TASPRINT 8000

8000

THE STYLE WRITER

A TASMAN SOFTWARE PROGRAM
FOR THE AMSTRAD PCW 8256 AND 8512

TASPRINT 8000

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1. INTRODUCTION

TASPRINT 8000 gives PCW 8256 and 8512 users the option of printing in one of a set of eight additional print styles on the PCW printer. Each print style is called a font.

Tasprint produces characters that are twice the normal height of the PCW printer dot-matrix output. A maximum of 90 Tasprint characters can be printed on any one line when using Tasprint with Tasword 8000, the word processor. A maximum of 80 characters per line can be printed when using TASPRINT.COM or TASWRITE.COM.

It is recommended that a copy of the Tasprint disc is made using the CP/M DISCKIT utility. Retain your original disc as a back up copy.

A directory of the Tasprint disc will display the following files:

TASPRINT.COM	TASWRITE.COM	PALACE.BIN	BREAKER.BIN	RANCHERO.BIN
LECTURA.BIN	MEDIAN.BIN	OUTLINE.BIN	COMPACTA.BIN	DATARUN.BIN
TASCODED.BIN	TASCODEP.BIN	TASCODER.BIN	TASCODEO.BIN	TASCODEC.BIN
TASCODEB.BIN				

TASPRINT and TASWRITE are program files, the use of which is described below. The files terminated with the extension .BIN are font files. The TASCODE files are the fonts which can be used with Tasword 8000, the word processor. Both sides of the Tasprint disc are the same.

2. TRANSFERRING TASPRINT TO TASWORD 8000

TASPRINT 8000 provides an additional six fonts for Tasword 8000, Lectura Light and Median are already provided on the Tasword 8000 disc. The additional six fonts are supplied on the Tasprint disc in a format required by Tasword 8000. These are the TASCODE files.

The following section describes the procedure for transferring the additional six fonts to your working copy of a Tasword disc.

(1) Insert the CP/M system disc into drive A and switch on the computer. The following message (or something very similar) will appear on screen:

    CP/M Plus Amstrad Consumer Electronics plc

    v1.1,61K TPA, 1 disc drive, 112K drive M

    A>

(2) Type:
                        pip <RETURN>

(3) After a few seconds an asterisk prompt will appear on screen. Remove the CP/M disc from the drive and insert your Tasprint disc. Enter the following command:

m:=tascode?.*<RETURN>

This command copies the fonts from the Tasprint disc onto drive M. The screen will display the names of the files as they are copied.

(4) Remove the Tasprint disc from the drive and insert your Tasword disc. Type:

a:=m:tascode?.*<RETURN>

The Tasprint fonts stored on drive M will be transferred onto the Tasword disc. Loading Tasword will automatically load the additional Tasprint fonts. Refer to page 42 of the Tasword 8000 manual for using Tasprint with Tasword.

3. TASPRINT

TASPRINT 8000 can be used to print files held on disc. Insert your CP/M systems disc and switch on the computer. Insert your Tasprint disc and type:

TASPRINT<RETURN>

The following prompt will appear on screen

TASPRINT 8000 – TASPRINT

Enter a command in the format

TASPRINT DOC_FILE_NAME [. [EXT]] [FONT_FILE_NAME [. [EXT]]]

e.g. TASPRINT TEXT.TXT LECTURA.

DOC_FILE_NAME is the name of the file you wish to be printed, FONT_FILE_NAME is the font you wish to use.

The program will search for both document and font on the disc before printing the file. Files to be printed can be transferred onto the Tasprint disc using the PIP program (see section 1.4.1 of the CP/M Plus user guide). Alternatively a file you wish to print but which is held on another disc can first be transferred to drive M and the following command entered.

TASPRINT M:[document name] [font name]

File extensions for both document and font names are optional. If no extension is specified in the case of the document name, the program will select a file terminated with .TXT in preference to a file of the same name but terminated with a different extension.

Important Notes

(1) The PCW printer automatically assumes use of single sheet paper. If the document to be printed exceeds one page in length, it is recommended that the following paper program is run before using Tasprint. Your CP/M system disc should be in drive A.

PAPER 11, G4 <RETURN>

(2) The Tasprint characters are approximately twice the height of the normal PCW printer output. It should be noted that the maximum number of lines of Tasprint characters which may be printed on any one page is 48. The maximum number of Tasprint characters that can be printed on any one line is 80. Files to be printed using TASPRINT.COM should fall within this format: total page length should not exceed 48 lines; column width should not exceed 80 characters.

(3) Printing Locoscript files. Files created using Locoscript must be ASCII files saved in the Page Image File format. Note that Locoscript stores several lines at the top and bottom of each page as space for headers and footers. Page length (including header and footer space) should not exceed 48 lines. Column width must not exceed 80 characters.

(4) Tasprint will not print non-standard ASCII characters whose character code is outside of the range 32-127. Files to be printed using Tasprint should, therefore, not contain any non-standard ASCII characters. Locoscript files should not include any accented characters.

4. TASWRITE

Taswrite puts the PCW printer into a 'direct typing mode'. A line of text is entered from the keyboard and is printed out when the **RETURN** or **ENTER** key is pressed.

With the CP/M system disc inserted in drive A, switch on the computer or reset the machine by pressing **SHIFT**, **EXTRA** and **EXIT**. Insert your Tasprint disc and enter a command in the following format:

TASWRITE fontname <RETURN>

The following message will appear on screen.

TASWRITE 8000

Enter the first line of your text.

Text can be typed from the keyboard. Pressing **RETURN** or **ENTER** results in that line of text being sent to the printer followed by the message

Enter next line, or press STOP

Pressing **STOP** or **RETURN/ENTER** in response to the above prompt ends the program. To change fonts simply press **STOP** and load the required font by executing:

TASWRITE fontname <RETURN>

To advance the paper by a single line or to the top of a subsequent page, use the **PTR** key. The maximum number of characters that may be printed on any one line is 80.

USING TASPRINT WITH LOCOSCRIPT

1. Load Locoscript as normal
2. Save your text as an ASCII file to a
   working disc
3. Insert a CP/M disc
4. Reset the computer
5. Type PIP and press <ENTER>
6. Insert your copy of the TASPRINT disc
7. Type m:=a:*.* and press <ENTER>
8. Press <ALT>+C
9. Type m: and press <ENTER>
10. Insert the disc with the ASCII file from
    Locoscript from 2 above
11. Type dir a: and press <ENTER>
12. Type, for example,
    TASPRINT a:textfile lectura.bin <ENTER>
    to print the textfile in the chosen font