
Using the GET Command

The presence of an active 80-column text card in the IIe requires that BASIC programmers use some alternative to Applesoft's INPUT command if their programs are to be userproof. Applesoft programmers should use either the GET command or the RDKEY or GETLN subroutines.

This is because the escape sequences used to switch back and forth between modes or to deactivate the card sometimes make it necessary to accept escape sequences in INPUT mode when using an 80-column card. Because the program accepts escape sequences typed from the keyboard, your program will not be userproof against accidental sequences typed in response to an INPUT command.

To get around this problem, you can use the GET command instead. The program does not read escape sequences typed from the keyboard in response to a GET command. This means that your users can err in their responses without endangering the display.

When to switch modes versus when to deactivate

When using BASIC, deactivate the text card whenever a previous (BASIC) program has left the card active (leaving a solid cursor on the screen) or whenever you want to send output to a peripheral device.

Switch back and forth between 40-column and 80-column displays for visual appeal. For full use of the control characters described later, your card must be active, although it can display in either 40-column or 80-column mode.

Original IIe

Tabbing in Applesoft: You must switch to a 40-column display to use Applesoft comma tabbing or the HTAB command.
