

OPENSTEP 4.1 Release Notes: TextEdit

TextEdit is a new application based on the new text system. In addition to the standard text editing features in the 3.3 Edit application, it provides:

- "Wrap to Page" mode. This mode causes the document to be wrapped to the current page size (as opposed to the window size), and thus shows you a simple WYSIWYG representation of your pages. This mode also allows zooming.
- Support for new text object features such as kerning, ligatures, and baseline offsets.
- Ability to read/write plain text files in different 8-bit character encodings and Unicode. Coupled with the Kanji support in the new text object, you can read/write/edit Kanji files created by 3.3J or 4.1J. (You will need Kanji fonts and input manager.)

The alternate encoding to apply to a file is specified by a popup in the Open or Save panels. The default item, "Default," tells TextEdit to use either the default 8-bit encoding of the system or Unicode. Other choices let you select different encodings. You can also set the default setting of this popup via the Preferences panel.

Sources to TextEdit are available with the developer software, in **/NextDeveloper/Examples/AppKit/TextEdit.**

Known Problems in This Release

Reference: 58895

Problem: Tabs in plain text mode

Description: Tabs in a plain text window are by default set to a multiple of the font width. However this setting isn't readjusted when the font is changed, so the tabs get out of sync.

Workaround: Either don't change the font of a plain text window on the fly, or change it via defaults and restart the application.

Reference: 58741

Problem: Displaying unrenderable characters too slow

Description: When given characters which are not valid for the current font, the text system might spend too much time trying to find a font to render them. This means that files with random binary data could take a long time to load.

Workaround: Avoid binary files. A few binary characters are probably fine, and will be displayed as boxes, but a total binary file (for instance, an executable), could keep TextEdit busy for a while.

Reference: None

Problem: Encoding popup in Open/Save panels not available under NT3.51

Description: Because accessory views aren't supported under NT3.51, there is no encoding popup in the Open/Save panels.

Workaround: You can use the popup in the Preferences panel to set the default choice for the popup, which will then be used when files are opened or saved.

In addition, please refer to the Application Kit release notes for the new text system bugs.