

# Introduction

MY SECRET FILE is a database for top-secret information. More than one member of the family can use the program to save information on a tape of their own, which can then be loaded to be looked at again or to change the information.

The program follows the pattern of the book. Anyone using the program can save his or her 'secret file' on a spare tape, having first chosen a secret password – this makes it impossible to load the secret file unless you know the password.

## Using the Program

*The program is recorded twice, once on each side of the cassette.*

### If you are using a Spectrum 48K

#### LOADING

Takes approximately 5 minutes.

Place cassette in cassette recorder and ensure that it is fully rewound.

Make sure you are in CAPS LOCK mode (by pressing the CAPS SHIFT key and CAPS LOCK).

Type LOAD "" and press ENTER.

Press the PLAY key on your cassette recorder.

Leave the cassette in the recorder and the PLAY key depressed until two programs FILE and CHARACTER ARRAY:P\$ have loaded and the message "Are you in caps mode?" appears on the screen.

Leave the cassette in the recorder and the PLAY key depressed until two programs FILE and CHARACTER ARRAY:P\$ have loaded and the message "ARE YOU IN CAPS MODE?" appears on the screen.

Make sure you are in CAPS MODE and then press "Y" (Yes) and ENTER.

#### ENTERING A PASSWORD

You may enter a password of up to 10 characters when requested. You will then be asked for a code number – this can be up to 10 figures. Remember to press ENTER after typing your choices. Don't forget your password and your code number or you won't be able to get your secret file back. Use something secret but easy to remember. For example, your favourite pop star's name backwards and the last 3 figures of your telephone number. Don't write it down – someone will find it!

#### PAGES

Pages are divided into two sections: there are 5 contents pages which give the titles of the 50 pages available in the program.

- ( press SYMBOL SHIFT and the 8 key and the next page will appear on the screen. When you have reached the last page and press ( the first page will appear again.
- % press SYMBOL SHIFT and the 5 key and the previous page will appear on the screen. When you reach the first page and press % the last page will appear.
- ! if you want to choose a specific page from those listed in the contents press SYMBOL SHIFT and the 1 key and then enter the number of the page you want, followed by ENTER. If you want to look at the contents pages again, press SYMBOL SHIFT and the 1 key and then type in 0.

#### RECORDING INFORMATION

When you turn to one of the pages for recording information, you will see an asterisk next to the top row on the screen. At the bottom of the screen you will see the words "FILL IN" or "VALUE" and brackets where your message will appear as you type it, until you press ENTER. If you decide to answer a

question further down the page, press & (SYMBOL SHIFT and 6 key) and the asterisk will move down to the next row. When the asterisk reaches the bottom of the page and you press the key again, it will move back to the top row.

When you have typed in the information you want to keep, press the ENTER key and the information will be moved up to the correct line. If, before you press the ENTER key, you notice you have mistyped a word, or change your mind, use the DELETE key to alter information.

When the program expects some information to be typed in, a window will appear at the bottom of the screen and one of three words will appear outside the brackets:

PAGE when you are entering a new page number

VALUE when the answer is expected as a number (for example: 'how tall are you?')

FILL IN when the answer may be a combination of words and numbers.

#### SAVING YOUR SECRET FILE

When you wish to stop, press @ (SYMBOL SHIFT and 2 key). You can then save the information you have filled in on a spare tape – not the tape with the program on it! The next time you want to check the information in your secret file you will simply have to load the program and then the data held on your spare tape.

If you want to save the information, follow the instructions that will appear on the screen after you have pressed @. You will see the message "Start tape, press any key" appear. Remembering to press the RECORD keys on your cassette recorder, keep the cassette recorder recording until this message has appeared 4 times. (Each time it appears, press any key on your computer). When it has finished recording your secret file you will see the message "Do you wish to verify?" appear on the screen. You can then verify your file in the usual way.

Once your file has been saved, all the information you typed in

will be removed from the computer's memory so that no one else can see your secret file. The program can then be used by other members of your family.

#### USING YOUR SECRET FILE AGAIN

Once you have loaded the program as before, you will be asked "Do you wish to use previously saved file?" Answer "Yes" and follow the instructions that will appear on the screen.



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# MY SECRET FILE

**A DO-IT-YOURSELF DOSSIER FOR YOUR  
DARKEST THOUGHTS**

**Program by  
PHIL NATHANS**

**Based on the book by  
JOHN ASTROP**

**SPECTRUM 48K  
Instructions**

**BOOKWARE**