F-Base

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	COLLABORATORS		
	TITLE : F-Base		
ACTION	*NAME*	*DATE*	*SIGNATURE*
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	REVISION HISTORY		
NUMBER	DATE	DESCRIPTION	NAME

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            An Easy-To-Use DataBase

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1.2   intro

                    Main

                                        What Is F-Base

 F-Base is a simple, easy-to-use database. You can easily create your
 own customized database with the graphical interface.

                          F-Base Features

 * System friendly. User configurational.
 * Up to 255 data fields. Up to 9999 records.
 * ECS/OCS and AGA support. Selectable screen modes.
 * Handsome interface (designed for 8 colors).
 * All functions on a single screen. No pull-down menus.
 * Interface 4x faster than standard intuition. 10x faster than MUI.
 * Fully multitasking. System compliant.
 * Supports icon tooltype and CLI arguments.
 * Optimized sort routines.
 * Optimized display and search routines.
 * Cut, copy, paste between the records.
 * Database Views: Table or Record mode.
 * Can associate a picture and sound to each record. The very first
   MULTIMEDIA database??
 * User configurational record associations for utilities and tools.
 * Selectable print (bold, italics and underlined) for record fields
   and data.
 * Asynchronous multitasking.
 * Fully configurable: fonts, screen mode, options, palette and
   language.
 * French and English versions available. Languages 100% localized.
 * More exciting features coming soon...

                          F-Base is Shareware.

1.3   terms

                    Main

                    Author

                                    Terms And Conditions

 This program is provided "AS IS". The Author is NOT responsible
 for any damage (or damages) F-Base may cause. You are warned that you

use F-Base strictly at your own risk. No warranties are implied or
otherwise given by the Author or any representative.

This program may be freely distributed provided all the contents
of the original archive remain intact. You may not modify or in any way
change the contents of the original archive without the express written
consent of the Author.

The Author reserves all rights to this program, and the original
archive and its contents. All rights are strictly reserved by the
Author.

1.4 system

                         Main

                         Author
                                        System Requirements

F-Base program design allows flexible use on all Amiga computers.
Recommended only for Amiga with OS 2.0+ ROMs. Not tested on older
OS versions.

* You need the asl.library (not included). Available on
  the Aminet.

F-Base tested on the following configurations:

```
1. Amiga 1200 AGA                  2. Amiga 3000T/040 ECS
   - 3.0/3.1 ROMs                     - 3.1 ROMs
   - Blizzard 1230/50                 - 2 Chip/16 Fast
   - And without 1230/50              - Micropolis HD 1.2 GBs
   - Quantum HD 540 MBs               - Quantum HD 210 MBs
   - CD ROM 12 Mitsumi                - CD ROM 8 NEC
   - Multisync Monitor 1438S          - Multisync Monitor 1302
```

F-Base offered exceptional performance on above configurations. And
should run fine on ALL Amiga computers.

If you encounter any exceptions, kindly contact the author immediately.
Please state the nature of the F-Base failure along with a complete
description of your system configuration. Any information given will
help to determine cause and future preventive measures.

F-Base is as free from bugs as possible. Your cooperation in reporting
any abnormalities or aberrations will only result in F-Base improvement.

1.5 install

Main
Easy Installation

F-Base offers very easy installation. Just use one of these simple
methods.

Best Solution

Click the INSTALLATION Icon, and all files will be automatically
copied to the specified directory. You must have the Installer
utility to use this option.

Alternative Solution

* Create a new directory (wherever you want) for F-Base.

* Copy these files into that directory:

    - F-Base   (The executable)
    - F-Base.info   (Associated icon)
    - F-BPrefs   (The preferences file)
    - F-BPrefs.info   (Associated icon)
    - F-Base_English.Guide   (This document file)
    - F-Base_English.guide.info (Associated icon)
    - BBase3-->F-Base   (Simple F-Base converter)
    - BBase3-->F-Base.info   (Associated icon)
    - Regform   (Printable registration form)
    - Regform.info   (Associated icon)

Once installation is finished using either method, you may run
F-Base.

Future versions of F-Base updates are easy to install. Simply
overwrite the older F-Base files with the newer versions. All
parts of F-Base are localized in the same directory. Makes system
installation and removal fast and easy.

1.6 fbprefs

Main
About F-BPrefs

This utility allows you to configure F-Base to personal preference.

F-BPrefs is a simple utility. You probably have seen similiar prefs
utilities many times before. Prefs are a normal part of many programs.

F-BPrefs must be in the same directory as F-Base. Do NOT put
F-BPrefs in your system prefs drawer. It does NOT belong there.

The F-Base Configuration Choices

Screen Font: Choose the font used by the F-Base screen.

                    The size of the font must be 8 point or greater.
                    Smaller point-size fonts are not supported.

                    The default font is topaz/8.

  Edition Font: Same as screen font. Default font topaz/8.

  Screen Mode: Select the screen mode used by F-Base. The
                    size must be 640 x 200 or greater.

                    F-Base supports 18 screen modes.

                    Maximum screen colors: 8.

                    Default screen: PAL 640 x 256 - 8 colors.

  Options: Select the sound, picture (GFX), anim, and text
                    players and viewers. The full path MUST BE entered.
                    F-Base must be able to find the selected utilities.

                    Clicking the ? box opens the selection requestor.
                    Make the selections. Click OK to close requestor.

  Palette: Select between ECS/OCS and AGA support. Select color
                    and use RGB sliders to adjust color.

                    The Original button restores palette to default.

                    The Reset button restores colors to prior setting.

When the preference settings are saved, F-BPrefs writes a file in
the F-Base Directory. The file is named F-Base.Prefs. This is the
saved configuration file. This file is read each time F-Base is
run.

1.7 bbase

              Main

                    An Easy-To-Use F-Base Utility

                            What is It?

B-Base converter is a simple utility to convert AlienBase files
into F-Base Files.

      Supported Alien are for now :
              - Final Data V3 Files
              - InfoFile (MiAmiga II) Files
              - BBase III Files
              - F-Base Vx.x Files
              - AlphaBase 2.0 Files

If you do not need to convert AlienBase files, you may safely

delete this utility and its icon. Not required for normal F-Base
functions.

                          How To Use It

   1. Click on the icon and choose your AlienBase file.

   2. Choose the name of the final F-Base file and save it.

Caution : The Converters (Final Data && Infofile) aren't fully functionnal.
          Some bugs subsits because I've not the documentation about these
          Save formats. If You have more informations about these formats
          (Or other formats like Access, Oracle, 4D...) contact me. I will
          be very happy and you will get a free key file (If the infos are
          correct and complete :-)

You may now load the converted AlienBase file into F-Base and do
any standard F-Base operations to the file. The file is now an
F-Base file.

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1.8 shareware

                 Main

              Registration
                            F-Base Is SHAREWARE

 This F-Base demonstration version is limited to 20 records.

 F-Base is SHAREWARE. If you use F-Base, find it useful, and want
 the complete version, you must register F-Base by sending the small
 donation. Kindly consult the registration section for all F-Base
 registration details.

 Think of a donation as an investment in F-Base as well as other
 programs to be written in the future. Think of the SHAREWARE as an
 investment in the Amiga community. By supporting SHAREWARE you
 support the Amiga community to expand and grow stronger.

 I have intentionally kept my shareware donation modest. I have no
 intention of increasing it. I believe the donation is fair and
 adequate. I am more interested in insuring that good software is
 available for the Amiga community. I would hope you agree by
 registering F-Base and supporting its future development.

1.9 register

                    Main
                                    The F-Base Shareware Donation

  The F-Base shareware donation is :

        FF 60.00   DM 20.00   USD 12.00 £ 10.00

  The donation is accepted only in these currencies due to exchange
  difficulties. Hope you understand the need for this policy. FANTAISIE
  software is simply not prepared to negotiate currencies other than
  those indicated. The shareware donation is too modest to make other
  arrangements possible or feasible.

                        F-Base Registration Information

  Be sure to complete the registration document indicating payment
  method and how you want your personal F-Base keyfile sent.

  All shareware donations paid in cash will be sent same day by either
  E-MAIL or SNAIL mail per your choice indicated on registration form.

  Kindly contact the Author if you have any questions
  or comments about F-Base or registration. You may send E-Mail to the
  either of following addresses:

    Frédéric Laboureur at alphasnd@hol.fr

  Your E-Mail will receive prompt attention and a quick response. Of
  that you may be assured.

1.10   history

                    Main
                                    A Brief Summary Of F-Base History

  F-Base keeps breaking new ground in databases designed for the
  Amiga. Here is a brief summary of F-Base development.

  V2.30: * Added the 'Insert A Field' function ! Important !
         * Now, the windows move are 'shadowed'. It looks
           more professional than ever.
         * The FInfo command is no more required (F-Base now use an internal
           function...) -> More professional, gain 4 kos of Ram ;-), faster, and
           faster F-Base loading <8-).
         * The 'search' function use now STANDARD AMIGADOS Jokers !
         * Localized 100 % via the standard localization system (locale.library)
         * X-Base_converter allows to import AlphaBase 2.0 Files.
         * Text editing is now updated : now you can click on the letter that you
           want to edit (like standard AmigaOS string gadgets).
         * F-Base screen is now PUBLIC !! Yes, you can open any software on the
           F-Base screen (like multiview to display your text file or
           pictures....). The colors are set to have a good look with the

standard intuition's windows (and gadget...). It's really fun !
* Save function updated : now, the RMB save the database without asking
  for a name (it use the default name) and the LMB ask the name to save
  the database. It's really better than the previous solution (saving
  the database don't take any time now).
* F-Base Preference program updated. Not far from Perfect now ;-).
* Some optimizations !! Yep, I've gained 2 kos in the main executable
  size.
* Some minors bugs fixed.

V2.20: * Dynamically memory allocation for the records. THE most important
         change in this version. Now, you can work with 10 000 records with
         only 512 kos of Ram (Need 300 kos in reality, Not 512 kos ;-)
         Most of the code has been reprogrammed to allow this..
         A Database takes only the needed memory, not more.
       * New sort routine, VERY FAST (9 secs to sort 10 000 records on 030/50).
       * The field number has been increased from 30 to 255.
       * New function : The line style can be automatically generated :
                  - The full line in UpperCase/LowerCase/NoChange
                  - The First Word in UpperCase/LowerCase/NoChange
                  - The First Character in UpperCase/LowerCase/NoChange
         Just test it and you will love it !! F-Base is the first database ←
            manager
         to allow this :-)
       * A new tool is now included in this package : XBC (X-Base Converter). It ←
            allow
         you to convert some extra database format into the F-Base format.
         Supported formats are for now:
           - BBase 3
           - Final Data 3 (Softwood)
           - InfoFile (MiAmiga II)
           - F-Base Vx.x
       * New search routine. Utra fast now ;-)
       * Save format modified. smaller. You need to use XBC to convert your old
         F-Base file into this new format
       * F-BPrefs has been totally reprogrammed. Just for fun. Result : Smaller ←
            (-22 kos),
         Faster, and better. It use the screen font instead of the old topaz 8 ←
            font, it
         remember your last choice for the Fonts and The Screen (ASL Requester) ←
            and use
         the standard error window output to display errors (easyrequesters ←
            supported by
         ARQ ;-)
       * Some bugs fixed now...
       * Many optimizations !

V2.10: * New associative gadgets for video and text. FBPrefs
         modified to configure new gadgets.
       * Added selection of text style (bold, italics, underlined)
         for each record field and each line data.
       * Printing in column mode supported. Print in same styles
         selected for record field and line data.
       * New database save format (to save any style). Still
         supports older save format. Smaller saved databses.

```
            * New file requestor for save. Name of loaded database
              appears in requestor.
            * Display optimized in Table and Record modes by 15%.
            * Improved file requestors. Faster.
            * Revised font loader. Automatic default to topaz.font
              if fonts not found.
            * Further general code optimization.
            * Minor cosmetic changes.

    V2.00: * Major update. New features added. General refinement.
            * Support for icon tooltype and CLI/shell argument.
            * Two different types of fields: string and numeric.
            * Search function added. Select either string or
              numeric.
            * New sound and picture requestor for easier selections
              and changes
            * New sort routine 25% faster.
            * Table mode display optimized 10%.
            * Automatic centering all windows.
            * 100% localized for language.
            * New check box gadget (font sensitive). Enables
              visible/invisible display in Table mode.
            * New palette requestor in FB-Prefs. AGA support.
            * Selection of GFX and SFX by requestor in FB-Prefs.
            * New save format backward compatible with earlier
              F-Base versions. Previous databases still usable.
            * Further general code optimization. Cleaner and more
              reliable program function.

    V1.3b: * Bugs Fixes (print and switch table/records).

    V1.30: * Bug fixes (screen-mode and keyboard-shortcuts).
            * Italian catalog file added.
            * New installer script.
            * Code optimization (-5 kos).
            * New sort routine (not as memory intensive). Buffer=80 kos
              max of dynamic memory against 1,600 kos max of static memory
              (to sort 9999 records).
            * String gadgets are horizontally proportional.
            * Adding the "version" option (when you type "version F-Base"
              from CLI/shell).

    V1.2b: * You can now switch from Table mode to Record mode
              simply by a double-click.
            * You can use ALL the gadgets in the table mode.
            * Some bug fixes (copy, paste and sliders).
            * Further code optimization.
            * Adding a Deutsch catalog file by Martin.
            * New English guide by JAKE Productions.

    V1.10: * First FULL English release.
            * Display routine optimized (nearly 4-6 times faster).
            * Sort routine optimized (up to 40 times faster).
            * New faster file Requestor.
            * New status bar.
            * Some bug fixes.
```

V1.00: * First public release on Aminet (French only).

1.11 author

            Main
                                        Contacting The Author

Any new ideas, bug reports, registration materials, or if you simply
want to contact me, please write to:

By Snail Mail:

      Frédéric Laboureur
      15, Rue Du Bosquet
      67640 FEGERSHEIM
      FRANCE

By E-Mail (It's much faster):

E-Mail Address: alphasnd@hol.fr

I really would like to hear from you. It is very reassuring to know
people are using F-Base, and care enough about F-Base to contact the
Author.

I am committed to further improving F-Base to insure it is the best
database program available for the Amiga.

Thank you. Have Fun With F-Base.

Fred FANTAISIE Software

1.12 credits

            Main
                                        Thank You All

No computer program is ever developed without help. F-Base is no
exception. Cooperative help comes in many forms. Some people do
coding. Others beta test and chase bugs. Still others write the
documents people need to understand and use the program.

Although F-Base is primarily a solo project, I want to thank the
following for their continued help and support. Thank you. You
were there when I needed the help and support.

* Martin for his German translations and fine bug reports. He
  really supported the early formative development of F-Base.
  His contribution was fantastic and appreciated.

* Dennis Jacobson of JAKE productions for cleaning up the English
  guide. It was a mess. Best forgotten. English was never my strong
  suit. And for his bug reports and continuing suggestions for the
  improvement and diversification of F-Base. Really helped.
  Thanks Dennis, It's MaGiC !!

* Alessandro "Cralex" Basso for his italian translation

* To all the early Registered Users of F-Base. They gave me the
  encouragement to go on. The first shareware donation was magic.
  An inspiration for further effort. I thank all those who expressed
  confidence with their shareware donation. You have no idea how
  much those letters helped.

* And, finally, to those who may register F-Base in the future. You
  are its hope and future. I sincerely hope you will join this
  list of people to thank if not in name, certainly in spirit.

The Amiga still RuleZZZZZZZZZZ.

Thank you one and all. Really appreciate all the help..

            Fred.

1.13   amiga

            Main
                    "When a PC crashes does that mean an angel gets
        its wings? It does! It does!"__Windows 95 Lament

            The New PC Computer

    Just imagine that a noted PC manufacturer decides to develop
    and market a new generation PC for the next millennium. It has
    dual parallel 1080 MHz Pentium IX processors, 500 MB of 64 bit
    quad memory, 2500 MB of primary staged bubble drip storage,
    2500 MB of secondary staged bubble drip storage, infinitely
    user definable screen resolutions up to 4096 x 4096 pixels,
    relies entirely on voice recognition for imput, fits in your
    shirt pocket and costs a mere $500.

    What's the first question the computer community asks?

            Is it Amiga compatiable?

            * * * * * * * * *

    Windows 95: "Where do you want to go today?"

            Amiga OS: "Already been there."

            * * * * * * * * *

        Windows 95: "Big boat with little cargo."

Amiga OS: "Small boat with plenty of cargo."

* * * * * * * * *

"Someday Java may be just another cup of coffee."

"Isn't this the dawn of a great new day, or what?"

* * * * * * * * *

1.14 open

Main

Open A Database

Click the OPEN gadget to open an existing database. A file requestor
opens for selection of the database. Select the database and click OK.

If the FInfo command is not in your F-Base directory, and error
message will appear. Check to see if the file FInfo is there. If not,
copy the FInfo file into the F-Base directory. If necessary, go
to the original F-Base archive as a source of the FInfo file.

The INSTALLATION script will always copy the required FInfo file to
the newly created F-Base directory. Manual installation may sometimes
overlook this really vital file.

** Keyboard Shortcut: Right Amiga + o

1.15 save

Main

Save A Database

The SAVE gadget saves your database as a file in the F-Base directory.

Left Mouse Button :

Direct save of the database. No requestor is opened.

Right Mouse Button :

A requestor opens prompting a name. If you are saving a previously
opened database, the database name will appear in the requestor. It
may be a database you have just edited and are saving it with the same
name. Click OK and another requestor will prompt for an overwrite
With YES and NO gadgets.

The overwrite requestor is purely precautionary to prevent accidental
overwrites of an existing database. Click either YES or NO as the
case may be.

If this is a new database, choose a new file name. Use a name fairly
descriptive of what the database is. For example, Addresses for an
address database.

** Keyboard Shortcut: Right Amiga + s

1.16 add

                 Main
                                              Adding Records

The ADD gadget is dual function. Add one record or multiple records to
the end of the database depending on which mouse button is clicked.

The Left Mouse Button adds ONE record to the end of the database.

** Keyboard Shortcut: Right Amiga + a

The Right Mouse Button opens a requestor prompting X number of records
to add to the end of the database. The X number can be any number you
want. You must click the "Continue" gadget to add the records.

** Keyboard Shortcut: Right Amiga + Shift + a

Using the Left Mouse Button to add one record at a time is safe. Adding
multiple records can be risky. Try each type to see which you favor.

The ADD gadget only adds records to the end of the database. This
presents an opportunity to review the added records for errors of any
kind.

Before you add simply note the number or name of the last record. After
simply go back and review the records you added. Correct anything that
needs correction.

Review is a good habit. To err is human. Mistakes do occur. Remember,
once the database is sorted, all records are in their proper sequence.
Error correction becomes harder. You must remember what records were
added.

1.17 insert

                 Main
                                              Inserting Records

The INSERT gadget is dual function depending on which mouse button

is clicked.

The Left Mouse Button inserts ONE record before the actual record.

** Keyboard Shortcut: Right Amiga + i

The Right Mouse Button opens a requestor prompting X number of records
to insert before the actual record. The X number can be any number you
want. You must click the "Continue" gadget to insert the records.

** Keyboard Shortcut: Right Amiga + Shift + i

Inserting records demands prudence. Be sure you want to do what you
are about to do. Overly zealous inserts can cause problems.

Note the last record as the end point. The record prior to that record
as begin point. Anything between those records is inserted.

1.18 sort

                    Main

                    Fields
                                        Sorting Records

The SORT gadget is dual function depending on which mouse button
is clicked.

The Left Mouse Button starts sort in alphabetical order A --> Z.

** Keyboard Shortcut: Right Amiga + z

The Right Mouse Button starts sort in inverse alphabetical order
Z <-- A.

** Keyboard Shortcut: Right Amiga Shift + z

SORT is dependent on the selected record field. Usually, the first
record field is the most important, and records are sorted by that
record field.

1.19 search

                    Main

                    Fields
                                    Searching For A Record

SEARCH finds any record in your database. There are two types of
searches: Text and Numeric.

SEARCH responds to the type of the selected record field. Fields
can be either text or numeric. They can not be both. A text field
starts a text string search. A numeric field starts a numeric
value search.

You may use either mouse button to open the SEARCH requestor.

Both the text and numeric SEARCH requestors share function buttons.
Only the input fields are different. START starts the search. OK
closes the requestor. RESET restores the database. CANCEL cancels
everything.

                         The Text String Search

Enter a text string of ten or less characters. Any more than ten
is not accepted. The text string field accepts only ten characters.
You can use standard AmigaDOS pattern whithin your text (#?, ?,..).
Click the "Case Sensitive" box (if required) for the case sensitive
option. Click START to begin search. RESULT will indicate the number
of records found, or No Record if no matches were found. Click OK to
close the requestor and review any found matches. Clicking SEARCH
again reopens the requestor. Click RESET to restore original database.

                        The Numeric Value Search

A numeric record field open the numeric search requestor. Use either
mouse to select the Minimum and Maximum buttons. Enter the desired
values to be found and click START. All other operations same as a
text string search.

** Keyboard Shortcut: Right Amiga + r

The SEARCH function is extremely useful for locating records in large
databases. It will find just the record you want.

And you will find that SEARCH is extremely fast and accurate.

1.20   print

                 Main

                 Fields
                                      Printing Records

The PRINT gadget opens the printing requestor with several options.
Choose those options that best serve your printing purpose.

   High Quality: Switch between High-Quality and Draft
                 outputs.

                 X ON = High-Quality - X OFF = Draft

   Type Style: Select the desired font style type.

```
                    Use either mouse button to select.

                    Choices: Elite – Pica – Condensed

   From X To X:  Select the record or range of records
                 to print.

                    Record Range = 0001 To 9999.

   Print:        Prints selected record or records.

** Keyboard Shortcut: Right Amiga + p

Print does not have a default setting.

PRINT requires the copy command and the printer prefs utility in
the system prefs drawer.

All printer output is directed to PRT:.
```

1.21   table

```
                   Main

                   Arrows

                   Check Box
                              Table And Record View Gadget
```

This gadget changes the view between TABLE and RECORD view modes.
The gadget always indicates the opposite of the current view mode.
If the gadget indicates TABLE, the view is RECORD or vice versa.
All databases are opened in the RECORD view mode.

The RECORD view shows the data fields of one record. The field
view is verticl. You can step through the records using the
arrow gadgets. The number of data fields shown depends on the
screen resolution. Use the vertical slider or the up/down arrow
keys to view any additional fields not initially displayed.

If the check box gadget for a record field is not checked ("x"),
the data field for that record will not be displayed in the TABLE
view mode. If none of the check box gadgets are checked, all data
fields in TABLE view mode will be blank. Record field data is not
shown. All record field data is invisible. Only the record numbers
are indicated.

Records can be added or edited in RECORD view only. Records can not
be modified or altered in the TABLE view mode.

The TABLE view displays the record data fields horizontally. The
TABLE view is a table of the first 30 or less records of a database.
The number of records depends on the screen resolution. Use the

horizontal slider or left/right arrow keys to view LINE data beyond
the first three fields. Use the vertical slider or up/down arrow
keys to view records beyond those initially displayed.

In the TABLE view mode any record double-clicked switches to
RECORD view mode. This is handy to edit any errors seen while
viewing records in TABLE view mode. Clicking the Table/Record
gadget returns view to TABLE mode.

Remember records can not be edited in the TABLE view. Any edits
must be done in the RECORD view mode.

** Keyboard Shortcut: Right Amiga + t

1.22   author2

                   Main

                                   The Author Gadget

The AUTHOR gadget opens a window with the author and the shareware
registrant information. It has no other function.

1.23   alphabet

                   Main

                   Fields

                                   The 26 Letters

Allows you to find the first record that begins with any letter
of the alphabet. Choose a letter, and the first record beginning
with that letter is displayed.

It is very useful. Prevents scrolling through records looking for
a record that begins with the desired beginning letter.

This search function is dependent on the selected record field.
Any record field may be selected. In most cases, the primary field is
used.

This alphabetical search is particularily useful for records beginning
with seldom used letters such as X-Y-Z. The SEARCH function is much
better for finding a record among more frequently used letters.

1.24   cut

Main

Paste

The Cut Gadget

The CUT gadget is dual function depending on which mouse button is clicked.

The Left Mouse Button deletes the record but is still kept in memory for later use with the PASTE gadget.

** Keyboard Shortcut: Right Amiga + x

The Right Mouse Button opens a requestor where you can delete X number (within a user specified range) of records. There are From -> To fields to input the desired range of records.

Use extreme caution when using this feature. The records deleted in this manner are NOT retained in memory. They are completely eliminated from the database.

** Keyboard Shortcut : Right Amiga + Shift + s

The Left Mouse Button offers recourse. The Right Mouse Button offers none. Prudence suggest a backup of the database prior to any major record cuts.

1.25 copy

Main

Paste

The Copy Gadget

The COPY gadget is a single function gadget using the Left Mouse Button.

COPY copies only one record at a time. Multiple records can not be be copied with COPY.

Find a record you want to copy. Click COPY and the record is copied to memory for use with the PASTE gadget.

The copied record will remain in memory until another record replaces it. The copied record can be pasted multiple times. It can replace an an existing record, or add a new one. A record may also be copied to an entirely different database. As long as the record remains in memory, you can do anything you want with the record.

** Keyboard Shortcut : Right Amiga + c

1.26   paste

Main

Copy

The Paste Gadget

The PASTE gadget is a single function gadget using the either mouse
button.

PASTE overwrites a record with the record currently resident in
memory. PASTE pastes only one record at a time. You can paste the
same record multiple times. You can not paste a different record
unless a different record resides in memory.

PASTE is useful when adding records of the same kind with only minor
changes from record to record. Copy a record. Now add a record. Paste
the copied record to the added record. Add and paste as many times
as needed. Go back and edit the added records.

This method eliminates the need of entering the same general data
entries several times as new records are added. Much easier to go
back and edit for the record information.

PASTE may also be used as your insurance policy. Copy and paste
records to the end of a database. Do your edits on the original
records. If you do not like the results, you always have another
set of those original records at the end of the database.

** Keyboard Shortcut: Right Amiga + v

1.27   arrows

Main

The Arrow Keys

The ARROW keys allow movement backwards and forwards through
the records. Either mouse button may be used. They come in three
types:

```
  " <" AND "> "  Allow movement Forward/Backward through records
                 record by record.

                 ** Keyboard Shortcut: Arrow Left/Right.

  "<<" AND ">>"  Allow movement Backward/Forward through records
                 10 records by 10 records.

                 ** Keyboard Shortcut: None available.

  "|<" AND ">|"  Allow movement First/Last through the records.

                 ** Keyboard Shortcut: Arrow Down/Up.
```

The ARROW keys are very handy. The single record step and first/last
arrow keys are helpful. The 10 x 10 arrow keys less so.

1.28   associate

                        Main
                                              The Associate Gadgets

The ASSOCIATE gadgets are not new to F-Base. Earlier F-Base versions
allowed configuration of Sound and Picture gadgets. An association of
a sound or picture to a record was simple using the mouse buttons. The
Right Mouse Button to configure. The Left Mouse Button to either play
the sound or view the picture. Nothing has changed except the addition
of other options.

Two new gadgets compliment the Picture and Sound gadgets. They are the
Anim and Text gadgets. All four gadgets require configuration in FBPrefs
prior to use with F-Base.

The F-Base screen displays two associate gadgets upper right with the
generic § symbol. This generic symbol changes once a record to file
type association is made. A loudspeaker indicates a record to sound
file. The other three gadget types similarily change to indicate the
record to file type association. Only two associations per record are
allowed. However, the two associations can be of any of the four types.
You can mix up any two associations per record.

Clicking the Right Mouse Button on § gadget opens the associate
requestor. The requestor has five choices to make the record file
type association.

1. Select A Sound   - Associates a sound file   - Loudspeaker
2. Select A Picture - Associates a picture file   - Landscape
3. Select A Video   - Associates a animation file - ANIM
4. Select A Text   - Associates a text file   - TXT
5. Select Nothing   - Associates nothing

The requestor also has a close gadget. Use this gadget to close the
requestor without any changes to the current association. Clicking
Select Nothing deletes any current association made and closes the
requestor.
You may change selected associations as often as you want. Just be
sure to save the database after any changes are made.

Use the Left Mouse Button to play, view or display your record to
file associations.

Always keep in mind only two associations per record are possible.
The associations may be of any of the four possible types. The
gadgets will change to indicate the association type.

1.29   dbclose

                    Main
                                            The Database Close Gadget

 Dangerous to the health of your currently loaded database. Clears
 all record information.

 Actually, nothing serious happens. The record information of the
 loaded database is cleared. The original database is still intact.

 All this gadget does is clear all record fields. Good to know if
 there are a lot of errors, or if you change your mind as to content.
 This gadget erases everything so you may start over.

 To sole caution is if you use this gadget do not save the cleared
 database with the same name as the one you loaded. If you do that
 you will lose the original loaded database.

 There is no keyboard shortcut for this gadget.

1.30   checkbox

                    Main

                    Table
                                         The Check Box Gadgets

 The CHECKBOX gadgets are dual function gadgets depending on which
 mouse button is clicked. They determines what record information is
 shown in the TABLE view mode.

 The check boxes to the left of the data fields can be either ON or
 OFF.

                    x Box = ON   Blank Box = OFF

 The x indicates the field record is visible in the TABLE view mode.
 A blank box (no x) indicates the record field is invisible in the
 TABLE view mode.

 The CHECKBOX gadget is font sensitive for lower case only.

 The Left Mouse Button individually turns each individual record field
 either ON or OFF. It has no other function.

 The Right Mouse Button opens the CHECKBOX requestor. Only two options
 are available. The record fields are either ALL or NONE. ALL means
 they are all ON. NONE means they are all OFF. No individual record
 field selection is possible. All record fields are equally affected.
 Use the Left Mouse Button to make the ALL or NONE selection.

 It is better to individually turn the record fields ON or OFF with

the Left Mouse Button allowing more control what record fields are
shown in TABLE view mode.

Remember the CHECKBOX gadget affects record fields in TABLE view
mode. The RECORD view mode is unaffected.

1.31 fields

                    Main

                    Sort

                    Search

                    Print
                                        The F-Base Fields

 The F-Base fields are your database. There are two fields. The record
 FIELD to define the field, and the record LINE for the actual record
 line data. The record FIELD is dual function depending on which mouse
 button is clicked. The record LINE responds to either mouse button.

                          The Record Field

 To define a record FIELD use the Right Mouse Button to open the fields
 requestor. Use the Left Mouse Button for all selections.

 All options are simple and easy to use. Name is the record FIELD name.
 Delete this field means just that. Exchange two fields allows you to
 exchange two field positions. Insert a field means just that. Type means
 either string or numeric types. The FIELD styles determine how a record
 field is displayed and printed. The choices are bold, italics and underlined.
 Press Continue to save your choices to the record field.

 All record fields are defined in this manner. Definition usually
 follows a descending order. The first field is the most important.
 All other following fields are usually of lesser importance.

 Another function of the Left Mouse Button is to select a record field.
 A record field changes color when selected. The first or top record
 field is the default. The selected field governs SORT and SEARCH.

                          The Line Field

 The record LINE is where the record FIELD data is entered. Use either
 mouse button to cursor any line. Simply click on the line. The cursor
 will always be at the end of the line string. Use the keyboard back
 arrow to move backwards toward the beginning of the line. F-Base
 does not permit random placement of the cursor within a line.

 To edit simply click the line to be edited. A shortcut key is also
 available.

 ** Keyboard shortcut: Right Amiga + e

You can apply a automatic formatting for each line by pressing the left button
on the line. Just test it ! It's easy. You can :
        - Put the full line in UpperCase/LowerCase/NoChange (Default : NoChange)
           Put the First word in UpperCase/LowerCase/Nochange
           Put The First Character in UpperCase/LowerCase/NoChange

           You can combinate the three functions if you need it.

Remember the FIELD and LINE styles decide record display and how the
record prints. The selected record field determines SORT and SEARCH.

1.32   quit

                   Main
                                          Quitting F-Base

To quit F-Base click the upper left close gadget with either mouse
button or press the <ESC> key. Either action opens the quit requestor
with the options of quit YES or NO. Use either mouse button to select.

Pressing the space bar also cancels the QUIT requestor.

Before you quit did you makes changes to a database? Did you save it?
Be sure before you quit. What is not saved is lost.

1.33   databases

                   Main

                 Fields
                                       Creating A Database

F-Base databases are easy to create and manage. The concept that
out of which F-Base grew was simplicity. Creating a database follows
the same programming precept.

A database can be created from scratch or by using an existing
database.

If you follow these simple steps, you will encounter no difficulty.

1. The first thing to do is define the record fields. Just below
   the "Database:" is the first record field. Click it with the
   Right Mouse Button to open the fields requestor. Enter a field
   name select the other options you want with the Left Mouse
   Button. Click Continue to save the record field. You will note
   it is highlighted. Set up the additional record fields in the
   same manner. You will note they are not highlighted. When all

record fields are defined, save with an appropriate name. You
now have a database without line data. Just add the line data
and add new records adding the data to each. SORT and SAVE. Now
you have a database with data. Something truly useable.

2. Another way is to load an existing database and use the database
   CLOSE gadget to clear all the database information. This erases
   all data both FIELD and LINE. Follow the steps above. Be sure
   to save with a different name, or the original database will be
   overwritten. This method is not recommended. Better to start
   from scratch.

As can be seen these is really nothing complicated about creating
your own customized database. Make some. You are now an expert.

1.34 project

                  Main
                                        Using Project Icons

Project icons are used for many purposes. They associate with a
large variety of file types that are not executables. Text, sound,
picture, animation and are not executables. Project icons allow
such files to act as executeables.

You may load a F-Base database directly by using a project icon
with F-Base as the default tool. The project icon must have the
same name as the database file. The stack set at 4096. The
DONOTWAIT tooltype may be used.

For this release it is important that your database and its project
icon be in the same directory as F-Base and its required files.

If you desire to keep your database files in a special directory
and access directly with project icons, then F-Base, F-Base.Prefs,
F-Base.Lang.UK and F-Base.key (for registered users) must be in
the same directory.

The AmigaDOS command IconX may also be used with F-Base database
project icons. IconX will run a script file via a project icon.
Use of IconX is not recommended.

F-Base and its databases work well with utilities such as
Toolmanager. Toolmanager offers many ways to immediately access
F-Base and important databases on your workbench.

Toolmanager © 1990-1997 Stefan Becker. Available on Aminet.

F-Base allows ample room to experiment. You will find F-Base very
congenial and friendly. New uses of F-Base are only your discovery
away from practical reality.

1.35 shell

                   Main
                                      CLI/Shell Arguments

F-Base is easily run from the CLI or shell. Some people prefer the
CLI environment to workbench and its icons. People have different
methods and approaches. F-Base allows the differences inviting you
to use any manner you desire.

There are several ways to run F-Base from the CLI or shell.

1. CD to the F-Base directory. Type: F-Base. F-Base loads.

   This method does not detach F-Base from the shell window in
   which the process was started. Pull down the F-Base screen.
   Try to close the shell. The shell will not close. It closes
   only by quitting F-Base.

2. Use of the runback command is another option. CD to F-Base
   directory. Type: Runback F-Base. F-Base loads as a background
   task. F-Base is detached. The shell will close.

3. Using the AmigaDOS run command with the >NIL: redirection
   allows F-Base to run detached from the shell window. CD the
   F-Base directory. Type: Run >NIL: F-Base. F-Base loads. The
   shell window will close.

4. Scripts for execution by the AmigaDOS execute command are
   equally effective. If the script protection bit S for script
   is set, the script executes simply by typing its name. The
   execute command is not needed. This is handy because all
   statements and parameters are set within the script.

The addition of the database name as an argument allows F-Base to
open the named database directly. For instance, if Movies were a
database in the F-Base directory, typing F-Base Movies would open
the Movies database.

The addition of arguments applies to any of the above methods of
using F-Base from the CLI/shell.

1.36 tips

                   Main

                   Associate
                                      Tips And Tricks

This is more of a request for Tips and Tricks you have discovered
while using F-Base. Anybody who uses a program regularily finds
little tricks or shortcuts to make things easier. This section is
an appeal for those tidbits of information so they may be passed

on to others. For instance, here is some information about F-Base
that may be of use to you.

The ASSOCIATE gadgets are not restricted to their intended purposes.
They can be used for other types of record to file associations.
This guide was written using F-Base with two unintended gadget
associations: CygnusEd Professional and Multiview. The choices of
the text editor and Amigaguide viewer can be any utility. That is
not important. What is important is that F-Base is flexible and easily
configured to do things beyond its original intent.

Try changing the F-BPrefs options configuration for other utilities.
Use combinations that apply to particular kind of database. This guide
is part of an Amigaguide database. The Sound gadget is configured for
CygnusEd. The Picture gadget for Multiview.

Another database is for HTML documents. To write and view the HTML
documents configuration changes in F-BPrefs allows GoldED and a HTML
viewer to interact to write and view HTML documents.

If you experiment with F-Base you will find innumerable uses. The
limit is your imagination and willingness to experiment. F-Base is
the first program of its kind to allow this open architecture.

So, if you come across interesting uses or little tricks, pass them
along to the Author. Your suggestion may redirect the whole course
of F-Base development. Never know. Moreover, your tips will be passed
on to other F-Base users. What you know. They will know.

However, to realize the full power of F-Base you must first register.

Consider doing so now.

1.37 notes

          Main

          Author
                              F-Base Comments

No database program developed for the Amiga is as simple to use
and understand as F-Base. Nor as flexible and easy to configure
any way you want. Databases may be as simple or complex as you
desire. Use only a couple of record fields or all thirty. Whatever
you decide is entirely up to you with few program restrictions.

No other database program uses only one screen without pull-down
menus. F-Base is the only one.

No other database program is multimedia showing pictures, playing
sounds, viewing animations, or displaying text. Can you think of
another database program that does these things so easily, quickly
and effectively as F-Base does? Perhaps, you can. But none with the
simple ease of F-Base.

And F-Base is well supported. As comments and suggestions, ideas and
even bug reports are received, a new F-Base version is already under
development. Feedback is very important to the continued development
of any program. So please feel free to contact the author as often
as you want about anything you may want.

Any comments, corrections, suggestions, errors and omissions relating
to this guide, please send E-Mail to jacobd@thevision.net along with
a courtesy copy to the Author.

1.38 index

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     You may access any section of this F-Base Guide using this index.

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to this guide, please send E-Mail to jacobd@thevision.net along with
a courtesy copy to the Author.