
Display features with the text card

With an active 80-column card you can issue BASIC and PRODOS commands in lowercase characters. You can also issue commands in lowercase from the keyboard, that is, in immediate mode. This is particularly convenient because REM statements and data within quotation marks remain in lowercase as they were typed.

If you are using DOS 3.3, you must issue commands in uppercase whether or not your card is active.

INVERSE, FLASH, NORMAL, HOME

There are several commands you can give your computer from Applesoft BASIC to affect the appearance of text on the screen. All of these features are described in the *Applesoft BASIC Programmer's Reference Manual*.

- INVERSE tells the computer to display black characters on a white background instead of the normal display of white characters on a black background. This command is normally only available for uppercase characters, but with an active 80-column text card it is available for uppercase and lowercase characters.
- FLASH causes subsequently printed characters to blink quickly between inverse and normal characters. You can turn off the FLASH command by typing the NORMAL command. The FLASH command is normally available only with uppercase characters; it is not available at all while the card is active.
- NORMAL tells the computer to turn off the INVERSE or FLASH command and to display subsequently printed characters normally. It works the same way with the card active or inactive.
- HOME clears the screen and returns the cursor to the upper-left corner of the screen. Both the NORMAL HOME and INVERSE HOME commands are available while the card is active, but INVERSE HOME works a little differently when the card is active.
- ❖ *By the way:* The FLASH and INVERSE commands can be used to highlight important screen messages within a BASIC program.