So You Want to Learn to Program?

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Table of Contents

Chapter 1: Meeting BASIC-256 – Say Hello............1
  The BASIC-256 Window: ................................................................. 1
    Menu Bar: ................................................................................. 2
    Tool Bar: .................................................................................. 2
    Program Area: .......................................................................... 3
    Text Output Area: ................................................................. 3
    Graphics Output Area: .......................................................... 3
  Your first program – The say statement: .......... 3
  BASIC-256 is really good with numbers – Simple Arithmetic: 7
  Another use for + (Concatenation): ......................... 9
  The text output area - The print statement: ................. 10
  What is a “Syntax error”: ......................................................... 12

Chapter 2: Drawing Basic Shapes ......................... 13
  Drawing Rectangles and Circles: .............................. 13
  Saving Your Program and Loading it Back: ................. 23
  Drawing with Lines: ................................................................. 23
  Setting Individual Points on the Screen: ..................... 26

Chapter 3: Sound and Music ................................. 31
  Sound Basics – Things you need to know about sound: 31
  Numeric Variables: ................................................................. 36

Chapter 4: Thinking Like a Programmer ................. 41
  Pseudocode: ................................................................. 41
  Flowcharting: ................................................................. 44
    Flowcharting Example One: .................................................. 45
    Flowcharting Example Two: .................................................. 46

Chapter 5: Your Program Asks for Advice ............. 49
  Another Type of Variable – The String Variable: ........ 49
Chapter 6: Decisions, Decisions, Decisions……57
   True and False: ................................................................. 57
   Comparison Operators: ....................................................... 57
   Making Simple Decisions - The If Statement: .................. 59
   Random Numbers: .............................................................. 61
   Logical Operators: ............................................................. 62
   Making Decisions with Complex Results – If/End If: ............ 65
   Deciding Both Ways – If/Else/End If: ................................. 67
   Nesting Decisions: ............................................................... 68

Chapter 7: Looping and Counting - Do it Again and Again.......................... 71
   The For Loop: ..................................................................... 71
   Do Something Until I Tell You To Stop: ................................. 75
   Do Something While I Tell You To Do It: ............................... 77
   Fast Graphics: ................................................................. 79

Chapter 8: Custom Graphics – Creating Your Own Shapes................. 85
   Fancy Text for Graphics Output: ........................................... 85
   Resizing the Graphics Output Area: ..................................... 88
   Creating a Custom Polygon: .................................................. 90
   Stamping a Polygon: ........................................................... 92

Chapter 9: Subroutines – Reusing Code................. 101
   Labels and Goto: .................................................................. 101
   Reusing Blocks of Code – The Gosub Statement: ................ 104

Chapter 10: Mouse Control – Moving Things Around......................... 111
   Tracking Mode: ................................................................. 111
   Clicking Mode: ................................................................. 113
# Chapter 11: Keyboard Control - Using the Keyboard to Do Things

- Getting the Last Key Press: 121

# Chapter 12: Images, WAVs, and Sprites

- Images From a File: 129
- Playing Sounds From a WAV file: 132
- Moving Images - Sprites: 135

# Chapter 13: Arrays - Collections of Information

- One-Dimensional Arrays of Numbers: 145
- Arrays of Strings: 151
- Assigning Arrays: 152
- Sound and Arrays: 153
- Graphics and Arrays: 155
- Advanced - Two Dimensional Arrays: 158
- Really Advanced - Array Sizes: 159
- Really Really Advanced - Resizing Arrays: 161

# Chapter 14: Mathematics - More Fun With Numbers

- New Operators: 167
- Modulo Operator: 167
- Integer Division Operator: 170
- Power Operator: 171
- New Integer Functions: 173
- New Floating Point Functions: 175
- Advanced - Trigonometric Functions: 175
  - Cosine: 177
  - Sine: 177
  - Tangent: 178
  - Degrees Function: 178
  - Radians Function: 179
Chapter 15: Working with Strings .......... 187
The String Functions: ................................................ 187
String() Function: ....................................................... 188
Length() Function: ..................................................... 189
Left(), Right() and Mid() Functions: ................................ 190
Upper() and Lower() Functions: .................................... 191
Instr() Function: ......................................................... 192

Chapter 16: Files - Storing Information For Later.................................. 197
Reading Lines From a File: ........................................ 197
Writing Lines to a File: ............................................... 201
Read() Function and Write Statement: ............................ 205

Chapter 17: Stacks, Queues, Lists, and Sorting .................................. 209
Stack: ........................................................................ 209
Queue: ......................................................................... 211
Linked List: .................................................................. 214
Slow and Inefficient Sort - Bubble Sort: ............................ 222
Better Sort - Insertion Sort: .......................................... 225

Chapter 18 - Runtime Error Trapping .................. 229
Error Trap: ................................................................... 229
Finding Out Which Error: ............................................. 230
Turning Off Error Trapping: .......................................... 233

Chapter 19: Database Programming .................. 235
What is a Database: .................................................... 235
The SQL Language: .................................................... 235
Creating and Adding Data to a Database: ......................... 236
Retrieving Information from a Database: ........................................ 243

Chapter 20: Connecting with a Network .......... 247
Socket Connection: ................................................................. 247
A Simple Server and Client: .................................................. 248
Network Chat: ..................................................................... 251

Appendix A: Loading BASIC-256 on your PC or USB Pen Drive ....................................................... 261
1 – Download: .................................................................... 261
2 – Installing: ..................................................................... 264
3 – Starting BASIC-256 ....................................................... 269

Appendix B: Language Reference - Statements .............................................................. 271
circle – Draw a Circle on the Graphics Output Area (2)........ 271
changedir – Change Your Current Working Directory (16) .. 271
clg – Clear Graphics Output Area (2)................................. 272
clickclear – Clear the Last Mouse Click (10).................... 272
close – Close the Currently Open File (16).......................... 272
cls – Clear Text Output Window (1)................................. 273
color or colour– Set Color for Drawing (2).......................... 273
dbclose (19) ......................................................................... 273
dbcloseset (19) .................................................................... 274
dbexecute (19) .................................................................... 274
dbopen (19) ......................................................................... 274
dbopenset (19) .................................................................... 274
decimal () ........................................................................... 275
dim – Dimension a New Array (13) .................................... 275
do / until – Do / Until Loop (7) ............................................. 275
dim – Stop Running the Program (9) ................................. 276
fastgraphics – Turn Fast Graphics Mode On (8) ............... 276
font – Set Font, Size, and Weight (8) ................................. 276

So You Want to Learn to Program? © 2010 James M. Reneau.
for/next – Loop and Count (7) .............................................................. 277

goto – Jump to a Label (9) ................................................................. 277

gosub/return – Jump to a Subroutine and Return (9) ................. 278

graphsize – Set Graphic Display Size (8) ..................................... 278

if then – Test if Something is True - Single Line(6) .................. 278

if then / end if – Test if Something is True – Multiple Line (6) .............................................................. 278

if then / else / end if – Test if Something is True – Multiple Line with Else (6) .............................................................. 279

imgload – Load an image from a file and display (12) ............. 279

imgsave – Save the Graphics Output Area ............................. 280

input – Get a String Value from the User (7) ......................... 280

kill – Delete a File () ................................................................. 281

line – Draw a Line on the Graphics Output Area (2) ............. 281

netclose (20) ........................................................................... 281

netconnect (20) ....................................................................... 281

netlisten (20) .......................................................................... 282

netwrite (20) ........................................................................... 282

offerror (18) ........................................................................... 282

onerror (18) ........................................................................... 283

open – Open a file for Reading and Writing (16) .................... 283

pause – Pause the Program (7) .................................................. 283

plot – Put a Point on the Graphics Output Area (2) ............. 284

poly – Draw a Polygon on the Graphics Output Area (8) .. 284

portout – Output Data to a System Port ............................... 284

print – Display a String on the Text Output Window (1) .... 285

putslice – Display a Captured Part of the Graphics Output. 285

rect – Draw a Rectangle on the Graphics Output Area (2) .. 285

redim – Re-Dimension an Array (12) .................................... 285

refresh – Update Graphics Output Area (8) ......................... 286

rem – Remark or Comment (2) ............................................... 286

reset – Clear an Open File (16) .............................................. 287
say – Use Text-To-Speech to Speak (1).................................287
seek – Move the File I/O Pointer (16)..................................287
setsetting – Save a Value to a Persistent Store..................288
spritedim – Initialize Sprites for Drawing (12)...............288
spritehide – Hide a Sprite (12)........................................289
spriteload – Load an Image File Into a Sprite (12)...289
spritemove – Move a Sprite from Its Current Location (12)289
spriteplace – Place a Sprite at a Specific Location (12).....290
spriteshow – Show a Sprite (12).......................................290
spriteslice – Capture a Sprite (12)..................................290
sound – Play a beep on the PC Speaker (3)......................291
stamp – Put a Polygon Where You Want It (8).................291
system – Execute System Command in a Shell.................291
text – Draw text on the Graphics Output Area (8).............292
volume – Adjust Amplitude of Sound Statement...............292
wavplay – Play a WAV audio file in the background (12)....292
wavstop – Stop playing WAV audio file (12)......................293
wavwait – Wait for the WAV to finish (12).........................293
while / end while – While Loop (7)..................................293
write – Write Data to the Currently Open File (16)............293
writeline – Write a Line to the Currently Open File (16).....294

Appendix C: Language Reference - Functions. 295

abs – Absolute Value (14)..............................................295
acos – Return the Arc-cosine (14)..................................296
asc – Return the Unicode Value for a Character (11)........296
asin – Return the Arc-sine (14)......................................297
atan – Return the Arc-tangent (14).................................297
ceil – Round Up (14)..................................................298
chr – Return a Character (11)........................................299
ckbl – Return the Mouse Last Click Button Status (10).....299
clickx – Return the Mouse Last Click X Position (10)........300
clicky – Return the Mouse Last Click Y Position (10)........301
cos – Cosine (14)................................................................. 301
currentdir – Current Working Directory (16)................... 302
day – Return the Current System Clock – Day (9)............. 302
dbfloat – Get a Floating Point Value From a Database Set (19)

................................................................. 303
dbint – Get an Integer Value From a Database Set (19).... 303
dbrow – Advance Database Set to Next Row (19)............ 304
dbstring – Get a String Value From a Database Set (19).... 304
degrees – Convert a Radian Value to a Degree Value (14). 305
eof – Allow Program to Check for End Of File Condition (16)

.............................................................................. 305
exists – Check to See if a File Exists (16)......................... 306
float – Convert a String Value to A Float Value (14)........ 306
floor – Round Down (14)............................................... 307
getcode – Return the Current Drawing Color.................. 308
gesetting – Get a Value from the Persistent Store.......... 308
getslice – Capture Part of the Graphics Output............... 309
graphheight – Return the Height of the Graphic Display (8)

.............................................................................. 309
graphwidth – Return the Width of the Graphic Display (8). 310
hour – Return the Current System Clock - Hour (9)......... 310
instr – Return Position of One String in Another (15)...... 311
int – Convert Value to an Integer (14)............................ 312
key – Return the Currently Pressed Keyboard Key (11).... 313
lasterror – Return Last Error (18).................................. 313
lasterrrextra – Return Last Error Extra Information(18).... 314
lasterrorline – Return Program Line of Last Error (18)..... 314
lasterrormessage – Return Last Error as String (18)...... 315
left – Extract Left Sub-string (15)................................ 315
length – Length of a String (15).................................... 315
lower – Change String to Lower Case (15)...................... 316
md5 – Return MD5 Digest of a String.............................. 316
mid - Extract Part of a String (14) .......................................................... 317
minute - Return the Current System Clock - Minute (9) .... 317
month - Return the Current System Clock - Month (9) .... 318
mouseb- Return the Mouse Current Button Status (10) .... 319
mousex- Return the Mouse Current X Position (10) .... 320
mousey- Return the Mouse Current Y Position (10) .... 320
netaddress – What Is My IP Address (20) ......................... 321
netdata – Is There Network Data to Read (20) ................. 321
netread – Read Data from Network(20) ......................... 322
pixel – Get Color Value of a Pixel .............................................. 322
portin – Read Data from a System Port ......................... 323
radians – Convert a Degree Value to a Radian Value (16) ... 323
rand – Random Number (6) .................................................. 324
read – Read a Token from the Currently Open File (16) ...... 325
readline – Read a Line of Text from a File (16) ............... 325
rgb – Convert Red, Green, and Blue Values to RGB (12) ... 326
right – Extract Right Sub-string (15) ................................. 326
second - Return the Current System Clock - Second (9) .... 327
sin – Sine (16) ..................................................................... 327
size – Return the size of the open file (15) ..................... 328
spritecollide – Return the Collision State of Two Sprites (12)
 .......................................................................................... 329
spriteh – Return the Height of Sprite (12) ...................... 329
Spritev – Return the Visible State of a Sprite (12) ......... 330
spritew – Return the Width of Sprite (12) ....................... 330
spritex – Return the X Position of Sprite (12) ............... 330
spritey – Return the Y Position of Sprite (12) ............... 331
string – Convert a Number to a String (14) .................. 331
tan – Tangent (16) .............................................................. 332
upper – Change String to Upper Case (15) .................... 333
year - Return the Current System Clock - Year (9) ....... 333

Appendix D: Language Reference – Operators
and Constants ................................................................. 335
  Mathematical Operators: ............................................... 335
  Mathematical Constants or Values: ................................ 335
  Color Constants or Values: ........................................... 336
  Logical Operators: ..................................................... 337
  Logical Constants or Values: ........................................ 337
  Bitwise Operators: ...................................................... 338

Appendix E: Color Names and Numbers .................. 341
Appendix F: Musical Tones .............................................. 343
Appendix G: Key Values .................................................. 345
Appendix H: Unicode Character Values – Latin
  (English) ................................................................. 347
Appendix I: Reserved Words .......................................... 349
Appendix J: Error Numbers ............................................. 351
Appendix K: Glossary ..................................................... 355
**Index of Programs**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Program 1</td>
<td>Say Hello</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program 2</td>
<td>Say a Number</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program 3</td>
<td>Say the Answer</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program 4</td>
<td>Say another Answer</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program 5</td>
<td>Say Hello to Bob</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program 6</td>
<td>Say it One More Time</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program 7</td>
<td>Print Hello There</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program 8</td>
<td>Many Prints One Line</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program 9</td>
<td>Grey Spots</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program 10</td>
<td>Face with Rectangles</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program 11</td>
<td>Smiling Face with Circles</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program 12</td>
<td>Draw a Triangle</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program 13</td>
<td>Draw a Cube</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program 14</td>
<td>Use Plot to Draw Points</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program 15</td>
<td>Big Program - Talking Face</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program 16</td>
<td>Play Three Individual Notes</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program 17</td>
<td>List of Sounds</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program 18</td>
<td>Charge!</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program 19</td>
<td>Simple Numeric Variables</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program 20</td>
<td>Charge! with Variables</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program 21</td>
<td>Big Program - Little Fuge in G</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program 22</td>
<td>School Bus</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program 23</td>
<td>I Like Jim</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program 24</td>
<td>I Like?</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program 25</td>
<td>Math-wiz</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program 26</td>
<td>Fancy – Say Name</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program 27</td>
<td>Big Program - Silly Story Generator</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program 28</td>
<td>Compare Two Ages</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program 29</td>
<td>Coin Flip</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program 30</td>
<td>Rolling Dice</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Program 31: Coin Flip – With Else .......................................................... 68
Program 32: Big Program - Roll a Die and Draw It ............................. 70
Program 33: For Statement ................................................................. 71
Program 34: For Statement – With Step ............................................. 72
Program 35: Moiré Pattern ................................................................. 73
Program 36: For Statement – Countdown .......................................... 74
Program 37: Get a Number from 1 to 10 ........................................... 76
Program 38: Do/Until Count to 10 ...................................................... 76
Program 39: Loop Forever ................................................................. 77
Program 40: While Count to 10 .......................................................... 78
Program 41: Kalidescope ................................................................. 80
Program 42: Big Program - Bouncing Ball ......................................... 82
Program 43: Hello on the Graphics Output Area ................................. 85
Program 44: Re-size Graphics ............................................................. 89
Program 45: Big Red Arrow ............................................................... 91
Program 46: Fill Screen with Triangles ................................................ 94
Program 47: One Hundred Random Triangles .................................... 97
Program 48: Big Program - A Flower For You ..................................... 100
Program 49: Goto With a Label .......................................................... 101
Program 50: Text Clock ................................................................. 103
Program 51: Gosub ....................................................................... 105
Program 52: Text Clock - Improved ................................................... 107
Program 53: Big Program - Roll Two Dice Graphically ....................... 110
Program 54: Mouse Tracking ............................................................. 112
Program 55: Mouse Clicking ............................................................. 114
Program 56: Big Program - Color Chooser ........................................ 118
Program 57: Read Keyboard ............................................................. 122
Program 58: Move Ball ................................................................. 125
Program 59: Big Program - Falling Letter Game .................................. 127
Program 60: Imgload a Graphic .......................................................... 129
Program 61: Imgload a Graphic with Scaling and Rotation ............... 131
Program 62: Spinner with Sound Effect ............................................. 133
Program 95: Queue ................................................................. 214
Program 96: Linked List ...................................................... 221
Program 97: Bubble Sort ...................................................... 225
Program 98: Insertion Sort .................................................. 228
Program 99: Simple Runtime Error Trap ......................... 229
Program 100: Runtime Error Trap - With Messages ........... 231
Program 101: Turning Off the Trap ..................................... 233
Program 102: Create a Database ....................................... 238
Program 103: Insert Rows into Database ............................ 241
Program 104: Update Row in a Database ......................... 242
Program 105: Selecting Sets of Data from a Database .... 244
Program 106: Simple Network Server ................................. 248
Program 107: Simple Network Client ................................. 249
Program 108: Network Chat ............................................. 253
Program 109: Network Tank Battle ................................. 259
Index of Illustrations

Illustration 1: The BASIC-256 Screen ......................................................... 1
Illustration 2: BASIC-256 - New Dialog .................................................... 5
Illustration 3: Color Names ...................................................................... 17
Illustration 4: The Cartesian Coordinate System of the Graphics Output Area .............................................. 18
Illustration 5: Rectangle .......................................................................... 18
Illustration 6: Circle .................................................................................. 19
Illustration 7: Sound Waves .................................................................... 31
Illustration 8: Musical Notes .................................................................... 34
Illustration 9: Charge! .............................................................................. 34
Illustration 10: First Line of J.S. Bach's Little Fuge in G ......................... 39
Illustration 11: School Bus ........................................................................ 42
Illustration 12: Breakfast - Flowchart ....................................................... 46
Illustration 13: Soda Machine - Flowchart ................................................ 47
Illustration 14: Compare Two Ages - Flowchart ....................................... 60
Illustration 15: Common Windows Fonts ................................................. 88
Illustration 16: Big Red Arrow .................................................................. 91
Illustration 17: Equilateral Triangle ........................................................... 93
Illustration 18: Degrees and Radians ........................................................ 96
Illustration 19: Big Program - A Flower For You - Flower Petal Stamp .................................................................................... 99
Illustration 20: Right Triangle ................................................................. 177
Illustration 21: Cos() Function ................................................................. 177
Illustration 22: Sin() Function ................................................................. 178
Illustration 23: Tan() Function ................................................................. 178
Illustration 24: Acos() Function ............................................................... 179
Illustration 25: Asin() Function ............................................................... 180
Illustration 26: Atan() Function ............................................................... 181
Illustration 27: What is a Stack .............................................................. 209
Illustration 28: What is a Queue .............................................................. 212
Illustration 29: Linked List................................................................. 215
Illustration 30: Deleting an Item from a Linked List............... 215
Illustration 31: Inserting an Item into a Linked List............. 216
Illustration 32: Bubble Sort - Flowchart................................. 223
Illustration 33: Insertion Sort - Step-by-step....................... 226
Illustration 34: Entity Relationship Diagram of Chapter
Database.......................................................................................... 237
Illustration 35: Socket Communication................................. 247
Illustration 36: BASIC-256 on Sourceforge....................... 262
Illustration 37: Saving Install File............................................. 262
Illustration 38: File Downloaded............................................. 263
Illustration 39: Open File Warning.......................................... 264
Illustration 40: Open File Security Warning......................... 265
Illustration 41: Installer - Welcome Screen......................... 266
Illustration 42: Installer - GPL License Screen..................... 267
Illustration 43: Installer - What to Install.............................. 268
Illustration 44: Installer - Where to Install............................ 268
Illustration 45: Installer - Complete......................................... 269
Illustration 46: XP Start Button.............................................. 269
Illustration 47: BASIC-256 Menu from All Programs.......... 270
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Dedications:

To my wife Nancy and my daughter Anna.
Chapter 1: Meeting BASIC-256 – Say Hello.

This chapter will introduce the BASIC-256 environment using the print and say statements. You will see the difference between commands you send to the computer, strings of text, and numbers that will be used by the program. We will also explore simple mathematics to show off just how talented your computer is. Lastly you will learn what a syntax-error is and how to fix them.

The BASIC-256 Window:

The BASIC-256 window is divided into five sections: the Menu Bar, Tool Bar, Program Area, Text Output Area, and Graphics Output Area (see Illustration 1: The BASIC-256 Screen below).

Illustration 1: The BASIC-256 Screen
Menu Bar:

The menu bar contains several different drop down menus. These menus include: “File”, “Edit”, “View”, “Run”, and “About”. The “File” menu allows you to save, reload saved programs, print and exit. The “Edit” menu allows you to cut, copy and paste text and images from the program, text output, and graphics output areas. The “View” menu will allow you to show or hide various parts of the BASIC-256 window. The “Run” menu will allow you to execute and debug your programs. The “About” menu option will display a pop-up dialog with information about BASIC-256 and the version you are using.

Tool Bar:

The menu options that you will use the most are also available on the tool bar.

- ![New](image) – Start a new program
- ![Open](image) – Open a saved program
- ![Save](image) – Save the current program to the computer's hard disk drive or your USB pen drive
- ![Run](image) – Execute the currently displayed program
- ![Debug](image) – Start executing program one line at a time
- ![Step](image) – When debugging – go to next line
- ![Stop](image) – Quit executing the current program
- ![Undo](image) – Undo last change to the program.
- ![Redo](image) – Redo last change that was undone.
- ![Cut](image) – Move highlighted program text to the clipboard
Chapter 1: Meeting BASIC-256 – Say Hello.

- Copy – Place a copy of the highlighted program text on the clipboard
- Paste – Insert text from the clipboard into program at current insertion point

**Program Area:**

Programs are made up of instructions to tell the computer exactly what to do and how to do it. You will type your programs, modify and fix your code, and load saved programs into this area of the screen.

**Text Output Area:**

This area will display the output of your programs. This may include words and numbers. If the program needs to ask you a question, the question (and what you type) will be displayed here.

**Graphics Output Area:**

BASIC-256 is a graphical language (as you will see). Pictures, shapes, and graphics you will create will be displayed here.

**Your first program – The say statement:**

Let's actually write a computer program. Let us see if BASIC-256 will say hello to us. In the Program Area type the following one-line program:

```
say "hello"
```

*Program 1: Say Hello*
Once you have this program typed in, use the mouse, and click on “Run” in the tool bar.

Did BASIC-256 say hello to you through the computer's speakers?

**New Concept**

```plaintext
say expression
```

The *say* statement is used to make BASIC-256 read an expression aloud, to the computer's speakers.

**New Concept**

```
"
```

BASIC-256 treats letters, numbers, and punctuation that are inside a set of double-quotes as a block. This block is called a *string*. 
“Run” on the tool bar - or - “Run” then “Run” on the menu

You must tell BASIC-256 when you want it to start executing a program. It doesn't automatically know when you are done typing your programming code in. You do this by clicking on the “Run” icon on the tool bar or by clicking on “Run” from the menu bar then selecting “Run” from the drop down menu.

To clear out the program you are working on and completely start a new program we use the “New” button on the tool bar. The new button will display the following dialog box:

Illustration 2: BASIC-256 - New Dialog

If you are fine with clearing your program from the screen then click on the “Yes” button. If you accidentally hit “New” and do not want to start a new program then click on the “Cancel” button.
“New” on the tool bar - or - “File” then “New” on the menu

The “New” command tells BASIC-256 that you want to clear the current statements from the program area and start a totally new program. If you have not saved your program to the computer (Chapter 2) then you will lose all changes you have made to the program.

Try several different programs using the say statement with a string. Say hello to your best friend, have the computer say your favorite color, have fun.

You can also have the say statement speak out numbers. Try the following program:

```
say 123456789
```

Program 2: Say a Number

Once you have this program typed in, use the mouse, and click on “Run” in the tool bar.

Did BASIC-256 say what you were expecting?
BASIC-256 allows you to enter numbers in decimal format. Do not use commas when you are entering large numbers. If you need a number less than zero just place the negative sign before the number.

Examples include: 1.56, 23456, -6.45 and .5

BASIC-256 is really good with numbers – Simple Arithmetic:

The brain of the computer (called the Central Processing Unit or CPU for short) works exclusively with numbers. Everything it does from graphics, sound, and all the rest is done by manipulating numbers.

The four basic operations of addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division are carried out using the operators show in Table 1.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Operator</th>
<th>Operation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>+</td>
<td>Addition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>expression1 + expression2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-</td>
<td>Subtraction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>expression1 - expression2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*</td>
<td>Multiplication</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>expression1 * expression2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/</td>
<td>Division</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>expression1 / expression2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 1: Basic Mathematical Operators
Try this program and listen to the talking super calculator.

```
say 12 * (2 + 10)
```

*Program 3: Say the Answer*

The computer should have said “144” to you.

```
say 5 / 2
```

*Program 4: Say another Answer*

Did the computer say “2.5”?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>+</th>
<th>-</th>
<th>*</th>
<th>/</th>
<th>()</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

New Concept

The four basic mathematical operations: addition (+), subtraction (-), division (/), and multiplication(*) work with numbers to perform calculations. A numeric value is required on both sides of these operators. You may also use parenthesis to group operations together.

Examples include: 1 + 1, 5 * 7, 3.14 * 6 + 2, (1 + 2) * 3 and 5 - 5
Try several different programs using the `say` statement and the four basic mathematical operators. Be sure to try all four of them.

**Another use for + (Concatenation):**

The + operator also will add strings together. This operation is called concatenation, or “cat” for short. When we concatenate we are joining the strings together, like train cars, to make a longer string.

Let's try it out:

```plaintext
say "Hello " + "Bob."
```

*Program 5: Say Hello to Bob*

The computer should have said hello to Bob.

Try another.

```plaintext
say 1 + " more time"
```

*Program 6: Say it One More Time*

The + in the last example was used as the concatenate operator because the second term was a string and the computer does not know how to perform mathematics with a string (so it 'cats').
Another use for the the plus sign (+) is to tell the computer to concatenate (join) strings together. If one or both operands are a string, concatenation will be performed; if both operands are numeric, then addition is performed.

Try several different programs using the \texttt{say} statement and the \texttt{+} (concatenate) operator. Join strings and numbers together with other strings and numbers.

\textbf{The text output area - The print statement:}

Programs that use the Text to Speech (TTS) \texttt{say} statement can be very useful and fun but is is also often necessary to write information (strings and numbers) to the screen so that the output can be read. The \texttt{print} statement does just that. In the Program Area type the following two-line program:

\begin{verbatim}
print "hello"
print "there"
\end{verbatim}

\textit{Program 7: Print Hello There}

Once you have this program typed in, use the mouse, and click on
“Run” in the tool bar. The text output area should now show “hello” on the first line and “there” on the second line.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>New Concept</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **print** expression  
**print** expression; |

The **print** statement is used to display text and numbers on the text output area of the BASIC-256 window. **Print** normally goes down to the next line but you may print several things on the same line by using a ; (semicolon) at the end of the expression.

The **print** statement, by default, advances the text area so that the next **print** is on the next line. If you place a ; (semicolon) on the end of the expression being printed, it will suppress the line advance so that the next **print** will be on the same line.

```basic
cls  
print “Hello “;  
print “there, “;  
print “my friend.”
```

**Program 8: Many Prints One Line**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>New Concept</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>cls</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The **cls** statement clears all of the old displayed information from the text output area.
Try several different programs using the `print` statement. Use strings, numbers, mathematics, and concatenation.

**What is a “Syntax error”:**

Programmers are human and occasionally make mistakes. “Syntax errors” are one of the types of errors that we may encounter. A “Syntax error” is generated by BASIC-256 when it does not understand the program you have typed in. Usually syntax errors are caused by misspellings, missing commas, incorrect spaces, unclosed quotations, or unbalanced parenthesis. BASIC-256 will tell you what line your error is on and will even attempt to tell you where on the line the error is.
Chapter 2: Drawing Basic Shapes.

In this chapter we will be getting graphical. You will learn how to draw rectangles, circles, lines and points of various colors. These programs will get more and more complex, so you will also learn how to save your programs to long term storage and how to load them back in so you can run them again or change them.

Drawing Rectangles and Circles:

Let's start the graphics off by writing a graphical program for our favorite sports team, the “Grey Spots”. Their colors are blue and grey.

```
1  # c2_greyspots.kbs
2  # a program for our team - the grey spots
3  clg
4  color blue
5  rect 0,0,300,300
6  color grey
7  circle 149,149,100
8  say "Grey Spots, Grey Spots, Grey spots rule!"
```

Program 9: Grey Spots
Notice: Program listings from here on will have each line numbered. DO NOT type in the line numbers when you are entering the program.

Let's go line by line through the program above. The first line is called a remark or comment statement. A remark is a place for the programmer to place comments in their computer code that are ignored by the system. Remarks are a good place to describe what complex blocks of code is doing, the program's name, why we wrote a program, or who the programmer was.
The `#` and `rem` statements are called remarks. A remark statement allows the programmer to put comments about the code they are working on into the program. The computer sees the `#` or `rem` statement and will ignore all of the rest of the text on the line.

On line two you see the `clg` statement. It is much like the `cls` statement from Chapter 1, except that the `clg` statement will clear the graphic output area of the screen.

Lines four and six contain the `color` statement. It tells BASIC-256 what color to use for the next drawing action. You may define colors either by using one of the eighteen standard color names or you may define one of over 16 million different colors by mixing the primary colors of light (red, green, and blue) together.

When you are using the numeric method to define your custom color be sure to limit the values from 0 to 255. Zero (0) represents no light of that component color and 255 means to shine the maximum. Bright white is represented by 255, 255, 255 (all colors of light) where black is represented by 0, 0, 0 (no colors at all). This numeric representation is known as the RGB triplet. Illustration 3
Chapter 2: Drawing Basic Shapes.

shows the named colors and their numeric values.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>color</th>
<th>color_name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>color</td>
<td>red, green, blue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>color</td>
<td>RGB_number</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The `color` statement allows you to set the color that will be drawn next. You may follow the `color` statement with a color name (black, white, red, darkred, green, darkgreen, blue, darkblue, cyan, darkcyan, purple, darkpurple, yellow, darkyellow, orange, darkorange, grey/gray, darkgrey/darkgray), with three numbers (0-255) representing how much red, blue, and green should be used to make the color, or with a single value representing red * 256 * 256 + green * 256 + blue.
The graphics display area, by default is 300 pixels wide (x) by 300 pixels high (y). A pixel is the smallest dot that can be displayed on your computer monitor. The top left corner is the origin (0,0) and the bottom right is (299,299). Each pixel can be represented by two numbers, the first (x) is how far over it is and the second (y) represents how far down. This way of marking points is known as the Cartesian Coordinate System to mathematicians.
The next statement (line 5) is `rect`. It is used to draw rectangles on the screen. It takes four numbers separated by commas; (1) how far over the left side of the rectangle is from the left edge of the graphics area, (2) how far down the top edge is, (3) how wide and (4) how tall. All four numbers are expressed in pixels (the size of the smallest dot that can be displayed).
You can see the rectangle in the program starts in the top left corner and fills the graphics output area.

\[ \text{rect } x, y, \text{width, height} \]

The \texttt{rect} statement uses the current drawing color and places a rectangle on the graphics output window. The top left corner of the rectangle is specified by the first two numbers and the width and height is specified by the other two arguments.

Line 7 of Program 9 introduces the \texttt{circle} statement to draw a circle. It takes three numeric arguments, the first two represent the Cartesian coordinates for the center of the circle and the third the radius in pixels.

\[ (x, y) \]

\[ r \]

\textit{Illustration 6: Circle}
The `circle` statement uses the current drawing color and draws a filled circle with its center at \((x, y)\) with the specified radius.

Can you create a graphic screen using colors, rectangles and circles for your school or favorite sports team?

Here are a couple of sample programs that use the new statements `clg`, `color`, `rect` and `circle`. Type the programs in and modify them. Make them a frowning face, alien face, or look like somebody you know.

```plaintext
1  # c2_rectanglesmile.kbs
2 3  # clear the screen
c1g
4 5  # draw the face
color yellow
6 7  rect 0,0,299,299
8 9
10 11 # draw the mouth
color black
12 13  rect 100,200,100,25
14
```
Chapter 2: Drawing Basic Shapes.

Program 10: Face with Rectangles

```
# put on the eyes
color black
rect 75,75,50,50
rect 175,75,50,50

say "Hello."
```

Sample Output 10: Face with Rectangles

```
# c2_circlesmile.kbs
#
# clear the screen
clg
color white
rect 0,0,300,300

# draw the face
color yellow
circle 150,150,150

# draw the mouth
color black
```

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Program 11: Smiling Face with Circles

Sample Output 11: Smiling Face with Circles

Combine rectangles and circles to create your own face graphic.
Saving Your Program and Loading it Back:

Now that the programs are getting more complex, you may want to save them so that you can load them back in the future.

You may store a program by using the Save button on the tool bar or Save option on the File menu. A dialog will display asking you for a file name, if it is a new program, or will save the changes you have made (replacing the old file).

If you do not want to replace the old version of the program and you want to store it using a new name you may use the Save As option on the File menu to save a copy with a different name.

To load a previously saved program you would use the Open button on the tool bar or the Open option on the File menu.

Drawing with Lines:

The next drawing statement is line. It will draw a line one pixel wide, of the current color, from one point to another point. Program 12 shows an example of how to use the line statement.
Chapter 2: Drawing Basic Shapes.

Program 12: Draw a Triangle

```
# c2_triangle.kbs - draw a triangle

c1g

color black

line 150, 100, 100, 200
line 100, 200, 200, 200
line 200, 200, 150, 100
```

Sample Output 12: Draw a Triangle
line start_x, start_y, finish_x, finish_y

Draw a line one pixel wide from the starting point to the ending point, using the current color.

Use a piece of graph-paper to draw other shapes and then write a program to draw them. Try a right triangle, pentagon, star, or other shapes.

The next program is a sample of what you can do with complex lines. It draws a cube on the screen.

```
# c2_cube.kbs - draw a cube

clg
color black

# draw back square
line 150, 150, 150, 250
line 150, 250, 250, 250
line 250, 250, 250, 150
line 250, 150, 150, 150

# draw front square
line 100, 100, 100, 200
line 100, 200, 200, 200
line 200, 200, 200, 100
```

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### Program 13: Draw a Cube

Sample Output 13: Draw a Cube

```plaintext
16  line 200, 100, 100, 100
17
18  # connect the corners
19  line 100, 100, 150, 150
20  line 100, 200, 150, 250
21  line 200, 200, 250, 250
22  line 200, 100, 250, 150
```

### Setting Individual Points on the Screen:

The last graphics statement covered in this chapter is `plot`. The `plot` statement sets a single pixel (dot) on the screen. For most of us these are so small, they are hard to see. Later we will write programs that will draw groups of pixels to make very detailed images.
Chapter 2: Drawing Basic Shapes.

Program 14: Use Plot to Draw Points

```
1  # c2_plot.kbs - use plot to draw points
2
3  clg
4
5  color red
6  plot 99,100
7  plot 100,99
8  plot 100,100
9  plot 100,101
10 plot 101,100
11
12 color darkgreen
13 plot 200,200
```

Sample Output 14: Use Plot to Draw Points (circled for emphasis)
Chapter 2: Drawing Basic Shapes.

**New Concept**

```
plot x, y
```

Changes a single pixel to the current color.

At the end of each chapter there will be one or more big programs for you to look at, type in, and experiment with. These programs will contain only topics that we have covered so far in the book.

This “Big Program” takes the idea of a face and makes it talk. Before the program will say each word the lower half of the face is redrawn with a different mouth shape. This creates a rough animation and makes the face more fun.

```kbs
1 # c2_talkingface.kbs
2 # draw face background with eyes
3 color yellow
4 rect 0,0,300,300
5 color black
6 rect 75,75,50,50
7 rect 175,75,50,50
8
9 # erase old mouth
10 color yellow
11 rect 0,150,300,150
12 # draw new mouth
13 color black
14 rect 125,175,50,100
15 # say word
16 say "i"
```
color yellow
rect 0,150,300,150
color black
rect 100,200,100,50
say "am"

color yellow
rect 0,150,300,150
color black
rect 125,175,50,100
say "glad"

color yellow
rect 0,150,300,150
color black
rect 100,200,100,50
say "are"

color yellow
rect 0,150,300,150
color black
rect 125,200,50,50
say "my"

# draw whole new face with round smile.
color yellow
rect 0,0,300,300
color black
circle 150,175,100
color yellow
Chapter 2: Drawing Basic Shapes.

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>54</td>
<td>circle 150,150,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55</td>
<td>color black</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>56</td>
<td>rect 75,75,50,50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>57</td>
<td>rect 175,75,50,50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>58</td>
<td>say &quot;friend&quot;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Program 15: Big Program - Talking Face**

Sample Output 15: Big Program - Talking Face
Chapter 3: Sound and Music.

Now that we have color and graphics, let's add sound and make some music. Basic concepts of the physics of sound, numeric variables, and musical notation will be introduced. You will be able to translate a tune into frequencies and durations to have the computer synthesize a voice.

Sound Basics – Things you need to know about sound:

Sound is created by vibrating air striking your ear-drum. These vibrations are known as sound waves. When the air is vibrating quickly you will hear a high note and when the air is vibrating slowly you will hear a low note. The rate of the vibration is called frequency.

Illustration 7: Sound Waves
Frequency is measured in a unit called hertz (Hz). It represents how many cycles (ups and downs) a wave vibrates through in a second. A normal person can hear very low sounds at 20 Hz and very high sounds at 20,000 Hz. BASIC-256 can produce tones in the range of 50Hz to 7000Hz.

Another property of a sound is its length. Computers are very fast and can measure times accurately to a millisecond (ms). A millisecond (ms) is 1/1000 (one thousandths) of a second.

Let's make some sounds.

### Program 16: Play Three Individual Notes

You may have heard a clicking noise in your speakers between the notes played in the last example. This is caused by the computer creating the sound and needing to stop and think a millisecond or so. The `sound` statement also can be written using a list of frequencies and durations to smooth out the transition from one note to another.

### Program 17: List of Sounds

This second sound program plays the same three tones for the
same duration but the computer creates and plays all of the sounds at once, making them smoother.

New Concept

```plaintext
sound frequency, duration
sound {frequency1, duration1, frequency2, duration2 ...}
sound numeric_array
```

The basic `sound` statement takes two arguments; (1) the frequency of the sound in Hz (cycles per second) and (2) the length of the tone in milliseconds (ms). The second form of the sound statement uses curly braces and can specify several tones and durations in a list. The third form of the sound statement uses an array containing frequencies and durations. Arrays are covered in Chapter 11.

How do we get BASIC-256 to play a tune? The first thing we need to do is to convert the notes on a music staff to frequencies. Illustration 7 shows two octaves of music notes, their names, and the approximate frequency the note makes. In music you will also find a special mark called the rest. The rest means not to play anything for a certain duration. If you are using a list of sounds you can insert a rest by specifying a frequency of zero (0) and the needed duration for the silence.
Take a little piece of music and then look up the frequency values for each of the notes. Why don't we have the computer play “Charge!”. The music is in Illustration 9. You might notice that the high G in the music is not on the musical notes; if a note is not on the chart you can double (to make higher) or half (to make lower) the same note from one octave away.

Now that we have the frequencies we need the duration for each of the notes. Table 2 shows most of the common note and rest symbols, how long they are when compared to each other, and a few typical durations.
Chapter 3: Sound and Music.

Duration in milliseconds (ms) can be calculated if you know the speed if the music in beats per minute (BPM) using Formula 1.

*Note Duration* = 1000 * 60 / Beats Per Minute * Relative Length

**Formula 1: Calculating Note Duration**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Note Name</th>
<th>Symbols for Note and Rest</th>
<th>Relative Length</th>
<th>At 100 BPM Duration ms</th>
<th>At 120 BPM Duration ms</th>
<th>At 140 BPM Duration ms</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dotted Whole</td>
<td>🌟🌟🌟</td>
<td>6.000</td>
<td>3600</td>
<td>3000</td>
<td>2571</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whole</td>
<td>🌟🌟</td>
<td>4.000</td>
<td>2400</td>
<td>2000</td>
<td>1714</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dotted Half</td>
<td>🌟</td>
<td>3.000</td>
<td>1800</td>
<td>1500</td>
<td>1285</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Half</td>
<td>🌟</td>
<td>2.000</td>
<td>1200</td>
<td>1000</td>
<td>857</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dotted Quarter</td>
<td>🌟🌟</td>
<td>1.500</td>
<td>900</td>
<td>750</td>
<td>642</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quarter</td>
<td>🌟</td>
<td>1.000</td>
<td>600</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>428</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dotted Eighth</td>
<td>🌟🌟🌟</td>
<td>0.750</td>
<td>450</td>
<td>375</td>
<td>321</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eighth</td>
<td>🌟🌟</td>
<td>0.500</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>214</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dotted Sixteenth</td>
<td>🌟🌟🌟🌟</td>
<td>0.375</td>
<td>225</td>
<td>187</td>
<td>160</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sixteenth</td>
<td>🌟🌟🌟🌟</td>
<td>0.250</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>107</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Table 2: Musical Notes and Typical Durations*

Now with the formula and table to calculate note durations, we can
write the program to play “Charge!”.

```plaintext
1  # c3_charge.kbs - play charge
2  sound {392, 375, 523, 375, 659, 375, 784, 250, 659, 250, 784, 250}
3  say "Charge!"
```

**Program 18: Charge!**

Go on-line and find the music for “Row-row-row Your Boat” or another tune and write a program to play it.

**Numeric Variables:**

Computers are really good at remembering things, where we humans sometimes have trouble. The BASIC language allows us to give names to places in the computer's memory and then store information in them. These places are called variables.

There are four types of variables: numeric variables, string variables, numeric array variables, and string array variables. You will learn how to use numeric variables in this chapter and the others in later chapters.
Numeric variable

A numeric variable allows you to assign a name to a block of storage in the computer's short-term memory. You may store and retrieve numeric (whole or decimal) values from the numeric variable in your program.

A numeric variable name must begin with a letter; may contain letters and numbers; and are case sensitive. You may not use words reserved by the BASIC-256 language when naming your variables (see Appendix I).

Examples of valid variable names include: a, b6, reader, x, and zoo.

Variable names are case sensitive. This means that an upper case variable and a lowercase variable with the same letters do not represent the same location in the computer's memory.

Program 19 is an example of a program using numeric variables.

```
1  # c3_numericvariables.kbs
2  numerator = 30
3  denominator = 5
4  result = numerator / denominator
5  print result
```

Program 19: Simple Numeric Variables

The program above uses three variables. On line two it stores the
value 30 into the location named “numerator”. Line three stores the value 5 in the variable “denominator”. Line four takes the value from “numerator” divides it by the value in the “denominator” variable and stores the value in the variable named “result”.

Now that we have seen variables in action we could re-write the “Charge!” program using variables and the formula to calculate note durations (Formula 1).

```
1  # c3_charge2.kbs
2  # play charge - use variables
3  beats = 120
4  dottedeighth = 1000 * 60 / beats * .75
5  eighth = 1000 * 60 / beats * .5
6  sound {392, dottedeighth, 523, dottedeighth, 659, dottedeighth, 784, eighth, 659, eighth, 784, eighth}
7  say "Charge!"
```

Program 20: Charge! with Variables

Change the speed of the music playing by adjusting the value stored in the beats
For this chapter's big program let's take a piece of music by J.S. Bach and write a program to play it.

The musical score is a part of J.S. Bach's Little Fuge in G.

Illustration 10: First Line of J.S. Bach's Little Fuge in G

```
1 # c3_littlefuge.kbs
2 # Music by J.S.Bach - XVIII Fuge in G moll.
3 tempo = 100 # beats per minute
4 milimin = 1000 * 60 # miliseconds in a minute
5 q = milimin / tempo # quarter note is a beat
6 h = q * 2 # half note (2 quarters)
7 e = q / 2 # eight note (1/2 quarter)
8 s = q / 4 # sixteenth note (1/4 quarter)
9 de = e + s # dotted eight - eight + 16th
10 dq = q + e # doted quarter - quarter + eight
11
12 sound{392, q, 587, q, 466, dq, 440, e, 392, e, 466, e, 440, e, 392, e, 370, e, 440, e, 294, q, 392, e, 440, e, 294, e, 466, e, 440, s, 392, s, 440, e, 294, e, 392, e, 294, s, 392, s, 440, e, 294, s, 440, s, 466, e, 440, s, 392, s, 440, s, 294, s}
```

Program 21: Big Program - Little Fuge in G

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Chapter 4: Thinking Like a Programmer

One of the hardest things to learn is how to think like a programmer. A programmer is not created by simple books or classes but grows from within an individual. To become a “good” programmer takes passion for technology, self learning, basic intelligence, and a drive to create and explore.

You are like the great explorers Christopher Columbus, Neil Armstrong, and Yuri Gagarin (the first human in space). You have an unlimited universe to explore and to create within the computer. The only restrictions on where you can go will be your creativity and willingness to learn.

A program to develop a game or interesting application can often exceed several thousand lines of computer code. This can very quickly become overwhelming, even to the most experienced programmer. Often we programmers will approach a complex problem using a three step process, like:

1. Think about the problem.
2. Break the problem up into pieces and write them down formally.
3. Convert the pieces into the computer language you are using.

Pseudocode:

Pseudocode is a fancy word for writing out, step by step, what your program needs to be doing. The word pseudocode comes from the Greek prefix “pseudo-” meaning fake and “code” for the actual computer programming statements. It is not created for the computer to use directly but it is made to help you understand the complexity of a problem and to break it down into meaningful pieces.
There is no single best way to write pseudocode. Dozens of standards exist and each one of them is very suited for a particular type of problem. In this introduction we will use simple English statements to understand our problems.

How would you go about writing a simple program to draw a school bus (like in Illustration 11)?

Let's break this problem into two steps:

- draw the wheels
- draw the body

Now let's break the initial steps into smaller pieces and write our pseudocode:

- Set color to black.
- Draw both wheels.
- Set color to yellow.
- Draw body of bus.
- Draw the front of bus.

*Table 3: School Bus - Pseudocode*
Now that we have our program worked out, all we need to do is write it:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Set color to black.</th>
<th>color black</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Draw both wheels.</td>
<td>circle 50,120,20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>circle 200,120,20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Set color to yellow.</td>
<td>color yellow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Draw body of bus.</td>
<td>rect 50,0,200,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Draw the front of bus.</td>
<td>rect 0,50,50,50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Table 4: School Bus - Pseudocode with BASIC-256 Statements*

The completed school bus program (Program 22) is listed below. Look at the finished program and you will see comment statements used in the program to help the programmer remember the steps used during the initial problem solving.

```
1    # schoolbus.kbs
2    clg
3    # draw wheels
4    color black
5    circle 50,120,20
6    circle 200,120,20
7    # draw bus body
8    color yellow
9    rect 50,0,200,100
10   rect 0,50,50,50
```

*Program 22: School Bus*

In the school bus example we have just seen there were many different ways to break up the problem. You could have drawn the bus first and the wheels last, you could have drawn the front before
the back,... We could list dozens of different ways this simple problem could have been tackled.

One very important thing to remember, THERE IS NO WRONG WAY to approach a problem. Some ways are better than others (fewer instructions, easier to read, ...), but the important thing is that you solved the problem.

Try your hand at writing pseudocode. How would you tell BASIC-256 to draw a stick figure?

Flowcharting:

Another technique that programmers use to understand a problem is called flowcharting. Following the old adage of “a picture is worth a thousand words”, programmers will sometimes draw a diagram representing the logic of a program. Flowcharting is one of the oldest and commonly used methods of drawing this structure.

This brief introduction to flowcharts will only cover a small part of what that can be done with them, but with a few simple symbols and connectors you will be able to model very complex processes. This technique will serve you well not only in programming but in solving many problems you will come across. Here are a few of the basic symbols:
Symbol | Name and Description
--- | ---
Flow – An arrow represents moving from one symbol or step in the process to another. You must follow the direction of the arrowhead. | Terminus – This symbol tells us where to start and finish the flowchart. Each flowchart should have two of these: a start and a finish.
Process – This symbol represents activities or actions that the program will need to take. There should be only one arrow leaving a process. | Input and Output (I/O) – This symbol represents data or items being read by the system or being written out of the system. An example would be saving or loading files.
Decision – The decision diamond asks a simple yes/no or true/false question. There should be two arrows that leave a decision. Depending on the result of the question we will follow one path out of the diamond.

Table 5: Essential Flowcharting Symbols

The best way to learn to flowchart is to look at some examples and to try your own hand at it.

Flowcharting Example One:

You just rolled out of bed and your mom has given you two choices.
for breakfast. You can have your favorite cold cereal or a scrambled egg. If you do not choose one of those options you can go to school hungry.

Illustration 12: Breakfast - Flowchart

Take a look at Illustration 12 (above) and follow all of the arrows. Do you see how that picture represents the scenario?

Flowcharting Example Two:

Another food example. You are thirsty and want a soda from the
machine. Take a look at Illustration 13 (below).

![Illustration 13: Soda Machine - Flowchart]

Notice in the second flowchart that there are a couple of times that we may need to repeat a process. You have not seen how to do that in BASIC-256, but it will be covered in the next few chapters.
Try your hand at drawing some simple flow charts. Try a chart for how to brush your teeth or how to cross the street.
Chapter 5: Your Program Asks for Advice.

This chapter introduces a new type of variables (string variables) and how to get text and numeric responses from the user.

Another Type of Variable - The String Variable:

In Chapter 3 you got to see numeric variables, which can only store whole or decimal numbers. Sometimes you will want to store a string, text surrounded by “”, in the computer's memory. To do this we use a new type of variable called the string variable. A string variable is denoted by appending a dollar sign $ on a variable name.

You may assign and retrieve values from a string variable the same way you use a numeric variable. Remember, the variable name, case sensitivity, and reserved word rules are the same with string and numeric variables.

```
# ilikejim.kbs
name$ = "Jim"
firstmessage$ = name$ + " is my friend."
secondmessage$ = "I like " + name$ + "."
print firstmessage$
say firstmessage$
print secondmessage$
say secondmessage$
```

Program 23: I Like Jim
Jim is my friend.
I like Jim.

Sample Output 23: I Like Jim

String variable
A string variable allows you to assign a name to a block of storage in the computer's short-term memory. You may store and retrieve text and character values from the string variable in your program.

A string variable name must begin with a letter; may contain letters and numbers; are case sensitive; and ends with a dollar sign. Also, you can not use words reserved by the BASIC-256 language when naming your variables (see Appendix I). Examples of valid string variable names include: d$, c7$, book$, X$, and barnYard$.

Warning
You may be tempted to assign a number to a string variable or a string to a numeric variable. If you do you will receive a syntax error.

Input - Getting Text or Numbers From the User:
So far we have told the program everything it needs to know in the programming code. The next statement to introduce is input. The input statement captures either a string or a number that the user types into the text area and stores that value in a variable.
Let's take Program 23 and modify it so that it will ask you for a name and then say hello to that person.

```
# ilikeinput.kbs
input "enter your name>", name$
firstmessage$ = name$ + " is my friend."
secondmessage$ = "I like " + name$ + "."
print firstmessage$
say firstmessage$
print secondmessage$
say secondmessage$
```

Program 24: I Like?

```
enter your name>Vance
Vance is my friend.
I like Vance.
```

Sample Output 24: I Like?
The **input** statement will retrieve a string or a number that the user types into the text output area of the screen. The result will be stored in a variable that may be used later in the program.

A prompt message, if specified, will display on the text output area and the cursor will directly follow the prompt.

If a numeric result is desired (numeric variable specified in the statement) and the user types a string that can not be converted to a number the input statement will set the variable to zero (0).
Chapter 5: Your Program Asks for Advice.

The “Math-wiz” program shows an example of input with numeric variables.

```
# mathwiz.kbs
input "a? ", a
input "b? ", b
print a + "+" + b + "=" + (a+b)
print a + "-" + b + "=" + (a-b)
print b + "-" + a + "=" + (b-a)
print a + "*" + b + "=" + (a*b)
print a + "/" + b + "=" + (a/b)
print b + "/" + a + "=" + (b/a)
```

Program 25: Math-wiz

```
a? 7
b? 56
7+56=63
7-56=-49
56-7=49
7*56=392
7/56=0.125
56/7=8
```

Sample Output 25: Math-wiz
This chapter has two “Big Programs” The first is a fancy program that will say your name and how old you will be in 8 years and the second is a silly story generator.

```
1  # sayname.kbs
2  input "What is your name?", name$
3  input "How old are you?", age
4  greeting$ = "It is nice to meet you, " + name$ + "."
5  print greeting$
6  say greeting$
7  greeting$ = "In 8 years you will be " + (age + 8) + " years old. Wow, thats old!"
8  print greeting$
9  say greeting$
```

**Program 26: Fancy - Say Name**

What is your name? Joe
How old are you? 13
It is nice to meet you, Joe.
In 8 years you will be 21 years old. Wow, thats old!

**Sample Output 26: Fancy – Say Name**

```
1  # sillystory.kbs
2
3  print "A Silly Story."
4
```

So You Want to Learn to Program? © 2010 James M. Reneau.
input "Enter a noun? ", noun1$
input "Enter a verb? ", verb1$
input "Enter a room in your house? ", room1$
input "Enter a verb? ", verb2$
input "Enter a noun? ", noun2$
in
input "Enter an adjective? ", adj1$
input "Enter a verb? ", verb3$
input "Enter a noun? ", noun3$
input "Enter Your Name? ", name$

sentence$ = "A silly story, by " + name$ + "."
print sentence$
say sentence$

sentence$ = "One day, not so long ago, I saw a "+ noun1$ + " " + verb1$ + " down the stairs."
print sentence$
say sentence$

sentence$ = "It was going to my " + room1$ + " to " + verb2$ + " a " + noun2$
print sentence$
say sentence$

sentence$ = "The " + noun1$ + " became " + adj1$ + " when I " + verb3$ + " with a " + noun3$ + "."
print sentence$
say sentence$

sentence$ = "The End."
print sentence$
say sentence$

Program 27: Big Program - Silly Story Generator
A Silly Story.
Enter a noun? car
Enter a verb? walk
Enter a room in your house? kitchen
Enter a verb? sing
Enter a noun? television
Enter an adjective? huge
Enter a verb? watch
Enter a noun? computer
Enter Your Name? Jim
A silly story, by Jim.
One day, not so long ago, I saw a car walk down the stairs.
It was going to my kitchen to sing a television
The car became huge when I watch with a computer.
The End.

Sample Output 27: Big Program - Silly Story Generator

The computer is a whiz at comparing things. In this chapter we will explore how to compare two expressions, how to work with complex comparisons, and how to optionally execute statements depending on the results of our comparisons. We will also look at how to generate random numbers.

True and False:

The BASIC-256 language has one more special type of data that can be stored in numeric variables. It is the Boolean data type. Boolean values are either true or false and are usually the result of comparisons and logical operations. Also to make them easier to work with there are two Boolean constants that you can use in expressions, they are: true and false.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>New Concept</th>
<th>true</th>
<th>false</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The two Boolean constants true and false can be used in any numeric or logical expression but are usually the result of a comparison or logical operator. Actually, the constant true is stored as the number one (1) and false is stored as the number zero (0).

Comparison Operators:

Previously we have discussed the basic arithmetic operators, it is
now time to look at some additional operators. We often need to compare two values in a program to help us decide what to do. A comparison operator works with two values and returns true or false based on the result of the comparison.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Operator</th>
<th>Operation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&lt;</td>
<td>Less Than</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>expression1 &lt; expression2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Return true if expression1 is less than</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>expression2, else return false.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&lt;=</td>
<td>Less Than or Equal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>expression1 &lt;= expression2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Return true if expression1 is less than</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>or equal to expression2, else return</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>false.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&gt;</td>
<td>Greater Than</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>expression1 &gt; expression2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Return true if expression1 is greater</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>than expression2, else return false.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&gt;=</td>
<td>Greater Than or Equal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>expression1 &gt;= expression2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Return true if expression1 is greater</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>than or equal to expression2, else</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>return false.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>=</td>
<td>Equal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>expression1 = expression2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Return true if expression1 is equal to</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>expression2, else return false.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&lt;&gt;</td>
<td>Not Equal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Expression1 &lt;&gt; expression2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Return true if expression1 is not</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>equal to expression2, else return false.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Table 6: Comparison Operators*
The six comparison operations are: less than (<), less than or equal (<=), greater than (>), greater than or equal (>=), equal (=), and not equal (<>). They are used to compare numbers and strings. Strings are compared alphabetically left to right. You may also use parenthesis to group operations together.

Making Simple Decisions - The If Statement:

The if statement can use the result of a comparison to optionally execute a statement or block of statements. This first program (Program 28) uses three if statements to display whether your friend is older, the same age, or younger.

```python
# compareages.kbs - compare two ages
input "how old are you?", yourage
input "how old is your friend?", friendage

print "You are ";
if yourage < friendage then print "younger than";
if yourage = friendage then print "the same age as";
if yourage > friendage then print "older than";
print " your friend"
```

Program 28: Compare Two Ages
Sample Output 28: Compare Two Ages

how old are you? 13
how old is your friend? 12
You are older than your friend

Illustration 14: Compare Two Ages - Flowchart

**New Concept**

if condition then statement

If the condition evaluates to true then execute the statement following the then clause.

**Random Numbers:**

When we are developing games and simulations it may become necessary for us to simulate dice rolls, spinners, and other random happenings. BASIC-256 has a built in random number generator to do these things for us.

**New Concept**

rand

A random number is returned when rand is used in an expression. The returned number ranges from zero to one, but will never be one (0 ≤ n < 1.0).

Often you will want to generate an integer from 1 to r, the following statement can be used n = int(rand * r) + 1

```plaintext
1  # coinflip.kbs
2  coin = rand
3  if coin < .5 then print "Heads."
4  if coin >= .5 then print "Tails."
```

Program 29: Coin Flip
Tails.

Sample Output 29: Coin Flip

In program 5.2 you may have been tempted to use the `rand` expression twice, once in each if statement. This would have created what we call a “Logical Error”.

Remember, each time the `rand` expression is executed it returns a different random number.

Logical Operators:

Sometimes it is necessary to join simple comparisons together. This can be done with the four logical operators: `and`, `or`, `xor`, and `not`. The logical operators work very similarly to the way conjunctions work in the English language, except that “or” is used as one or the other or both.
### Operator | Operation
--- | ---
**AND** | Logical And
expression1 AND expression2
If both expression1 and expression2 are true then return a true value, else return false.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AND</th>
<th>expression1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>expression 2</td>
<td>TRUE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TRUE</td>
<td>TRUE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FALSE</td>
<td>FALSE</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**OR** | Logical Or
expression1 OR expression2
If either expression1 or expression2 are true then return a true value, else return false.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OR</th>
<th>expression1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>expression 2</td>
<td>TRUE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TRUE</td>
<td>TRUE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FALSE</td>
<td>TRUE</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### XOR

Logical Exclusive Or

```
expression1 XOR expression2
```

If only one of the two expressions is true then return a true value, else return false. The XOR operator works like “or” often does in the English language - “You can have your cake xor you can eat it:.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OR</th>
<th>expression1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>TRUE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>expression2</td>
<td>TRUE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>FALSE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>expression2</td>
<td>FALSE</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### NOT

Logical Negation (Not)

```
NOT expression1
```

Return the opposite of expression1. If expression 1 was true then return false. If expression1 was false then return a true.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NOT</th>
<th>expression1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>TRUE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>expression1</td>
<td>FALSE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>FALSE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>expression1</td>
<td>TRUE</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### and or xor not

The four logical operations: logical and, logical or, logical exclusive or, and logical negation (not) join or modify comparisons. You may also use parenthesis to group operations together.
Making Decisions with Complex Results - If/End If:

When we are writing programs it sometimes becomes necessary to do multiple statements when a condition is true. This is done with the alternate format of the if statement. With this statement you do not place a statement on the same line as the if, but you place multiple (one or more) statements on lines following the if statement and then close the block of statements with the end if statement.

New Concept

```plaintext
if condition then
    statement(s) to execute when true
end if
```

The if/end if statements allow you to create a block of programming code to execute when a condition is true. It is often customary to indent the statements within the if/end if statements so they are not confusing to read.

Program 30: Rolling Dice

```python
# dice.kbs
die1 = int(rand * 6) + 1
die2 = int(rand * 6) + 1
total = die1 + die2

print "die 1 = " + die1
print "die 2 = " + die2
print "you rolled " + total
say "you rolled " + total

if total = 2 then
    print "snake eyes!"
say "snake eyes!"
end if

if total = 12 then
    print "box cars!"
say "box cars!"
end if

if die1 = die2 then
    print "doubles - roll again!"
say "doubles - roll again!"
end if
```

Sample Output 30: Rolling Dice

die 1 = 6
die 2 = 6
you rolled 12
box cars!
doubles - roll again!
“Edit” then “ Beautify” on the menu

The “ Beautify” option on the “Edit” menu will clean up the format of your program to make it easier to read. It will remove extra spaces from the beginning and ending of lines and will indent blocks of code (like in the if/end if statements).

**Deciding Both Ways - If/Else/End If:**

The third and last form of the if statement is the if/else/end if. This extends the if/end if statements by allowing you to create a block of code to execute if the condition is true and another block to execute when the condition is false.

```
if condition then
  statement(s) to execute when true
else
  statement(s) to execute when false
end if
```

The if, else, and end if statements allow you to define two blocks of programming code. The first block, after the then clause, executes if the condition is true and the second block, after the else clause, will execute when the condition is false.

Program 31 re-writes Program 29 using the else statement.

Program 31: Coin Flip – With Else

Sample Output 31: Coin Flip – With Else

Nesting Decisions:

One last thing. With the if/end if and the if/else/end if statements it is possible to nest an if inside the code of another. This can become confusing but you will see this happening in future chapters.

This chapter's big program is a program to roll a single 6-sided die and then draw on the graphics display the number of dots.
hw = 70

# margin - space before each dot
#   1/4 of the space left over after we draw 3 dots
margin = (300 - (3 * hw)) / 4

# z1 - x and y position of top of top row and column of dots
z1 = margin

# z2 - x and y position of top of middle row and column of dots
z2 = z1 + hw + margin

# z3 - x and y position of top of bottom row and column of dots
z3 = z2 + hw + margin

# get roll
roll = int(rand * 6) + 1
print roll

color black
rect 0,0,300,300

color white

# top row
if roll <> 1 then rect z1,z1,hw,hw
if roll = 6 then rect z2,z1,hw,hw
if roll >= 4 and roll <= 6 then rect z3,z1,hw,hw

# middle
if roll = 1 or roll = 3 or roll = 5 then rect z2,z2,hw,hw

# bottom row
if roll >= 4 and roll <= 6 then rect z1,z3,hw,hw
if roll = 6 then rect z2,z3,hw,hw
if roll <> 1 then rect z3,z3,hw,hw
Program 32: Big Program - Roll a Die and Draw It

Sample Output 32: Big Program - Roll a Die and Draw It
Chapter 7: Looping and Counting - Do it Again and Again.

So far our program has started, gone step by step through our instructions, and quit. While this is OK for simple programs, most programs will have tasks that need to be repeated, things counted, or both. This chapter will show you the three looping statements, how to speed up your graphics, and how to slow the program down.

The For Loop:

The most common loop is the for loop. The for loop repeatedly executes a block of statements a specified number of times, and keeps track of the count. The count can begin at any number, end at any number, and can step by any increment. Program 33 shows a simple for statement used to say the numbers 1 to 10 (inclusively). Program 34 will count by 2 starting at zero and ending at 10.

```
# for.kbs
for t = 1 to 10
    print t
    say t
next t
```

Program 33: For Statement
Chapter 7: Looping and Counting - Do it Again and Again.

Sample Output 33: For Statement

```
# forstep2.kbs
for t = 0 to 10 step 2
   print t
   say t
next t
```

Program 34: For Statement – With Step

```
0
2
4
6
8
10
```

Sample Output 34: For Statement - With Step
New Concept

for variable = expr1 to expr2 [step expr3]

statement(s)

next variable

Execute a specified block of code a specified number of times. The variable will begin with the value of expr1. The variable will be incremented by expr3 (or one if step is not specified) the second and subsequent time through the loop. Loop terminates if variable exceeds expr2.

Using a loop we can easily draw very interesting graphics. Program 35 will draw a Moiré Pattern. This really interesting graphic is caused by the computer being unable to draw perfectly straight lines. What is actually drawn are pixels in a stair step fashion to approximate a straight line. If you look closely at the lines we have drawn you can see that they actually are jagged.

```
1 # moire.kbs
2 clg
3 color black
4 for t = 1 to 300 step 3
5   line 0,0,300,t
6   line 0,0,t,300
7 next t
```

Program 35: Moiré Pattern
What kind of Moiré Patterns can you draw? Start in the center, use different step values, overlay one on top of another, try different colors, go crazy.

For statements can even be used to count backwards. To do this set the step to a negative number.

```
# forstepneg1.kbs
for t = 10 to 0 step -1
   print t
   pause 1.0
next t
```

Program 36: For Statement – Countdown
Do Something Until I Tell You To Stop:

The next type of loop is the *do/until*. The *do/until* repeats a block of code one or more times. At the end of each iteration a logical condition is tested. The loop repeats as long as the condition is *false*. Program 37 uses the do/until loop to repeat until the user enters a number from 1 to 10.
Chapter 7: Looping and Counting - Do it Again and Again.

Program 37: Get a Number from 1 to 10

```
# dountil.kbs
do
    input "enter a number from 1 to 10?",n
    until n>=1 and n<=10
    print "you entered " + n
```

Sample Output 37: Get a Number from 1 to 10

```
enter a number from 1 to 10?66
enter a number from 1 to 10?-56
enter a number from 1 to 10?3
you entered 3
```

New Concept

Do

```
    statement(s)
```

Until

```
    condition
```

Do the statements in the block over and over again while the condition is false. The statements will be executed one or more times.

Program 38 uses a do/until loop to count from 1 to 10 like Program 33 did with a for statement.

```
# dountilfor.kbs
t = 1
do
    print t
    t = t + 1
    until t >= 11
```

Program 38: Do/Until Count to 10

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Chapter 7: Looping and Counting - Do it Again and Again.

Sample Output 38: Do/Until Count to 10

Do Something While I Tell You To Do It:

The third type of loop is the while/end while. It tests a condition before executing each iteration and if it evaluates to true then executes the code in the loop. The while/end while loop may execute the code inside the loop zero or more times.

Sometimes we will want a program to loop forever, until the user stops the program. This can easily be accomplished using the Boolean true constant (see Program 39).

```
# whiletrue.kbs
while true
  print "nevermore ";
end while
```

Program 39: Loop Forever
Sample Output 39: Loop Forever

```
... runs until you stop it
```

New Concept

**while**  
*condition*  
*statement(s)*  
**end while**

Do the statements in the block over and over again while the condition is true. The statements will be executed zero or more times.

Program 40 uses a while loop to count from 1 to 10 like Program 33 did with a *for* statement.

```
1  # whilefor.kbs
2  t = 1
3  while t <= 10
4     print t
5     t = t + 1
6  end while
```

Program 40: While Count to 10
Fast Graphics:

When we need to execute many graphics quickly, like with animations or games, BASIC-256 offers us a fast graphics system. To turn on this mode you execute the `fastgraphics` statement. Once `fastgraphics` mode is started the graphics output will only be updated once you execute the `refresh` statement.

**New Concept**

```
fastgraphics
refresh
```

Start the `fastgraphics` mode. In fast graphics the screen will only be updated when the `refresh` statement is executed.

Once a program executes the `fastgraphics` statement it can not return to the standard graphics (slow) mode.

```
1  # kalidescope.kbs
2  clg
```
Chapter 7: Looping and Counting - Do it Again and Again.

3    fastgraphics
4    for t = 1 to 100
5       r = int(rand * 256)
6       g = int(rand * 256)
7       b = int(rand * 256)
8       x = int(rand * 300)
9       y = int(rand * 300)
10      h = int(rand * 100)
11      w = int(rand * 100)
12      color rgb(r,g,b)
13      rect x,y,w,h
14      rect 300-x-w,y,w,h
15      rect x,300-y-h,w,h
16      rect 300-x-w,300-y-h,w,h
17     next t
18     refresh

Program 41: Kalidescope

Sample Output 41: Kalidescope
In Program 41, try running it with the `fastgraphics` statement removed or commented out. Do you see the difference?

In this chapter's “Big Program” let's use a while loop to animate a ball bouncing around on the graphics display area.

```plaintext
# bouncingball.kbs
fastgraphics
clg

# starting position of ball
x = rand * 300
y = rand * 300

# size of ball
r = 10

# speed in x and y directions
dx = rand * r + 2
dy = rand * r + 2

color green
rect 0,0,300,300

while true
    # erase old ball
    # erase old ball
```
Chapter 7: Looping and Counting - Do it Again and Again.

```
19    color white
20    circle x,y,r
21    # calculate new position
22    x = x + dx
23    y = y + dy
24    # if off the edges turn the ball around
25    if x < 0 or x > 300 then
26        dx = dx * -1
27        sound 1000,50
28    end if
29    # if off the top or bottom turn the ball around
30    if y < 0 or y > 300 then
31        dy = dy * -1
32        sound 1500,50
33    end if
34    # draw new ball
35    color red
36    circle x,y,r
37    # update the display
38    refresh
39    end while
```

Program 42: Big Program - Bouncing Ball
Sample Output 42: Big Program - Bouncing Ball
Chapter 8: Custom Graphics – Creating Your Own Shapes.

This chapter we will show you how to draw colorful words and special shapes on your graphics window. Several topics will be covered, including: fancy text; drawing polygons on the graphics output area; and stamps, where we can position, re-size, and rotate polygons. You also will be introduced to angles and how to measure them in radians.

Fancy Text for Graphics Output:

You have been introduced to the print statement (Chapter 1) and can output strings and numbers to the text output area. The text and font commands allow you to place numbers and text on the graphics output area.

```
1  # graphichello.kbs
2  clg
3  color red
4  font "Tahoma",33,100
5  text 100,100,"Hello."
6  font "Impact",33,50
7  text 100,150,"Hello."
8  font "Courier New",33,50
9  text 100,250,"Hello."
```

Program 43: Hello on the Graphics Output Area
Chapter 8: Custom Graphics – Creating Your Own Shapes.

Sample Output 43: Hello on the Graphics Output Area

Hello.
Hello.
Hello.
Hello.
**font** *font_name, size_in_point, weight*

Set the font, size, and weight for the next *text* statement to use to render text on the graphics output area.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Argument</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>font_name</em></td>
<td>String containing the system font name to use. A font must be previously loaded in the system before it may be used. Common font names under Windows include: &quot;Verdana&quot;, &quot;Courier New&quot;, &quot;Tahoma&quot;, &quot;Arial&quot;, and &quot;Times New Roman&quot;.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>size_in_point</em></td>
<td>Height of text to be rendered in a measurement known as point. There are 72 points in an inch.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>weight</em></td>
<td>Number from 1 to 100 representing how dark letter should be. Use 25 for light, 50 for normal, and 75 for bold.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**text** *x, y, expression*

Draw the contents of the *expression* on the graphics output area with it's top left corner specified by *x* and *y*. Use the font, size, and weight specified in the last *font* statement.
Resizing the Graphics Output Area:

By default the graphics output area is 300x300 pixels. While this is sufficient for many programs, it may be too large or too small for others. The graphsize statement will re-size the graphics output area to what ever custom size you require. Your program may also use the graphwidth and graphheight functions to see what the current graphics size is set to.
# resizegraphics.kbs

graphsize 500,500

xcenter = graphwidth/2

ycenter = graphheight/2

color black

line xcenter, ycenter - 10, xcenter, ycenter + 10

line xcenter - 10, ycenter, xcenter + 10, ycenter

font "Tahoma",12,50

text xcenter + 10, ycenter + 10, "Center at (" + xcenter + "," + ycenter + ")"

Program 44: Re-size Graphics

Sample Output 44: Re-size Graphics
graphsize width, height

Set the graphics output area to the specified height and width.

graphwidth or graphwidth()

graphheight or graphheight()

Functions that return the current graphics height and width for you to use in your program.

Creating a Custom Polygon:

In previous chapters we learned how to draw rectangles and circles. Often we want to draw other shapes. The poly statement will allow us to draw a custom polygon anywhere on the screen.

Let's draw a big red arrow in the middle of the graphics output area. First, draw it on a piece of paper so we can visualize the coordinates of the vertices of the arrow shape.
Now start at the top of the arrow going clockwise and write down the x and y values.

```plaintext
1  # bigredarrow.kbs
2  clg
3  color red
4  poly {150, 100, 200, 150, 175, 150, 175, 200, 125, 200, 125, 150, 100, 150}
```

Program 45: Big Red Arrow
Chapter 8: Custom Graphics – Creating Your Own Shapes.

Sample Output 45: Big Red Arrow

The \textbf{poly} statement allowed us to place a polygon at a specific location on the screen but it would be difficult to move it around or adjust it. These problems are solved with the \textit{stamp} statement. The stamp statement takes a location on the screen, optional scaling (re-sizing), optional rotation, and a polygon definition to
allow us to place a polygon anywhere we want it in the screen.

Let's draw an equilateral triangle (all sides are the same length) on a piece of paper. Put the point $(0,0)$ at the top and make each leg 10 long (see Illustration 17).

![Illustration 17: Equilateral Triangle](image)

Now we will create a program, using the simplest form of the *stamp* statement, to fill the screen with triangles. Program 46 Will do just that. It uses the triangle stamp inside two nested loops to fill the screen.
Chapter 8: Custom Graphics – Creating Your Own Shapes.

Program 46: Fill Screen with Triangles

```plaintext
1  # stamptri.kbs
2  clg
3  color black
4  for x = 25 to 200 step 25
5      for y = 25 to 200 step 25
6          stamp x, y, {0, 0, 5, 8.6, -5, 8.6}
7      next y
8  next x
```

Sample Output 46: Fill Screen with Triangles
Draw a polygon with it's origin (0,0) at the screen position (x,y). Optionally scale (re-size) it by the decimal scale where 1 is full size. Also you may also rotate the stamp clockwise around it's origin by specifying how far to rotate as an angle expressed in radians (0 to 2π).

Radians 0 to 2π
Angles in BASIC-256 are expressed in a unit of measure known as a radian. Radians range from 0 to 2π. A right angle is π/2 radians and an about face is π radians. You can convert degrees to radians with the formula \( r = d / 180 \times \pi \).
Let's look at another example of the stamp program. Program 47 used the same isosceles triangle as the last program but places 100 of them at random locations, randomly scaled, and randomly rotated on the screen.
Chapter 8: Custom Graphics – Creating Your Own Shapes.

# stamptri2.kbs
clg
color black
for t = 1 to 100
  x = rand * graphwidth
  y = rand * graphheight
  s = rand * 7
  r = rand * 2 * pi
  stamp x, y, s, r, {0, 0, 5, 8.6, -5, 8.6}
next t

Program 47: One Hundred Random Triangles

Sample Output 47: One Hundred Random Triangles
The constant \(pi\) can be used in expressions so that you do not have to remember the value of \(\pi\). \(\pi\) is approximately 3.1415.

In Program 47, add statements to make the color random. Also create your own polygon to stamp.

Let's send flowers to somebody special. The following program draws a flower using rotation and a stamp.
Illustration 19: Big Program – A Flower For You - Flower Petal Stamp

```plaintext
# aflowerforyou.kbs
clg

color green
rect 148,150,4,150

color 255,128,128
for r = 0 to 2*pi step pi/4
    stamp graphwidth/2, graphheight/2, 2, r, {0, 0, 5, 20, 0, 25, -5, 20}
next r

color 128,128,255
for r = 0 to 2*pi step pi/5
    stamp graphwidth/2, graphheight/2, 1, r, {0,
```
Program 48: Big Program - A Flower For You

Sample Output 48: Big Program - A Flower For You
Chapter 9: Subroutines – Reusing Code.

This chapter introduces the concept of setting labels within your code and then jumping to those labels. This will allow a program to execute the code in a more complex order. You will also see the subroutine. A *gosub* acts like a jump with the ability to jump back.

**Labels and Goto:**

In Chapter 7 we saw how to use language structures to perform looping. In Program 49 we can see an example of looping forever using a label and a *goto* statement.

```plaintext
1  # gotodemo.kbs
2  top:
3  print "hi"
4  goto top
```

*Program 49: Goto With a Label*

```
hi
hi
hi
hi

... repeats forever
```

*Sample Output 49: Goto With a Label*
A label allows you to name a place in your program so you may jump to that location later in the program. You may have multiple labels in a single program.

A label name is followed with a colon (:) ; must be on a line with no other statements; must begin with a letter; may contain letters and numbers; and are case sensitive. Also, you cannot use words reserved by the BASIC-256 language when naming your variables (see Appendix I). Examples of valid labels include: top:, far999:, and About:.

The `goto` statement causes the execution to jump to the statement directly following the label.

Some programmers use labels with `goto` statements throughout their programs. While it is sometimes easier to program with `goto` statements they can add complexity to large programs, making the program more difficult to debug and maintain. It is recommended that you keep the use of `goto` statements to an absolute minimum.

Let's take a look at another example of a label and `goto` statement. In Program 50 we create a colorful clock.
Program 50: Text Clock

```
# textclock.kbs
fastgraphics
font "Tahoma", 20, 100
color blue
rect 0, 0, 300, 300
color yellow
text 0, 0, "My Clock."
showtime:
color blue
rect 100, 100, 200, 100
color yellow
text 100, 100, hour + ":" + minute + ":" + second
refresh
pause 1.0
goto showtime
```

Sample Output 50: Text Clock
### New Concept

The functions **year**, **month**, **day**, **hour**, **minute**, and **second** return the components of the system clock. They allow your program to tell what time it is.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Function</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>year</strong></td>
<td>Returns the system 4 digit year.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>month</strong></td>
<td>Returns month number 0 to 11. 0 – January, 1-February...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>day</strong></td>
<td>Returns the day of the month 1 to 28,29,30, or 31.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>hour</strong></td>
<td>Returns the hour 0 to 23 in 24 hour format. 0 – 12 AM, 1- 1 AM, ... 13 – 12 PM, 14 – 1 PM, ...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>minute</strong></td>
<td>Returns the minute 0 to 59 in the current hour.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>second</strong></td>
<td>Returns the second 0 to 59 in the current minute.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Reusing Blocks of Code – The Gosub Statement:

Throughout many programs we will find lines or even whole sections of code being needed over and over again. To help with this problem BASIC-256 includes the concept of a subroutine. A subroutine is a block of code that can be called by other parts of the program to do a task or part of a task. When a subroutine is
finished it returns control back to where it was called.

Program 51 shows an example of a subroutine that is called three times.

```
1  # gosubdemo.kbs
2  gosub showline
3  print "hi"
4  gosub showline
5  print "there"
6  gosub showline
7  end
8
9  showline:
10 print "------------------"
11 return
```

**Program 51: Gosub**

```
------------------
hi
------------------
there
------------------
```

**Sample Output 51: Gosub**

```
gosub label
The gosub statement causes the execution to jump to the subroutine defined by the label.
```
Chapter 9: Subroutines – Reusing Code.

New Concept

`return`

Execute the `return` statement within a subroutine to send control back to where it was called from.

New Concept

`end`

Terminates the program (stop).

Now that we have seen the subroutine in action let's write a new digital clock program using a subroutine to format the time and date better (Program 52).

```kbs
# textclockimproved.kbs
fastgraphics

while true
  color blue
  rect 0, 0, graphwidth, graphheight
  color white
  font "Times New Roman", 40, 100
  line$ = ""
```
Chapter 9: Subroutines – Reusing Code.

12  n = month + 1
13  gosub addtoline
14  line$ = line$ + "/"
15  n = day
16  gosub addtoline
17  line$ = line$ + "/"
18  line$ = line$ + year
19  text 50,100, line$
20
21  line$ = ""
22  n = hour
23  gosub addtoline
24  line$ = line$ + ":"
25  n = minute
26  gosub addtoline
27  line$ = line$ + ":"
28  n = second
29  gosub addtoline
30  text 50,150, line$
31  refresh
32  end while
33
34  addtoline:
35  ## append a two digit number in n to the string line$
36  if n < 10 then line$ = line$ + "0"
37  line$ = line$ + n
38  return

Program 52: Text Clock - Improved
Sample Output 52: Text Clock - Improved

In our “Big Program” this chapter, let's make a program to roll two dice, draw them on the screen, and give the total. Let's use a gosub to draw the image so that we only have to write it once.
# roll2dice.kbs

clg

total = 0

x = 30
y = 30
roll = int(rand * 6) + 1
total = total + roll
gosub drawdie

x = 130
y = 130
roll = int(rand * 6) + 1
total = total + roll
gosub drawdie

print "you rolled " + total + "."
end

drawdie:

# set x,y for top left and roll for number of dots
# draw 70x70 with dots 10x10 pixels
color black
rect x,y,70,70
color white
# top row
if roll <> 1 then rect x + 10, y + 10, 10, 10
if roll = 6 then rect x + 30, y + 10, 10, 10
if roll >= 4 and roll <= 6 then rect x + 50, y + 10, 10, 10
# middle
if roll = 1 or roll = 3 or roll = 5 then rect x + 30, y + 30, 10, 10
# bottom row
if roll >= 4 and roll <= 6 then rect x + 10, y
Chapter 9: Subroutines – Reusing Code.

Program 53: Big Program - Roll Two Dice Graphically

```
34  if roll = 6 then rect x + 30, y + 50, 10, 10
35  if roll <> 1 then rect x + 50, y + 50, 10, 10
36  return
```

Sample Output 53: Big Program - Roll Two Dice Graphically
Chapter 10: Mouse Control - Moving Things Around.

This chapter will show you how to make your program respond to a mouse. There are two different ways to use the mouse: tracking mode and clicking mode. Both are discussed with sample programs.

Tracking Mode:

In mouse tracking mode, there are three numeric functions (mousex, mousey, and mouseb) that will return the coordinates of the mouse pointer over the graphics output area. If the mouse is not over the graphics display area then the mouse movements will not be recorded (the last location will be returned).

```
# mousetrack.kbs
print "Move the mouse around the graphics window."
print "Click left mouse button to quit."

fastgraphics

# do it over and over until the user clicks left
while mouseb <> 1
  # erase screen
  color white
  rect 0, 0, graphwidth, graphheight
  # draw new ball
  color red
  circle mousex, mousey, 10
  refresh
end while
```
Chapter 10: Mouse Control – Moving Things Around.

Program 54: Mouse Tracking

```
17  print "all done."
18  end
```

Sample Output 54: Mouse Tracking
mousex or mousex()
mousey or mousey()
mouseb or mouseb()

The three mouse functions will return the current location of the mouse as it is moved over the graphics display area. Any mouse motions outside the graphics display area are not recorded, but the last known coordinates will be returned.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Function</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>mousex</td>
<td>Returns the x coordinate of the mouse pointer position. Ranges from 0 to <code>graphwidth</code> -1.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mousey</td>
<td>Returns the y coordinate of the mouse pointer position. Ranges from 0 to <code>graphheight</code> -1.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mouseb</td>
<td>Returns this value when no mouse button is being pressed. Returns this value when the “left” mouse button is being pressed. Returns this value when the “right” mouse button is being pressed. Returns this value when the “center” mouse button is being pressed.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If multiple mouse buttons are being pressed at the same time then the value returned will be the button values added together.

Clicking Mode:
The second mode for mouse control is called “Clicking Mode”. In clicking mode, the mouse location and the button (or combination of buttons) are stored when the click happens. Once a click is processed by the program a `clickclear` command can be executed to reset the click, so the next one can be recorded.

```kbs
# mouseclick.kbs
# X marks the spot where you click
print "Move the mouse around the graphics window"
print "click left mouse button to mark your spot"
print "click right mouse button to stop."
clg

# clear out last click and
# wait for the user to click a button
while clickb <> 2
    # clear out last click and
    # wait for the user to click a button
    clickclear
    while clickb = 0
        pause .01
    end while
# color blue
stamp clickx, clicky, 5, {-1, -2, 0, -1, 1, -2, 2, -1, 1, 0, 2, 1, 1, 2, 0, 1, -1, 2, -2, 1, -1, 0, -2, -1}
end while
print "all done."
end
```

Program 55: Mouse Clicking
Sample Output 55: Mouse Clicking

The values of the three click functions are updated each time a mouse button is clicked when the pointer is on the graphics output area. The last location of the mouse when the last click was received are available from these three functions.
The `clickclear` statement resets the `clickx`, `clicky`, and `clickb` functions to zero so that a new click will register when `clickb <> 0`.

The big program this chapter uses the mouse to move color sliders so that we can see all 16,777,216 different colors on the screen.

```kbs
# colorchooser.kbs
fastgraphics

print "colorchooser - find a color"
print "click and drag red, green and blue sliders"

# variables to store the color parts
r = 128
g = 128
b = 128

gosub display

while true
  # wait for click
  while mouseb = 0
```

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Chapter 10: Mouse Control – Moving Things Around.

```
17   pause .01
18   end while
19   # change color sliders
20   if mousey < 75 then
21       r = mousex
22       if r > 255 then r = 255
23   end if
24   if mousey >= 75 and mousey < 150 then
25       g = mousex
26       if g > 255 then g = 255
27   end if
28   if mousey >= 150 and mousey < 225 then
29       b = mousex
30       if b > 255 then b = 255
31   end if
32   gosub display
33   end while
34   end
35
36   display:
37       clg
38       # draw red
39       color 255, 0, 0
40       font "Tahoma", 30, 100
41       text 260, 10, "r"
42       for t = 0 to 255
43           color t, 0, 0
44           line t,0,t,37
45           color t, g, b
46           line t, 38, t, 75
47       next t
48       color black
49       rect r-1, 0, 3, 75
50       # draw green
51       color 0, 255, 0
52       font "Tahoma", 30, 100
53       text 260, 85, "g"
```
54  for t = 0 to 255
55      color 0, t, 0
56      line t,75,t, 75 + 37
57      color r, t, b
58      line t, 75 + 38, t, 75 + 75
59  next t
60  color black
61  rect g-1, 75, 3, 75
62  # draw blue
63  color 0, 0, 255
64  font "Tahoma", 30, 100
65  text 260, 160, "b"
66  for t = 0 to 255
67      color 0, 0, t
68      line t, 150, t, 150 + 37
69      color r, g, t
70      line t, 150 + 38, t, 150 + 75
71  next t
72  color black
73  rect b-1, 150, 3, 75
74  # draw swatch
75  color black
76  font "Tahoma", 15, 100
77  text 5, 235, "(" + r + "," + g + "," + b + ")"
78  color r,g,b
79  rect 151,226,150,75
80  refresh
81  return

Program 56: Big Program - Color Chooser
Sample Output 56: Big Program - Color Chooser
(220, 162, 239)
Chapter 11: Keyboard Control – Using the Keyboard to Do Things.

This chapter will show you how to make your program respond to the user when a key is pressed (arrows, letters, and special keys) on the keyboard.

Getting the Last Key Press:

The `key` function returns the last raw keyboard code generated by the system when a key was pressed. Certain keys (like control-c and function-1) are captured by the BASIC256 window and will not be returned by key. After the last key press value has been returned the function value will be set to zero (0) until another keyboard key has been pressed.

The key values for printable characters (0-9, symbols, letters) are the same as their upper case Unicode values regardless of the status of the caps-lock or shift keys.
Chapter 11: Keyboard Control – Using the Keyboard to Do Things.Page 122

```
1  # readkey.kbs
2  print "press a key - Q to quit"
3  do
4      k = key
5    if k <> 0 then
6      if k >=32 and k <= 127 then
7        print chr(k) + "=";
8      end if
9        print k
10     end if
11   until k = asc("Q")
12  end
```

Program 57: Read Keyboard

```
press a key - Q to quit
A=65
Z=90
M=77
16777248
&=38
7=55
```

Sample Output 57: Read Keyboard

**New Concept**

**key**

**key()**

The **key** function returns the value of the last keyboard key the user has pressed. Once the key value is read by the function, it is set to zero to denote that no key has been pressed.
Unicode

The Unicode standard was created to assign numeric values to letters or characters for the world's writing systems. There are more than 107,000 different characters defined in the Unicode 5.0 standard.

See: http://www.unicode.org

asc(expression)

The asc function returns an integer representing the Unicode value of the first character of the string expression.

chr(expression)

The chr function returns a string, containing a single character with the Unicode value of the integer expression.

How about we look at a more complex example? Program 58 Draws a red ball on the screen and the user can move it around using the keyboard.

```
1   # moveball.kbs
```
print "use i for up, j for left, k for right, m for down, q to quit"

fastgraphics
clg
ballradius = 20

# position of the ball
# start in the center of the screen
x = graphwidth / 2
y = graphheight / 2

# draw the ball initially on the screen
gosub drawball

# loop and wait for the user to press a key
while true
    k = key
    if k = asc("I") then
        y = y - ballradius
        if y < ballradius then y = graphheight - ballradius
        gosub drawball
    end if
    if k = asc("J") then
        x = x - ballradius
        if x < ballradius then x = graphwidth - ballradius
        gosub drawball
    end if
    if k = asc("K") then
        x = x + ballradius
        if x > graphwidth - ballradius then x = ballradius
        gosub drawball
    end if
if k = asc("M") then
    y = y + ballradius
    if y > graphheight - ballradius then y = ballradius
    gosub drawball
end if
if k = asc("Q") then end
end while

drawball:
color white
rect 0, 0, graphwidth, graphheight
color red
circle x, y, ballradius
refresh
return

Program 58: Move Ball

Sample Output 58: Move Ball
The big program this chapter is a game using the keyboard. Random letters are going to fall down the screen and you score points by pressing the key as fast as you can.

```plaintext
# fallinglettergame.kbs

speed = .15 # drop speed - lower to make faster
nletters = 10 # letters to play

score = 0
misses = 0
color black

fastgraphics
clg
text 20, 80, "Falling Letter Game"
text 20, 140, "Press Any Key to Start"
refresh

# clear keyboard and wait for any key to be pressed
k = key
while key = 0
    pause speed
end while

for n = 1 to nletters
    letter = int((rand * 26)) + asc("A")
x = 10 + rand * 225
```
Chapter 11: Keyboard Control – Using the Keyboard to Do Things.

Program 59: Big Program - Falling Letter Game

```plaintext
for y = 0 to 250 step 20
  clg
  # show letter
  font "Tahoma", 20, 50
  text x, y, chr(letter)
  # show score and points
  font "Tahoma", 12, 50
  value = (250 - y)
  text 10, 270, "Value " + value
  text 200, 270, "Score " + score
  refresh
  k = key
  if k <> 0 then
    if k = letter then
      score = score + value
    else
      score = score - value
    end if
  end if
  goto nextletter
  pause speed
next y
nextletter:
  next n

clg
font "Tahoma", 20, 50
text 20, 40, "Falling Letter Game"
text 20, 80, "Game Over"
text 20, 120, "Score: " + score
text 20, 160, "Misses: " + misses
refresh
end
```

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Sample Output 59: Big Program - Falling Letter Game

Value 110  Score -30
Chapter 12: Images, WAVs, and Sprites

This chapter will introduce the really advanced multimedia and graphical statements. Loading images from files, playing sounds asynchronously from WAV files, and really cool animation using sprites.

Images From a File:

So far we have seen how to create shapes and graphics using the built in drawing statements. The `imgload` statement allows you to load a picture from a file and display it in your BASIC-256 programs.

```plaintext
1  # imgload_ball.kbs - Show Imgload
2  clg
3  for i = 1 to 50
4      imgload rand * graphwidth, rand * graphheight, "greenball.png"
5  next i
```

Program 60: Imgload a Graphic
Program 60 Shows an example of this statement in action. The last argument is the name of a file on your computer. It needs to be in the same folder as the program, unless you specify a full path to it. Also notice that the coordinates (x,y) represent the CENTER of the loaded image and not the top left corner.

Most of the time you will want to save the program into the same folder that the image or sound file is in BEFORE you run the program. This will set your current working directory so that BASIC-256 can find the file to load.
Read in the picture found in the file and display it on the graphics output area. The values of $x$ and $y$ represent the location to place the CENTER of the image.

Images may be loaded from many different file formats, including: BMP, PNG, GIF, JPG, and JPEG.

Optionally scale (re-size) it by the decimal scale where 1 is full size. Also you may also rotate the image clockwise around it's center by specifying how far to rotate as an angle expressed in radians (0 to $2\pi$).

The `imgload` statement also allows optional scaling and rotation like the `stamp` statement does. Look at Program 61 for an example.

```
1    # imgload_picasso.kbs - Show Imgload with rotation and scaling
2    graphsize 500,500
3    clg
4    for i = 1 to 50
5      imgload graphwidth/2, graphheight/2, i/50, 2*pi*i/50, "picasso_selfport1907.jpg"
6    next i
7    say "hello Picasso."
```

Program 61: Imgload a Graphic with Scaling and Rotation
Playing Sounds From a WAV file:

So far we have explored making sounds and music using the `sound` command and text to speech with the `say` statement. BASIC-256 will also play sounds stored in WAV files. The playback of a sound from a WAV file will happen in the background. Once the sound starts the program will continue to the next statement and the sound will continue to play.
1 # spinner.kbs
2 fastgraphics
3 wavplay "roll.wav"

# setup spinner
4 angle = rand * 2 * pi
5 speed = rand * 2
6 color darkred
7 rect 0,0,300,300

10 for t = 1 to 100
11 # draw spinner
12   color white
13   circle 150,150,150
14   color black
15   line 150,300,150,0
16   line 300,150,0,150
17   text 100,100,"A"
18   text 200,100,"B"
19   text 200,200,"C"
20   text 100,200,"D"
21   color darkgreen
22   line 150,150,150 + cos(angle)*150, 150 +
23       sin(angle)*150
24 refresh
25 # update angle for next redraw
26   angle = angle + speed
27   speed = speed * .9
28   pause .05
29 next t
30
31 # wait for sound to complete
32 wavwait

Program 62: Spinner with Sound Effect
The `wavplay` statement loads a wave audio file (.wav) from the current working folder and plays it. The playback will be synchronous meaning that the next statement in the program will begin immediately as soon as the audio begins playing.

`Wavstop` will cause the currently playing wave audio file to stop the synchronous playback and `wavwait` will cause the program to stop and wait for the currently playing sound to complete.
Moving Images - Sprites:

Sprites are special graphical objects that can be moved around the screen without having to redraw the entire screen. In addition to being mobile you can detect when one sprite overlaps (collides) with another. Sprites make programming complex games and animations much easier.

```kbs
# sprite_1ball.kbs
color white
rect 0, 0, graphwidth, graphheight
spriteDim 1
spriteLoad 0, "blueball.png"
spritePlace 0, 100, 100
spriteShow 0
dx = rand * 10
dy = rand * 10
while true
  if spritex(0) <= 0 or spritex(0) >= graphwidth -1 then
    dx = dx * -1
    wavPlay "4359__NoiseCollector__PongBlipF4.wav"
  end if
  if spritey(0) <= 0 or spritey(0) >= graphheight -1 then
    dy = dy * -1
    wavPlay "4361__NoiseCollector__pongblipA_3.wav"
  endif
```

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As you can see in Program 63 the code to make a ball bounce around the screen, with sound effects, is much easier than earlier programs to do this type of animation. When using sprites we must tell BASIC-256 how many there will be (\texttt{spritedim}), we need to set them up (\texttt{spriteload} or \texttt{spriteplace}), make them visible (\texttt{spriteshow}), and then move them around (\texttt{spritemove}). In addition to these statements there are functions that will tell us where the sprite is on the screen (\texttt{spritex} and \texttt{spritey}), how big the sprite is (\texttt{spritew} and \texttt{spriteh}) and if the sprite is visible (\texttt{spritev}).
**spritedim** numberofsprites

The **spritedim** statement initializes, or allocates in memory, places to store the specified number of sprites. You may allocate as many sprites as your program may require but your program may slow down if you create too many sprites.

**spriteload** spritenumber, filename

This statement reads an image file (GIF, BMP, PNG, JPG, or JPEG) from the specified path and creates a sprite.

By default the sprite will be placed with its center at 0,0 and it will be hidden. You should move the sprite to the desired position on the screen (**spritemove** or **spriteplace**) and then show it (**spriteshow**).

**spritehide** spritenumber

**spriteshow** spritenumber

The **spriteshow** statement causes a loaded, created, or hidden sprite to be displayed on the graphics output area.

**Spritehide** will cause the specified sprite to not be drawn on the screen. It will still exist and may be shown again later.
Chapter 12: Images, WAVs, and Sprites

**spriteplace** `spritenumber, x, y`

The *spriteplace* statement allows you to place a sprite's center at a specific location on the graphics output area.

**spritemove** `spritenumber, dx, dy`

Move the specified sprite `x` pixels to the right and `y` pixels down. Negative numbers can also be specified to move the sprite left and up.

A sprite's center will not move beyond the edge of the current graphics output window (0,0) to `(graphwidth-1, graphheight-1)`.

You may move a hidden sprite but it will not be displayed until you show the sprite using the *showsprite* statement.

**spritev**( `spritenumber`)  

This function returns a true value if a loaded sprite is currently displayed on the graphics output area. False will be returned if it is not visible.
These functions return various pieces of information about a loaded sprite.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Function</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><code>spriteh</code></td>
<td>Returns the height of a sprite in pixels.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>spritew</code></td>
<td>Returns the width of a sprite in pixels.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>spritex</code></td>
<td>Returns the position on the x axis of the center of the sprite.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>spritey</code></td>
<td>Returns the position on the y axis of the center of the sprite.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The second sprite example (Program 64) we now have two sprites. The first one (number zero) is stationary and the second one (number one) will bounce off of the walls and the stationary sprite.

```kbs
1       # sprite_bumper.kbs
2
3       color white
4       rect 0, 0, graphwidth, graphheight
5
6       spriteshow 0
7
8       # stationary bumber
9       spriteload 0, "paddle.png"
10      spriteplace 0, graphwidth/2, graphheight/2
11      spriteshow 0
12
13      # moving ball
14      spriteload 1, "blueball.png"
```
Chapter 12: Images, WAVs, and Sprites

15  spriteplace 1, 50, 50
16  spriteshow 1
17  dx = rand * 5 + 5
18  dy = rand * 5 + 5
19
20  while true
21     if spritex(1) <=0 or spritex(1) >=
22         graphwidth -1 then
23         dx = dx * -1
24     end if
25     if spritey(1) <= 0 or spritey(1) >=
26         graphheight -1 then
27         dy = dy * -1
28     end if
29     if spritecollide(0,1) then
30         dy = dy * -1
31         print "bump"
32     end if
33  spritemove 1, dx, dy
34  pause .05
35  end while

Program 64: Sprite Collision
Sample Output 64: Sprite Collision

`spritecollide(spritenumber1, spritenumber2)`

This function returns true if the two sprites collide with or overlap each other.

The “Big Program” for this chapter uses sprites and sounds to create a paddle ball game.
Chapter 12: Images, WAVs, and Sprites

```
# sprite_paddleball.kbs

color white
rect 0, 0, graphwidth, graphheight

spritedim 2

spriteload 1, "greenball.png"
spriteplace 1, 100,100
spriteplace 0, 100,270

dx = rand * .5 + .25
dy = rand * .5 + .25

bounces = 0

while spritey(1) < graphheight -1
    k = key
    if chr(k) = "K" then
        spritemove 0, 20, 0
    end if
    if chr(k) = "J" then
        spritemove 0, -20, 0
    end if
    if spritecollide(0,1) then
        # bounce back ans speed up
        dy = dy * -1
        dx = dx * 1.1
        bounces = bounces + 1
        wavstop
        wavplay
        "96633__CGEffex__Ricochet_metal5.wav"
        # move sprite away from paddle
        while spritecollide(0,1)
```
Chapter 12: Images, WAVs, and Sprites

```
37    spritemove 1, dx, dy
38    end while
39    end if
40    if spritex(1) <=0 or spritex(1) >=
41        graphwidth -1 then
42        dx = dx * -1
43        wavstop
44        wavplay
45            "4359__NoiseCollector__PongBlipF4.wav"
46    end if
47    if spritey(1) <= 0 then
48        dy = dy * -1
49        wavstop
50        wavplay
51            "4361__NoiseCollector__pongblipA_3.wav"
52    end if
53    spritemove 1, dx, dy
54    end while
55
56    print "You bounced the ball " + bounces + " times."
```

Program 65: Paddleball with Sprites
Sample Output 65:  
Paddleball with Sprites
Chapter 13: Arrays - Collections of Information.

We have used simple string and numeric variables in many programs, but they can only contain one value at a time. Often we need to work with collections or lists of values. We can do this with either one-dimensioned or two-dimensioned arrays. This chapter will show you how to create, initialize, use, and re-size arrays.

One-Dimensional Arrays of Numbers:

A one-dimensional array allows us to create a list in memory and to access the items in that list by a numeric address (called an index). Arrays can be either numeric or string depending on the type of variable used in the `dim` statement.

```kbs
# numeric1d.kbs

dim a(10)
a[0] = 100
a[1] = 200

input "Enter a number", a[9]

for t = 0 to 9
  print "a[" + t + "] = " + a[t]
next t
```

Program 66: One-dimensional Numeric Array
Chapter 13: Arrays – Collections of Information.

Sample Output 66: One-dimensional Numeric Array

Enter a number63
a[0] = 100
a[1] = 200
a[2] = 0
a[3] = 200
a[4] = 0
a[5] = 0
a[6] = 0
a[7] = 0
a[8] = -137
a[9] = 63

New Concept

The **dim** statement creates an array in the computer's memory the size that was specified in the parenthesis. Sizes (items, rows, and columns) must be integer values greater than one (1).

The **dim** statement will initialize the elements in the new array with either zero (0) if numeric or the empty string (""), depending on the type of variable.
variable[index]
variable[rowindex, columnindex]
variable$[index]
variable$[rowindex, columnindex]

You can use an array reference (variable with index(s) in square brackets) in your program almost anywhere you can use a simple variable. The index or indexes must be integer values between zero (0) and one less than the size used in the dim statement.

It may be confusing, but BASIC-256 uses zero (0) for the first element in an array and the last element has an index one less than the size. Computer people call this a zero-indexed array.

We can use arrays of numbers to draw many balls bouncing on the screen at once. Program 66 uses 5 arrays to store the location of each of the balls, its direction, and color. Loops are then used to initialize the arrays and to animate the balls. This program also uses the rgb() function to calculate and save the color values for each of the balls.

```
1  # manyballbounce.kbs
2  fastgraphics
3
4  r = 10  # size of ball
5  balls = 50  # number of balls
6
7  dim x(balls)
8  dim y(balls)
9  dim dx(balls)
10  dim dy(balls)
11  dim colors(balls)
```
for b = 0 to balls - 1
    # starting position of balls
    x[b] = 0
    y[b] = 0
    # speed in x and y directions
    dx[b] = rand * r + 2
    dy[b] = rand * r + 2
    # each ball has its own color
    colors[b] = rgb(rand*256, rand*256, rand*256)
next b

color green
rect 0,0,300,300

while true
    # erase screen
    clg
    # now position and draw the balls
    for b = 0 to balls - 1
        x[b] = x[b] + dx[b]
        y[b] = y[b] + dy[b]
        # if off the edges turn the ball around
        if x[b] < 0 or x[b] > 300 then
            dx[b] = dx[b] * -1
        end if
        # if off the top of bottom turn the ball around
        if y[b] < 0 or y[b] > 300 then
            dy[b] = dy[b] * -1
        end if
        # draw new ball
        color colors[b]
circle x[b],y[b],r
    next b
    # update the display
Program 67: Bounce Many Balls

Sample Output 67: Bounce Many Balls

rgb(redexp, greenexp, blueexp)

The rgb function returns a single number that represents a color expressed by the three values. Remember that color component values have the range from 0 to 255.

Another example of a ball bouncing can be seen in Program 68.
This second example uses sprites and two arrays to keep track of the direction each sprite is moving.

```
#manyballsprite.kbs

# another way to bounce many balls using sprites

fastgraphics
color white
rect 0, 0, graphwidth, graphheight

n = 20
spritedim n

dim dx(n)
dim dy(n)

for b = 0 to n-1
  spriteload b, "greenball.png"
spriteplace b, graphwidth/2, graphheight/2
spriteshow b
dx[b] = rand * 5 + 2
dy[b] = rand * 5 + 2
next b

while true
  for b = 0 to n-1
    if spritex(b) <=0 or spritex(b) >= graphwidth -1 then
      dx[b] = dx[b] * -1
    end if
    if spritey(b) <= 0 or spritey(b) >= graphheight -1 then
      dy[b] = dy[b] * -1
    end if
  next b
```
Arrays can also be used to store string values. To create a string array use a string variable in the `dim` statement. All of the rules about numeric arrays apply to a string array except the data type is different. You can see the use of a string array in Program 69.
# listoffriends.kbs

print "make a list of my friends"
input "how many friends do you have?", n

dim names$(n)

for i = 0 to n-1
    input "enter friend name ?", names$[i]
next i

cls

print "my friends"
for i = 0 to n-1
    print "friend number ";
    print i + 1;
    print " is " + names$[i]
next i

---

Program 69: List of My Friends

make a list of my friends
how many friends do you have?3
enter friend name ?Bill
enter friend name ?Ken
enter friend name ?Sam

- screen clears -

my friends
friend number 1 is Bill
friend number 2 is Ken
friend number 3 is Sam

---

Sample Output 69: List of My Friends

Assigning Arrays:
We have seen the use of the curly brackets ({})) to play music, draw polygons, and define stamps. The curly brackets can also be used to assign an entire array with custom values.

```
# arrayassign.kbs
dim number(3)
dim name$(3)

number = {1, 2, 3}
name$ = {"Bob", "Jim", "Susan"}

for i = 0 to 2
    print number[i] + " " + name$[i]
next i
```

Program 70: Assigning an Array With a List

```
Bob
Jim
Susan
```

Sample Output 70: Assigning an Array With a List

An array may be assigned values (starting with index 0) from a list of values enclosed in curly braces. This works for numeric and string arrays.

New Concept

```
array = {value0, value1, ... }
array$ = {value0, value1, ... }
```

Sound and Arrays:
In Chapter 3 we saw how to use a list of frequencies and durations (enclosed in curly braces) to play multiple sounds at once. The sound statement will also accept a list of frequencies and durations from an array. The array should have an even number of elements; the frequencies should be stored in element 0, 2, 4, ...; and the durations should be in elements 1, 3, 5, ....

The sample (Program 71) below uses a simple linear formula to make a fun sonic chirp.

```
# spacechirp.kbs

# even values 0,2,4... - frequency
# odd values 1,3,5... - duration

# chirp starts at 100hz and increases by 40 for each of the 50 total sounds in list, duration is always 10

dim a(100)

for i = 0 to 98 step 2
    a[i] = i * 40 + 100
    a[i+1] = 10
next i

sound a
```

Program 71: Space Chirp Sound
What kind of crazy sounds can you program. Experiment with the formulas you use to change the frequencies and durations.

Graphics and Arrays:

In Chapter 8 we also saw the use of lists for creating polygons and stamps. Arrays may also be used to draw stamps and polygons. This may help simplify your code by allowing the same stamp or polygon to be defined once, stored in an array, and used in various places in your program.

In an array used for stamps and polygons, the even elements (0, 2, 4, ...) contain the x value for each of the points and the odd element (1, 3, 5, ...) contain the y value for the points. The array will have two values for each point in the shape.

In Program 72 we will use the stamp from the mouse chapter to draw a big X with a shadow. This is accomplished by stamping a gray shape shifted in the direction of the desired shadow and then stamping the object that is projecting the shadow.
Arrays can also be used to create stamps or polygons mathematically. In Program 73 we create an array with 10 elements (5 points) and assign random locations to each of the points to draw random polygons. BASIC-256 will fill the shape the best it can but when lines cross, as you will see, the fill sometimes leaves gaps and holes.
Chapter 13: Arrays – Collections of Information.

Program 73: Randomly Create a Polygon

Sample Output 73: Randomly Create a Polygon
Advanced - Two Dimensional Arrays:

So far in this chapter we have explored arrays as lists of numbers or strings. We call these simple arrays one-dimensional arrays because they resemble a line of values. Arrays may also be created with two-dimensions representing rows and columns of data. Program 74 uses both one and two-dimensional arrays to calculate student's average grade.

```
1    # grades.kbs
2    # calculate average grades for each student
3    # and whole class
4
5    nstudents = 3 # number of students
6    nscores = 4 # number of scores per student
7
8    dim students$(nstudents)
9
10   dim grades(nstudents, nscores)
11   # store the scores as columns and the students as rows
12   # first student
13    students$[0] = "Jim"
14    grades[0,0] = 90
15    grades[0,1] = 92
16    grades[0,2] = 81
17    grades[0,3] = 55
18   # second student
19    students$[1] = "Sue"
20    grades[1,0] = 66
21    grades[1,1] = 99
22    grades[1,2] = 98
23    grades[1,3] = 88
24   # third student
25    students$[2] = "Tony"
```
Chapter 13: Arrays – Collections of Information.

```plaintext
26 grades[2,0] = 79
27 grades[2,1] = 81
28 grades[2,2] = 87
29 grades[2,3] = 73
30 total = 0
31 for row = 0 to nstudents-1
32   studenttotal = 0
33   for column = 0 to nscores-1
34     studenttotal = studenttotal + grades[row, 
35         column]
36     total = total + grades[row, column]
37   next column
38 print students$[row] + "'s average is ";
39 print studenttotal / nscores
40 next row
41 print "class average is ";
42 print total / (nscores * nstudents)
43
44 end
```

Program 74: Grade Calculator

```
Jim's average is 79.5
Sue's average is 87.75
Tony's average is 80
class average is 82.416667
```

Sample Output 74: Grade Calculator

Really Advanced - Array Sizes:

Sometimes we need to create programming code that would work with an array of any size. If you specify a question mark as a index, row, or column number in the square bracket reference of an array
BASIC-256 will return the dimensioned size. In Program 70 we modified Program 67 to display the array regardless of it's length. You will see the special [?] used on line 16 to return the current size of the array.

```
# size.kbs
dim number(3)
number = {77, 55, 33}
print "before"
gosub shownumberarray

# create a new element on the end
redim number(4)
number[3] = 22
print "after"
gosub shownumberarray

# end
#
shownumberarray:
for i = 0 to number[?] - 1
    print i + " " + number[i]
next i
return
```

Program 75: Get Array Size
before
0 77
1 55
2 33
after
0 77
1 55
2 33
3 22

Sample Output 75: Get Array Size

array[?]
array$[?]
array[?,]
array$[?,]
array[,?]
array$[,?]

The [?] reference returns the length of a one-dimensional array or the total number of elements (rows * column) in a two-dimensional array. The [?,] reference returns the number of rows and the [,?] reference returns the number of columns of a two-dimensional array.

Really Really Advanced - Resizing Arrays:

BASIC-256 will also allow you to re-dimension an existing array. The redim statement will allow you to re-size an array and will preserve the existing data. If the new array is larger, the new elements will be filled with zero (0) or the empty string (""). If the new array is smaller, the values beyond the new size will be truncated (cut off).
Chapter 13: Arrays – Collections of Information.

1 # redim.kbs
2 dim number(3)
3 number = {77, 55, 33}
4 # create a new element on the end
5 redim number(4)
6 number[3] = 22
7 #
8 for i = 0 to 3
9   print i + " " + number[i]
10 next i

Program 76: Re-Dimension an Array

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sample Output 76: Re-Dimension an Array

The `redim` statement re-sizes an array in the computer's memory. Data previously stored in the array will be kept, if it fits.

When resizing two-dimensional arrays the values are copied in a linear manner. Data may be shifted in an unwanted manner if you are changing the number of columns.
The “Big Program” for this chapter uses three numeric arrays to store the positions and speed of falling space debris. You are not playing pong but you are trying to avoid all of them to score points.

```plaintext
# spacewarp.kbs
# The falling space debris game

balln = 5  # number of balls
dim ballx(balln)  # arrays to hold ball position and speed
dim bally(balln)
dim ballspeed(balln)
ballr = 10  # radius of balls

minx = ballr  # minimum x value for balls
maxx = graphwidth - ballr  # maximum x value for balls
miny = ballr  # minimum y value for balls
maxy = graphheight - ballr  # maximum y value for balls
score = 0  # initial score
playerw = 30  # width of player
playerm = 10  # size of player move
playerh = 10  # height of player
playerx = (graphwidth - playerw)/2  # initial position of player
keyj = asc("J")  # value for the 'j' key
keyk = asc("K")  # value for the 'k' key
keyq = asc("Q")  # value for the 'q' key
growpercent = .20  # random growth - bigger is
```
faster
speed = .15  # the lower the faster

print "spacewarp - use j and k keys to avoid the falling space debris"
print "q to quit"

fastgraphics

# setup initial ball positions and speed
for n = 0 to balln-1
gosub setupball
next n

more = true
while more
    pause speed
    score = score + 1

    # clear screen
    color black
    rect 0, 0, graphwidth, graphheight

    # draw balls and check for collision
    color white
    for n = 0 to balln-1
        bally[n] = bally[n] + ballspeed[n]
        if bally[n] > maxy then gosub setupball
        circle ballx[n], bally[n], ballr
        if ((bally[n]) >= (maxy-playerh-ballr))
            and ((ballx[n]+ballr) >= playerx) and
                ((ballx[n]-ballr) <= (playerx+playerw)) then
                more = false
    next n

    # draw player
    color red
Chapter 13: Arrays – Collections of Information.

```
rect playerx, maxy - playerh, playerw, playerh
refresh

# make player bigger
if (rand<growpercent) then playerw = playerw + 1

# get player key and move if key pressed
k = key
if k = keyj then playerx = playerx - playerm
if k = keyk then playerx = playerx + playerm
if k = keyq then more = false

# keep player on screen
if playerx < 0 then playerx = 0
if playerx > graphwidth - playerw then playerx = graphwidth - playerw
end while

print "score " + string(score)
print "you died."
end

setupball:
bally[n] = miny
ballx[n] = int(rand * (maxx-minx)) + minx
ballspeed[n] = int(rand * (2*ballr)) + 1
return
```

*Program 77: Big Program - Space Warp Game*
Sample Output 77: Big Program - Space Warp Game
Chapter 14: Mathematics - More Fun With Numbers.

In this chapter we will look at some additional mathematical operators and functions that work with numbers. Topics will be broken down into four sections: 1) new operators; 2) new integer functions, 3) new floating point functions, and 4) trigonometric functions.

New Operators:

In addition to the basic mathematical operations we have been using since the first chapter, there are three more operators in BASIC-256. Operations similar to these three operations exist in most computer languages. They are the operations of modulo, integer division, and power.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Operation</th>
<th>Operator</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Modulo</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>Return the remainder of an integer division.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Integer Division</td>
<td>\</td>
<td>Return the whole number of times one integer can be divided into another.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Power</td>
<td>^</td>
<td>Raise a number to the power of another number.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Modulo Operator:

The modulo operation returns the remainder part of integer division. When you do long division with whole numbers, you get a
remainder - that is the same as the modulo.

```
1 # mod.kbs
2 input "enter a number ", n
3 if n % 2 = 0 then print "divisible by 2"
4 if n % 3 = 0 then print "divisible by 3"
5 if n % 5 = 0 then print "divisible by 5"
6 if n % 7 = 0 then print "divisible by 7"
7 end
```

**Program 78: The Modulo Operator**

```
enter a number 10
divisible by 2
divisible by 5
```

**Sample Output 78: The Modulo Operator**

The Modulo (%) operator performs integer division of `expression1` divided by `expression2` and returns the remainder of that process.

If one or both of the expressions are not integer values (whole numbers) they will be converted to an integer value by truncating the decimal (like in the `int()` function) portion before the operation is performed.

You might not think it, but the modulo operator (%) is used quite often by programmers. Two common uses are: 1) to test if one number divides into another (Program 78) and 2) to limit a number to a specific range (Program 79).
# moveballmod.kbs

# rewrite of moveball.kbs using the modulo operator to wrap the ball around the screen

print "use i for up, j for left, k for right, m for down, q to quit" 

fastgraphics
clg
ballradius = 20

# position of the ball
# start in the center of the screen
x = graphwidth / 2
y = graphheight / 2

# draw the ball initially on the screen
gosub drawball

# loop and wait for the user to press a key
while true
    k = key
    if k = asc("I") then
        # y can go negative, + graphheight keeps it positive
        y = (y - ballradius + graphheight) % graphheight
        gosub drawball
    end if
    if k = asc("J") then
        x = (x - ballradius + graphwidth) % graphwidth
        gosub drawball
    end if
    if k = asc("K") then
        x = (x + ballradius) % graphwidth
    end if

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Chapter 14: Mathematics – More Fun With Numbers.

Program 79: Move Ball - Use Modulo to Keep on Screen

```plaintext
32   gosub drawball
33   end if
34   if k = asc("M") then
35       y = (y + ballradius) % graphheight
36           gosub drawball
37       end if
38   end if
39   if k = asc("Q") then end
40   end while
41
drawball:
42   color white
43   rect 0, 0, graphwidth, graphheight
44   color red
45   circle x, y, ballradius
46   refresh
47   return
```

Integer Division Operator:

The Integer Division (\) operator does normal division but it works only with integers (whole numbers) and returns an integer value. As an example, 13 divided by 4 is 3 remainder 1 – so the result of the integer division is 3.
# integerdivision.kbs
input "dividend ", dividend
input "divisor ", divisor
print dividend + " / " + divisor + " is ";
print dividend \ divisor;
print "r";
print dividend % divisor;

Program 80: Check Your Long Division

dividend 43
divisor 6
43 / 6 is 7r1

Sample Output 80: Check Your Long Division

expression1 \ expression2

The Integer Division (\) operator performs division of expression1 / expression2 and returns the whole number of times expression1 goes into expression2.

If one or both of the expressions are not integer values (whole numbers), they will be converted to an integer value by truncating the decimal (like in the int() function) portion before the operation is performed.

New Concept

Power Operator:

The power operator will raise one number to the power of another number.
# power.kbs
for t = 0 to 16
    print "2 ^ " + t + " = ";  
    print 2 ^ t  
next t

Program 81: The Powers of Two

2 ^ 0 = 1
2 ^ 1 = 2
2 ^ 2 = 4
2 ^ 3 = 8
2 ^ 4 = 16
2 ^ 5 = 32
2 ^ 6 = 64
2 ^ 7 = 128
2 ^ 8 = 256
2 ^ 9 = 512
2 ^ 10 = 1024
2 ^ 11 = 2048
2 ^ 12 = 4096
2 ^ 13 = 8192
2 ^ 14 = 16384
2 ^ 15 = 32768
2 ^ 16 = 65536

Sample Output 81: The Powers of Two

expression1 ^ expression2

The Power (^) operator raises expression1 to the expression2 power.

The mathematical expression \( a = b^c \) would be written in BASIC-256 as \( a = b ^ c \).
New Integer Functions:

The three new integer functions in this chapter all deal with how to convert strings and floating point numbers to integer values. All three functions handle the decimal part of the conversion differently.

In the `int()` function the decimal part is just thrown away, this has the same effect of subtracting the decimal part from positive numbers and adding it to negative numbers. This can cause troubles if we are trying to round and there are numbers less than zero (0).

The `ceil()` and `floor()` functions sort of fix the problem with `int()`. `Ceil()` always adds enough to every floating point number to bring it up to the next whole number while `floor(0)` always subtracts enough to bring the floating point number down to the closest integer.

We have been taught to round a number by simply adding 0.5 and drop the decimal part. If we use the `int()` function, it will work for positive numbers but not for negative numbers. In BASIC-256 to round we should always use a formula like \( a = \text{floor}(b + 0.5) \).
### New Concept

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Function</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><code>int(expression)</code></td>
<td>Convert an expression (string, integer, or decimal value) to an integer (whole number). When converting a floating point value the decimal part is truncated (ignored). If a string does not contain a number a zero is returned.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>ceil(expression)</code></td>
<td>Converts a floating point value to the next highest integer value.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>floor(expression)</code></td>
<td>Converts a floating point expression to the next lowers integer value. You should use this function for rounding ( a = \text{floor}(b+0.5) ).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

```kotlin
1  # intceilfloor.kbs
2  for t = 1 to 10
3     n = rand * 100 - 50
4     print n;
5     print " int=" + int(n);
6     print " ceil=" + ceil(n);
7     print " floor=" + floor(n)
8  next t
```

**Program 82: Difference Between Int, Ceiling, and Floor**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Example</th>
<th>int</th>
<th>ceil</th>
<th>floor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>-46.850173</td>
<td>-46</td>
<td>-46</td>
<td>-47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-43.071987</td>
<td>-43</td>
<td>-43</td>
<td>-44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23.380133</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.620722</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.413543</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-26.608505</td>
<td>-26</td>
<td>-26</td>
<td>-27</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Chapter 14: Mathematics – More Fun With Numbers.

Sample Output 82: Difference Between Int, Ceiling, and Floor

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expression</th>
<th>Int</th>
<th>Ceiling</th>
<th>Floor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>-18.813465</td>
<td>-18</td>
<td>-18</td>
<td>-19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.096065</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23.482759</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-45.463169</td>
<td>-45</td>
<td>-45</td>
<td>-46</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

New Floating Point Functions:

The mathematical functions that wrap up this chapter are ones you may need to use to write some programs. In the vast majority of programs these functions will not be needed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Function</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><code>float(expression)</code></td>
<td>Convert expression (string, integer, or decimal value) to a decimal value. Useful in changing strings to numbers. If a string does not contain a number a zero is returned.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>abs(expression)</code></td>
<td>Converts a floating point or integer expression to an absolute value.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>log(expression)</code></td>
<td>Returns the natural logarithm (base e) of a number.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>log10(expression)</code></td>
<td>Returns the base 10 logarithm of a number.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Advanced - Trigonometric Functions:
Trigonometry is the study of angles and measurement. BASIC-256 includes support for the common trigonometric functions. Angular measure is done in radians (0-2π). If you are using degrees (0-360) in your programs you must convert to use the “trig” functions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Function</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><code>cos(expression)</code></td>
<td>Return the cosine of an angle.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>sin(expression)</code></td>
<td>Return the sine of an angle.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>tan(expression)</code></td>
<td>Return the tangent of an angle.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>degrees(expression)</code></td>
<td>Convert Radians (0 – 2π) to Degrees (0-360).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>radians(expression)</code></td>
<td>Convert Degrees (0-360) to Radians (0 – 2π).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>acos(expression)</code></td>
<td>Return the inverse cosine.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>asin(expression)</code></td>
<td>Return the inverse sine.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>atan(expression)</code></td>
<td>Return the inverse tangent.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The discussion of the first three functions will refer to the sides of a right triangle. Illustration 20 shows one of these with it's sides and angles labeled.
Cosine:

A cosine is the ratio of the length of the adjacent leg over the length of the hypotenuse \( \cos A = \frac{b}{c} \). The cosine repeats itself every \( 2\pi \) radians and has a range from -1 to 1. Illustration 20 graphs a cosine wave from 0 to \( 2\pi \) radians.

Sine:

The sine is the ratio of the adjacent side over the hypotenuse \( \sin A = \frac{a}{c} \). The sine repeats itself every \( 2\pi \) radians and has a range from -1 to 1. Illustration 21 graphs a sine wave from 0 to \( 2\pi \) radians.
from -1 to 1. You have seen diagrams of sine waves in Chapter 3 as music was discussed.

Illustration 22: Sin() Function

Tangent:

The tangent is the ratio of the adjacent side over the opposite side 
\[ \tan A = \frac{a}{b} \]. The sine repeats itself every \( \pi \) radians and has a range from \(-\infty\) to \(\infty\). The tangent has this range because when the angle gets very small the length of the opposite side becomes very small.

Illustration 23: Tan() Function

Degrees Function:

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The `degrees()` function does the quick mathematical calculation to convert an angle in radians to an angle in degrees. The formula used is \( \text{degrees} = \frac{\text{radians}}{2\pi} \times 360 \).

**Radians Function:**

The `radians()` function will convert degrees to radians using the formula \( \text{radians} = \frac{\text{degrees}}{360} \times 2\pi \). Remember all of the trigonometric functions in BASIC-256 use radians and not degrees to measure angles.

**Inverse Cosine:**

The inverse cosine function `acos()` will return an angle measurement in radians for the specified cosine value. This function performs the opposite of the `cos()` function.

![Illustration 24: Acos() Function](image)

**Inverse Sine:**

...
The inverse sine function \( \text{asin()} \) will return an angle measurement in radians for the specified sine value. This function performs the opposite of the \( \sin() \) function.

![Illustration 25: Asin() Function](image)

**Inverse Tangent:**

The inverse tangent function \( \text{atan()} \) will return an angle measurement in radians for the specified tangent value. This function performs the opposite of the \( \tan() \) function.
Chapter 14: Mathematics – More Fun With Numbers.

Illustration 26: Atan() Function

The big program this chapter allows the user to enter two positive whole numbers and then performs long division. This program used logarithms to calculate how long the numbers are, modulo and integer division to get the individual digits, and is generally a very complex program. Don't be scared or put off if you don't understand exactly how it works, yet.

```
# longdivision.kbs
# show graphically the long division of two positive integers

input "dividend? ", b
input "divisor? ", a

originx = 100
originy = 20
height = 12
width = 9
margin = 2
```
b = int(abs(b))
a = int(abs(a))
clg

# display original problem
row = 0
col = -1
number = a
underline = false
gosub drawrightnumber
row = 0
col = 0
number = b
gosub drawleftnumber
line originx - margin, originy, originx + (width * 11), originy
line originx - margin, originy, originx - margin, originy + height

# calculate how many digits are in the dividend
lb = ceil(log10(abs(b)))

r = 0
bottomrow = 0    ## row for bottom calculation display

# loop through all of the digits from the left to the right
for tb = lb-1 to 0 step -1
    # drop down the next digit to running remainder and remove from dividend
    r = r * 10
    r = r + (b \ (10 ^ tb))
b = b % (10 ^ tb)
# display running remainder
row = bottomrow
bottomrow = bottomrow + 1
col = lb - tb - 1
number = r
underline = false
gosub drawrightnumber

# calculate new digit in answer and display
digit = r \ a
row = -1
col = lb - tb - 1
gosub drawdigit

# calculate quantity to remove from running and display
number = digit * a
r = r - number
col = lb - tb - 1
row = bottomrow
bottomrow = bottomrow + 1
underline = true
gosub drawrightnumber

next tb

# print remainder at bottom
row = bottomrow
col = lb - 1
number = r
underline = false
gosub drawrightnumber

end
drawdigit:
# pass row and col convert to x y
text col * width + originx, row * height +
originy, digit
if underline then
    line col * width + originx - margin, (row +
1) * height + originy, (col + 1) * width +
Program 83: Big Program - Long Division

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Sample Output 83: Big Program - Long Division (one)

```
+-------------------+
| dividend? 123456   |
| divisor? 78        |
+-------------------+
```

Sample Output 83: Big Program - Long Division
Chapter 15: Working with Strings.

We have used strings to store non-numeric information, build output, and capture input. We have also seen, in Chapter 11, using the Unicode values of single characters to build strings.

This chapter shows several new functions that will allow you to manipulate string values.

The String Functions:

BASIC-256 includes eight common functions for the manipulation of strings. Table 7 includes a summary of them.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Function</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><code>string(expression)</code></td>
<td>Convert expression (string, integer, or decimal value) to a string value.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>length(string)</code></td>
<td>Returns the length of a string.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>left(string, length)</code></td>
<td>Returns a string of length characters starting from the left.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>right(string, length)</code></td>
<td>Returns a string of length characters starting from the right.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>mid(string, start, length)</code></td>
<td>Returns a string of length characters starting from the middle of a string.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>upper(expression)</code></td>
<td>Returns an upper case string.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>lower(expression)</code></td>
<td>Returns a lower case string.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Function</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><code>instr(haystack, needle)</code></td>
<td>Searches the string “haystack” for the “needle” and returns it's location.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Table 7: Summary of String Functions**

**String() Function:**

The `string()` function will take an expression of any format and will return a string. This function is a convenient way to convert an integer or floating point number into characters so that it may be manipulated as a string.

```
1  # string.kbs
2  a$ = string(10 + 13)
3  print a$
4  b$ = string(2 * pi)
5  print b$
```

**Program 84: The String Function**

```
23
6.283185
```

**Sample Output 84: The String Function**
**New Concept**

string(expression)

Convert expression (string, integer, or decimal value) to a string value.

**Length() Function:**

The `length()` function will take a string expression and return it's length in characters (or letters).

```kbs
1  # length.kbs
2  # prints 6, 0, and 17
3  print length("Hello.")
4  print length(""")
5  print length("Programming Rulz!")
```

**Program 85: The Length Function**

```
6
0
17
```

**Sample Output 85: The Length Function**
### New Concept

**length(expression)**

Returns the length of the string expression. Will return zero (0) for the empty string “”.

---

#### Left(), Right() and Mid() Functions:

The `left()`, `right()`, and `mid()` functions will extract sub-strings (or parts of a string) from a larger string.

```kbs
1   # leftrightmid.kbs
2   a$ = "abcdefghijklm"
3   # prints "abcd"
4   print left(a$,4)
5   # prints "lm"
6   print right(a$,2)
7   # prints "def" and "jklm"
8   print mid(a$,4,3)
9   print mid(a$,10,9)
```

**Program 86: The Left, Right, and Mid Functions**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>abc</th>
<th>kl</th>
<th>def</th>
<th>jklm</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Sample Output 86: The Left, Right, and Mid Functions**
Chapter 15: Working with Strings.

**New Concept**

**left**(string, length)

Return a sub-string from the left end of a string. If length is equal or greater then the actual length of the string the entire string will be returned.

**New Concept**

**right**(string, length)

Return a sub-string from the right end of a string. If length is equal or greater then the actual length of the string the entire string will be returned.

**New Concept**

**mid**(string, start, length)

Return a sub-string of specified length from somewhere on the middle of a string. The start parameter specifies where the sub-string begins (1 = beginning of string).

**Upper() and Lower() Functions:**

The upper() and lower() functions simply will return a string of upper case or lower case letters. These functions are especially helpful when you are trying to perform a comparison of two strings and you do not care what case they actually are.
Chapter 15: Working with Strings.

Program 87: The Upper and Lower Functions

```
# upperlower.kbs
a$ = "Hello."
# prints "hello."
print lower(a$)
# prints "HELLO."
print upper(a$)
```

Sample Output 87: The Upper and Lower Functions

```
hello.
HELLO.
```

New Concept

**lower**(string)
**upper**(string)

Returns an all upper case or lower case copy of the string expression. Non-alphabetic characters will not be modified.

Instr() Function:

The **instr()** function searches a string for the first occurrence of another string. The return value is the location in the big string of the smaller string. If the substring is not found then the function will return a zero (0).
# instr.kbs
a$ = "abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz"

# find location of "hi"
print instr(a$,"hi")

# find location of "bye"
print instr(a$,"bye")

**Program 88: The Instr Function**

```
0
```

**Sample Output 88: The Instr Function**

new concept

**New Concept**

instr(haystack, needle)

Find the sub-string (`needle`) in another string expression (`haystack`). Return the character position of the start. If sub-string is not found return a zero (0).
The decimal (base 10) numbering system that is most commonly used uses 10 different digits (0-9) to represent numbers.

Imagine if you will what would have happened if there were only 5 digits (0-4) – the number 23 (\(2 \times 10^1 + 3 \times 10^0\)) would become 43 (\(4 \times 5^1 + 3 \times 5^0\)) to represent the same number of items. This type of transformation is called radix (or base) conversion.

The computer internally does not understand base 10 numbers but converts everything to base 2 (binary) numbers to be stored in memory.

The “Big Program” this chapter will convert a positive integer from any base 2 to 36 (where letters are used for the 11th - 26th digits) to any other base.

```vbnet
1  # radix.kbs
2  # convert a number from one base (2-36) to another
3  digits$ = "0123456789ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ"
4  message$ = "from base"
5  gosub getbase
6  frombase = base
7  input "number in base " + frombase + " >", number$
8  number$ = upper(number$)
9  n = 0
10  " number to base 10 and store in n
```
Chapter 15: Working with Strings.

```
15  for i = 1 to length(number$)
16       n = n * frombase
17       n = n + instr(digits$, mid(number$, i, 1)) - 1
18  next i
19
20  message$ = "to base"
21  gosub getbase
22  tobase = base
23
24  # now build string in tobase
25  result$ = ""
26  while n <> 0
27      result$ = mid(digits$, n % tobase + 1, 1) + result$
28      n = n \ tobase
29  end while
30
31  print "in base " + tobase + " that number is " + result$
32  end
33
34  getbase: # get a base from 2 to 36
35  do
36     input message$+"> " , base
37  until base >= 2 and base <= 36
38  return
```

Program 89: Big Program - Radix Conversion

```
from base> 10
number in base 10 >999
to base> 16
in base 16 that number is 3E7
```

Sample Output 89: Big Program - Radix Conversion
We have explored the computer's short term memory with variables and arrays but how do we store those values for later? There are many different techniques for long term data storage.

BASIC-256 supports writing and reading information from files on your hard disk. That process of input and output is often written as I/O.

This chapter will show you how to read values from a file and then write them for long term storage.

Reading Lines From a File:

Our first program using files is going to show you many of the statements and constants you will need to use to manipulate file data. There are several new statements and functions in this program.

```kbs
#read1file.kbs
input "file name>", fn$
if not exists(fn$) then
   print fn$ + " does not exist."
   end
end if
#

n = 0
open fn$
while not eof
   l$ = readline
```

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Chapter 16: Files – Storing Information For Later.

12 \( n = n + 1 \)
13 \( \text{print } n + " \ " + l$\)
14 end while
15 #
16 \( \text{print } "\text{the file } + fn$ + " \text{ is } + size + " \text{ bytes long."} \)
17 close

Program 90: Read Lines From a File

file name>test.txt
1 These are the times that
2 try men's souls.
3 - Thomas Paine
the file test.txt is 58 bytes long.

Sample Output 90: Read Lines From a File

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>exist(expression)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Look on the computer for a file name specified by the string expression. Drive and path may be specified as part of the file name, but if they are omitted then the current working directory will be the search location.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Returns true if the file exists; else returns false.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
New Concept

Open the file specified by the expression for reading and writing to the specified file number. If the file does not exist it will be created so that information may be added (see write and writeln). Be sure to execute the close statement when the program is finished with the file.

BASIC-256 may have a total of eight (8) files open 0 to 7. If no file number is specified then the file will be opened as file number zero (0).

New Concept

The eof function returns a value of true if we are at the end of the file for reading or false if there is still more data to be read.

If filenumber is not specified then file number zero (0) will be used.
readline
readline()
readline(filenumber)

New Concept

Return a string containing the contents of an open file up to the end of the current line. If we are at the end of the file \( \text{eof(filenumber)} = \text{true} \) then this function will return the empty string (“”).

If filenumber is not specified then file number zero (0) will be used.

size
size()
size(filenumber)

New Concept

This function returns the length of an open file in bytes.

If filenumber is not specified then file number zero (0) will be used.

close
close()
close filenumber
close(filenumber)

New Concept

The close statement will complete any pending I/O to the file and allow for another file to be opened with the same number.

If filenumber is not specified then file number zero (0) will be used.
Writing Lines to a File:

In Program 90 we saw how to read lines from a file. The next two programs show different variations of how to write information to a file. In Program 91 we open and clear any data that may have been in the file to add our new lines and in Program 92 we append our new lines to the end (saving the previous data).

```
1  # resetwrite.kbs
2  open "resetwrite.dat"
3
4  print "enter a blank line to close file"
5
6  # clear file (reset) and start over
7  reset
8  repeat:
9    input ">", l$
10   if l$ <> "" then
11      writeline l$
12      goto repeat
13   end if
14
15  # go the the start and display contents
16  seek 0
17  k = 0
18  while not eof()
19    k = k + 1
20    print k + " " + readline()
21  end while
22
23  close
24  end
```
Program 91: Clear File and Write Lines

```
enter a blank line to close file
> this is some
data, I am typing
into the program.
>1 this is some
data, I am typing
into the program.
```

Sample Output 91: Clear File and Write Lines

```
```

New Concept

| reset or  
| reset() or 
| reset filenumber 
| reset(filenumber) |

Clear any data in an open file and move the file pointer to the beginning.

If filenumber is not specified then file number zero (0) will be used.
### New Concept

#### `seek` expression
#### `seek(expression)`
#### `seek filenumber,expression`
#### `seek (filenumber,expression)`

Move the file pointer for the next read or write operation to a specific location in the file. To move the current pointer to the beginning of the file use the value zero (0). To seek to the end of a file use the `size()` function as the argument to the `seek` statement.

If `filenumber` is not specified then file number zero (0) will be used.

#### `writeline` expression
#### `writeline(expression)`
#### `writeline filenumber,expression`
#### `writeline (filenumber,expression)`

Output the contents of the expression to an open file and then append an end of line mark to the data. The file pointer will be positioned at the end of the write so that the next write statement will directly follow.

If `filenumber` is not specified then file number zero (0) will be used.

```kbs
1  # appendwrite.kbs
2  open "appendwrite.dat"
3
4  print "enter a blank line to close file"
5
6  # move file pointer to end of file and append
```
Chapter 16: Files – Storing Information For Later.

Program 92: Append Lines to a File

```c
seek size()
repeat:
input ">", l$
if l$ <> "" then
  writeline l$
goto repeat
end if

# move file pointer to beginning and show contents
seek 0
k = 0
while not eof()
  k = k + 1
  print k + " " + readline()
end while

close
der
```

Sample Output 92: Append Lines to a File

```
enter a blank line to close file
>sed sed sed
>vim vim vim
>
1 bar bar bar
2 foo foo foo
3 grap grap grap
4 sed sed sed
5 vim vim vim
```
**Read() Function and Write Statement:**

In the first three programs of this chapter we have discussed the `readline()` function and `writeline` statement. There are two other statements that will read and write a file. They are the `read()` function and `write` statement.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>read</strong></th>
<th><strong>read()</strong></th>
<th><strong>read(filenumber)</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Read the next word or number (token) from a file. Tokens are delimited by spaces, tab characters, or end of lines. Multiple delimiters between tokens will be treated as one.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If filenumber is not specified then file number zero (0) will be used.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>write</strong></th>
<th><strong>expression</strong></th>
<th><strong>write (expression)</strong></th>
<th><strong>write filenumber,expression</strong></th>
<th><strong>write (filenumber,expression)</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Write the string expression to a file file. Do not add an end of line or a delimiter.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If filenumber is not specified then file number zero (0) will be used.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
This program uses a single text file to help us maintain a list of our friend's telephone numbers.

```c
# phonelist.kbs
# add a phone number to the list and show
filename$ = "phonelist.txt"

print "phonelist.kbs - Manage your phone list."
do
    input "Add, List, Quit (a/l/q)?", action$
    if left(lower(action$),1) = "a" then gosub addrecord
    if left(lower(action$),1) = "l" then gosub listfile
until left(lower(action$),1) = "q"
end

listfile:
if exists(filename$) then
    # list the names and phone numbers in the file
    open filename$
    print "the file is " + size + " bytes long"
    while not eof
        # read next line from file and print it
        print readline
    end while
    close
else
    print "No phones on file. Add first."
```
Chapter 16: Files – Storing Information For Later.

25 end if
26 return
27
28 addrecord:
29 input "Name to add?", name$
30 input "Phone to add", phone$
31 open filename$
32 # seek to the end of the file
33 seek size()
34 # we are at end of file - add new line
35 writeline name$ + ", " + phone$
36 close
37 return

Program 93: Big Program - Phone List

phonelist.kbs - Manage your phone list.
Add, List, Quit (a/l/q)? l
the file is 46 bytes long
jim, 555-5555
sam, 555-7777
doug, 555-3333
Add, List, Quit (a/l/q)? a
Name to add? ang
Phone to add 555-0987
Add, List, Quit (a/l/q)? l
the file is 61 bytes long
jim, 555-5555
sam, 555-7777
doug, 555-3333
ang, 555-0987
Add, List, Quit (a/l/q)? q

Sample Output 93: Big Program - Phone List
Chapter 17: Stacks, Queues, Lists, and Sorting

This chapter introduces a few advanced topics that are commonly covered in the first Computer Science class at the University level. The first three topics (Stack, Queue, and Linked List) are very common ways that information is stored in a computer system. The last two are algorithms for sorting information.

Stack:

A stack is one of the common data structures used by programmers to do many tasks. A stack works like the “discard pile” when you play the card game “crazy-eights”. When you add a piece of data to a stack it is done on the top (called a “push”) and these items stack upon each other. When you want a piece of information you take the top one off the stack and reveal the next one down (called a “pop”). Illustration 27 shows a graphical example.

![Illustration 27: What is a Stack]
The operation of a stack can also be described as “last-in, first-out” or LIFO for short. The most recent item added will be the next item removed. Program 94 implements a stack using an array and a pointer to the most recently added item. In the “pushstack” subroutine you will see array logic that will re-dimension the array to make sure there is enough room available in the stack for virtually any number of items to be added.

```
1  # stack.kbs
2  # implementing a stack using an array
3  
4  dim stack(1) # array to hold stack with initial size
5  nstack = 0  # number of elements on stack
6  
7  value = 1
8  gosub pushstack
9  value = 2
10 gosub pushstack
11 value = 3
12 gosub pushstack
13 value = 4
14 gosub pushstack
15 value = 5
16 gosub pushstack
17
18 while nstack > 0
19   gosub popstack
20   print value
21 end while
22
23 end
24
25 popstack: #
26 # get the top number from stack and set it in
```
```plaintext
value
27 if nstack = 0 then
28   print "stack empty"
29 else
30   nstack = nstack - 1
31   value = stack[nstack]
32 end if
33 return
34
35 pushstack: #
36 # push the number in the variable value onto
37 # the stack
38 # make the stack larger if it is full
39 if nstack = stack[?] then redim stack(stack[?] + 5)
40   stack[nstack] = value
41   nstack = nstack + 1
42 return
```

**Program 94: Stack**

**Queue:**

The queue (pronounced like the letter Q) is another very common data structure. The queue, in its simplest form, is like the lunch line at school. The first one in the line is the first one to get to eat. Illustration 28 shows a block diagram of a queue.
The terms enqueue (pronounced in-q) and dequeue (pronounced dee-q) are the names we use to describe adding a new item to the end of the line (tail) or removing an item from the front of the line (head). Sometimes this is described as a “first-in, first-out” or FIFO. The example in Program 95 uses an array and two pointers that keep track of the head of the line and the tail of the line.

```
1  # queue.kbs
2  # implementing a queue using an array
3  queuesize = 4  # maximum number of entries in
4    the queue at any one time
5  dim queue(queuesize) # array to hold queue
6    with initial size
7  tail = 0  # location in queue of next new
8    entry
9  head = 0  # location in queue of next entry to
10   be returned (served)
```
Chapter 17: Stacks, Queues, Lists, and Sorting

8 inqueue = 0  # number of entries in queue
9
10 value = 1
11 gosub enqueue
12 value = 2
13 gosub enqueue
14
15 gosub dequeue
16 print value
17
18 value = 3
19 gosub enqueue
20 value = 4
21 gosub enqueue
22
23 gosub dequeue
24 print value
25 gosub dequeue
26 print value
27
28 value = 5
29 gosub enqueue
30 value = 6
31 gosub enqueue
32 value = 7
33 gosub enqueue
34
35 # empty everybody from the queue
36 while inqueue > 0
37 gosub dequeue
38 print value
39 end while
40
41 end
42
dequeue: #
44 if inqueue = 0 then
print "queue is empty"
else
    inqueue = inqueue - 1
    value = queue[head]
    print "dequeue value=" + value + " from=" + head + " inqueue=" + inqueue
    # move head pointer - if we are at end of array go back to the beginning
    head = head + 1
    if head = queuesize then head = 0
end if
return
enqueue: #
if inqueue = queuesize then
    print "queue is full"
else
    inqueue = inqueue + 1
    queue[tail] = value
    print "enqueue value=" + value + " to=" + tail + " inqueue=" + inqueue
    # move tail pointer - if we are at end of array go back to the begining
    tail = tail + 1
    if tail = queuesize then tail = 0
end if
return

Program 95: Queue

Linked List:

In most books the discussion of this material starts with the linked list. Because BASIC-256 handles memory differently than many other languages this discussion was saved after introducing stacks and queues.
A linked list is a sequence of nodes that contains data and a pointer or index to the next node in the list. In addition to the nodes with their information we also need a pointer to the first node. We call the first node the “Head”. Take a look at Illustration 29 and you will see how each node points to another.

![Illustration 29: Linked List](image)

An advantage to the linked list, over an array, is the ease of inserting or deleting a node. To delete a node all you need to do is change the pointer on the previous node (Illustration 30) and release the discarded node so that it may be reused.

![Illustration 30: Deleting an Item from a Linked List](image)

Inserting a new node is also as simple as creating the new node, linking the new node to the next node, and linking the previous node to the first node. Illustration 31 Shows inserting a new node into the second position.
Linked lists are commonly thought of as the simplest data structures. In the BASIC language we can’t allocate memory like in most languages so we will simulate this behavior using arrays. In Program 96 we use the data$ array to store the text in the list, the nextitem array to contain the index to the next node, and the freeitem array to contain a stack of free (unused) array indexes.

```
# linkedlist.kbs

n = 8 # maximum size of list
dim data$(n) # data for item in list
dim nextitem(n) # pointer to next item in list
dim freeitem(n) # list of free items

# initialize freeitem stack
for t = 0 to n-1
    freeitem[t] = t
next t
lastfree = n-1

head = -1 # start of list - -1 = pointer
```
to nowhere

# list of 3 items
text$ = "Head"
gosub append
text$ = "more"
gosub append
text$ = "stuff"
gosub append
gosub displaylist
gosub displayarrays
gosub wait

gosub displayarrays

go sub delete

go sub display

go sub displayarrays

go sub wait

print "delete item 2"

r = 2
go sub delete
go sub displaylist
go sub displayarrays
go sub wait

print "insert item 1"

r = 1
text$ = "bar"
go sub insert
go sub displaylist
go sub displayarrays
go sub wait

print "insert item 2"

r = 2
text$ = "foo"
go sub insert
46  gosub displaylist
47  gosub displayarrays
48  gosub wait
49
50  print "delete item 1"
51  r = 1
52  gosub delete
53  gosub displaylist
54  gosub displayarrays
55  gosub wait
56
57  end
58
59  wait: ## wait for enter
60  input "press enter? ", garbage$
61  print
62  return
63
64  displaylist: # showlist by following the linked list
65  print "list..."
66  k = 0
67  i = head
68  do
69    k = k + 1
70    print k + " ";
71    print data$[i]
72    i = nextitem[i]
73  until i = -1
74  return
75
   displayarrays: # show data actually stored and
How
print "arrays..."
for i = 0 to n-1
    print i + " " + data$[i] + " >" +
    nextitem[i] ;
    for k = 0 to lastfree
        if freeitem[k] = i then print " <<free";
    next k
if head = i then print " <<head";
print
next i
return

insert: # insert text$ at position r
if r = 1 then
    gosub createitem
    nextitem[index] = head
    head = index
else
    k = 2
    i = head
    while i <> -1 and k <> r
        k = k + 1
        i = nextitem[i]
    end while
    if i <> -1 then
        gosub createitem
        nextitem[index] = nextitem[i]
        nextitem[i] = index
    else
        print "can't insert beyond end of list"
end if
Chapter 17: Stacks, Queues, Lists, and Sorting

106 end if
107 return

108

109 delete: # delete element r from linked list
110 if r = 1 then
111    index = head
112    head = nextitem[index]
113    gosub freeitem
114 else
115    k = 2
116    i = head
117    while i <> -1 and k <> r
118       k = k + 1
119       i = nextitem[i]
120    end while
121    if i <> -1 then
122       index = nextitem[i]
123       nextitem[i] = nextitem[nextitem[i]]
124       gosub freeitem
125    else
126       print "can't delete beyond end of list"
127    end if
128 end if
129 return

130

131 append: # append text$ to end of linked list
132 if head = -1 then
133    gosub createitem
134    head = index
135 else
136    i = head
137    while nextitem[i] <> -1
138       i = nextitem[i]
139    end while
140    gosub createitem
141    nextitem[i] = index
142    endif
143    return
144
145    freeitem: # free element in index and add back to the free stack
146    lastfree = lastfree + 1
147    freeitem[lastfree] = index
148    return
149
150    createitem: # save text$ in data and return index to new location
151    if lastfree < 0 then
152       print "no free cell to allocate"
153    end
154    end if
155    index = freeitem[lastfree]
156    data$[index] = text$
157    nextitem[index] = -1
158    lastfree = lastfree - 1
159    return

Program 96: Linked List
Re-write Program 96 to implement a stack and a queue using a linked list.

**Slow and Inefficient Sort - Bubble Sort:**

The “Bubble Sort” is probably the worst algorithm ever devised to sort a list of values. It is very slow and inefficient except for small sets of items. This is a classic example of a bad algorithm.

The only real positive thing that can be said about this algorithm is that it is simple to explain and to implement. Illustration 32 shows a flow-chart of the algorithm. The bubble sort goes through the array over and over again swapping the order of adjacent items until the sort is complete.
Illustration 32: Bubble Sort - Flowchart

```plaintext
# bubblesort.kbs
# implementing a simple sort
# a bubble sort is one of the SLOWEST algorithms
# for sorting but it is the easiest to implement
# and understand.
```

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The algorithm for a bubble sort is
1. Go through the array swapping adjacent values so that lower value comes first.
2. Do step 1 over and over until there have been no swaps (the array is sorted)

```
dim d(20)
# fill array with unsorted numbers
for i = 0 to d[?] - 1
d[i] = rand * 1000
next i

deprecated function

def displayarray:
    # print out the array's values
    for i = 0 to d[?] - 1
        print d[i] + " ";
    next i
    print
    return

def bubblesort:
do
    sorted = true
    for i = 0 to d[?] - 2
        
end
```
Chapter 17: Stacks, Queues, Lists, and Sorting

43 if d[i] > d[i+1] then
44    sorted = false
45    temp = d[i+1]
46    d[i+1] = d[i]
47    d[i] = temp
48 end if
49 next i
50 until sorted
51 return

Program 97: Bubble Sort

Better Sort – Insertion Sort:

The insertion sort is another algorithm for sorting a list of items. It is usually faster than the bubble sort, but in the worst case case could take as long.

The insertion sort gets it's name from how it works. The sort goes through the elements of the array (index = 1 to length -1) and inserts the value in the correct location in the previous array elements. Illustration 33 shows a step-by-step example.
Chapter 17: Stacks, Queues, Lists, and Sorting

Illustration 33: Insertion Sort - Step-by-step

```
1  # insertionsort.kbs
2  # implementing an efficient sort
3
4  dim d(20)
5
6  # fill array with unsorted numbers
7  for i = 0 to d[?]-1
8     d[i] = rand * 1000
9  next i
10
11  print "*** Un-Sorted ***"
12  gosub displayarray
13```

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gosub insertionsort

print "*** Sorted ***"
gosub displayarray
end

displayarray:
# print out the array's values
for i = 0 to d[?]-1
  print d[i] + " ";
next i
print
return

insertionsort:
# loops thru the list starting at the second element.
# takes current element and inserts it in the the correct sorted place in the previously sorted elements
# moving from backward from the current location
# and sliding elements with a larger value foward
# to make room for the current value in the correct place (in the partially sorted array)
for i = 1 to d[?] - 1
  currentvalue = d[i]
  j = i - 1
  done = false
do
    if d[j] > currentvalue then
      # shift value and stop looping if we
are at begining
46    d[j+1] = d[j]
47    j = j - 1
48    if j < 0 then done = true
49    else
50        # j is the element before where we
51            want to insert
52            done = true
53        endif
54    until done
55    d[j+1] = currentvalue
56    next i
57    return

Program 98: Insertion Sort

Re-write Program 98 using a linked list like in Program 96.

Research other sorting algorithms and write them in BASIC-256.
Chapter 18 – Runtime Error Trapping

As you have worked through the examples and created your own programs you have seen errors that happen while the program is running. These errors are called “runtime errors”. BASIC-256 includes a group of special commands that allow your program to recover from or handle these errors.

Trapping errors, when you do not mean too, can cause problems. Error trapping should only be used when needed and disabled when not.

Error Trap:

When error trapping is turned on, with the onerror statement, the program will jump to a specified subroutine when an error occurs. If we look at Program 99 we will see that the program calls the subroutine when it tries to read the value of z (an undefined variable). If we try to run the same program with line one commented out or removed the program will terminate when the error happens.

```
1  onerror errortrap
2
3  print "z = " + z
4  print "Still running after error"
5  end
6
7  errortrap:
8  print "I trapped an error."
9  return
```

Program 99: Simple Runtime Error Trap
I trapped an error.
z = 0
Still running after error

Sample Output 99: Simple Runtime Error Trap

**New Concept**

**onerror** label

Create an error trap that will automatically jump to the subroutine at the specified label when an error occurs.

**Finding Out Which Error:**

Sometimes just knowing that an error happened is not enough. There are functions that will return the error number (**lasterror**), the line where the error happened in the program (**lasterrorline**), a text message describing the error (**lasterrormessage**), and extra command specific error messages (**lasterrorextra**).

Program 100 modifies the previous program to print details of what error actually happened. More complex logic could be added to your error trap, specifically to change the behavior with different errors happen.

```
1  onerror errortrap
2  
3  print "z = " + z
4  print "Still running after error"
5  end
```
Chapter 18 – Runtime Error Trapping

6  errortrap:
7  print "Error Trap - Activated"
8  print "   Error = " + lasterror
9  print "   On Line = " + lasterrorline
10 print "   Message = " + lasterrormessage
11 return

**Program 100: Runtime Error Trap - With Messages**

```
Error Trap - Activated
   Error = 12
   On Line = 3
   Message = Unknown variable
z = 0
Still running after error
```

**Sample Output 100: Runtime Error Trap - With Messages**
lasterror or lasterror()
lasterrorline or lasterrorline()
lasterrormessage or lasterrormessage()
lasterrorextra or lasterrorextra()

The four “last error” functions will return information about the last trapped error. These values will remain unchanged until another error is encountered.

| lasterror | Returns the number of the last trapped error. If no errors have been trapped this function will return a zero. See Appendix J: Error Numbers for a complete list of trappable errors. |
| lasterrorline | Returns the line number, of the program, where the last error was trapped. |
| lasterrormessage | Returns a string describing the last error. |
| lasterrorextra | Returns a string with additional error information. For most errors this function will not return any information. |
Turning Off Error Trapping:

Sometimes in a program we will want to trap errors during part of the program and not trap other errors. You will see examples of this type of error trapping logic in subsequent chapters.

The `offerror` statement turns error trapping off. This causes all errors encountered to stop the program.

```plaintext
onerror errortrap
  print "z = " + z
  print "Still running after first error"
offerror
  print "z = " + z
  print "Still running after second error"
end
errortrap:
  print "Error Trap - Activated"
  return
```

Program 101: Turning Off the Trap

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Line</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1-4</td>
<td>Traps the first error and continues to run</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Turns off error trapping</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6-7</td>
<td>Prints a message after turning off error trapping</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Ends the program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Activates the error trap</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12-13</td>
<td>Prints an error message</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sample Output 101: Turning Off the Trap

```
Error Trap - Activated
z = 0
Still running after first error
ERROR on line 6: Unknown variable
```

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Chapter 19: Database Programming

This chapter will show how BASIC-256 can connect to a simple relational database and use it to store and retrieve useful information.

What is a Database:

A database is simply an organized collection of numbers, string, and other types of information. The most common type of database is the “Relational Database”. Relational Databases are made up of four major parts: tables, rows, columns, and relationships (see Table 8).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table</th>
<th>A table consists of a predefined number or columns any number of rows with information about a specific object or subject. Also known as a relation.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Row</td>
<td>Also called a tuple.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Column</td>
<td>This can also be referred to as an attribute.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relationship</td>
<td>A reference of the key of one table as a column of another table. This creates a connection between tables.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 8: Major Components of a Relational Database

The SQL Language:

Most relational databases, today, use a language called SQL to actually extract and manipulate data. SQL is actually an acronym for Structured Query Language. The original SQL language was developed by IBM in the 1970s and has become the primary
language used by relational databases.

SQL is a very powerful language and has been implemented by dozens of software companies, over the years. Because of this complexity there are many different dialects of SQL in use. BASIC-256 uses the SQLite database engine. Please see the SQLite web-page at http://www.sqlite.org for more information about the dialect of SQL shown in these examples.

Creating and Adding Data to a Database:

The SQLite library does not require the installation of a database sever or the setting up of a complex system. The database and all of its parts are stored in a simple file on your computer. This file can even be copied to another computer and used, without problem.

The first program (Program 102: Create a Database) creates a new sample database file and tables. The tables are represented by the Entity Relationship Diagram (ERD) as shown in Illustration 34.
# delete old database and create a database with two tables
errors = 0
file$ = "pets.sqlite3"
if exists(file$) then kill(file$)
dbopen file$

stmt$ =  "CREATE TABLE owner (owner_id INTEGER, ownername TEXT, phonenumber TEXT, PRIMARY KEY (owner_id));"
gosub execute

stmt$ =  "CREATE TABLE pet (pet_id INTEGER, owner_id INTEGER, petname TEXT, type TEXT, PRIMARY KEY (pet_id), FOREIGN KEY (owner_id) REFERENCES owner (owner_id));"
gosub execute

# wrap everything up
dbclose
Program 102: Create a Database

CREATE TABLE owner (owner_id INTEGER, ownername TEXT, phonenum TEXT, PRIMARY KEY (owner_id));
CREATE TABLE pet (pet_id INTEGER, owner_id INTEGER, petname TEXT, type TEXT, PRIMARY KEY (pet_id),
FOREIGN KEY (owner_id) REFERENCES owner (owner_id));
pets.sqlite3 created. 0 errors.

Sample Output 102: Create a Database

So far you have seen three new database statements: dbopen - will open a database file and create it if it does not exist, 
dbexecute - will execute an SQL statement on the open database, and dbclose - closes the open database file.
**New Concept**

**dbopen** filename

Open an SQLite database file. If the database does not exist then create a new empty database file.

**dbexecute** sqlstatement

Perform the SQL statement on the currently open SQLite database file. No value will be returned but a trappable runtime error will occur if there were any problems executing the statement on the database.

**dbclose**

Close the currently open SQLite database file. This statement insures that all data is written out to the database file.

These same three statements can also be used to execute other SQL statements. The INSERT INTO statement (Program 103) adds new rows of data to the tables and the UPDATE statement (Program 104) will change an existing row's information.

```plaintext
1  # add rows to the database
2
```

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file$ = "pets.sqlite3"

dbopen file$

owner_id = 0
pet_id = 0

ownername$ = "Jim": phonenumber$ = "555-3434"
gosub addowner
petname$ = "Spot": type$ = "Cat"
gosub addpet
petname$ = "Fred": type$ = "Cat"
gosub addpet
petname$ = "Elvis": type$ = "Cat"
gosub addpet

ownername$ = "Sue": phonenumber$ = "555-8764"
gosub addowner
petname$ = "Alfred": type$ = "Cat"
gosub addpet
petname$ = "Fido": type$ = "Dog"
gosub addpet

ownername$ = "Amy": phonenumber$ = "555-9932"
gosub addowner
petname$ = "Bones": type$ = "Dog"
gosub addpet

ownername$ = "Dee": phonenumber$ = "555-4433"
gosub addowner
petname$ = "Sam": type$ = "Goat"
gosub addpet

# wrap everything up
dbclose
derned

addowner:
Program 103: Insert Rows into Database

```
INSERT INTO owner (owner_id, ownername, phonenumber) VALUES (1,"Jim","555-3434");
INSERT INTO pet (pet_id, owner_id, petname, type) VALUES (1,1,"Spot","Cat");
INSERT INTO pet (pet_id, owner_id, petname, type) VALUES (2,1,"Fred","Cat");
```

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VALUES (3,1,"Elvis","Cat");
INSERT INTO owner (owner_id, ownername, phonenumber) VALUES (2,"Sue","555-8764");
INSERT INTO pet (pet_id, owner_id, petname, type) VALUES (4,2,"Alfred","Cat");
INSERT INTO pet (pet_id, owner_id, petname, type) VALUES (5,2,"Fido","Dog");
INSERT INTO owner (owner_id, ownername, phonenumber) VALUES (3,"Amy","555-9932");
INSERT INTO pet (pet_id, owner_id, petname, type) VALUES (6,3,"Bones","Dog");
INSERT INTO owner (owner_id, ownername, phonenumber) VALUES (4,"Dee","555-4433");
INSERT INTO pet (pet_id, owner_id, petname, type) VALUES (7,4,"Sam","Goat");

Sample Output 103: Insert Rows into Database

```sql
# update a database row
dbopen "pets.sqlite3"

# create and populate
s$ = "UPDATE owner SET phonenumber = " + chr(34) + "555-5555" + chr(34) + " where owner_id = 1;"
print s$
dbexecute s$
dbclose
```

Program 104: Update Row in a Database

```
UPDATE owner SET phonenumber = "555-5555" where owner_id = 1;
```

Sample Output 104: Update Row in a Database
Retrieving Information from a Database:

So far we have seen how to open, close, and execute a SQL statement that does not return any values. A database would be pretty useless if we could not get information out of it.

The SELECT statement, in the SQL language, allows us to retrieve the desired data. After a SELECT is executed a "record set" is created that contains the rows and columns of data that was extracted from the database. Program 105 shows three different SELECT statements and how the data is read into your BASIC-256 program.

```basic
# Get data from the pets database
1    dbopen "pets.sqlite3"
2
4    # show owners and their phone numbers
5    print "Owners and Phone Numbers"
6    dbopenset "SELECT ownername, phonenumber FROM owner ORDER BY ownername;"
7    while dbrow()
8        print dbstring(0) + " " + dbstring(1)
9    end while
10   dbcloseset
11
14   # show owners and their pets
15   print "Owners with Pets"
16   dbopenset "SELECT owner.ownername, pet.pet_id, pet.petname, pet.type FROM owner JOIN pet ON pet.owner_id = owner.owner_id ORDER BY
```
ownername, petname;"
while dbrow()
    print dbstring(0) + " " + dbint(1) + " " + dbstring(2) + " " + dbstring(3)
end while
dbcloseset

print

# show average number of pets
print "Average Number of Pets"
dbopenset "SELECT AVG(c) FROM (SELECT COUNT(*) AS c FROM owner JOIN pet ON pet.owner_id = owner.owner_id GROUP BY owner.owner_id) AS numpets;"
while dbrow()
    print dbfloat(0)
end while
dbcloseset

# wrap everything up
dbclose

Program 105: Selecting Sets of Data from a Database

Owners and Phone Numbers
Amy 555-9932
Dee 555-4433
Jim 555-5555
Sue 555-8764

Owners with Pets
Amy 6 Bones Dog
Dee 7 Sam Goat
Jim 3 Elvis Cat
Jim 2 Fred Cat
New Concept

**dbopenset sqlstatement**

Execute a SELECT statement on the database and create a “record set” to allow the program to read in the result. The “record set” may contain 0 or more rows as extracted by the SELECT.

New Concept

**dbrow or dbrow ()**

Function to advance the result of the last **dbopenset** to the next row. Returns false if we are at the end of the selected data.

You need to advance to the first row, using **dbrow**, after a **dbopenset** statement before you can read any data.
dbint ( column )
dbfloat ( column )
dbstring ( column )

These functions will return data from the current row of the record set. You must know the zero based numeric column number of the desired data.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Function</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>dbint</td>
<td>Return the cell data as an integer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dbfloat</td>
<td>Return the cell data as a floating point number.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dbstring</td>
<td>Return the cell data as a string.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

dbcloseset

Close and discard the results of the last dbopenset statement.
Chapter 20: Connecting with a Network

This chapter discusses how to use the BASIC-256 networking statements. Networking in BASIC-256 will allow for a simple “socket” connection using TCP (Transmission Control Protocol). This chapter is not meant to be a full introduction to TCP/IP socket programming.

Socket Connection:

TCP stream sockets create a connection between two computers or programs. Packets of information may be sent and received in a bi-directional (or two way) manner over the connection.

To start a connection we need one computer or program to act as a server (to wait for the incoming telephone call) and the other to be a client (to make the telephone call). Illustration 35 shows graphically how a stream connection is made.

![Illustration 35: Socket Communication](image-url)
Just like with a telephone call, the person making the call (client) needs to know the phone number of the person they are calling (server). We call that number an IP address. BASIC-256 uses IP version 4 addresses that are usually expressed as four numbers separated by periods (999.999.999.999).

In addition to having the IP address for the server, the client and server must also talk to each-other over a port. You can think of the port as a telephone extension in a large company. A person is assigned an extension (port) to answer (server) and if you want to talk to that person you (client) call that extension.

The port number may be between 0 and 65535 but various Internet and other applications have been reserved ports in the range of 0-1023. It is recommended that you avoid using these ports.

**A Simple Server and Client:**

```kbs
# simple_server.kbs
print "listening to port 9999 on " + netaddress()
NetListen 9999
NetWrite "The simple server sent this message."
NetClose
```

*Program 106: Simple Network Server*
# simple_client.kbs
input "What is the address of the simple_server?", addr$
if addr$ = "" then addr$ = "127.0.0.1"
#
NetConnect addr$, 9999
print NetRead
NetClose

Program 107: Simple Network Client

listening to port 9999 on xx.xx.xx.xx

Sample Output 106: Simple Network Server

What is the address of the simple_server?
The simple server sent this message.

Sample Output 107: Simple Network Client

New Concept

netaddress
netaddress ()
Function that returns a string containing the numeric IPv4 network address for this machine.
### netlisten

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>netlisten portnumber</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>netlisten ( portnumber )</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>netlisten socketnumber, portnumber</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>netlisten ( socketnumber, portnumber )</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Open up a network connection (server) on a specific port address and wait for another program to connect. If `socketnumber` is not specified socket number zero (0) will be used.

### netclose

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>netclose</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>netclose ( )</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>netclose socketnumber</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>netclose ( socketnumber )</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Close the specified network connection (socket). If `socketnumber` is not specified socket number zero (0) will be closed.

### netwrite

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>netwrite string</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>netwrite ( string )</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>netwrite socketnumber, string</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>netwrite ( socketnumber, string )</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Send a string to the specified open network connection. If `socketnumber` is not specified socket number zero (0) will be written to.
Chapter 20: Connecting with a Network

**New Concept**

```plaintext
netconnect servername, portnumber
netconnect ( servername, portnumber )
netconnect socketnumber, servername, portnumber
netconnect ( socketnumber, servername, portnumber )
```

Open a network connection (client) to a server. The IP address or host name of a server are specified in the `servername` argument, and the specific network port number. If `socketnumber` is not specified socket number zero (0) will be used for the connection.

```plaintext
netread
netread ( )
netread ( socketnumber )
```

Read data from the specified network connection and return it as a string. This function is blocking (it will wait until data is received). If `socketnumber` is not specified socket number zero (0) will be read from.

**Network Chat:**

This example adds one new function (**netdata**) to the networking statements we have already introduced. Use of this new function will allow our network clients to process other events, like keystrokes, and then read network data only when there is data to be read.

The network chat program (Program 108) combines the client and server program into one. If you start the application and it is unable
to connect to a server the error is trapped and the program then becomes a server. This is one of many possible methods to allow a single program to fill both roles.

```cpp
# chat.kbs
# uses port 9999 for server

input "Chat to address (return for server or local host)?", addr$
if addr$ = "" then addr$ = "127.0.0.1"
#
# try to connect to server - if there is not one become one
OnError startserver
NetConnect addr$, 9999
OffError
print "connected to server"

chatloop:
while true
    # get key pressed and send it
    k = key
    if k <> 0 then
        gosub show
        netwrite string(k)
    end if
    # get key from network and show it
    if NetData() then
        k = int(NetRead())
        gosub show
    end if
    pause .01
end while
end
```

if k=16777220 then
    print
else
    print chr(k);
end if
return
startserver:
OffError
print "starting server - waiting for chat client"
NetListen 9999
print "client connected"
goto chatloop
return

Program 108: Network Chat

The following is observed when the user on the client types the message “HI SERVER” and then the user on the server types “HI CLIENT”.

Chat to address (return for server or local host)?
starting server - waiting for chat client
client connected
HI SERVER
HI CLIENT

Sample Output 108.1: Network Chat (Server)
Chat to address (return for server or local host)?
connected to server
HI SERVER
HI CLIENT

Sample Output 108.2: Network Chat (Client)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>New Concept</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>netdata or netdata()</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Returns true if there is network data waiting to be read. This allows for the program to continue operations without waiting for a network packet to arrive.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Big Program</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The big program this chapter creates a two player networked tank battle game. Each player is the white tank on their screen and the other player is the black tank. Use the arrow keys to rotate and move. Shoot with the space bar.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

```python
# battle.kbs
# uses port 9998 for server

kspace = 32
kleft = 16777234
kright = 16777236
kup = 16777235
kdown = 16777237
dr = pi / 16  # direction change
```
Chapter 20: Connecting with a Network

10  dxy = 2.5 # move speed
11  scale = 20   # tank size
12  shotscale = 4 # shot size
13  shotdxy = 5 # shot move speed
14  port = 9998 # port to communicate on
15
16  dim tank(30)
17  tank = {-1,-.66, -.66, -.66, -.66, -.33, -.33, -.33, 0, -1, .33, -.33, .66, -.33, .66, -.66, 1, -.66, 1, 1, .66, 1, .66, .66, -.66, .66, -.66, 1, -1, 1}
18  dim shot(14)
19  shot = {0, -1, .5, -.5, .25, 0, .5, .75, -.25, .75, -.25, 0, -.5, -.5}
20
21  print "Tank Battle - You are the white tank."
22  print "Your mission is to shoot and kill the"  
23  print "black one. Use arrows to move and"
24  print "space to shoot."
25  print
26  input "Address (return for server or local host)?", addr$
27  if addr$ = "" then addr$ = "127.0.0.1"
28
29  # try to connect to server - if there is not one become one
30  OnError startserver
31  NetConnect addr$, port
32  OffError
33  print "connected to server"
34
35  playgame:
36
37  myx = 100
38  myy = 100
39  myr = 0
40  mpx = 0 # projectile position direction and
remaining length (no shot when mypl=0)
41  mypy = 0
42  mypr = 0
43  mypl = 0
44  yourx = 200
45  youry = 200
46  yourr = pi
47  yourpx = 0  # projectile position direction and remaining length
48  yourpy = 0
49  yourpr = 0
50  yourpl = 0
51  gosub writeposition
52
53  fastgraphics
54  while true
55      # get key pressed and move tank on the screen
56      k = key
57      if k <> 0 then
58          if k = kup then
59              myx = myx + sin(myr) * dxy
60              myy = myy - cos(myr) * dxy
61          end if
62          if k = kdown then
63              myx = myx - sin(myr) * dxy
64              myy = myy + cos(myr) * dxy
65          end if
66          if k = kspace then
67              mypr = myr
68              mypx = myx + sin(mypr) * scale
69              mypy = myy - cos(mypr) * scale
70              mypl = 100
71          end if
72      if myx < scale then myx = graphwidth - scale
73          if myx > graphwidth-scale then myx =
scale
74    if myy < scale then myy = graphheight - scale
75    if myy > graphheight-scale then myy = scale
76    if k = kleft then myr = myr - dr
77    if k = kright then myr = myr + dr
78    gosub writeposition
79  end if
80  # move my projectile (if there is one)
81  if mypl > 0 then
82    mypx = mypx + sin(mypr) * shotdxy
83    mypy = mypy - cos(mypr) * shotdxy
84    if mypx < shotscale then mypx = graphwidth - shotscale
85    if mypx > graphwidth-shotscale then mypx = shotscale
86    if mypy < shotscale then mypy = graphheight - shotscale
87    if mypy > graphheight-shotscale then mypy = shotscale
88    if (mypx-yourx)^2 + (mypy-youry)^2 < scale^2 then
89      NetWrite "!
90      print "You killed your opponent. Game over."
91      end
92  end if
93  mypl = mypl - 1
94  gosub writeposition
95  end if
96  # get position from network
97  gosub getposition
98  #
99  gosub draw
100  #
101  pause .1
102 end while
103
104 writeposition: ###
105 # 10 char for x, 10 char for y, 10 char for r (rotation)
106 position$ = left(myx + "
    ",10)+left(myy + "
    ",10)+left(myr + "
    ",10)+left(mpx + "
    ",10)+left(mpy + "
    ",10)+left(mypr + "
    ",10)+left(mypl + "
    ",10)
107 NetWrite position$
108 return
109
110 getposition: ###
111 # get position from network and set variables for the opponent
112 while NetData()
113     position$ = NetRead()
114     if position$ = "!" then
115         print "You Died. - Game Over"
116     end
117     end if
118     yourx = 300 - float(mid(position$,1,10))
119     youry = 300 - float(mid(position$,11,10))
120     yourr = pi + float(mid(position$,21,10))
121     yourpx = 300 - float(mid(position$,31,10))
122     yourpy = 300 - float(mid(position$,41,10))
123     yourpr = pi + float(mid(position$,51,10))
124     yourpl = pi + float(mid(position$,61,10))
125 end while
126 return
127
128 draw: ###
129 clg
130 color green
131 rect 0,0,graphwidth,graphheight
132 color white
133 stamp myx, myy, scale, myr, tank
134 if mypl > 0 then
135     stamp mypx, mypy, shotscale, mypr, shot
136 end if
137 color black
138 stamp yourx, youry, scale, yourr, tank
139 if yourpl > 0 then
140     color red
141     stamp yourpx, yourpy, shotscale, yourpr, shot
142 end if
143 refresh
144 return
145
146 startserver:
147 OffError
148 print "starting server - waiting for chat client"
149 NetListen port
150 print "client connected"
151 goto playgame
152 return

Program 109: Network Tank Battle
Appendix A: Loading BASIC-256 on your PC or USB Pen Drive

This chapter will walk you step by step through downloading and installing BASIC-256 on your Microsoft Windows PC. The instructions are written for Windows XP with Firefox 3.x as your Web browser. Your specific configuration and installation may be different but the general steps should be similar.

1 - Download:

Connect to the Internet and navigate to the Web site http://www.basic256.org and follow the download link. Once you are at the Sourceforge project page click on the green “Download Now!” button (Illustration 36) to start the download process.
Appendix A: Loading BASIC-256 on your PC or USB Pen Drive

The download process may ask you what you want to do with the file. Click the “Save File” button (Illustration 37).

Firefox should display the “Downloads” window and actually

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download the BASIC-256 installer. When it is finished it should look like Illustration 38. Do not close this window quite yet, you will need it to start the Installation.

*Illustration 38: File Downloaded*
2 - Installing:

Once the file has finished downloading (Illustration 38) use your mouse and click on the file from the download list. You will then see one or two dialogs asking if you really want to execute this file (Illustration 39) (Illustration 40). You need to click the “OK” or “Run” buttons on these dialogs.

Illustration 39: Open File Warning
After the security warnings are cleared you will see the actual BASIC-256 Installer application. Click the “Next>” button on the first screen (Illustration 41).
Appendix A: Loading BASIC-256 on your PC or USB Pen Drive

Illustration 41: Installer - Welcome Screen

Read and agree to the GNU GPL software license and click on “I Agree” (Illustration 42). The GNU GPL license is one of the most commonly used “Open Source” and “Free” license to software. You have the right to use, give away, and modify the programs released under the GPL. This license only relates to the BASIC-256 software and not the contents of this book.
The next Installer screen asks you what you want to install (Illustration 43). If you are installing BASIC-256 to a USB or other type of removable drive then it is suggested that you un-check the “Start Menu Shortcuts”. For most users who are installing to a hard drive, should do a complete install. Click “Next>“.
Appendix A: Loading BASIC-256 on your PC or USB Pen Drive

Illustration 43: Installer - What to Install

Illustration 44 shows the last screen before the install begins. This screen asks you what folder to install the BASIC-256 executable files into. If you are installing to your hard drive then you should accept the default path.

Illustration 44: Installer - Where to Install
The installation is complete when you see this screen (Illustration 45). Click “Close”.

3 - Starting BASIC-256

The installation is complete. You may now click on the Windows “Start” button and then “All Programs >” (Illustration 46).
You will then see a menu for BASIC-256. You may open the program by clicking on it, uninstall it, or view the documentation from this menu (Illustration 47).

Illustration 47: BASIC-256 Menu from All Programs
Appendix B: Language Reference - Statements

Chapter number where this statement is introduced is shown in parentheses.

circle - Draw a Circle on the Graphics Output Area (2)

circle \( x, y, \text{radius} \)

The circle command draws a filled circle on the graphics output area. The center of the circle is defined by the \( x \) and \( y \) parameters and the size is defined as \( \text{radius} \).

Example:

circle\( x, y, \text{radius} \)

color 255,128,128
circle 150,150,150
color red
circle 150,150,100

changedir - Change Your Current Working Directory (16)

changedir \( \text{path} \)

The \texttt{changedir} command allows you to change the current working directory for your application. When you specify a file without a full path (in \texttt{imgload}, \texttt{open}, \texttt{spriteload}, or other statement that requests a file name) the application uses this directory. You can
check your currently set path using the `currentdir` function.

**clg - Clear Graphics Output Area (2)**

```plaintext
clg
```

This command clears the graphics output area. The graphics output area is not cleared automatically when an program is run. This will sometimes leave undesired graphics visible. If you are using graphics it is advised that you always clear the output window, first.

**clickclear - Clear the Last Mouse Click (10)**

```plaintext
clickclear
```

When the mouse is being read in click mode the x position, y position, and button click information are stored when the mouse button is clicked. These values can be retrieved with the `clickx()`, `clicky()`, and `clickb()` functions. The stored values can be reset to zero (0) using `clickclear`.

**close - Close the Currently Open File (16)**

```plaintext
close

close()

close filenumber

close (filenumber)
```

Closes open file. This will flush any pending disk output. If file number parameter is not specified then file number zero (0) will be used.
Appendix B: Language Reference - Statements

**cls - Clear Text Output Window (1)**

```plaintext
cls
```

This command clears the Text Output window. The Text Output window is automatically cleared when a program is run.

**color or colour- Set Color for Drawing (2)**

```plaintext
color colorname
color rgbvalue
color red, green, blue
```

Sets the foreground color for all graphical commands. The color may be specified by the color name (see Appendix E), an integer representing the RGB value, or by three numbers representing the RGB value as separate component colors.

A special color named CLEAR or represented by -1 tells the drawing commands to erase the pixels from the drawing and make them transparent.

Example:

```plaintext
clg
color black
rect 100,100,100,100
color 255,128,128
circle 150,150,75
```

**dbclose (19)**

```plaintext
dbclose
```

Close the currently open SQLite database file.
**dbcloseset (19)**

```
dbcloseset
```

Close the currently open record set opened by **DBOpenSet**.

**dbexecute (19)**

```
dbexecute statement
dbexecute ( statement )
```

Execute an SQL statement on the open SQLite database file. This statement does not create a record set but will return an error if the statement did not execute.

**dbopen (19)**

```
dbopen filename
dbopen ( filename )
```

Open an SQLite database file. If the file does not exist then create it.

**dbopenset (19)**

```
dbopenset statement
dbopenset ( statement )
```

Perform an SQL statement and create a record set so that the program may loop through and use the results.
**decimal ()**

```
    decimal n
    decimal ( n )
```

Description...

**dim - Dimension a New Array (13)**

```
    dim variable(items)
    dim variable$(items)
    dim variable(rows, columns)
    dim variable$(rows, columns)
```

The `dim` statement creates an array in the computer's memory the size that was specified in the parenthesis. Sizes (`items`, `rows`, and `columns`) must be integer values greater than or equal to one (1). The `dim` statement will initialize the elements in the new array with either zero (0) if numeric or the empty string (""), depending on the type of variable.

**do / until - Do / Until Loop (7)**

```
    do
        statement(s)
    until condition
```

Repeat the statements in the block over and over again. Stop repeating when the condition is true. The statements will be executed one or more times.
end - Stop Running the Program (9)

```plaintext
end
```

Terminates the program (stop).

fastgraphics - Turn Fast Graphics Mode On (8)

```plaintext
fastgraphics
```

The `fastgraphics` statement will switch BASIC-256 into fast graphics mode. In this mode the graphics output area is only refreshed (drawn), when the program requests. This speeds up graphically intense programs. The `refresh` statement signals that draw process. Once fast graphics mode is entered in a program you may not return to the default slow graphics.

font - Set Font, Size, and Weight (8)

```plaintext
font fontname, point, weight
```

The `font` command sets the font that will be used by the next `text` command. You must specify the name of the font or font family, the point size, and the weight.

Each computer may have several different fonts available but "Helvetica", "Times", "Courier", "System", "Symbol" should be available on most computers. The point size represents how tall the letters will be drawn. Weight is used to specify how dark the letters will be drawn (25-light, 50-normal, 63-demi bold, 75-bold, 100-black).

Example:
clg
color black
n = 5
dim fonts$(n)
fonts$ = {"Helvetcia", "Times", "Courier", "System", "Symbol"}
for t = 0 to n-1
    font fonts$[t], 32, 50
text 10, t*50, fonts$[t]
ext t

for/next - Loop and Count (7)

for variable = expr1 to expr2 [step expr3]
    statement(s)
ext variable

Execute a block of code a specified number of times. The variable will begin with the value of expr1 and be incremented and the looping will continue until the variable is greater than expr2. If the step clause is included in the statement the increment will be expr3 and not the default value of one (1).

goto - Jump to a Label (9)

goto label

The goto statement causes the execution to jump to the statement directly following the label.
gosub/return - Jump to a Subroutine and Return

The `gosub` statement causes the execution to jump to the subroutine defined by the label. Execute the `return` statement within a subroutine to send control back to where it was called from.

`gosub` label
`return`

Graphsize - Set Graphic Display Size

Set the graphics output area to the specified `height` and `width`.

if then - Test if Something is True - Single Line

If the condition evaluates to true then execute the statement following the `then` clause.

if condition then statement

if then / end if - Test if Something is True - Multiple Line

The `if` and `end if` statements allow you to create a block of
programming code to execute when a condition is true. It is often customary to indent the statements within the if/end if statements so they are not confusing to read.

if then / else / end if - Test if Something is True - Multiple Line with Else (6)

```plaintext
if condition then
  statement(s) to execute when true
else
  statement(s) to execute when false
end if
```

The if, else, and end if statements allow you to define two blocks of programming code. The first block, after the then clause, executes if the condition is true and the second block, after the else clause, will execute when the condition is false.

imgload - Load an image from a file and display (12)

```plaintext
imgload x, y, filename
imgload x, y, scale, filename
imgload x, y, scale, rotation, filename
```

Read in the picture found in the file and display it on the graphics output area. The values of x and y represent the location to place the CENTER of the image.

Images may be loaded from many different file formats, including: BMP, PNG, GIF, JPG, and JPEG.

Optionally scale (re-size) it by the decimal scale where 1 is full size.
Also you may also rotate the image clockwise around it's center by specifying how far to rotate as an angle expressed in radians (0 to 2π).

**imgsSave - Save the Graphics Output Area**

```plaintext
imgsSave filename
imgsSave filename, type
imgsSave ( filename )
imgsSave ( filename, type )
```

This statement saves the graphics output area to an image file. By default the image is saved in the Portable Network Graphics (PNG) file format. The second `type` argument, a string, may be specified with one of the following types: “BMP”, “JPG”, “JPEG”, or “PNG”.

**input - Get a String Value from the User (7)**

```plaintext
input “prompt”, stringvariable$
input “prompt”, numericvariable
input stringvariable$
input numericvariable
```

The `input` statement will retrieve a string or a number that the user types into the text output area of the screen. The result will be stored in a variable that may be used later in the program.

A prompt message, if specified, will display on the text output area and the cursor will directly follow the prompt.

If a numeric result is desired (numeric variable specified in the statement) and the user types a string that can not be converted to a number the `input` statement will set the variable to zero (0).
kill - Delete a File ()

```plaintext
kill filename
kill ( filename )
```

Delete a file from the file system

line - Draw a Line on the Graphics Output Area (2)

```plaintext
line start_x, start_y, finish_x, finish_y
```

Draw a line one pixel wide from the starting point to the ending point, using the current color.

netclose (20)

```plaintext
netclose
netclose ( )
netclose socket
netclose ( socket )
```

Close the specified network connection (socket). If socket number is not number zero (0) will be used.

netconnect (20)

```plaintext
netconnect server, port
netconnect ( server, port )
netconnect socket, server, port
netconnect ( socket, server, port )
```
Open a network connection (client) to a server. The IP address or host name of a server are specified in the `server_name` argument, and the specific network port number in the `port_number` argument. If socket number is not specified zero (0) will be used.

**netlisten (20)**

```
netlisten  port
netlisten  ( port )
netlisten  socket, port
netlisten  ( socket, port )
```

Open up a network connection (server) on a specific port address and wait for another program to connect. If socket number is not specified zero (0) will be used.

**netwrite (20)**

```
netwrite  string
netwrite  ( string )
netwrite  socket, string
netwrite  ( socket, string )
```

Send a string to the specified open network connection. If socket number is not specified zero (0) will be used.

**offerror (18)**

```
offerror
```

Turns off error trapping and restores the default error behavior.
onerror (18)

```
onerror label
```

Causes the subroutine at `label` to be executed when an runtime error occurs. Program control may be resumed at the next statement with a `return` statement in the subroutine.

open - Open a file for Reading and Writing (16)

```
open filename
open filenumber, filename
```

Open the file specified for reading and writing. If the file does not exist it will be created so that information may be added (see `write` and `writeline`). Be sure to execute the `close` statement when the program is finished with the file.

BASIC-256 may have up to eight (8) files opened at any one time. The files will be numbered from zero(0) to seven(7). If a file number is not specified then file number zero (0) will be used.

pause - Pause the Program (7)

```
pause seconds
```

The `pause` statement tells BASIC-256 to stop executing the current program for a specified number of seconds. The number of seconds may be a decimal number if a fractional second pause is required.
plot - Put a Point on the Graphics Output Area (2)

plot x, y

Changes a single pixel to the current color.

poly - Draw a Polygon on the Graphics Output Area (8)

poly {x1, y1, x2, y2 ...}
poly numeric_array

Draw a polygon. The array or list should contain an even number of elements so that the each vertex of the polygon is represented by first two values.

portout - Output Data to a System Port

portout ioport, outbyte
portout ( ioport, outbyte )

Writes value (0-255) to system I/O port.

Reading and writing system I/O ports can be dangerous and can cause unpredictable results. This statement may be disabled because of potential system security issues.

Functionality only available in Windows.
print - Display a String on the Text Output Window (1)

print expression
print expression;

The `print` statement is used to display text and numbers on the text output area of the BASIC-256 window. Print normally goes down to the next line but you may output several things on the same line by using a ; (semicolon) at the end of the expression.

putslice - Display a Captured Part of the Graphics Output

putslice x, y, slice
putslice x, y, slice, rgbcolor

This statement will draw the captured slice (see the `getslice` function) back onto the graphics output area. If an RGB color is specified then the slice will be drawn with pixels of that color being omitted (transparent).

rect - Draw a Rectangle on the Graphics Output Area (2)

rect x, y, width, height

The rect command draws a filled rectangle on the graphics output area. The top left corner will be placed at the point (x, y).

Example:
redim - Re-Dimension an Array (12)

```plaintext
redim variable(items)
redim variable$(items)
redim variable(rows, columns)
redim variable$(rows, columns)
```

The **redim** statement re-sizes an array in the computer's memory. Data previously stored in the array will be kept, if it fits.

When resizing two-dimensional arrays the values are copied in a linear manner. Data may be shifted in an unwanted manner if you are changing the number of columns.

refresh - Update Graphics Output Area (8)

```plaintext
refresh
```

In fast graphics mode (see **fastgraphics**) the graphics output area is only refreshed, drawn, when the program requests. This speeds up graphically intense programs. The refresh statement signals that draw process.

rem - Remark or Comment (2)

```plaintext
rem comment text
# comment text
```
Insert remark, also called a comment, into a program. Any text, on a line, following the rem or # will be ignored by BASIC-256. Remarks are used by programmers to place information about what the program does, who wrote or changed it, and how it works.

**reset - Clear an Open File (16)**

```
reset
reset()
reset filenumber
```

Clear any data from an open file and move the file pointer to the beginning.
If file number is not specified then file number zero (0) will be used.

**say - Use Text-To-Speech to Speak (1)**

```
say expression
```

The say statement is used to make BASIC-256 read an expression aloud, to the computer's speakers.

**seek - Move the File I/O Pointer (16)**

```
seek expression
seek (expression)
seek filenumber, expression
seek (filenumber, expression)
```

Move the file pointer for the next read or write operation to a specific location in the file. To move the current pointer to the beginning of the file use the value zero (0). To seek to the end of a file use the size() function as the argument to the seek statement.
If file number parameter is not specified then file number zero (0) will be used.

**setsetting - Save a Value to a Persistent Store**

```plaintext
setsetting program_name, key_name, setting_value
setsetting ( program_name, key_name, setting_value )
```

Save a setting_value to the system registry (or other persistent storage). The `program_name` and `key_name` are used to categorize and to make sure that settings accessed when needed and not accidentally changed by another program.

The saved value will be available to other BASIC-256 programs and should remain available for an extended period.

**spritedim - Initialize Sprites for Drawing (12)**

```plaintext
spritedim numberofsprites
```

The `spritedim` statement initializes, or allocates in memory, places to store the specified number of sprites. Each sprite will need to be loaded (`spriteload`) or created (`spriteslice`) before it may be displayed. You may allocate as many sprites as your program may require but your program may be slow if you create many sprites.

Sprites are drawn on the graphics output area in order by their assigned sprite number. A sprite will be drawn under any sprite with a higher number and over all sprites with a lower number.

Sprites are numbered from zero (0) to one less than the number specified in this command (numberofsprites -1).
**spritehide - Hide a Sprite (12)**

```
spritehide spritenumber
```

This statement will cause the specified sprite to not be drawn on the screen. It will still exist and may be shown using the `spriteshow` statement.

**spriteload - Load an Image File Into a Sprite (12)**

```
spriteload spritenumber, filename
```

This statement reads an image file (GIF, BMP, PNG, JPG, or JPEG) from the specified path and creates a sprite. The sprite must be allocated using the `spritedim` statement before you may load it.

By default the sprite will be placed with its center at 0,0 and it will be hidden. You should move the sprite to the desired position on the screen (`spritemove` or `spriteplace`) and then show it (`spriteshow`).

**spritemove - Move a Sprite from Its Current Location (12)**

```
spritemove spritenumber, dx, dy
```

Move the specified sprite x pixels to the right and y pixels down. Negative numbers can also be specified to move the sprite left and up. A sprite's center will not move beyond the edge of the current graphics output window.

You may use the `spritex` and `spritey` functions to determine the current location of the sprite.
You can move a hidden sprite but it will not be displayed until you show the sprite using the `showsprite` statement.

**spriteplace - Place a Sprite at a Specific Location (12)**

\[ \text{spriteplace} \ spritenumber, \ x, \ y \]

The `spriteplace` statement allows you to place a sprite's center at a specific location on the graphics output area.

**spriteshow - Show a Sprite (12)**

\[ \text{spriteshow} \ spritenumber \]

The `spriteshow` statement causes a loaded, created, or hidden sprite to be displayed on the graphics output area.

**spriteslice - Capture a Sprite (12)**

\[ \text{spriteslice} \ spritenumber, \ x, \ y, \ width, \ height \]

This statement will allow you to create a sprite by copying it from the graphics output area. The arguments \( x, y, width, \) and \( height \) specify a rectangular area to capture and use for the sprite. Pixels that have not been drawn since the last `cls` statement or that were drawn using the color `clear` will be transparent when drawn.

By default the sprite will be placed with its center at 0,0 and it will be hidden. You should move the sprite to the desired position on the screen (`spritemove` or `spriteplace`) and then show it (`spriteshow`).
sound – Play a beep on the PC Speaker (3)

```plaintext
sound  frequency,  duration
sound  {frequency1,  duration1,  frequency2, duration2  ...}
sound  numeric_array
```

The first form of the `sound` statement takes two arguments; (1) the frequency of the sound in Hz (cycles per second) and (2) the length of the tone in milliseconds (ms). The second uses curly braces and can specify several tones and durations in a list. The third form uses an array containing frequencies and durations.

stamp – Put a Polygon Where You Want It (8)

```plaintext
stamp  x,  y,  {x1,  y1,  x2,  y2  ...}
stamp  x,  y,  numeric_array
stamp  x,  y,  scale,  {x1,  y1,  x2,  y2  ...}
stamp  x,  y,  scale,  numeric_array
stamp  x,  y,  scale,  rotate,  {x1,  y1,  x2,  y2  ...}
stamp  x,  y,  scale,  rotate,  numeric_array
```

Draw a polygon with it's origin (0,0) at the screen position (x,y). Optionally scale (re-size) it by the decimal scale where 1 is full size. Also you may also rotate the stamp clockwise around it's origin by specifying how far to rotate as an angle expressed in radians (0 to 2π).

system – Execute System Command in a Shell

```plaintext
system  expression
```

So You Want to Learn to Program? © 2010 James M. Reneau.
Open a command window and execute the operating system command.

**text - Draw text on the Graphics Output Area (8)**

```plaintext
text x, y, output
```

The `text` command will draw characters on the graphics output area. The `x` and `y` arguments represent the top left corner and will draw the text with the current color and font.

Example:

```plaintext
clg
font "Helvetica", 32, 50
color red
text 100, 100, "Hi Mom."
```

**volume - Adjust Amplitude of Sound Statement**

```plaintext
volume expression
```

Adjust the height of the waveform generated by the sound statement.

**wavplay - Play a WAV audio file in the background (12)**

```plaintext
wavplay filename
```

Load .wav (wave) audio file data from the file name and play. The playback will be synchronous and the next statement in the
program will begin immediately as soon as the audio begins playing.

**wavstop - Stop playing WAV audio file (12)**

```plaintext
wavstop
```

If there is a currently playing audio file (see `wavplay`) then stop the synchronous playback.

**wavwait - Wait for the WAV to finish (12)**

```plaintext
wavwait
```

If there is a currently playing audio file (see `wavplay`) then wait for it to finish playing.

**while / end while - While Loop (7)**

```plaintext
while condition
    statement(s)
end while
```

Do the statements in the block over and over again while the condition is true. The statements will be executed zero or more times.

**write - Write Data to the Currently Open File (16)**

```plaintext
write expression
write (expression)
```
write filenumber, expression
write (filenumber, expression)

Write the string expression to an open file. Do not add an end of line or a delimiter.

If file number parameter is not specified then file number zero (0) will be used.

writeline – Write a Line to the Currently Open File (16)

writeline expression
writeline (expression)
writeline filenumber, expression
writeline (filenumber, expression)

Output the contents of the expression to an open file and then append an end of line mark to the data. The file pointer will be positioned at the end of the write so that the next write statement will directly follow.

If file number parameter is not specified then file number zero (0) will be used.
Appendix C: Language Reference - Functions

Functions perform calculations, get system values, and return them to the program.

Each function will return a value of a specific type (integer, Boolean, floating point, or string) and potentially a specific range of values. Chapter number where this function is introduced is shown in parentheses.

abs - Absolute Value (14)

`abs(expression)`

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Argument(s):</th>
<th>Name:</th>
<th>Type:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>expression</td>
<td></td>
<td>floating point</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This function returns the absolute value of the expression or numeric value passed to it.

Example:

```python
a = -3
print string(a) + " " + string(abs(a))
```

will display the following on the text output area
acos - Return the Arc-cosine (14)

acos(expression)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Argument(s):</th>
<th>Name:</th>
<th>Type:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>expression</td>
<td>expression</td>
<td>floating point</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Return Value Type: floating point

Return Value Range: 0 to $\pi$

The inverse cosine function $\text{acos}()$ will return an angle measurement in radians for the specified cosine value.

asc - Return the Unicode Value for a Character (11)

asc(expression)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Argument(s):</th>
<th>Name:</th>
<th>Type:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>expression</td>
<td>expression</td>
<td>string</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Return Value Type: integer

Return Value Range: 0 to 65535

The asc() function will extract the first character of the string $expression$ and return the character's Unicode value.
Example:

```python
# English
print asc("A")
# Russian
print asc("Ы")
```

will display:

```
65
1067
```

**asin - Return the Arc-sine**

Asin is a function that returns the angle measurement in radians for the specified sine value. It takes a single argument:

**asin**(_expression_)

- **Argument(s):** _expression_, floating point
- **Return Value Type:** floating point
- **Return Value Range:** $-\frac{\pi}{2}$ to $\frac{\pi}{2}$

The inverse sine function asin() will return an angle measurement in radians for the specified sine value.

**atan - Return the Arc-tangent**

Atan is a function that returns the angle measurement in radians for the specified tangent value. It takes a single argument:

**atan**(_expression_)

So You Want to Learn to Program? © 2010 James M. Reneau.
The inverse tangent function $atan()$ will return an angle measurement in radians for the specified tangent value.

**ceil - Round Up (14)**

$ceil(expression)$

This function returns an equal or next highest integer value. This method will round up if necessary.

Example:

```
a = ceil(-3.14)
b = ceil(7)
print a
print b
print ceil(9.2)
```
will display the following on the text output area

| -3 |
|  7 |
| 10 |

**chr - Return a Character (11)**

```python
chr(expression)
```

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Argument(s):</th>
<th>Name:</th>
<th>Type:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>expression</td>
<td>expression</td>
<td>integer</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Return Value Type: | string |

The `chr()` function will return a single character string that contains the letter or character that corresponds to the Unicode value in the `expression`.

Example:

```python
print chr(34) + "In quotes." + chr(34)
```

will display:

"In quotes."

**clickb- Return the Mouse Last Click Button Status (10)**

`clickb`
clickb()

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Return Value Type:</th>
<th>integer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Return Value Range:</td>
<td>0 to 7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Returns the state of the last mouse button or combination of buttons that was pressed. If multiple buttons were being pressed at a single time then the returned value will be sum of the button values that were pressed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Button Value</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>Returns this value when no mouse button has been pressed, since the last <code>clickclear</code> statement.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Returns this value when the “left” mouse button was pressed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Returns this value when the “right” mouse button was pressed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Returns this value when the “center” mouse button was pressed.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**clickx- Return the Mouse Last Click X Position**

(10)

**clickx()

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Return Value Type:</th>
<th>integer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
Returns the x coordinate of the mouse pointer position on the graphics output window when the mouse button was last clicked.

**clicky** - Return the Mouse Last Click Y Position (10)

clicky
clicky()

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Return Value Type:</th>
<th>integer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Return Value Range:</td>
<td>0 to graphheight() - 1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Returns the y coordinate of the mouse pointer position on the graphics output window when the mouse button was last clicked.

**cos** - Cosine (14)

cos(expression)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Argument(s):</th>
<th>Name:</th>
<th>Type:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>expression</td>
<td>expression</td>
<td>floating point</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Return Value Type:</td>
<td>floating point</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Return Value Range:</td>
<td>-1.0 to 1.0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
This function returns the cosine of the expression. The angle should be represented in radians. The result is approximate and may not exactly match expected results.

Example:

```python
a = cos(pi/3)
print a
```

will display the following

```
0.5
```

**currentdir** - Current Working Directory (16)

```python
currentdir
```

**Return Value**

Type: string

This function returns a string containing the full path of the application's working directory.

**day** - Return the Current System Clock - Day (9)

```python
day()
```

**Return Value**

Type: integer

Return Value: 1 to 31
Appendix C: Language Reference - Functions

**Range:**

This function returns the current day of the month from the current system clock. It returns the day number from 1 to 28, 29, 30, or 31.

Example:

```
print day
```

On 8/23/2010 it will display the following

```
23
```

**dbfloat - Get a Floating Point Value From a Database Set (19)**

```
dbfloat(column)
```

- **Argument(s):**
  - Name: column
  - Type: integer

- **Return Value Type:** floating point

Return a floating point (decimal value) from the specified column of the current row of the open recordset.

**dbint - Get an Integer Value From a Database Set (19)**

```
dbint(column)
```
Argument(s): | Name: | Type:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>column</td>
<td>integer</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Return Value Type: integer

Return an integer (whole number) from the specified column of the current row of the open recordset.

**dbrow – Advance Database Set to Next Row (19)**

dbrow

dbrow()

Return Value Type: boolean

Function that advances the record set to the next row. Returns a true value if there is a row or false if we are at the end of the record set.

**dbstring – Get a String Value From a Database Set (19)**

dbstring(column)

Argument(s): | Name: | Type:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>column</td>
<td>integer</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Return Value Type: string

Return a string from the specified column of the current row of the
open recordset.

**degrees - Convert a Radian Value to a Degree Value (14)**

degrees(expression)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Argument(s):</th>
<th>Name:</th>
<th>Type:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>expression</td>
<td>expression</td>
<td>floating point</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Return Value Type: floating point

The degrees() function does the quick mathematical calculation to convert an angle in radians to an angle in degrees. The formula used is \( \text{degrees} = \frac{\text{radians}}{2\pi} \times 360 \).

**eof - Allow Program to Check for End Of File Condition (16)**

eof

eof()
eof(filenumber)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Return Value Type:</th>
<th>Boolean</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Return Value Range:</th>
<th>true or false</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Returns a Boolean true if the open file pointer is at the end of the file. If file number parameter is not specified then file number zero (0) will be used.
exists - Check to See if a File Exists (16)

exists(filename)
exists filename

Argument(s): Name: Type:
filename string

Return Value Type: Boolean

Return Value Range: true or false

Returns a Boolean value of true if the file exists and false if it does not exist.

Example:

if not exists(“myfile.dat”) then goto fileerror

float - Convert a String Value to A Float Value (14)

float(expression)

Argument(s): Name: Type:
expression string or integer

Return Value Type: floating point
Returns a floating point number from either a string or an integer value. If the expression can not be converted to a floating point number the function returns a zero (0).

Example:

```
a$ = “1.234”
b = float(a$)
print a$
print b
```

will display:

```
1.234
1.234
```

**floor – Round Down (14)**

**floor(expression)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Argument(s):</th>
<th>Name:</th>
<th>Type:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>expression</td>
<td>expression</td>
<td>floating point</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Return Value Type:</th>
<th>Type:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>integer</td>
<td>integer</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This function returns an equal or next lowest integer value. This method will round down if necessary.

Example:

```
a = floor(-3.14)
b = floor(7)
print a
print b
print floor(9.2)
```
Appendix C: Language Reference - Functions

getcolor - Return the Current Drawing Color

getcolor
getcolor()

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Return Value Type:</th>
<th>integer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Return Value Range:</td>
<td>0 to 16777215 or -1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Returns the RGB value of the current drawing color (set by the color statement). If the color has been set to CLEAR then this function will return a value of -1.

getsetting - Get a Value from the Persistent Store

getsetting ( program_name, key_name )

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Argument(s):</th>
<th>Name:</th>
<th>Type:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>program_name</td>
<td>string</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>key_name</td>
<td>string</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Return Value Type:</td>
<td>string</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

will display:

```
-4
7
9
```
Get a saved value from the system registry (or other persistent storage). The *program_name* and *key_name* are used to categorize and to make sure that settings accessed when needed and not accidentally changed by another program.

If a value does not exist the empty string “” will be returned.

**getslice - Capture Part of the Graphics Output**

```
getslice(x, y, width, height)
```

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Argument(s):</th>
<th>Name:</th>
<th>Type:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>x</td>
<td>integer</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>y</td>
<td>integer</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>width</td>
<td>integer</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>height</td>
<td>integer</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Return Value Type:** string

This function returns a string of hexadecimal digits that represent the pixels in the rectangle specified in the parameters. The slice can then be placed back on the screen at it's original location or a new location with the *putslice* statement.

**graphheight - Return the Height of the Graphic Display (8)**

```
graphheight
graphheight()
```
The `graphheight()` function will return the height, in pixels, of the current graphics output area.

### `graphwidth` - Return the Width of the Graphic Display (8)

```plaintext
graphwidth
graphwidth()
```

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Return Value Type:</th>
<th>integer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Return Value Range:</td>
<td>0 to ...</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The `graphwidth()` function will return the width, in pixels, of the current graphics output area.

### `hour` - Return the Current System Clock - Hour (9)

```plaintext
hour
hour()
```

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Return Value Type:</th>
<th>integer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Return Value</td>
<td>0 to 23</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Range:**

This function returns the hour part of the current system clock. It returns the hour number from 0 to 23. Midnight is represented by 0, AM times are represented by 0-11, Noon is represented as 12, and Afternoon (PM) hours are 12-23. This type of hour numbering is known as military time or 24 hour time.

Example:

```
print hour
```

will display at 3:27PM:

```
15
```

**instr - Return Position of One String in Another (15)**

```
instr(haystack, needle)
```

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Argument(s):</th>
<th>Name:</th>
<th>Type:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>needle</td>
<td>string</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>haystack</td>
<td>string</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Return Value Type:**

integer

**Return Value Range:**

0 to length(haystack)

Return the position of the string `needle` within the string `haystack`. If the `needle` does not exist in the `haystack` then the function will return 0 (zero).
Appendix C: Language Reference - Functions

Example:

```python
print instr("Hello Jim, How are you?", "Jim")
print instr("Hello Jim, How are you?", "Bob")
```

will display:

```
7
0
```

**int - Convert Value to an Integer (14)**

`int(expression)`

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Argument(s):</th>
<th>Name:</th>
<th>Type:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>expression</td>
<td>floating point or string</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Return Value Type: | integer |

This function will convert a decimal number or a string into an integer value. When converting a decimal number it will truncate the decimal part and just return the integer part.

When converting a string value the function will return the integer value in the beginning of the string. If an integer value is not found, the function will return 0 (zero).

Example:

```python
print int(9)
print int(9.9999)
print int(-8.765)
print int(" 321 555 foo")
print int("I have 42 bananas.")
```
will display:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>9</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>321</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**key - Return the Currently Pressed Keyboard Key (11)**

```plaintext
key
key()
```

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Return Value Type:</th>
<th>integer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Return Value Range:</td>
<td>0 to ...</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Return the key code for the last keyboard key pressed. If no key has been pressed since the last call to the `key` function a zero (0) will be returned. Each key on the keyboard has a unique key code that typically is the upper-case Unicode value for the letter on the key.

**lasterror - Return Last Error (18)**

```plaintext
lasterror
lasterror()
```

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Return Value Type:</th>
<th>integer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

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Returns the last runtime error number.

### `lasterrorextra` - Return Last Error Extra Information (18)

```plaintext
lasterrorextra
lasterrorextra()
```

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Return Value Range:</th>
<th>See error code listing in Appendix J</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Type:</td>
<td>string</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Returns statement specific “extra” information about the last runtime error.

### `lasterrorline` - Return Program Line of Last Error (18)

```plaintext
lasterrorline
lasterrorline()
```

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Return Value Type:</th>
<th>integer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Returns the line number in the program where the runtime error happened.
Appendix C: Language Reference - Functions

lasterrormessage - Return Last Error as String (18)

`lasterrormessage`  
`lasterrormessage()`

| Return Value Type: | string |

Returns a string representing the last runtime error.

left - Extract Left Sub-string (15)

`left(expression, length)`

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Argument(s):</th>
<th>Name:</th>
<th>Type:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>expression</td>
<td>string</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>length</td>
<td>integer</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Return Value Type: | string |

Returns a sub-string, the number of characters specified by length, from the left end of the string `expression`. If length is greater than the length of the string `expression` then the entire string is returned.

length - Length of a String (15)

`length(expression)`

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Argument(s):</th>
<th>Name:</th>
<th>Type:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

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### lower – Change String to Lower Case (15)

**lower**(expression)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Argument(s):</th>
<th>Name:</th>
<th>Type:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>expression</td>
<td>string</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Return Value Type:** string

This function will return a string with the upper case characters changed to lower case characters.

Example:

```python
print lower("Hello.")
```

will display:

```
hello.
```

### md5 – Return MD5 Digest of a String

**md5**(expression)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Argument(s):</th>
<th>Name:</th>
<th>Type:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Returns the length of the string *expression* in characters.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Return Value Type:</th>
<th>string</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Returns a hexadecimal string with the MD5 digest of the string argument. This function was derived from the RSA Data Security, Inc. MD5 Message-Digest Algorithm.

MD5 digests are commonly used to return a checksum of a string to verify if a transmission was performed correctly.

**mid - Extract Part of a String (14)**

`mid(expression, start, length)`

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Argument(s):</th>
<th>Name:</th>
<th>Type:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>expression</td>
<td>string</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>start</td>
<td>integer</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>length</td>
<td>integer</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Return a sub-string from somewhere on the middle of a string. The start parameter specifies where the sub-string begins (1 = beginning of string) and the length parameter specifies how many characters to extract.

**minute - Return the Current System Clock - Minute (9)**

`minute`
minute()

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Return Value Type:</th>
<th>integer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Return Value Range:</td>
<td>0 to 59</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This function returns the number of minutes from the current system clock. Values range from 0 to 59.

Example:

```
print minute
```

will display at 6:47PM:

```
47
```

month - Return the Current System Clock - Month (9)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Return Value Type:</th>
<th>integer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Return Value Range:</td>
<td>0 to 11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This function returns the month number from the current system clock. It returns the month number from 0 to 11. January is 0, February is 1, March is 2, April is 3, May is 4, June is 5, July is 6, August is 7, September is 8, October is 9, November is 10, and...
December is 11.

Example:

```vbnet
dim months$(12)
print month + 1
print months$[month]
```

will display on 9/5/2008:

9
Sept

**mouseb- Return the Mouse Current Button Status (10)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>mouseb</th>
<th>mouseb()</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Return Value Type:</th>
<th>integer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Return Value Range:</td>
<td>0 to 7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Returns the state of the mouse button or buttons being pressed. If multiple buttons are being pressed at a single time then the returned value will be sum of the button values being pressed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Button Value</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>Returns this value when no mouse button is</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### mousex- Return the Mouse Current X Position (10)

```
mousex
mousex()
```

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Return Value Type:</th>
<th>integer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Return Value Range:</td>
<td>0 to <code>graphwidth()</code> - 1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Returns the x coordinate of the mouse pointer position on the graphics output window.

### mousey- Return the Mouse Current Y Position (10)

```
mousey
mousey()
```

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Return Value Type:</th>
<th>integer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Returns the y coordinate of the mouse pointer position on the graphics output window.
Appendix C: Language Reference - Functions

![Image](image.png)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Return Value Range:</th>
<th>0 to <code>graphheight()</code> -1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Returns the y coordinate of the mouse pointer position on the graphics output window.

**netaddress - What Is My IP Address (20)**

```c
netaddress
netaddress()
```

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Return Value Type:</th>
<th>string</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Returns a string with the current IPv4 address of this computer. If there are multiple address assigned to this machine only the first one will be returned.

**netdata - Is There Network Data to Read (20)**

```c
netdata
netdata()
netdata(socket)
```

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Argument(s):</th>
<th>Name:</th>
<th>Type:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>socket</td>
<td>integer</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Return Value Type:</th>
<th>boolean</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Returns true of there is data to be read from the specified network connection. If there is no data on the socket waiting then false will be returned. If the socket number is omitted the default socket
number of zero (0) will be used.

netread - Read Data from Network(20)

netread
netread()
netread(socket)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Argument(s):</th>
<th>Name:</th>
<th>Type:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>socket</td>
<td>integer</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Return Value Type:</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Return Value Type:</td>
<td>string</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Reads the last packed received on the specified network connection. If there is no data on the socket waiting to be read the program will wait until a message is received. You may use the netdata function to detect if there is data waiting to be read. If the socket number is omitted the default socket number of zero (0) will be used.

pixel - Get Color Value of a Pixel

pixel(x, y)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Argument(s):</th>
<th>Name:</th>
<th>Type:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>x</td>
<td>integer</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>y</td>
<td>integer</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Return Value Type:</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Return Value Range:</td>
<td>0 to 16777215 or -1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Returns the RGB color of a single pixel on the graphics output window. If the pixel has not been set since the last clg statement or was set to transparent by drawing with the color CLEAR (-1) then this function will return -1.

**portin - Read Data from a System Port**

```
portin(ioport)
```

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Argument(s):</th>
<th>Name:</th>
<th>Type:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ioport</td>
<td>integer</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Argument(s):**

- ioport: integer

**Return Value Type:**

- integer

**Return Value Range:**

- 0 to 255

Read value (0-255) from a system I/O port.

Reading and writing system I/O ports can be dangerous and can cause unpredictable results. This statement may be disabled because of potential system security issues.

Port I/O is typically used to read and write data to a parallel printer port. This functionality is only available in Windows.

**radians - Convert a Degree Value to a Radian Value (16)**

```
radians(expression)
```

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Argument(s):</th>
<th>Name:</th>
<th>Type:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>expression</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>expression</td>
<td>floating point</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------</td>
<td>----------------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Return Value</strong> Type:</td>
<td>floating point</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The **radians** function does the quick mathematical calculation to convert an angle measured in degrees to an angular measure of radians. The formula used is \( \text{radians} = \frac{\text{degrees}}{360} \times 2\pi \).

### rand - Random Number (6)

```python
rand
rand()
```

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Return Value Type:</th>
<th>floating point</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Return Value Range:</strong></td>
<td>0.0 to 0.999999</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This function returns a random decimal number between 0 and 1. To generate random integer values, convert to integer the product of rand and the desired integer value.

Example:
```
print rand
# display a number from 1 to 100
print int(rand*100)+1
```

will display something like:

```
0.35
22
```
**read - Read a Token from the Currently Open File (16)**

`read`  
`read()`  
`read(filenumber)`

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Return Value Type:</th>
<th>string</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Return Value Range:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Read the next word or number (token) from a file. Tokens are delimited by spaces, tab characters, or end of lines. Multiple delimiters between tokens will be treated as one. If file number parameter is not specified then file number zero (0) will be used.

**readline - Read a Line of Text from a File (16)**

`readline`  
`readline()`  
`readline(filenumber)`

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Return Value Type:</th>
<th>string</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Return Value Range:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Return a string containing the contents of an open file up to the end of the current line. If we are at the end of the file [ `eof() = true` ] then this function will return the empty string ("""). If file number parameter is not specified then file number zero (0) will be used.
rgb - Convert Red, Green, and Blue Values to RGB (12)

rgb(red, green, blue)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Argument(s):</th>
<th>Name:</th>
<th>Type:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>red</td>
<td>integer (0 to 255)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>green</td>
<td>integer (0 to 255)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>blue</td>
<td>integer (0 to 255)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Return Value
Type: integer
Return Value Range: 0 to 16777215

The rgb function returns a single number that represents a color expressed by the three color component values. Remember that color component values have the range from 0 to 255. RGB color is calculated by the formula $RGB = \text{RED} \times 256^2 + \text{GREEN} \times 256 + \text{BLUE}$.

right - Extract Right Sub-string (15)

right(expression, length)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Syntax:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Argument(s):</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>expression</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>length</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Return Value
Type: string
Returns a sub-string, the number of characters specified by length, from the right end of the string expression. If length is greater than the length of the string expression then the entire string is returned.

**second - Return the Current System Clock - Second (9)**

second
second()  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Return Value Type:</th>
<th>integer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Return Value Range:</td>
<td>0 to 59</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This function returns the number of seconds from the current system clock. Values range from 0 to 59.

Example:

```
print hour + "::" + minute + "::" + second
```

will display at 5:23:56 PM:

```
17:23:56
```

**sin - Sine (16)**

\[ \sin(expression) \]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Argument(s):</th>
<th>Name:</th>
<th>Type:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>expression</td>
<td>floating point</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------</td>
<td>----------------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Return Value Type:</strong></td>
<td>floating point</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Return Value Range:</strong></td>
<td>-1.0 to 1.0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This function returns the sine of the expression. The angle should be represented in radians. The result is approximate and may not exactly match expected results.

Example:

```python
a = sin(pi/3)
print string(a)
```

will display

```
0.87
```

**size - Return the size of the open file (15)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>size</th>
<th>size()</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>size( filenumber )</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Return Value Type:</strong></th>
<th>integer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Return Value Range:</strong></td>
<td>0 to ...</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This function returns the length of an open file in bytes. If file number parameter is not specified then file number zero (0) will be used.
spritecollide - Return the Collision State of Two Sprites (12)

**spritecollide**(expression1, expression2)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Argument(s):</th>
<th>Name:</th>
<th>Type:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>expression 1</td>
<td>integer</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>expression 2</td>
<td>integer</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Return Value Type: boolean

This function returns true if the two sprites collide with or overlap each other. The collision detection is done by

spriteh - Return the Height of Sprite (12)

**spriteh**(expression)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Argument(s):</th>
<th>Name:</th>
<th>Type:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>expression</td>
<td>integer</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Return Value Type: integer

Return Value Range: 0 to ...

This function returns the height, in pixels, of a loaded sprite. Pass the sprite number in expression.
Spritev – Return the Visible State of a Sprite (12)

**spritev**(*expression*)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Argument(s):</th>
<th>Name:</th>
<th>Type:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>expression</td>
<td></td>
<td>integer</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Return Value Type: boolean

This function returns a true value if a loaded sprite is currently displayed on the graphics output area. Pass the sprite number in expression.

spritew – Return the Width of Sprite (12)

**spritew**(*expression*)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Argument(s):</th>
<th>Name:</th>
<th>Type:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>expression</td>
<td></td>
<td>integer</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Return Value Type: integer

This function returns the width, in pixels, of a loaded sprite. Pass the sprite number in expression.

spritex – Return the X Position of Sprite (12)

**spritex**(*expression*)
This function returns the position on the x axis of the center, in pixels, of a loaded sprite. Pass the sprite number in expression.

**spritey - Return the Y Position of Sprite (12)**

```
spritey(expression)
```

This function returns the position on the y axis of the center, in pixels, of a loaded sprite. Pass the sprite number in expression.

**string - Convert a Number to a String (14)**

```
string(expression)
```
### Return Value Type:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>expression</th>
<th>floating point or integer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Return Value Type:</strong></td>
<td>string</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Returns a string representation of an integer or floating point number.

Example:

```plaintext
a = 1.234
b$ = string(a)
print a
print b$
```

will display:

```
1.234
1.234
```

---

**tan - Tangent (16)**

```
tan(expression)
```

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Argument(s):</th>
<th>Name:</th>
<th>Type:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>expression</td>
<td>expression</td>
<td>floating point</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Return Value Type: | floating point |

This function returns the tangent of the expression. The angle should be represented in radians. The result is approximate and may not exactly match expected results.

Example:
a = tan(pi/3)
print string(a)

will display:

1.73

**upper - Change String to Upper Case (15)**

`upper(expression)`

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Argument(s):</th>
<th>Name:</th>
<th>Type:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>expression</td>
<td>expression</td>
<td>string</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This function will return a string with the lower case characters changed to upper case characters.

Example:

```
print upper(“Hello.”)
```

will display:

```
HELLO.
```

**year - Return the Current System Clock - Year (9)**

```
year
year()
```
This function returns the year part the current system clock. It returns the full 4 digit Julian year number.

Example:

```
print year
```

will display on 1/3/2009:

```
2009
```
Appendix D: Language Reference – Operators and Constants

Mathematical Operators:

Mathematical operators take one or more numeric values, do something, and return a number.

+ - Adds Two Numbers or Concatenates Two Strings (1)
- - Subtracts Two Numbers (1)
* - Multiplies Two Numbers (1)
/ - Divides Two Numbers (1)
% - Returns the Remainder of Integer Division of Two Numbers (13)
\ - Integer Division (14)
^ - Exponent (14)
() - Groups Operators (1)

Mathematical Constants or Values:

A mathematical constant is sort of like a variable. It returns a predefined value so that you do not need to remember what it is.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Constant</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>pi</td>
<td>3.141593</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Color Constants or Values:

BASIC-256 also includes a list of constants defining a simple pallet of colors. The color constants are integers that represent the RGB value required to draw that color on the screen.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Constant</th>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Same as</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>black</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>rgb(0, 0, 0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>white</td>
<td>16,316,664</td>
<td>rgb(248, 248, 248)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>red</td>
<td>16,711,680</td>
<td>rgb(255, 0, 0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>darkred</td>
<td>8,388,608</td>
<td>rgb(128, 0, 0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>green</td>
<td>65,280</td>
<td>rgb(0, 255, 0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>darkgreen</td>
<td>32,768</td>
<td>rgb(0, 128, 0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>blue</td>
<td>255</td>
<td>rgb(0, 0, 255)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>darkblue</td>
<td>128</td>
<td>rgb(0, 0, 128)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cyan</td>
<td>65,535</td>
<td>rgb(0, 255, 255)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>darkcyan</td>
<td>32,896</td>
<td>rgb(0, 128, 128)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>purple</td>
<td>16,711,935</td>
<td>rgb(255, 0, 255)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>darkpurple</td>
<td>8,388,736</td>
<td>rgb(128, 0, 128)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>yellow</td>
<td>16,776,960</td>
<td>rgb(255, 255, 0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>darkyellow</td>
<td>8,421,376</td>
<td>rgb(128, 128, 0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>orange</td>
<td>16,737,792</td>
<td>rgb(255, 102, 0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>darkorange</td>
<td>11,154,176</td>
<td>rgb(170, 51, 0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gray /grey</td>
<td>10,790,052</td>
<td>rgb(164, 164, 164)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>darkgray / darkgrey</td>
<td>8,421,504</td>
<td>rgb(128, 128, 128)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Logical Operators:

Logical operators return a true/false value that can then be used in the IF statement. They are used to compare values or return the state of a condition in your program.

- `=` - Test if Two Values are Equal (6)
- `<>` - Test if Two Values are Not Equal (6)
- `<` - Test if One Value is Less Than Another Value (6)
- `<=` - Test if One Value is Less Than or Equal Another Value (6)
- `>=` - Test if One Value is Greater Than or Equal Another Value (6)
- `>` - Test if One Value is Greater Than Another Value (6)
- `>=` - Test if One Value is Greater Than or Equal Another Value (6)
- `and` - Returns True if Both Values are True (6)
- `not` - Changes True to False and False to True (6)
- `or` - Returns True if One or Both Values are True (6)

Logical Constants or Values:

A logical constant is sort of like a variable. It returns a predefined value so that you do not need to remember what it is. You can not change a constant's value in your program.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Constant</th>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>true</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Represents a true event with the number one.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>false</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>A false condition is expressed with the integer zero.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Bitwise Operators:**

Bitwise operators manipulate values at the individual bit (binary digit) level. These operations will only work with integer numbers.

**& - Bitwise And**

The statement “print 11 & 7” will display 3 because of the following bit level manipulation:

```
  1011
& 0111
  0011
```

**| - Bitwise Or**

The statement “print 10 | 6” will display 14 because of the following bit level manipulation:

```
  1010
| 0110
  1110
```

**~ - Bitwise Not**

The statement “print ~12” will display -13 because of the following bit level manipulation:
Note: Integers in BASIC-256 are stored internally as 32 bit signed numbers. Negative numbers are stored as a binary ones-compliment.
## Appendix E: Color Names and Numbers

Listing of standard color names used in the `color` statement. The corresponding RGB values are also listed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Color</th>
<th>RGB Values</th>
<th>Swatch</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>black</td>
<td>0, 0, 0</td>
<td>![Swatch]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>white</td>
<td>255, 255, 255</td>
<td>![Swatch]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>red</td>
<td>255, 0, 0</td>
<td>![Swatch]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>darkred</td>
<td>128, 0, 0</td>
<td>![Swatch]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>green</td>
<td>0, 255, 0</td>
<td>![Swatch]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>darkgreen</td>
<td>0, 128, 0</td>
<td>![Swatch]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>blue</td>
<td>0, 0, 255</td>
<td>![Swatch]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>darkblue</td>
<td>0, 0, 128</td>
<td>![Swatch]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cyan</td>
<td>0, 255, 255</td>
<td>![Swatch]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>darkcyan</td>
<td>0, 128, 128</td>
<td>![Swatch]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>purple</td>
<td>255, 0, 255</td>
<td>![Swatch]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>darkpurple</td>
<td>128, 0, 128</td>
<td>![Swatch]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>yellow</td>
<td>255, 255, 0</td>
<td>![Swatch]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>darkyellow</td>
<td>128, 128, 0</td>
<td>![Swatch]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>orange</td>
<td>255, 102, 0</td>
<td>![Swatch]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>darkorange</td>
<td>176, 61, 0</td>
<td>![Swatch]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gray /grey</td>
<td>160, 160, 164</td>
<td>![Swatch]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>darkgray / darkgrey</td>
<td>128, 128, 128</td>
<td>![Swatch]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>clear</td>
<td></td>
<td>![Swatch]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Appendix F: Musical Tones

This chart will help you in converting the keys on a piano into frequencies to use in the `sound` statement.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>175</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G</td>
<td>196</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>220</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>247</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>262</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>294</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>330</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>349</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G</td>
<td>392</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>440</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>494</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>523</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>587</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>659</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>698</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G</td>
<td>784</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>880</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F#</td>
<td>185</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G#</td>
<td>208</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A#</td>
<td>233</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F#</td>
<td>247</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G#</td>
<td>277</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A#</td>
<td>308</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C#</td>
<td>349</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D#</td>
<td>392</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F#</td>
<td>440</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G#</td>
<td>494</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A#</td>
<td>554</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C#</td>
<td>622</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D#</td>
<td>698</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F#</td>
<td>784</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G#</td>
<td>880</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A#</td>
<td>932</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Appendix G: Key Values

Key values are returned by the `key()` function and represent the last keyboard key pressed since the key was last read. This table lists the commonly used key values for the standard English keyboard. Other key values exist.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key</th>
<th>#</th>
<th>Key</th>
<th>#</th>
<th>Key</th>
<th>#</th>
<th>Key</th>
<th>#</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Space</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>L</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>W</td>
<td>87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>Z</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>ESC</td>
<td>16777216</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>Q</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>Backspace</td>
<td>16777219</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>G</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>Enter</td>
<td>16777220</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>H</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>Left Arrow</td>
<td>16777234</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>I</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>Up Arrow</td>
<td>16777235</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>J</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>U</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>Right Arrow</td>
<td>16777236</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>K</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>V</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>Down Arrow</td>
<td>16777237</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Appendix H: Unicode Character Values – Latin (English)

This table shows the Unicode character values for standard Latin (English) letters and symbols. These values correspond with the ASCII values that have been used since the 1960’s. Additional character sets are available at [http://www.unicode.org](http://www.unicode.org).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CHR</th>
<th>#</th>
<th>CHR</th>
<th>#</th>
<th>CHR</th>
<th>#</th>
<th>CHR</th>
<th>#</th>
<th>CHR</th>
<th>#</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NUL</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>SYN</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>,</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOH</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>ETB</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STX</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>CAN</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>.</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>Z</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ETX</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>EM</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>/</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>[</td>
<td>91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ET</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>SUB</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>]</td>
<td>92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENQ</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>ESC</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>G</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>^</td>
<td>94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACK</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>FS</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>H</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>_</td>
<td>95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BEL</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>GS</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>I</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>\</td>
<td>96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BS</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>RS</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>J</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HT</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>US</td>
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0-31 and 127 are non-printable.
Adapted from the Unicode Standard 5.2 – Available from [http://www.unicode.org/charts/PDF/U0000.pdf](http://www.unicode.org/charts/PDF/U0000.pdf)
Appendix I: Reserved Words

These are the words that the BASIC-256 language uses to perform various tasks. You may not use any of these words for variable names or labels for the GOTO and GOSUB statements.

#       dbclose   imgload
abs     dbexec   input
acos    dbfloat  instr
and     dbint    int
asc     dbopen   key
asin    dbopenset kill
atan    dbrow    lasterror
black   dbstring  lasterrorextra
blue    decimal  lasterrorline
ceil    degrees  lasterrormessage
changedir  dim   left
chr     do       length
circle  else     line
clear   end      log
clg     endif    log10
clkb    endwhile lower
close    exists   md5
clickb  fastgraphics minute
clickclear  float  month
clickx  false    mid
clicky  floor    mouseb
close    font    mouseex
cls     for      mousey
color   floor    netclose
colour   for      netconnect
cos     for      netdata
currentdir  for    netlisten
cyan     for      netread
darkblue  getcolor  netwritenext
darkcyan  getslice  not
darkgray  getsetting  offerror
darkgrey  gosub    open
darkgreen  goto    onerror
darkorange  graphheight  or
darkgeeen  graphsize  orange
darkpurple  gray    pause
darkred  grey    pause
darkyellow  green    pause
day    hour    pause
dbclose
Appendix I: Reserved Words

pi  say  string
pixel  second  system
plot  seek  tan
poly  setsetting  text
portin  sin  then
portout  size  to
print  sound  true
purple  spritecollide  until
putslice  spritedim  upper
radians  spriteh  volume
rand  spritehide  wavplay
read  spriteload  wavstop
readline  spritemove  wavwait
rect  spriteplace  while
red  spriteshow  white
redim  spriteslice  write
refresh  spritev  writeline
rem  spritew  xor
reset  spritey  year
return  spritey  yellow
rgb  stamp  
right  step  

# Appendix J: Error Numbers

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<tr>
<th>Error #</th>
<th>Error Description (EN)</th>
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</table>

Angle - An angle is formed when two line segments (or rays) start at the same point on a plane. An angle's measurement is the amount of rotation from one ray to another on the plane and is typically expressed in radians or degrees.

Argument - A data value included in a statement or function call used to pass information. In BASIC-256 argument values are not changed by the statement or function.

Array - A collection of data, stored in the computer's memory, that is accessed by using one or more integer indexes. See also numeric array, one dimensional array, string array, and two dimensional array.

ASCII - (acronym for American Standard Code for Information Interchange) Defines a numeric code used to represent letters and symbols used in the English Language. See also Unicode.

Asynchronous - Process or statements happening at one after the other.

Boolean Algebra - The algebra of true/false values created by Charles Boole over 150 years ago.

Cartesian Coordinate System - Uniquely identify a point on a plane by a pair of distances from the origin (0,0). The two distances are measured on perpendicular axes.

column (database) - defines a single piece of information that will be
common to all rows of a database table.

**constant** – A value that can not be changed.

**data structure** – is a way to store and use information efficiently in a computer system

**database** – An organized collection of data. Most databases are computerized and consist of tables of similar information that are broken into rows and columns. See also: column, row, SQL, and table.

**degrees** – A unit of angular measure. Angles on a plane can have measures in degrees of 0 to 360. A right angle is 90 degrees. See also angle and radians.

**empty string** – A string with no characters and a length of zero (0). Represented by two quotation marks (""). See also string.

**false** – Boolean value representing not true. In BASIC-256 it is actually short hand for the integer zero (0). See also Boolean Algebra and true.

**floating point number** – A numeric value that may or may not contain a decimal point. Typically floating point numbers have a range of $\pm 1.7 \times 10^{\pm 308}$ with 15 digits of precision.

**font** – A style of drawing letters.

**frequency** – The number of occurrences of an event over a specific period of time. See also hertz.

**function** – A special type of statement in BASIC-256 that may take zero or more values, make calculations, and return information to your program.

**graphics output area** – The area on the screen where drawing is
displayed.

hertz (hz) – Measure of frequency in cycles per second. Named for German physicist Heinrich Hertz. See also frequency.

integer – A numeric value with no decimal point. A whole number. Typically has a range of –2,147,483,648 to 2,147,483,647.

IP address – Short for Internet Protocol address. An IP address is a numeric label assigned to a device on a network.

label – A name associated with a specific place in the program. Used for jumping to with the goto and gosub statements.

list – A collection of values that can be used to assign arrays and in some statements. In BASIC-256 lists are represented as comma (,) separated values inside a set of curly-braces ({}).

logical error – An error that causes the program to not perform as expected.

named constant – A value that is represented by a name but can not be changed.

numeric array – An array of numbers.

numeric variable – A variable that can be used to store integer or floating point numbers.

one dimensional array – A structure in memory that holds a list of data that is addressed by a single index. See also array.

operator – Acts upon one or two pieces of data to perform an action.

pixel – Smallest addressable point on a computer display screen.

point – Measurement of text – 1 point = 1/72”. A character set in 12 point will be 12/72” or 1/6” tall.
port – A software endpoint number used to create and communicate on a socket.

pseudocode - Description of what a program needs to do in a natural (non-computer) language. This word contains the prefix “pseudo” which means false and “code” for programming text.

radian - A unit of angular measure. Angles on a plane can have measures in radians of 0 to $2\pi$. A right angle is $\pi/2$ degrees. See also angle and degrees.

radius - Distance from a circle to it's center. Also, $1/2$ of a circle's diameter.

RGB – Acronym for Red Green Blue. Light is made up of these three colors.

row (database) – Also called a record or tuple. A row can be thought of as a single member of a table.

socket - A software endpoint that allows for bi-directional (2 way) network communications between two process on a single computer or two computers.

sprite – An image that is integrated into a graphical scene.

SQL - Acronym for Structured Query Language. SQL is the most widely used language to manipulate data in a relational database.

statement – A single complete action. Statements perform something and do not return a value.

string – A sequence of characters (letters, numbers, and symbols). String constants are surrounded by double quotation marks (").

string array – An array of strings.
string variable – A variable that can be used to store string values. A string variable is denoted by placing a dollar sign ($) after the variable name.

sub-string – Part of a larger string.

subroutine – A block of code or portion of a larger program that performs a task independently from the rest of the program. A piece that can be used and re-used by many parts of a program.

syntax error – An error with the structure of a statement so that the program will not execute.

synchronous – Happening at the same time.

table (database) – Data organized into rows and columns. A table has a specific number of defined columns and zero or more rows.

transparent – Able to see through.

text output area – The area of the screen where plain text and errors is displayed.

true – Boolean value representing not false. In BASIC-256 it is actually short hand for the integer one (1). See also Boolean Algebra and false.

two dimensional array – A structure in memory that will hold rows and columns of data. See also array.

Unicode – The modern standard used to represent characters and symbols of all of the world's languages as integer numbers.

variable – A named storage location in the computer's memory that can be changed or varied.