors, I use Text Print to translate geoWrite features (underline, bold, etc.) into those built into my printer.

(2) I must admit that the main reason that I use Text Print to do almost all of my printing is because of how much faster it is to print a document, using my printer's built-in fonts. GeoWrite's draft mode is fast but it clobbers the formatting (and all styles are ignored).

(3) Text Print allows me to use my interfaceable electronic typewriter as a letter quality printer for use with geoWrite. With a modified BSW printer driver, I could access the typewriter, but again, even underlining was impossible until Text Print.

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## Directions for Use of Text Print

First select the proper Printer Driver on the disk and turn on your printer. The selected Printer Driver must be on the same disk as the Text Print file.

### Enter Text Print

With Text Print, a geoWrite text file (Write Image V2.0 or V2.1) can be printed from within an application or from the deskTop. Select Text Print as you would any other desk accessory. When entering Text Print from within geoWrite to print the current document, be certain to update the file before entering Text Print. This is to be certain that your most recent changes are printed.

### Select a File to Print

A dialog box will appear, listing the geoWrite documents on the disk. (only Write Image V2.0 or V2.1 files can be printed and will be listed)

Select and OPEN a file to print.

*Version 2.0 of Text Print uses an enhanced dialog box for selecting a file to print.*

*You are not limited to selecting from the first 15 files on the disk. A small disk note pad will allow you to page through the files (226 max) on the disk. Use the page corners in the lower-left of the dialog box as you would those on the deskTop. "First" and "Last" buttons will appear if there is more than one page (7 filenames each) of files on the disk. These buttons take you directly to the first or last page of filenames.*

*Another drive (up to three) can be accessed directly by selecting its drive letter box, displayed above the Cancel button. The currently active drive has its box darkened. The lettering of the drives corresponds to that found on the right side of the deskTop.*

*If you have a three drive system, you can select any one of the three. You can access drive 'C' from Text Print, even though you cannot from the deskTop.*

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## Print the Document

A dialog box will appear. Make your selections as to page range and paper feed type as you would from within geoWrite. When ready to have printing start, select OK.

Note the absence of print mode selections. Text Print defaults to printing using your printer's draft mode. If you used Commodore 10 font, the formatting on paper will be as it appears on the screen.

To print the document using other printer modes (NLQ, compressed, etc.) and/or to have styles (underline, bold, etc.) be printed, you can tailor a version of Text Print using the Custom Print application described later.

### *Printing more than one document at a time*

*Text Print will automatically print multiple documents whose filenames end in consecutive numbers, but otherwise have the same name (eg, Letter1, Letter2, etc.). This is the naming convention used by geoMerge when printing to disk. Page range selection is possible only for the first document printed. The following documents, automatically printed, will have all their pages printed. The paper feed type selected for the first document will apply to all subsequent documents.*

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**Using Custom Print --  
Making a customized version of Text Print**

Custom Print modifies a Text Print file. Both files must be on the same disk. A Text Print file is simply a copy of any version of Text Print that has been modified (and renamed) to meet your needs. One possibility would be to create customized Text Print files for each font (and associated style options) available with your printer. You might have one called "NLQ", one called "Draft", etc. You can have multiple versions of Text Print on the same disk (select duplicate under deskTop's file menu). Custom Print will only modify the first Text Print file it finds on the deskTop. To have access to various Text Print files for customizing, rearrange the files on the deskTop so that the Text Print file you want to modify is first.

It will probably be necessary to have your printer's instruction manual close at hand. You will be entering the control codes for the various features available with your printer.

**Note:** You only have to go thru this customizing procedure once. The Text Print file you create remains dedicated to your printer settings once you select DONE. Your Text Print desk accessory file is what you will print with. The Custom Print application is used only for customizing.

**Enter Custom Print**

Enter Custom Print as you would any other application. The filename of the Text Print file you will be customizing will appear in the folder tab in the top-right of the screen.

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## Customizing Options

The menu on the left lists the various options to be customized. You can choose to customize any, all, or none. For each option selected, a dialog box will appear and you will be asked to enter a control string.

A "control string" refers to a series of numbers to be sent to your printer to activate the desired feature(s).

The following guidelines should be noted:

- All numbers should be entered in decimal form (not hex).
  - Numbers should be separated by a comma.
  - A maximum of eight numbers can be entered in a control string.
  - Commodore compatible printers require the following conversions when entering values:
    - for 96 - 122 subtract 32
    - for 65 - 95 add 32
- For Example: If your manual calls for 27,109,65 to be entered; you would instead enter 27,77,97
- Numbers greater than 255 are invalid and will not be accepted.
  - The number zero will not be accepted.\*
    - invalid entry: 27,70,0
    - valid entry: 27,70,48

Note: Printer manuals often refer to commands entered in BASIC. You might run across one such as: `PRINT#4,CHR$(27)"-1"`. To send this command to your printer using Custom Print, you would enter the following string of decimal numbers: 27,45,49. Consult a table of equivalencies between Character, Hex values, and Decimal values. You will probably find such a reference in your printer manual.

Pressing RETURN enters the control string. If an error is detected, the same dialog box will reappear with the string terminated just before the offending entry.

\* If your printer requires a zero in a control string, see ZERO FIX on page ten of these instructions.

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## Odds and Ends on the Use of Text Print

### Text Print Error Messages

--"Printer Driver not on disk"

Your printer driver must be on the same disk as Text Print.

--"Header too large"

--"Footer too large"

Text Print has a certain amount of space set aside to store the header and/or footer of a document. If either of these errors should occur it means your header and/or footer wouldn't fit. Although eliminating characters will help, it is more helpful to eliminate formatting changes (resetting margins, tabs, or justification). Each formatting change is equivalent to adding 27 characters of text.

--"Page too large"\*

Text Print prints a page at a time. A certain amount of space is set aside to store the page. This error means the page wouldn't fit. You might have surpassed the limits of Text Print V1.2 with the sheer amount of text or it could be that the page contains numerous formatting changes (resetting margins, tabs, or justification). Each formatting change is equivalent to adding 27 characters of text.

*Version 2.0 has been rewritten to eliminate the possibility of this error. It will never happen with version 2.0 of Text Print.*

### Problems with Full Justification

Version x.3 of Text Print made the printing of fully justified documents better, but not perfect. A line beginning with a style change might clobber the right margin of that line and of the line preceding it. To fix such a problem, go back to the line before the one that starts with a style change and temporarily set the justification for left justification. Now manually make the line full justified by adding spaces throughout the line. Now reset to full justification.

\* Does not apply to versions 2.0 and beyond

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## ZERO FIX

### Printer Driver Patch Program

to work with Custom Print and Text Print

Some printers require that you send a zero in a command string. Custom Print does not allow the input of a zero. ZERO FIX will solve this problem by patching the printer driver for your printer. The patch is for your printer driver, not Custom Print or Text Print.

Custom Print does not allow the use of zero in a printer command control string because GEOS printer drivers reserve the use of zero as a string terminator. The BASIC program, ZERO FIX, will attempt to patch your printer driver so that you can substitute an unused character code for zero.

For example:

You need to send the string 27,45,0. You patch your printer driver using ZERO FIX to recognize 254 for zero. Now within Custom Print you would enter 27,45,254.

### Patch Instructions

From within GEOS, format a disk and SAVE only a copy of your printer driver to it. That is, you cannot have anything else on the disk. Select options and return to BASIC.

Now insert the disk that contains ZERO FIX and LOAD it. RUN ZERO FIX and follow the instructions. This patch should work on all printer drivers. If it doesn't, please let me know what printer driver you are using.

The printer driver on the disk is now patched so that when you send it the number you chose, it will substitute a zero for your printer. Replace the printer driver, on any disk with a Text Print file, with this patched version.

I would suggest that you mark the patched printer driver. Either **rename** it or put comments in its info box. The patch should not affect the driver's performance, but if you should need to re-patch the driver to another substitute number for zero, you must start with an unpatched copy of your printer driver (not a copy of the one you just patched).

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Update Notes  
Text Print Vx.5

My thanks go to the users of the Text Print desk accessory for their continuing interest and support.

This updated version of Text Print incorporates a variety of fixes. If there is still something you would like to see fixed, please let me know.

The most notable changes in this version are: (1) An attempt to make Text Print function properly with fully justified documents. (2) Fixes to the decimal tab routines. (3) An effort to eliminate extraneous underlining that occurs with some printers.

This required quite a few changes to the program and I hope I haven't introduced "bugs" somewhere else.

#### Still a Problem

Although I feel Text Print is now usable with fully justified documents, there is at least one bug that is persistent. This occurs when a line "wraps" to a new line and this new line begins with a style change. Text Print sometimes clobbers the right margin of both lines.

You can get around this problem by eliminating the need to "wrap" between lines.....

Place the cursor in the line preceding the line that starts with a style change. Select left justification. Now make this line fully justified by inserting spaces throughout the line. Now select full justification again.

The selecting of multiple lines to be underlined will also make full justification difficult.

I hope you don't need to resort to this trickiness, but it's the best I've come up with so far.

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