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# Contents

# Chapter 1

# in

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```
                        Textread release 1.1
                 Version 38.63

                 User's guide

         Copyright © 1992-1994 Martin Blom

            Released 28 November 1994



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 Please also read the History section!


## 1.2  Preface

```
                              Preface
                              ~~~~~~~
```

The  programs  in  this package are copyrighted by Martin Blom, but freely
distributable  as  long  as  only a nominal fee is charged for copying and
distribution.

If  you, the user, finds this program worth using, you must pay the author
40 SEK, 20 DM or US$ 10.   The address can be found below.

Textread  must be distributed in this archive in unmodified form.   Nothing
may  be  added,  or  removed  from  it.   I take no responsibility for any
trouble  Textread  may  cause.  Use it at your own risk.  If you, for some
strange  reason,  wish  to  include Textread in your own software package,
please contact me:

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  S-582 51 Linköping
    SWEDEN

 E-mail:

    lcs@lysator.liu.se


## 1.3  Introduction

```
                           Introduction
                           ~~~~~~~~~~~~
```

 The  first  official  release of Textread, 1.03, was released in November
1992, exactly two years ago.  I wrote it for two reasons:
 1) I wanted to learn how to code system friendly programs under Release 2
 2) I didn't think PPMore's text routines were fast enough.

Speed  was  the  most important issue, memory had lower priority.  This is
still  the  case,  even if I have replaced my own hardware-banging blitter
routines  with  system  calls  (=slower),  and have optimized memory usage.
This  new  release does, although it has many new features, only use about
5500  bytes  more when loaded into memory, and the executable file is only
about 8800 bytes longer than 1.03.

Textread  was  designed with "Amiga User Interface Style Guide" beside the
keyboard, so I think you will feel comfortable with the layout.

Textread  requires  V38  of asl.library, and V37 of the rest of the system
libraries (Release 2.04).

If  found  on  your system, Textread will take advantage of XPK and power-
packer.library (V35).  Powerpacker and Reqtools are no longer needed.


## 1.4   I'm sorry!

I'm sorry!
~~~~~~~~~~

I  must  take the opportunity to apologise to you who reported bugs in the
previous release.  I should have released a bugfixed version before I made
this  bigger  upgrade.  To  my  defence,  I may say that Textread 1.1 was
called  Textread  1.04ß  until  one hour ago.  It was never really ment to
include all new things it does...


## 1.5   About Textread being Shareware

About Textread being Shareware
~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

The  first  release of Textread was Freeware.  As time went by, I found my
self  sitting in front of Trash'm-One, torturing myself coding this boring
program.  And  I  figured that if somebody else will enjoy my work, he or
she  might  find it worth some money.  If you disagree, you are free to do
so, and you are also free to use another ascii reader...

The  shareware  fee  for Textread 1.04 is 40 SEK, 20 DM or US$ 10.  If you
know  anything  about Sweden, you know that 20 DM is about 100 SEK.  So if
you  want to save money, send SEK.  My address can be found in the
            Preface
            section.


## 1.6   Usage

Usage
~~~~~

 The following files should be included in this package:

    libs (dir)
      asl.library
    fonts (dir)
        IBM (dir)

```
            11                               8
        IBM.font
  fonts.info                         libs.info
  Textread                           Textread.doc
  Textread.doc.info                  Textread.guide
  Textread.guide.info                TextRead.info
  TextRead.PC.prefs                  TextRead.PC.prefs.info
  TextRead.prefs                     TextRead.prefs.info
```

The size of Textread is 37380 bytes.

The  installation  script has been removed, just copy the files where they
belong/where  you  want  them.  Installation scripts are for applications,
not for small programs like this one.

Once  installed, Textread can be started either from the
                 Shell
                  or from the

                 Workbench
                  .


## 1.7  Shell

```
Starting Textread from the Shell
--------------------------------
```
 Type Textread ? to get the standard AmigaDOS template:

```
FILES/M,TABS/K/N,UNIT/K/N,SETTINGS/K,NEW/S:
```

 If you give wrong arguments, you will get this text:

```
Textread 1.1 ©1992-1994 Martin Blom.
Usage: Textread [[FILES] <files|dirs>] [TABS <n>] [UNIT <n>]
       [SETTINGS <name>] [NEW]
```

You  may  supply  any number of files or paths as arguments to Textread, a
new  buffer will be created for each of them.  If a path was given instead
of a file name, or the file didn't exist, a file requester will appear.

 The other arguments are options;

```
        TABS <n>        Selects the tab size (on screen, not printer).

        UNIT <n>        Selects  the  unit  of  printer.device to use when
                        printing.  Useful  if  you've  got  more than one
                        parallel or serial port.

        SETTINGS <name> Selects  a  settings  file  to  use instead of the
                        default settings file or the build-in settings.

        NEW             If  a  copy of Textread was already loaded before,
                        it  will be told to open a new buffer with the new
                        files.  Specify  this keyword to force a new copy
```

```
                      of Textread to be loaded.
```

 Here are some examples:

```
1> Textread Textread.doc TABS 3
1> Textread TABS 3 FILE Textread.doc
```

These  two  command  do the same thing, they load Textread.doc and show it
with tab size set to 3.

```
1> Textread TABS 8 UNIT 1 SETTINGS ENV:Textread.prefs
```

This command sets the tab size to 8, selects the second parallel or serial
port  for  printing  and uses the settings file found i ENV:.  You will be
prompted for a file to view.

```
1> Textread dh1:Docs/cars.txt dh1:Docs
```

First  loads  dh1:Docs/cars.txt,  then  opens  a  new  buffer,  and opens a
requester showing the files in dh1:Docs


## 1.8  Workbench

```
Starting Textread from the Workbench
------------------------------------
```
This  is  really  simple.  Just  doubleclick on its icon, and you will be
prompted  for  a  file name.  You can also select Textread's icon and then
doubleclick  on  another  icon to view that file (or, if it was a settings
file,  to  use  that settings).  If you doubleclicked on a drawer or disk,
the file requester will appear and list the files in that directory.

Another  way  to  start  Textread  is  to  set  the icon's default tool to
Textread.  Just  select  an icon and chose Information from the Workbench
Icons menu.

The  icon  parsing  is  quite flexible.  Suppose you can see Textread, two
different  prefs  files,  and  a  couple  of  text files on you Workbench.
Assume    the    prefs    files    are    called    Textread.PC.prefs   and
Textread.Amiga.prefs,  and  you  have  a couple of MS-DOS text files.  You
want to show 2 'normal' text files and 1 MS-DOS file.  Here is what to do:
Click  one  on  Textread,  press  shift  and  hold  it down while pressing
Textread.PC.prefs,  <MS-DOS text file>, Textread.Amiga.prefs, <first Amiga
text  file>,  and  doubleclick  on the <second Amiga file>.  Textread will
first  load  the  PC prefs file, and load the PC text file.  After that, a
new  buffer  will  be created using your normal prefs, and the first Amiga
text  will  be  loaded into this buffer.  The last file will be loaded in a
new  buffer  using  the same prefs as the previous file.  Hmm... just try
it!

 Here are the tooltypes supported:

```
        (FILETYPE=PREFS Tells Textread that this is a settings file.)

        TABS=<n>        Selects the tab size (on screen, not printer).
```

```
        UNIT=<n>          Selects  the  unit  of  printer.device to use when
                          printing.  Useful  if  you've  got  more than one
                          parallel or serial port.

        SETTINGS=<name>  Selects  a  settings  file  to use rather than the
                          default settings file or the build-in settings.

        NEW              If  a  copy of Textread was already loaded before,
                          it  will be told to open a new buffer with the new
                          files.  Specify  this keyword to force a new copy
                          of Textread to be loaded.
```

## 1.9  Control

```
                                       Control
                          ~~~~~~~
```

Once  you  have  started Textread, you have several options via the menus.
Below is a full description of each menu.  If you press »HELP«, you'll get
a summary of all the keyboard commands.  Press a key to view the text file
again.

At  the  bottom  of the screen you will notice a button, an info box and a
scroll bar.

The  small  button  labelled  Q  will  quit  Textread.  The info box shows
current  line  number, percentage and the status of some of the checkmarks
in  the  menu  (<W>rap  words,  Remove <A>NSIs, Remove C<R>s, Don't <F>ake
font,  <C>ase  sensitive) The scroll bar is used to scroll the screen (!).
And the arrows...  guess!

When  you  have  loaded  a  text, you can edit it with your favourite text
editor  by pressing <Shift-E>.  The editor specified in ENV:Editor will be
run and the text will be loaded.  However, only the file name is passed to
the  editor,  so if the text was crunched, you editor must be able to load
such files.

You  can  also set and jump to up to ten bookmarks.  Set them with <Shift>
and a function key, and jump with just a function key.  The bookmarks will
be cleared when a new file is loaded (if you don't open a new buffer, that
is).

Except  for  the
                Print  options
                  window,  all  requesters have keyboard
short-cuts.  They  are  marked as usual. Escape cancels a requester, and
Return accepts.  In some requesters the cursor keys (unshifted or shifted)
works too.  In the Find requester, you can deactivate the string gadget by
pressing  Shift-Return.  Reactivate by pressing the underlined character.
Pressing Return in the string gadget starts the search.

 Here are the menus:


                Project Menu
```

Setting Menu

Command Menu

## 1.10  Project Menu

```
                    Project menu
------------
New
                    Opens a new buffer.


Open...
                    Will  bring up a file requester and ask for a file
                    name.  At the moment, multiselect is not possible.


Open new...
                    This is a combination of 'New' and 'Open...'.


Print
                    Will  send  your  text  to  the printer using your
                    settings  (see  below).  Unfortunately, this will
                    lock  up  Textread until the printing is finished.
                    This  is  unacceptable  and  I  will fix this in a
                    later  version.   Make  sure that 'printer.device'
                    and either 'serial.device' or 'parallel.device' is
                    in  DEVS:  and you Printer preferences are correct
                    (especially  the  number  of  lines).  If  your
                    (parallel)  printer isn't  on-line, this command
                    will return immediately.


Print  as...
                    Will  open  a  window  with  several gadgets. See
                    separate section below
            (Print options)
                    .


Reveal
                    Shows  a  listview with the file names of all open
                    buffers.  Select  one,  and  that  buffer will be
                    displayed.


Close
                    Closes  the  current  buffer, and frees all memory
                    used.  If the buffer in question was the last one,
                    Textread will terminate.


Iconify
                    Will  close  the  screen,  open  an  icon  in  the
                    Workbench  window and put Textread to sleep.  When
                    you  doubleclick  on  the  icon,  the  screen will
                    reopen.   Starting  a  second  copy  of  Textread
                    without the 'NEW' keyword will uniconify Textread.
```

About...

> Will open a requester showing the current version, a copyright message and the current text file's name and length in bytes/charters.

Quit Textread

> Quits Textread, WITHOUT giving you a second chance to abort.

## 1.11  Setting Menu

Setting menu
------------

Wrap words?

> Turns wordwrap on or off.  If on, no words will be cut  at the end of each line.  This should usually be on, except when reading C sources, maybe...

Use Sysfont?

> If set, your preferred screen font will be used to render  menus  and  requesters.  If  not set, you preferred fixed width font will be used.

Auto-remove ANSIs?

> If  selected,  ANSI  codes  will always be removed from the document when a new file is loaded.

Auto-remove CRs?

> If  selected,  all  return  codes  will  always be removed  from  the  document  when  a  new file is loaded.  This  is  handy when viewing MS-DOS text files.

Don't 'fake' font?

> If  selected, Textread will  not  display  some (normally  invisible)  ascii  codes  as  inverted letters.  This  is handy when viewing MS-DOS text files  containing  national characters, like å, ä, ö, ü, æ...

Tab size...

> Lets you select a new tab size for the screen (not the  printer).  The maximum value is 15, but this is  far  to  high.  8  is default and looks often good,  especially  when  you're  viewing assembler sources,  but  a  lower  tab  size  is better when looking at C sources (3 is a good choice!).

Screen mode...

> Brings  up  a  requester, asking for a screen mode. Please  note  that the mode must be an Amiga mode, not  smaller  than  640*200,  and  not bigger than 2040*2040.  (It  might  work  with  some graphics

cards, as long the card has a good emulation or a planar mode that looks just like the Amiga standard modes.)

Text font »
 Select text font...

Lets you select a new font to be used. However, only a 8*8 pixel font will be accepted. This is because I prefer speed in front of cool fonts.

 Default font

Selects the System default font, specified in Font preferences. If no font is suitable, the ROM Topaz font will be used. This is also often the System default font (pre-MagicWB? :) ).

Load settings...

Lets you chose a settings file to use. This means that you can save the preferred tab size, screenmode and so on to disk, and then chose between different configurations. When Textread is started, it first looks in the icon's tool type array for a name of an settings file or, if started from the Shell, it searches the arguments for the file. If not found, it tries to load the file 'Textread.prefs' from the same directory as Textread is in. If this file isn't present the build-in settings will be used.

 Save settings

Saves your current setting using the same name the setting file was loaded as. If no setting file was previously loaded, you settings will be saved as 'Textread.prefs' in the Textread directory.

 Save settings as...

Saves your current settings using the name you type or select.

Create icons?

Selects if icons will be saved together with your settings files. The icons is useful if you have different settings. To use a setting, just doubleclick on that settings file and Textread will be run using the wanted settings. However, if you only runs Textread from the Shell, the icons could be waste of diskspace. If so, simply turn this option off.

Copy to all buffers

This will copy the current configuration to all open buffers.

Search »

Search for            Asks for a string to be searched for, and then
                      searches forward in text. If found, the screen will
                      be positioned so the top line contains the string
                      (if it not was too close to the end of the file).

Search next           Searches forwards in text for the string.

Search previous       Searches backwards for the string.
              NOTE -  If nothing was found, the screen will flash (If you
                      have WB 2.1, you may hear a sound too).

Case sensitive?       This selects how the string entered will be
                      treated. If on, the search routines will look for
                      an exact match of the entered string. But if it's
                      off it doesn't matter what case the string was
                      entered in. That means that if you want to find
                      the word 'assembler', TextRead will find
                      'assembler', 'ASSEMBLER', 'Assembler'...
                      TextRead's search routine can handle all national
                      charters if you have 'local.library' loaded (WB 2.1).
                      First it makes a convert table and then uses its
                      own (fast) routines.


## 1.12  Command Menu

Command menu
------------


Find...
                      Asks  for  a  string  to be searched for, and then
                      searches  forward  in  text.  If found, the screen
                      will  be  positioned  so the top line contains the
                      string  (if it not was too close to the end of the
                      file).   If  'Wildcards'  in  the  requester  is
                      checked,  you  may  use  all  Amiga wildcards as a
                      pattern.  BEWARE!  If  wildcards  is  turned on,
                      searching  is  MUCH  slower!  The  other  options
                      should  be  obvious.  If  nothing  was found, the
                      screen will flash.

Find next
                      Searches  forwards  in text for the string entered
                      in the 'Find...' requester.

Find previous
                      Searches  backwards in text for the string entered
                      in the 'Find...' requester.

Case sensitive?
                      This  selects  how  the  string entered  will  be
                      treated.  If on, the search routines will look for
                      an exact match of the entered string.  But if it's
                      off  it  doesn't  matter  what case the string was
                      entered  in.   That means that if you want to find
                      the  word  'assembler',  Textread  will  find

'assembler',       'ASSEMBLER',       'Assembler'...
Textread's  search   routine  (non-wildcard)  can
handle   all   national   charters   if   you   have
'local.library'  loaded  (WB  2.1).   The  wildcard
search  is  handled  by  AmigaOS  and  is  of  course
localized.

Edit text

Starts   the  editor  that  the  environmental  variable
$EDITOR   points   to,  given  the  file  name  with  full
path  as  the  only  argument.

Remove ANSIs

Will  remove  ANSI  codes  from  the  document.

Remove CRs

Removes   all  Return  codes  from  the  document.   This
is   handy   when   viewing   MS-DOS   text   files,   since
MS-DOS  uses  both  Line  Feed  (LF,  ascii  #10)  and
Carriage  Return  (CR,  ascii  13)  as  an  end-of-line
mark.

## 1.13  Printing

Print options
~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

When  you  select  'Print as...'  from  the
Project menu
, a window with some
gadgets  will  open.   This  requester  has  not  been  updated  from  1.03,  nor
have  the  printer  routines.   I  hope  to  clean  this  up  in  the  next  (?)
version.

The field buttons

Used  to  control  the  header  of  each  page.   The  left
filed  may  contain  the  name  of  the  file  or  a  title,
max  30  charters  long.   The  middle  and  right  filed
may   contain   todays   date  or  page  number.  If  you
don't   want   any   header,  simply  set  all  fields  to
'Nothing'.   If  the  header  is  on,  you  loose  2  lines
on  each  page.

Header style

Selects   how   the   header   will  be  printed.  Bold,
underlined,  or  italic.

Title

Max  30  characters  of  text.   See  above.

Tab size

Selects   the   tab  size  for  the  printer.  Note  that
all   tabs   are  converted  to  spaces  before  printed,
so  you  printer  doesn't  need  to  support  different
tab  sizes.

Wrap words

                        Selects   wordwrap   on   or off.  See
              Settings menu
              ,
                        'Wrap words?' above.


Print

                        Starts the printing.  See
              Project menu
              , 'Print'.


Use

                        Closes the window.


Cancel

                        Restores the options and closes the window.


## 1.14  TODO

                                                  TODO
                              ~~~~

 ARexx interface.
 Localisation.
 Multithreaded printing, new Print as... requester.
 A better prefs file format.
 Multiselect in the file requester.

Comments are welcome. See
              Preface
               for my address.


## 1.15  Credits and Acknowledgments

                    Credits and Acknowledgments
                    ~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

Just for fun, here is what I wrote two years ago, in the 1.03 docs:

        Textread was coded in pure assembler by Martin Blom.

        Textread was coded on a slow Amiga 500 with 1 MB of Chip memory
        and 2 MB of true fast memory, a 52 MB Supra Harddrive, a Philips
        8CM852 Monitor, Citizen external diskdrive, a Golden Image
        GI-6000 optical mouse and AmigaOS 2.1.

        Textread has only been tested on a few other computers, sorry
        for that...  Please send bug reports.

        The ROM Kernel Reference Manuals were often needed.

        Sourcecode Rescuer II v1.3f (also by me) was often needed.

        Length of code:  28572 bytes.

        Assembling time:  18 seconds.

        I want a A4000/8/425!  Please send.

And now, back to reality:

        Textread was coded in pure assembler by Martin Blom.

        Textread was coded on a slow Amiga 4000/040 with 2 MB of Chip
        memory and 8 MB of true fast memory, a 120 MB Seagate HD, a 405
        MB Maxtor HD, a Commodore 1960 monitor and AmigaOS 3.1.

        Textread has only been tested on a few other computers, sorry
        for that...  Please send bug reports.

        The ROM Kernel Reference Manuals were often needed.

        Sourcecode Rescuer II v1.3f (also by me) was often needed.

        Length of code: 37380 bytes.

        Assembling time: 2.3 seconds.

        I want somebody to make a COOL Amiga again. Please do that.


-I'm still not satisfied.


Thanks to Nicolas Dade, Carsten Fulde, Che Lalic, Stefan Virebrand, Stefan
Stammler, Pontus Munck and Sven Thomas for your help and support!

                                                / Martin Blom

---

 Textread is copyright © Martin Blom.
 This AmigaGuide document was made by Sven Thomas and Martin Blom.
 The requesters was designed using GadToolBox 2.0c by Jan van den Baard.
 PowerPacker.library and Reqtools.library are copyright © Nico François.


## 1.16  Program History

                          Program History
                          ~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

Release 1.00
------------
        V37.0           First release. (12.9.92)

```
          V37.01              Minor bugfix. (12.9.92)

          V37.10              Finally  got  the  docs  to  Powerpacker.library!
                              Thanks, David of Iceland!  (12.9.92)

          V37.11              Now accepts a directory instead of a file from the
                              Shell too.

                              When you load a new file, the textposition will be
                              reset the top of file.

                              Screen  will  now  flash if nothing was found when
                              searching.

                              Fixed a bug in the screen print routine.

                              This ^ led to another bug.  Fixed!  (13.9.92)

Release 1.01
------------
          V37.13              Silly bug removed (division by zero).

                              Another silly bug removed in print options window.
                              Thanks, Mungwall...  (18.9.92)

          V37.14              Decreased the size of settings file.

                              Added arrowgadgets to the scrollbar.

                              Fixed the last (!?) bug...  (20.9.92)

Release 1.02
------------
          V37.15              LAME  bug removed:  IntuiTicks forced the Helppage
                              to disappear!

                              Textread  now checks if your (parallel) printer is
                              online before it tries to print.

                              The  number of lines won't be recalculeated if the
                              user cancels the Tab size-requester.

                              Added bookmarks on F1-F10.  (24.10.92)


Release 1.03 (first public release)
------------
          V37.16              Textread  was  kind of slow when you looked at the
                              end of a 600 kB text.  Fixed...

                              The  number of lines won't be recalculeated if the
                              user  doesn't  change  the tabsize in the Tabsize-
                              requester.

                              <Alt> and cursor up/down moves 100 lines.
```

Fixed bug: Strange textoutput if big overscan was used.

Removed the annoying 'copyright' requester. (7.11.92)

Release 1.1
-----------

V38.63            (NOTE! Some things were changed more than once!)

Some errormessages added. But more are needed.

Now uses a ScreenMode-requester, so any bitplanemode is supported. Also rewrote the blit routines to use the ECS-blitter if available.

The icon now shows the filename when Textread is iconified.

Removed the "Verify quit?" menu item.

Now supports XPK libraries. But it still works with powerpacker!

Some cleanup in the menus.

Some minor bigfixes.

Removed the lame helptexts. Mail me if you want them back!

Now shows the status of some checkmarks at the bottom of the screen.

Added the posibillity to remove (legal) ANSI sequences.

NewLook-Menus on OS 3.0+.

Textread doesn't NEED diskfont.library anymore. But the fontrequester will not work, if diskfont isn't present.

Added a hook to the fontrequester, that removes all fonts that are not 8*8 pixels. This may slow down the requester a bit, but only the first time.

Textread now uses rtLockWindow() when the Print Options window is open.

Added possibility not to 'fake' the font, ie. chars $0 to $1f and $80 to $9f will be printed as $0 to $1f and $80 to $9f, and not as inverted $40 to $5f and $c0 to $df. Hmm, well... 8 bit MS-DOS

textfiles will now look as they are supposed to do. If you have the right font.

Added the posibillity to remove CR characters. They are used in MS-DOS textfiles togeather with LF as a line terminator. The Amiga only uses LF. This will make MS-DOS textfiles look better.

Removed an Enforcer read hit.

Fixed some argument parsing bugs.

No more flicker in the line number gadget! Real improvement, eh?

Added am AppIcon to the Workbench, and removed it again. :)

Replaced my blitter routines with BltBitMap for compabillity (HA!). The scrolling is slower, but you won't notice. Trust me.

I FINALLY got my A4000/040... 2 month delayed! Many enforcer hits removed...

Textread doesn't need neither the powerpacker nor xpkmaster libraries. But if found, they will be used (XPK, pp, dos, in that order.).

Temporary (?) removed the colour requester. Did anybody used thay thing? It was an easy way to make Textread support AGA colours... :)

Made the settings routines work (quick'n dirty). The format is NOT compatible with old prefs files, and NO version check is made, so please delete all old prefs... Sorry. The format will change in next release again.

The ANSI-remover can now also handle the BS character. (For some UNIX man files.)

Reduced flicker when using the scrollbar. Improved the linecounting routine a bit, hopefully reducing memory fragmentation.

Replaced Reqtools with ASL. Why? I don't know... The binary file size increased by almost 10kB!! :(

Added wildcards to the search routines. Uses AmigaDOS' MatchPattern and MatchPatternNoCase, so they are SLOW!

Added a tiny Quit button at the bottom of the screen.

Added finescroll. Yes, I know... The implementation sucks. I might try to fix it some day, but I don't know how I can improve it without adding double buffering..?

Added multibuffer support. You can now have any number of files loaded, limited only by available memory. Hopefully, this will make up for the increased program size.

Added 'NM_COMMANDSTRING' menu shortcuts if running V39+.

Made 'Escape' quit Textread when the last buffer was closed.

Added command 'Copy settings', which makes all buffers use the current settings.

"+" and "-" now switches to the next/previous buffer.

If a second copy off Textread is started, a new buffer will be opened in the first copy and the second will terminate. This feature can be tured off by using the NEW keyword or tooltype.

Multiply arguments can now be passed from the Shell or Workbench. No wildcards yet, though...
(9.11.94)

$VER: Textread guide 38.63 (28.11.94)