

PMS SYSTEM DISKS

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System Disks supplied by PMS are unprotected (unless otherwise stated). For the BBC and MASTER, the 5.25" System Disks are on single sided, 40 track, DFS format. To use these disks on 80 track drives the following procedure must be followed.

* ON THE BBC WITH DFS *

1. Dual 40/80 Switchable drives.

If the drives you are using are dual switchable then we recommend that you make a backup of the System disk onto 80 track as follows :

- a) Place the System disk in drive 0 and set to 40 track
- b) Place a blank formatted disk in drive 1 and set to 80 track.
- c) Transfer the files using *COPY 0 1 *.* (DO NOT USE *BACKUP)

2. Single 40/80 switchable and single and dual 80 track drives.

The System disk can be converted to 80 track by inserting the System Disk into drive 0, setting to 80 track if necessary, and typing in *80 <RETURN>. The conversion process takes about 1 minute and stars (*) will appear on the screen to indicate successful conversion.

NOTES: Certain DFS's, especially double density versions do not implement correctly the 8271 commands used in the *80 program, so the result of doing a *80 may be a corrupted disk, if this happens PMS will be happy to exchange the corrupted disk for a new one in the correct format at no charge. This problem does not occur with "normal" DFS's, eg ACORN DFS, DNFS, and Watford DFS.

* ON THE MASTER *

When using the MASTER, DFS must first be selected, ie not ADFS. This is done by typing *DISK. There is no need to convert disks on the MASTER, as 40 track disks can be read by 80 track drives. This is done by typing *DRIVE 0 40 or *DRIVE 1 40 etc.

If you are using dual 80 track drives then to make an 80 track backup, set drive 0 to read 40 track (by *DRIVE 0 40) and drive 1 to 80 track (by *DRIVE 1 80), then copy the files using *COPY 0 1 *.* (DO NOT USE *BACKUP).

NOTE: *80 will not work on the MASTER, and an error message will be generated if you attempt to use it.

* ON THE MASTER COMPACT AND ELECTRON WITH PLUS 3 *

System Disks for the MASTER COMPACT and ELECTRON with PLUS 3 are 3.5", single sided, 80 track, ADFS format disks. These can be read on double sided drives, although only one side is formatted. To make a backup copy of the disks follow the normal procedure set out in the Manual.

NOTE: ALL SOFTWARE SUPPLIED BY PMS IS COPYRIGHT, AND MUST ONLY BE COPIED BY THE ORIGINAL USER FOR HIS/HER EXCLUSIVE USE. Any individual, school, college or organisation found breaching copyright will be prosecuted. PMS offer substantial rewards for information leading to successful prosecutions.

NOTES FOR NTQ USERS

The following points have been brought to our attention by some NTQ users and we would like to pass on these on to you. If you have any tips on the use of NTQ, which may be useful to other users, please contact PMS.

1: PRINTER BUFFERS

NTQ will NOT work with many printer buffers. These include buffers which use banks of sideways RAM, and buffers on shadow RAM boards, eg WATFORD 32K, ARIES B32 and SOLIDISK 4MEG boards.

Printer buffers built into printers WILL work with NTQ.

The inability to use a printer buffer with NTQ will cause little hardship as there would be no appreciable speed increase when using a buffer. This is because the printer is operating in graphics mode, not text mode when printing NTQ text.

2: USING NTQ WITH INTERWORD

The NTQ ESCAPE sequences can be entered into INTERWORD text using the embedded command menu, obtained by hitting function key f1. The ESCAPE sequences can be entered in several forms, including: 27,"w",2 or ESC"w",2 or 27.87.2.

Remember to type *NTQ from the main menu BEFORE pressing 6 to print the text.

NOTE: If you use INTERWORD on the MASTER with NTQ, you will require a special version of NTQ, contact the Sales Office.

3: CONFLICT OF WORKSPACE

A few ROMs are causing a conflict of workspace with NTQ. NTQ's private workspace is being corrupted by these ROMs. The best way to avoid this is to alter the order of the ROMs in the BBC to make NTQ the LOWEST priority ROM.

This problem has occurred with certain SOLIDISK DFS's and ADFS's.

4: USING THE FONT DESIGNER

When using the FONT DESIGNER, the FONT NUMBER specified at the start of the program should be used when selecting the FONT in the LOAD and SAVE character options. Do not type in the NAME of the FONT, it will be ignored.

When a FONT EXTENSION ROM is loaded into sideways RAM, the sideways RAM should be write protected, immediately after it is loaded, if possible. This is only necessary if the sideways RAM is auto-select, ie you can directly *LOAD to it.

PMS can put your own FONTS into ROM for you for £5.00 inc VAT and postage - send us your FONT files on disk.

5: VIEW WITH NTQ

The printer driver NTQDRV must first be loaded into the computer, as detailed on the separate sheet. The command *NTQ or *DRAFT should be entered, from command mode, before printing the NTQ text.