

QUALITY 99 SOFTWARE
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QS-CONVERTER (tm) INSTRUCTIONS

Purpose:

To convert a text file into a runnable program, at Assembly Language speed.

Equipment required:

1. Disk,
2. Ex. BASIC,
3. 32K RAM.

General information:

The input file to QS-CONVERTER must be a program in DISPLAY/VARIABLE 80 format. The program may be either II BASIC or Extended BASIC. There are many ways to create such a file.

1. Use QS-WRITER (or II-WRITER) to create a new program.

2. List an existing program to disk, i.e.

```
OLD DSK1.pgm  
LIST "DSK1.pgm1"
```

Then you can modify the text file with QS-WRITER (or II-WRITER).

3. Download a program from a BBS. Even a program written for other computers! Depending on the other computer's BASIC language, about one half of it should be compatible with II BASIC, and that alone will save you a lot of typing. Then use QS-WRITER (or II-WRITER) features, such as global search and replace to modify the other lines into II BASIC format. You can also reverse the process, and change a II BASIC program into another computer's BASIC and then transfer it to the other computer.

4. You can use any program that creates DISPLAY/VARIABLE 80 records.

QS-CONVERTER allows a line to be up to 140 characters long, which is the maximum for Extended BASIC. Since each text line is 80 characters long, QS-CONVERTER must decide if the following line is a new line or a continuation of the previous line.

This is the rule it follows: if a text line begins with a valid line number (i.e. any integer from 1 through 32767), and is followed by a space, then it is treated as a new program line. All other text lines are treated as a continuation of the previous line.

Note that it is possible for a continuation line to look like a new program line. Therefore, you should use caution when entering a continuation line. Potential problems can be avoided, by keeping all program lines less than 80 characters long.

In the text file, the line numbers do not have to

be in ascending order, because QS-CONVERTER will enter them in the proper order.

When saving a text file in QS-WRITER (or II-WRITER), it is recommended that you use

Printfile "DSK1.pgm"

instead of Savefile. Because Savefile will append the tab settings to the last program line, which will cause a syntax error. Then it will be necessary to edit that line to remove the tab setting information.

You can also use QS-WRITER (or II-WRITER) to delete blocks of lines.

The LIST "DSK1.pgm" method will generate a blank line as the first record. Because it does not start with a valid line number, QS-CONVERTER will think it is a continuation line. Since it is the first line, there is nothing to add it to, so it will be dropped.

How to use QS-CONVERTER:

Press ALPHA LOCK down.

Plug in the Extended BASIC module.

Turn on all power switches, console switch last.

Insert QS-CONVERTER disk in drive 1.

From Master Title screen: Press any key.

From Master menu: Select 2 Extended BASIC.

QS-CONVERTER will automatically load and run itself.

Enter the Input filename, (a text file in DISPLAY/VARIABLE 80 format).

Enter the Output filename, (anything you want).

QS-CONVERTER will process your input file.

At the end, type:

```
NEW  
MERGE DSK1.xxx (whatever you called the  
output file)
```

Then type, either:

```
CALL LINK("DEL1") or CALL LINK("DEL2")
```

DEL1 is recommended for new programs, because it will continue to process when it finds a syntax error. DEL2 is recommended for fairly well debugged programs, because it is 30% faster. However DEL2 will abort when it finds a syntax error.

When a syntax error is encountered, an exclamation mark is put in front of the line, thereby turning it into a comment and the line is left as it was originally entered. This allows you to edit the line and merely correct the error, without having to re-type the whole line.

At the conclusion of either DEL1 or DEL2, you will have a runnable program in memory! You can list it, edit it, etc.

Be sure to save your new program, by:
SAVE DSK1.pgm

REPLACEMENT POLICY: If the program fails to perform as specified herein, return the original disk, in its original condition, along with \$10 and we will ship you a replacement disk immediately. (Note: Disks obtained from QUALITY 99 SOFTWARE cannot be cataloged, duplicated, or written on.)

If you have any suggestions for improvement or would like to see a certain program on the market, please feel free to call or write. Thank you for buying from QUALITY 99 SOFTWARE.

Program and instructions
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