A Macro-Launching Macro
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Macros are one of my favorite features, but I've created so many macros it's become difficult to remember what each one does. I used to go into List (F5), highlight a macro, press (6) Look to see its description, exit back to my document, then invoke the macro. But this was too time-consuming.

How did I solve this problem? The macro in the attached Launch.wpm file allows me to invoke any macro from within List (F5) by placing my cursor bar on the macro name and pressing (1). If I want to look at the description first, I just press (Enter). Then I can either exit out of the description or execute the macro.

Creating the macro

The macro is included as LAUNCH.WPM. Be sure to place it in the directory that contains your macros.

Note: Be sure to type your own macro path name on lines 2 and 53. Your macros' path name can be found in Setup (Shift-F1), (6) Location of Files, beside option (2) Keyboard/Macro Files. If nothing is there, then your path is the same as the directory where your WP.EXE file is stored.

Using the macro

To use the macro, place your cursor at the point in your document screen where you want to run your macro and press Macro (Alt-F10), type "launch" and press (Enter).

Note: You must be at a point such as a document screen where you can access List (F5) in order for this macro to work.

A prompt will appear at the bottom of your List Files screen. You can use your arrow keys to highlight the macro of your choice, or press (N) Name Search, type the name of the macro and press (Enter). Remember, if you use Name Search, you must press (Enter) or one of the arrow keys to end the search.

Once you've highlighted the macro, you can either press (Enter) to display the description or press (1) to run the macro. You can either press (Enter) to return to the List Files menu or press (1) to run the macro.

If at any time you decide not to run a macro from the List Files screen, just press Cancel (F1) and you'll be returned to your normal editing screen.

Explanation of the macro

Line 1 tells the macro to go to line 46 if Cancel (F1) is pressed any time while the macro is running. Line 2 turns off the original WordPerfect menu display and allows the macro to rewrite the normal menus that would appear in List Files and in (6) Look.

The macro then enters List Files (line 2), using the name of the directory containing your macros. Make sure you change the macro directory on this line to match your own macros directory. The .WPM extension assures that only macros will appear in the directory.

Lines 4-7 display the prompt shown at the bottom of Figure 2. The {^P} and {NTOK} commands position the prompts on your screen. The first {NTOK} command gives the column position, and the second command gives the row position. The {^]} and {^\} codes tell the macro to bold the text between these two codes.

Line 8 assigns the key you press to variable 0 and removes the cursor from the screen. This prevents the cursor from distracting your attention from the highlight bar.

Lines 9-17 evaluate the value of variable 0, which contains the most recently pressed key in the List Files menu, and transfer execution of the macro to an appropriate subroutine, depending on the key you press. If you press (Up Arrow), (Down Arrow), (Left Arrow) or (Right Arrow), the macro will go to line 18, move the direction of the arrow you pressed, and then return to line 3 for another key.

If either uppercase or lowercase "N" is pressed (line 14), the macro goes to line 20. If (Enter) is pressed, the macro goes to line 32. If (1) is pressed (line 16), the macro goes to line 51. If anything else is pressed, the commands on line 17 return the macro to line 3.

As you use this macro, remember that your keyboard can send information faster than the macro can process it. This can create a "bottleneck" effect, where the macro tries to "catch up" to the key being pressed.

Lines 20-31 are similar to lines 8-17. These lines allow you to utilize some of the Name Search features in List Files. Lines 24-31 evaluate the input from line 23 and transfer execution back to either line 18 or 20. If either (Enter), (1), Exit (F7) or an arrow key is pressed, the macro exits you out of the Name Search mode and then goes back to line 3.

Lines 32-53 use the same concept as lines 3-17. Since the macro only gives you two options while in the Look screen, the options are reduced. Notice that lines 37-40 are similar to lines 9-17 and lines 24-31. Line 35 has a {^Q} code at the beginning of the message to turn off all other attributes, such as bold.

If you try to search for a macro that isn't listed, lines 43-45 display the Not Found prompt and return to line 3.

Lines 46-50 are executed when Cancel (F1) is pressed any time during the macro. Lines 47-49 cancel out of whichever screen is displayed, and line 50 quits the macro.

Lines 51-53 run the chosen macro. Line 52 assigns the macro your cursor is highlighting in List Files to the variable "macro," line 53 exits List Files, and the {CHAIN} command executes the macro.