

STARRING CHARLIE CHAPLIN™

IBM PC • Atari ST • Amstrad CPC •
Spectrum 48K • Spectrum +3

Object

You are a silent film director who is required to produce a slapstick movie, starring one of the greatest names in silent comedy: Charlie Chaplin. On a tight budget you will have to choose a script, employ actors, buy props and scenery, shoot and edit the film then show it at the mercy of the film critics.

Loading Instructions

Atari ST Disk:

Turn on the computer, insert disk and game will load and run automatically.

IBM PC Disk:

First boot in DOS, then insert program disk. At the A > prompt type: Chaplin and press ENTER.

Keyboard Commands

To begin with you start on the first script cover. Pressing FIRE will take you to the script and accounts books. Moving the joystick LEFT will take you to the first PROFIT/LOSS sheet showing the financial results of your first movie. Further joystick movements LEFT will display the PROFIT/LOSS sheets of your subsequent films. However pressing FIRE again will take you to the PROFIT/LOSS sheet of the film you are currently shooting. If you are just starting, all that will be displayed is your starting balance. Press FIRE to return to the script.

Keyboard Commands

Atari ST

UP, DOWN, LEFT, RIGHT = CURSOR KEYS.
FIRE = HELP/UNDO

IBM PC

UP = 8, DOWN = 2, LEFT = 4, RIGHT = 6
FIRE = 5; also supports Amstrad joystick.

Selecting a Script

In order to make a movie you need a script, so the first thing to do is to choose one from the selection on offer. To browse through the scripts move your joystick UP or DOWN, this will show you the titles you can choose from. To view a script in more detail move your joystick LEFT. This will show you the first page which displays the number of scenes, the costs and description of the film. Moving the joystick to the left again will allow you to view each scene in detail, that is, the cost of the scene (per take), the actors involved, the props and text card messages to be used. At the end of the script you will arrive at a contract. If you wish to view other scripts, move the joystick RIGHT, this will take you back to the title page. However, if you have chosen to use this script, you will have to sign the contract. To do this simply type in your name and press FIRE. Now the contract has been signed you must film the movie.

Shooting a Scene

Now the contract has been signed, as you move through the script the message 'FIRE TO FILM THIS SCENE' will be displayed at the bottom of each page. Pressing the fire button will take you to the film set showing Charlie Chaplin, his co-stars and the scenery all in pause mode. To start filming move the joystick. Filming will last approximately 1 minute in which time you will be able to move Charlie Chaplin around the set, going in and out of buildings, climbing ladders, etc and performing wacky stunts on the other actors. When filming has finished on that scene the screen will revert back to the page of the script, only this time displaying the message 'FIRE TO EDIT SCENE'. Pressing the fire button will take you to the editor allowing you to make any changes you feel necessary. If however, you would like to reshoot the scene again, move the joystick UP. The message 'FIRE TO FILM THIS SCENE' will again be displayed and at an extra cost you can film the scene again.

Editing a Film

Selecting the editor will take you to the cutting room. Here you will be able to examine each scene in detail and re-shoot one if you wish. The scene to be edited will be shown in pause mode. At the bottom of the screen you will see a switch and a display showing the speed at which the scene is being shown. To begin with the display shows "x0" (pause mode). Moving the joystick RIGHT will move the switch into the forward position, playing the film at normal speed (i.e. x 1). By moving the joystick right again will increase the play back speed (i.e. x 2, x 3, x 4, ... and so on). Moving the joystick LEFT will have the same effect as moving the joystick right only this time play back will be reversed. Moving the joystick UP/DOWN will allow you to view the screen frame by frame in FORWARD/REVERSE modes. Pressing Fire will return you to the script.

Once all of the scenes have been filmed and edited, the phrase 'FIRE TO SCREEN FILM' will be displayed at the bottom of the 1st page of the script. Pressing the fire button will show the complete movie to a cinema audience. The funnier the film, the more money you make which will be displayed on the profit and loss sheet once the film has finished, the success or failure of your movie will be displayed on the front page of 'VARIETY'. If you have enough money pressing the fire button will return you to SELECT SCRIPT, else pressing the fire button will return you to the beginning again.

Loading Instructions

Amstrad CPC Cassette:

Press CTRL and small ENTER keys together. Press PLAY on the cassette recorder.

Amstrad CPC Disk:

Type RUN "DISK" and press ENTER. Game will load and run automatically.

Spectrum 48K Cassette:

Type LOAD "" and press ENTER. Press play on the cassette recorder.

Spectrum +3 Disk:

Turn on your computer, insert disk into drive and press ENTER.

Keyboard Commands

Amstrad CPC Disk & Cassette

Up=Q, Down=A, Left=O, Right=P, Fire=Space Bar.

Spectrum 48K & +3

Up=Q, Down=A, Left=O, Right=P, Fire=Caps Lock.

Profit/Loss Sheet

You begin the game on the first script cover. Pressing the Q key will swap between script and accounts books. You will then be shown the Profit/Loss sheet. This gives you a record of your spending on other films, the profit or loss they made and a final balance showing you the amount of money you can spend on your next movie. If you are just starting all that will be displayed is your starting balance. Press FIRE to return to the script.

Selecting a Script

In order to make a movie you need a script, so the first thing to do is choose one from the selection on offer. To browse through the scripts press Left/Right, this will show the titles you can choose from. Once you have chosen the script you wish to use, pressing FIRE will select the script taking you to the first scene page.

Shooting a Scene

Now you have selected a script you can view it in more detail by moving your joystick LEFT/RIGHT (O/P). Each scene page displays what will be used in that scene, i.e. the cost of the scene (per take), the actors involved, the props and text card message to be used. At the bottom of the page the message 'FIRE TO SHOOT' is displayed. Once FIRE is pressed, you will be taken to the set where you will see Charlie Chaplin, his co-stars and the scenery all in pause mode. To start filming move the joystick. Filming will last approximately one minute in which time you will be able to move Charlie Chaplin around the set, climbing ladders etc. and performing whacky stunts on the other actors. When filming has finished on that scene the screen will revert back to the script only this time displaying the messages 'FIRE TO EDIT' and 'R TO RE-SHOOT'. Pressing FIRE will take you to the editor allowing you to view a scene in more detail and re-shoot it if necessary. Pressing R will allow you to re-shoot the scene at an extra cost.

Editing a Film

Selecting the editor will take you to the cutting room. Here you will be able to examine each scene in detail and re-shoot a scene if you wish. The scene to be re-shot will be shown in pause mode. By moving the joystick RIGHT the scene will be shown at normal speed, moving the joystick right again will double the speed of the replay to twice that of normal. Pressing FIRE will return you to the scene page. To re-shoot a scene press R.

Once all of the scenes have been filmed and edited, the phrase 'KEY S TO SCREEN FILM' will be displayed at the bottom of each scene page. Pressing the S key will show the complete movie to a cinema audience. The funnier the film, the more money you make which will be displayed on the profit and loss sheet once the film has finished, the success or failure of your movie will be displayed on the front page of 'VARIETY'. Pressing FIRE will return you to SELECT SCRIPT.



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