

Display Features with RamWorks

Some Applesoft BASIC commands affect the display screen differently when you have activated the 80 column firmware. The display features affected are HTAB, INVERSE, FLASH, and HOME. Using commas in PRINT statements to tab across the screen is also different when you have the 80 column firmware active. To further confuse things, some things are not different if you have the new Enhanced Apple //e. Read on.

If you're not sure what the commands listed below do or how to use them, please refer to the Applesoft Tutorial or Applesoft Programmer's Reference Manual.

- INVERSE** When you have the 80 column firmware off, the computer will display only upper case characters in inverse. In the 80 column mode, it will display both upper and lower case inverse characters.
- HOME** When the screen shows a NORMAL display (black screen with light letters) with the RamWorks either active or inactive, the HOME command will clear the screen to black and move the cursor to the upper left corner of the screen. If you issue the HOME command when the RamWorks is active and the display mode is INVERSE, the screen will clear to a light display and show black characters. If you turn the 80 column firmware off and issue the HOME command in INVERSE mode, it will clear the screen to black and remain in the INVERSE mode.
- FLASH** The flash command will not work in the 80 column mode. If you use the FLASH command when the 80 column firmware is active, strange things may happen. To recover from this, use the NORMAL or INVERSE commands.
- HTAB** This command was originally intended for use with a 40 column display only. You cannot HTAB beyond 40 columns on a non-enhanced //e. To position the cursor anywhere on the 80 column line, use the POKE 1403,n command. ("n" is the column number between 1 and 79.) This POKE command will only work when RamWorks is active. If you have an Enhanced //e, the HTAB command works in both the 40 and 80 column modes.
- Comma Tabbing** Using commas in a PRINT statement to align output into columns only works on a 40 column display. The 80 column firmware can be active, but you must have the display set to 40 columns (ESC-4). Unless, of course, you have an Enhanced //e, which supports comma tabbing to a full 80 columns.