PROSPELL

SPELLING CHECKER

AMSTRAD
PCW8256
PCW8512
CPC6128

Arnor
LTD

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Amstrad PCW8256 PCW8512 CPC6128

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    The PROSPELL program was developed using the MAXAM assembler ROM.
    This manual was written on the PROTEXT word processor and checked using PROSPELL.

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1. INTRODUCTION — WHAT CAN PROSPELL DO?

PROSPELL can do several things. First and foremost it will proof read a document and find most mistakes. This includes simple typing mistakes as well as words that are genuine misspellings. PROSPELL will draw your attention to these mistakes — it will not and cannot automatically correct them for you. In doing this PROSPELL has two major advantages over other spelling checkers: it will check the text very quickly and it provides very easy methods for correcting the mistakes.

The way PROSPELL works is fundamentally the same as you would check spellings using a dictionary. However this dictionary is contained on a disc, and whereas you would look up only those words you weren't sure of, PROSPELL looks every single word up in the dictionary, at a speed you could not equal manually.

Although PROSPELL cannot automatically correct mistakes it does have one feature that goes a long way towards this. In many cases it is able to look up the correct word in its dictionary. This is possible because most typing and spelling mistakes can be categorised by a few general rules.

One unavoidable limitation to be aware of is that if you misspell a word, but the misspelling is also a valid word, then PROSPELL will not notice this as an error. A program that did this would be a "context checker", and development of such programs is included in research into artificial intelligence being carried out at universities throughout the world.

2. GETTING STARTED

PROSPELL is supplied on a disc with the program on one side, and the dictionary on the other side. The use of the dictionary is explained in the next section.

Before PROSPELL can be used it must be copied onto a CP/M system disc, or "Start of day" disc. If you are already a user of CP/M and have a suitable disc, then PROSPELL can be copied onto that. If you are new to CP/M then carefully follow the instructions below to create such a disc.

WARNING: the program is subject to copyright laws, and copies may be taken for your own use only.

CP/M

CP/M is a program which must be loaded into the computer in order for PROSPELL to be used. If you have previously used your computer only as a word processor then you may not have used this before because LOCOSCRIPT is self contained. Any extra programs for your computer will require CP/M to be loaded first.

Creating a start of day disc

User input (that is, what you must type) is shown in bold typeface. After typing in each command, press the RETURN key. The computer's responses are shown in normal typeface.

Start by switching the computer off and then on again, to ensure that it is completely reset.

(i) PCW8256/8512 users

Take the disc supplied on the reverse of the original LOCOSCRIPT disc. This disc is marked 'CP/M PLUS SYSTEM/UTILITIES/BASIC'. Insert this disc in drive A (the top drive) with side 2 to the left. The usual lines will appear on the screen as CP/M is loading. Eventually the following (or something similar) should appear:

CP/M Plus Amstrad Consumer Electronics plc
V 1.4, 61K TPA, 2 disc drives, 368K drive M:

Type **DISCKIT** and press RETURN. You will be asked to remove the disc. Follow the on-screen instructions to format a blank disc as a system disc. This is a CF2 disc and so must be formatted in drive A. When this is complete, exit the program as directed.

Remove the disc, and replace the original CP/M system disc. Then proceed as follows (typing everything in bold typeface exactly as shown).

```
A > PIP
CP/M  3 PIP VERSION 3.0
*M:=*.EMS
COPYING —
J14CPM3.EMS
```
(Remove the disc and insert the supplied PROSPELL disc with the program side to the left)
```
*M:=*.*
COPYING —
PS. COM
```

(Remove the disc and insert the newly formatted disc)
A:=M:.*
COPYING —
J14CPM3.EMS
PS.COM

You now have a 'start of day' disc, containing PROSPELL.

(ii) **CPC6128 users**

Take the CP/M system disc supplied with the computer. It is marked 'CP/M PLUS SYSTEM/UTILITIES'. Insert this disc in drive A.
Type **|CPM**
CP/M will load and eventually the following (or something similar) should appear:

CP/M Plus Amstrad Consumer Electronics plc
v 1.0, 61K TPA, 1 disc drive

Type **DISCKIT3** and press RETURN. Follow the on-screen instructions to format a blank disc as a system disc. When this is complete, exit the program as directed.
Remove the disc, and replace the original CP/M system disc. Then proceed as follows (typing everything in bold typeface exactly as shown).

A >**PIP**
CP/M 3 PIP VERSION 3.0
(If you have 2 drives put the newly formatted disc in drive B, if not put it in the drive when the message ' put the disc for B: into the drive ' appears.)
B:=.EMS
(Remove the disc from A and insert the supplied PROSPELL disc in drive A with the program side to the top)
(If you have 2 drives leave the newly formatted disc in drive B, if not put it in the drive when the message ' put the disc for B: into the drive ' appears.)
B:=.*

You now have a 'start of day' disc, containing PROSPELL.

Using PROSPELL

(i)   PCW8256/8512

If the computer is already switched on, put your ' start of day ' disc containing PROSPELL in drive A, and press SHIFT, EXTRA and EXIT together.
Otherwise switch on the computer and insert the disc in drive A.
When the prompt A > appears type **PS**

(ii)   CPC6128

Switch on the computer, or press SHIFT, CONTROL and ESC together to reset the machine.
Insert your system disc containing PROSPELL in drive A.
Type **|CPM**
When the prompt A > appears type **PS**

3. THE DICTIONARY DISC

IMPORTANT — The dictionary disc MUST be copied before using. Do not use the original, retain this as a backup.

Please note that the dictionary disc is subject to copyright laws, and you are expressly permitted to make as many copies as you require, but only for your own use with the PROSPELL program.

The dictionary is contained on the other side of the program disc. Copy this immediately onto a blank disc, checking first that the write protect tab is pushed down on the original (to avoid any possibility of an accident).

To copy the dictionary, load the PROSPELL program as described on page 5, and press U to select the utilities menu. Now press D to copy a dictionary and follow the instructions on the screen. If you have just one disc drive, then insert the original dictionary disc when the message 'insert source disc' appears. If you have two disc drives, put the original dictionary disc in drive B and the new disc in drive A. Users of the CPC6128 computer may alternatively copy the dictionary using DISCKIT3.

It is advisable to take at least two copies of the disc for added security. When you have copied the disc keep one copy as a backup in case of accident. As you add your own words to the dictionary disc (see later) it is also advisable to take backup copies on a regular basis. Always write protect the disc with the tab before taking a copy.

The dictionary fills an entire disc, and it is not possible to corrupt it by accidentally saving files on the disc. It is, of course, possible to corrupt it by copying a whole disc onto it, so be careful!

If the dictionary disc is catalogued the message "OK free" will be given. This does not mean that there is no room on the disc. The dictionary uses a special method of storage and does not use the disc directory in the usual way.

One or two disc drives?

PROSPELL works with either one or two disc drives. There are possibly 3 discs that you are concerned with — the start of day disc containing PROSPELL, the text disc containing your documents, and the dictionary disc. For some users the text may be stored on the start of day disc, but for LOCOSCRIPT users it is likely that the text will be stored on your LOCOSCRIPT disc.

If you only have one disc drive then PROSPELL will tell you when to insert each disc. On the PCW8256/8512 the text may be contained on the memory disc.

If you have two drives the dictionary disc will be permanently in one drive, and the text in the other.

On the PCW 8256/8512 the text disc will normally be in drive B and the dictionary disc in drive A. The text disc may be either CF2 or CF2DD format. In the former case the disc will have to be put in drive A at the end in order that the document may be re-saved, because it is not possible to write to a CF2 disc in drive B. Again the memory disc may be used to contain the text files, and there is a third option of ignoring the second drive. The dictionary is always in drive A, because it is a CF2 format disc.

On the CPC6128 the discs can be either way round, and which you choose largely depends which drive you usually put your text disc in. If you put the text disc in drive A, then put the dictionary disc in B. If you prefer to have the text disc in B, then the dictionary can be put in A.

To summarise, PROSPELL automatically determines whether you have one or two disc drives and whilst it works perfectly well with only one drive, it takes full advantage of a two drive system. Which disc should be in which drive is always displayed at the top of the screen to remind you.

4. SPELL CHECKING A DOCUMENT

A few general remarks

Virtually all of the PROSPELL options may be stopped at any time by pressing the STOP/ESC key. Pressing the key once pauses the program, at which point you can press STOP/ESC a second time to stop it completely or any other key to resume.

Dictionaries are identified by name, and the name of the dictionary currently being used is always displayed at the top of the screen.

The dictionary should always be inserted in the drive indicated at the top of the screen, after the word "Dictionary". This will always be A on the PCW8256/8512.

Using PROSPELL

When PROSPELL has been loaded as described previously, a menu will appear on the screen giving several options. At this stage we are only concerned with the first option, "S".

S: Spell-check file

This will take a previously saved file off the disc and check it. Choose a file that you had previously saved on disc to check (you can press "C" to catalogue the disc at this stage). Press "S" and you will be asked to type the name of the file.

PROSPELL will then read in the file and check it by comparing the words in the file against the dictionary. The words will first be sorted alphabetically. When sorted the words can be checked a great deal faster than would be possible otherwise. The number of words checked so far is displayed as a running count at the bottom of the screen.

Any word that is not in PROSPELL's dictionary will be listed on the screen, with a question mark (?) after it signifying that you should type a letter to choose one of the 5 available options.

The options available are:

S	Store word in dictionary
I	Ignore word
C	Change spelling of word
L	Look up correct spelling
V	View context of word

The words listed will generally fall into one of two categories, and the option you choose will depend on this:

1.   A word that is incorrectly spelt, whether because you mistyped it or you made a spelling mistake. Press C to correct the word. Part of the text will be displayed with the word highlighted, and then the word in question will be displayed with the cursor on the first letter.

The word may now be edited. The following editing functions are available:

PCW8256/8512	CPC6128	
←	←	Move cursor left one character.
→	→	Move cursor right one character.
ALT-←	CTRL-←	Move to start of word.
ALT-→	CTRL-→	Move to end of word.
DEL→	CLR	Delete at cursor.
←DEL	DEL	Delete before cursor.
ALT-A	CTRL-A	Alternate characters.
ALT-E	CTRL-E	Delete to end of word.
ALT-TAB	CTRL-TAB	Switch between insert and overwrite modes.

The text will be re-displayed in its new form, with the new word highlighted. If you press C by mistake, simply press STOP/ESC and you will be returned to the select option stage.

Note that it is possible to replace the word by two or more words, but that if this is done only the first word will be highlighted and only the first word will be checked.

2. A word that is correctly spelt but is not included in the PROSPELL dictionary. The dictionary contains most commonly used words but there are many other words in the English language. You have two choices here. Press I and the word will be ignored, together with all further occurrences of the same word. If the word appeared more than once, the number of times it appeared will be displayed on the screen. Alternatively, you may decide that it's a word you'll be likely to use again and you'd like it to be added to the dictionary. Press S and that will be done. The most obvious example of words you'd want to add to the dictionary are the words making up your name and address.

The option S, I and C have been mentioned. There are three others: V simply displays the word in context in the same way as C, but without allowing it to be changed. This is often useful if you cannot remember the relevance of a word — particularly an abbreviation.

L is the most interesting option. Suppose a word is brought up on the screen and you're not sure of the correct spelling. Press L and PROSPELL will attempt to find the correct spelling for you. It will search the dictionary and any likely candidates will be listed. If you recognise the correct word you can then type C and change the word.

This is by no means guaranteed to find the correct spelling, indeed the word may not even be in the dictionary, but in many cases the intended word will be found.

Note that the look up option does not work instantly, as it has to search the dictionary for similar words. Also the correct word may be found and yet the search will continue because PROSPELL has no way of knowing that the word found was correct. In many cases several possible words will be listed. If however you see that the correct word has been listed you can stop the search by pressing STOP/ESC twice.

At the end of the checking operation

If you have changed any words the file will be automatically saved with the corrections. The old version will remain on the disc with the suffix changed to " .BAK " so if you later realise that you've made a mistake you can recover the original file.

PCW8256/8512 users with two drives should note that if the disc containing the text is a CF2 format disc in drive B, it is not possible to write the corrected file directly to it. PROSPELL will save it on drive M, and prompt you to remove the dictionary disc from drive A and insert the text disc in A. It will then automatically copy the file onto the text disc, from drive M. If you press STOP at this stage, or an error occurs when saving (such as ' disc full ') a copy of the corrected file will remain on the memory disc, from where it may be recovered using the CP/M PIP program.

If the length of any word has been changed, this may have disrupted justification and the text will need to be re-formatted, so a warning message is displayed to remind you of this. LOCOSCRIPT documents will be automatically re-formatted when next edited with LOCOSCRIPT. To ensure that the text is correctly re-formatted, edit the document using LOCOSCRIPT, press EXIT and finish editing. You will see the text being reformatted on the screen, and the re-formatted version will be saved on the disc. Users of other word processors may need to use a command to format the text, or may have to re-format the individual paragraphs that have been changed.

The file will not be saved if no changes have been made, unless the file is too large to be checked in one go (see below).

A number of statistics will be displayed after PROSPELL has completed the checking. These are:
1. The total number of words that were checked. Note that this ignores single letters, numbers, etc.
2. The number of unrecognised words.
3. The number of words added to the dictionary.
4. The number of alterations that were made.

Large files

PROSPELL is capable of handling any size file, but large files may not fit into the memory in one go. In these cases the file will be checked in two or more sections. When the first section has been checked the text will be saved and the next section loaded in.

Note that if a word appears in two sections of a file it will be listed twice, even if you press "I" the first time. The unrecognised words count will therefore count the word twice in this case.

Hints

If you have several documents to be checked these can be checked one after the other simply by repeatedly selecting the "S" option. It can save a lot of time if you are writing numerous small documents with LOCOSCRIPT to save a few up and spell check them together.

PCW8512 users (or PCW8256 users with 2 disc drives) are strongly advised to store their text files on a CF2DD disc, both because it can hold 4 times as much as a CF2 disc, and because there is then no need to put the disc in drive A to save the corrected document.

5. OTHER OPTIONS

T: Two pass spelling check

This option is an alternative to "S", and is often more convenient, especially with long files. On the first pass PROSPELL will compile a list of all unrecognised words, listing them on the screen but not stopping at each one. On the second pass these words are displayed one at a time, and you can Store, Ignore, Change, Lookup or View, as before. The advantage being that you do not need to watch the screen for the whole time.

Multiple dictionaries: For specialised or technical uses you may have a need to use different dictionaries. The two pass check allows the text to be checked against any number of dictionaries in turn. Only the words not found in any of the previous dictionaries are checked in the next. At the end of the first pass the question "Another dictionary (y/n)?" is displayed. Type Y and you will be asked to insert the new dictionary. See a later section for how to create your own dictionary.

C: Catalogue files

This option simply catalogues the files on the text disc, allowing you to see the names of the files for checking, together with the size of each file and the amount of free space on the disc.
Note: see ' Select group ', below.

G: Select group

This is mainly for LOCOSCRIPT users, and enables any of the document groups to be selected. Pressing G will cycle through the groups 0 to 7. The currently selected group is displayed on the status line as a prefix to the text drive. If a document is stored in group 3, say, then group 3 must be selected before performing the spell check. Note that the catalogue of files only shows the currently selected group.
Hint: store all documents for spell checking in group 0, and you need not be concerned with changing the group number.
Note: the group number is the same as the CP/M user number.

P: Printer on/off

Press "P" and you will see the display at the top right of the screen change to "Printer on". Press it again and it will revert to "Printer off". When "Printer on" is showing most of the commands will produce printed output. When used with "S" a complete record of the unrecognised words and your responses will, be printed. The two pass check is particularly useful when used with a printer; the words are printed on the first pass so you get a list of the unrecognised words printed in 4 columns, enabling you to verify the spellings, before correcting them on the second pass.

Controlling the printer (PCW8256/8512 only)

The printer controls may be accessed at any time by pressing the PTR key, as in LOCOSCRIPT. It is slightly different in use, as the information appears at the bottom of the screen. Refer to the PCW8256/8512 operating instructions for details of how to use the printer controls.

One problem you might come across is in trying to stop the printer if you change your mind about printing something. First press STOP twice to stop the program — this will not stop the printer immediately because it contains a buffer of characters to print. The easiest way to stop printing is to press PTR, select RESET with the cursor keys, press the plus key (next to the space bar) and press EXIT.

A: Alter drive

This option allows you to select the choice of drives to be used during spell checking. The available choice depends on the computer and the number of disc drives fitted. Repeated use of this option will cycle through the available combinations.

     (i)   CPC6128, 1 drive.
             There is no choice, this command will do nothing.
     (ii)   CPC6128, 2 drives.
             The initial setting is ' Text B Dictionary A '. This can be reversed.
     (iii)   PCW8256, 1 drive.
             The initial setting is ' Text A Dictionary A ' . This can be changed to
             ' Text M Dictionary A '.
     (iv)   PCW8256, 2 drives; PCW8512.
             The initial setting is ' Text B Dictionary A '. The other possibilities are
             'Text M Dictionary A' and 'Text A Dictionary A'. The last option allows
             PROSPELL to be used in exactly the same way after the second drive is
             fitted. To make the most of the second drive, though, the text files should
             be held on a CF2DD disc.

Notes:

     (i)   the memory disc options may be particularly useful to users of CP/M word processors who can store the text on the memory disc, and use PROSPELL whilst retaining the contents of the memory disc. LOCOSCRIPT users must copy any files on the memory disc to a disc before loading PROSPELL because they will otherwise be lost.

     (ii)   the initial drive selections can be altered by use of a configuration file (see chapter 7).

B: Erase backup files

This option erases all files in the currently selected group with the suffix ' .BAK'. It also erases all LOCOSCRIPT limbo files associated with the selected group.

When a spelling check is performed the original (uncorrected) version of the file will remain on the disc with the filename extension changed to ' BAK '. For example, a file called ' LETTER.3 ' will be renamed to ' LETTER.BAK '. The new version will be given the original name. This is similar to the way that LOCOSCRIPT puts files in ' limbo '. Many word processors create backup files in the same way as PROSPELL.

The spelling check options will give a "Disc full " error if there is insufficient room to re-save the file. This can often be cured by erasing all the backup and limbo files on the disc.

Important note:

If you find that the corrected version of a document appears not to have been saved, or has been saved with a file type '$$$', or the message 'disc full' appears, it may be that there is insufficient room on the disc to save the new copy of the document. In this case first try the 'B' option to create more room. If this fails then copy the document onto a fresh disc before checking it.

D: Change Document type

This option must be used before spell-checking WORDSTAR type documents (see page 16).

U.   Dictionary Utilities

Pressing "U" selects a second menu. This lists various options generally concerned with the dictionary rather than spelling checking itself.

6. DICTIONARY UTILITIES

E: Edit dictionary

The dictionary editor operates in a very simple way, and is provided to allow you to correct any errors in your dictionary — for example if you accidentally store a misspelt word. After pressing "E" you are asked to enter a word, and you will be told if the word is in the dictionary or not. If it is, you can delete it by pressing "D". If not, you can store it by pressing "S". In either case, pressing any other key will leave the dictionary unchanged.

When you've finished editing, press STOP/ESC to return to the menu.

F: Find words

You are asked to enter a word pattern, and PROSPELL will search the dictionary and list words matching that pattern. A word pattern can consist of letters, apostrophes and two special "wildcard" characters. This can be used to great effect when solving or compiling crosswords.

?   stands for a single unknown letter
*   stands for any number of unknown letters (can be zero). Only one "*" may be used in a word pattern.

This is best explained by examples:

Word pattern	Words listed
BA???	5 letter words starting with "BA"
A?A?U?	6 letter words with "A" in the first and third positions and "U" in the fifth position
BA*	All words starting with "BA" (any length)
S*K	Words starting with "S" and ending with "K"
*ALE	Words ending with "ALE"
????????????	12 letter words
*	All words in the dictionary!

A: Anagrams

This is very similar to Find words in use. It will look for and list all anagrams of the letters you type as the word pattern. Again wildcards can be used.

Examples:

Word pattern	Words listed
NAME	Anagrams of "NAME", e.g. "AMEN", "MANE", "NAME"
NAME?	Words containing the letters "N", "A", "M", "E", and one other, e.g. "NAMED", "MEANS"
II????	6 letter words containing two Is
KK*	Words containing 2 Ks (any length)
??????????*	Words of 10 or more letters

L: List dictionary

This simply lists the words in the dictionary to the screen (and printer if selected), starting at any point. You can enter a word at which to start listing. Note that due to the method of storage of the dictionary the listing will usually start a little before the word you entered. Note also that although the dictionary is supplied with the words in alphabetical order, words that you add will not appear in their strictly correct alphabetical place, but a little further on. This does not affect the operation of PROSPELL in any way.

D: Copy Dictionary

This makes a backup copy of the dictionary (or any 'data format' disc). See page 6.

Creating your own dictionaries

The following four commands are mainly useful if you want to create your own dictionaries.

I. Initialise dictionary

This will turn a blank disc into a formatted dictionary disc, with no words on it. When the disc has been initialised you can enter a name for the dictionary (which might reflect the particular use, or the name of the person using it). This name is displayed whenever the dictionary is accessed by PROSPELL, so you always know which dictionary you are using.

N: Name dictionary

This option allows the dictionary name to be changed at any time. The old name will be displayed and you will be asked to enter the new name. You can press STOP/ESC to change your mind and leave the name as it is.

W: Count Words in dictionary

The number of words stored on the dictionary is counted, and a running total is updated as it does it. The total number of words will be displayed, together with an indication of the percentage of the disc already used. It should be noted that this "Disc usage" figure does not accurately indicate the number of extra words that can be added. The method of dictionary storage allows many extra words to be added without using any more space, if the words are similar to words already present.

B: Build dictionary

When you use this option the message "Dictionary or File? " will appear (except on a single drive CPC6128). Press "D" to store the words directly onto the dictionary disc or "F" to send them to a file.

(i)   Directly onto the dictionary disc

Operation is similar to the spelling check option, but it does not stop at each word. All unrecognised words are automatically stored in the dictionary. This option is intended to be used to build up a dictionary from lists of words that are already known to be correct. You are asked for the name of the file to be used, after which the process is completely automatic. A point worth mentioning here is that if the words being added are already sorted, PROSPELL's sorting phase will take significantly longer. This apparent paradox is a consequence of the sorting algorithm used, but since documents are virtually never in alphabetical order this is not a limitation in practice.

One useful way to use this option is by selecting " Printer on " so that the list of words is printed. One can then check the printout and use " Edit dictionary " to remove the words not required. This may sometimes be quicker than using the spell check option and storing the words individually.

(ii)   To a file on disc (requires 2 drives on the CPC6128)

This option requires two drives since the words are checked against the dictionary disc and written out to a file on the text disc. On the PCW8256 with 1 disc drive, the memory drive may be used. The text file must have been copied onto the memory previously, and the output file must of course be copied onto a disc later.

The first filename you enter (the " text file ") is the file of words to be checked. The second (the " output file ") is the file in which the unrecognised words will be stored.

This command offers possibilities for creating a sorted list of all the different words used in a document, if used with an empty dictionary disc.

Using PROSPELL with other word processors

Most word processors produce ASCII files. PROSPELL will work correctly with any such file. In some cases it may be necessary to use a different command to the normal save command to tell your word processor to create an ASCII file. This is not the case with most word processors currently available, though.

PROSPELL has a command to cater specifically for files produced by Wordstar type word processors. The option "D" must be selected first to change the document type. A letter "W" will appear in the status line to indicate Wordstar type files. The spelling check commands will then work correctly for these files. PROSPELL may be configured to select the correct document type automatically (see chapter 7).

7. APPENDIX

Autostarting Prospell

It is possible to arrange that PROSPELL automatically loads when CP/M has loaded. This requires that the PROSPELL start of day disc contains a copy of the SUBMIT.COM file from the CP/M System/Utilities disc. You must then create a file called 'PROFILE.SUB ' on the same disc, using similar methods to those described for the configuration file below, containing the following:

PS

All that is then required to load PROSPELL, is to insert the start of the day disc in the case of the PCW8256/8512, or for CPC6128 users to type ' |CPM '.

Using a configuration file

A configuration file allows certain options to be selected whenever PROSPELL is used, avoiding the need to use the menu options every time. This will not be needed by most users.
The name of the file must be PROSPELL.CFG, and it consists of 1, 2 or 3 characters.
The first character determines the document type as follows:
    0   LOCOSCRIPT / PROTEXT / ASCII
    1   WORDSTAR
The second character determines the drive to contain the text disc, and should be A, B, or M. The drive chosen must be present on the computer. The third character determines the group selection, and is a number between 0 and 7.

This file can be created by any suitable means, normally using your word processor, and should be stored on your PROSPELL start of day disc. LOCOSCRIPT users must use the option to convert the file to ASCII. Another method is to use PIP, which is a program on the CP/M system disc. For example to create a configuration file to select document type 0, drive M, and group 2:
    PIP PROSPELL. CFG=CON:
    0M2
    ALT-Z   (CTRL-Z on the CPC6128)
The configuration file must be on the currently selected drive when PROSPELL is loaded. Thus if PROSPELL is loaded from a disc other than the currently selected disc the configuration file will be ignored.

A note on how PROSPELL decides what is a word

A word is any group of characters starting with a letter, and containing letters and possibly apostrophes. There are additionally a few special cases as follows:

Single letters: these are always ignored, and so the words "a" and "I" are not stored in the dictionary. This means that where letters are used to label a list of items they will not be listed as an error. For the same reason the Roman numerals up to xii (12) are contained in the dictionary.

Hyphens: hyphenated words are treated as two words.

Possessives: words ending with an apostrophe followed by s (" 's") are checked up to the letter before the apostrophe, that is the possessive ending is ignored. Single apostrophes at the end of a word are also ignored.

Words containing numbers: if the word starts with a number then the whole word is ignored. This means that, for example, dates such as "17th" are not listed as an error. If a word starts with two or more letters and is followed by numbers, then just the numbers are ignored. For example "PCW8512" is checked as "PCW" (which is in the dictionary).

PROTEXT WORD PROCESSOR

Protext is the ultimate word processing program for the Amstrad PCW 8256 and PCW8512. This is a complete package on one 3'' disc containing word processor, powerful mail merge and Prospell spelling checker.

Probably the fastest word processor you will see on any comparable machine coupled with a mail merge program which has yet to be equalled.

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