# Internationally Convertible and Compatible Software 

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ROYBOT

## ROYEOT SFECCIFAX FIFTURE GASE SYSTEM

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Computer firt<br>Advertising<br>Electronic Notige Eisard<br>Datatase/Filing System<br>Greetirigs Cards<br>Farty Fiece/Disco Effects<br>Home Viaeo Titles

The fackage 15 used like a word processirig system but rias a kevtoard with 220 user definatile ctiaracters or grapiic symbols enabled via different keytoard shift options. Thie characters on any line can te any orie of four sizes and any paper/ink colour combination: these options are implemented via easy to use menu selectionis. fin edit option alluws the characters, sizes and colours to be chariged or lines to te deleted or moved. A reduced sireen copy (via an Epson pririter), representing a range of capablities is given below:


The predefined character set is normal characters, numbers and symbols: capital Gothic characters: sideways capital letters: lines and angles; artwork symbols.

A character designer is provided to redefine any character. It has facilities to set or reset any of the 64 dots that make a character, display/insert any reference character, rotate or invert paper/ink. Any number of different character sets can be produced to relate to a picture set.

A picture set is leaded via a user named index with bb entries, either one at a time for display or editing, or as a series with a selected variable delay betweeri displays. Alterriatively, four predefined lists can be produced to give variable delays and display modes: the latter are scroll across, down or reveal from the centre. The memory on a 48k system can hold $b$ pictures and 128k sytems 6 in FAM and 29 in FAMDISC.

A random access mode is provided with facilities similar to advanced database systems, where the least recently used picture is overwritten if the memory is full and, on updatirig, memory based pictures are changed besides those on disk or tape.

A further display mode is as a slide projector, with forwards or backwards selection.

The main menu has options to type, edit, load, save, display inde:, select picture display menu or a utilities menu.

The menus for editing, selecting colours and sizes and other pop up messages appear. on the half of the screen not being typed. The screen edit menu has options to type or overtype (same colour), repaint, line insert, delete or reinsert, change size and display or edit keyboard characters.

The picture display menu allows selection of a series, (by first and last from the index), creation, editing and running of a random list (saved with the index), single screen random access or slide projector mode. Once pictures are loaded into memory, other display modes can be effected without reloading.

The utilities menu has options for creating different picture base systems, particularly to overcome the limitations in using tapes.

The software has been written in accordance with the ROYBOT Internationally Convertible Standards, whereby a modifiable BASIC driver is used, the first entries being menu titles and messages which can changed to other languages. These are followed by input/output statements which can be changed for non-standard peripherals. For Spectrums with the facility, COPY and COFY EXP can be selected to print screen dumps.

The software provides facilities to make copies for back-up or for use with different picture sets. The purchase price licences the purchaser to use the software on one computer at a time. Multiple licences can be arranged at a discount.

## SIZING INFORMATION

The software comprises a BASIC and a machine code program with a combined size of 24 K bytes. There is also an index file of SK bytes, which also contains the keyboard definition. Each picture occupies 2 K bytes. Thus a +3 disk can store all the software and 72 pictures and a microdrive cartridge the software and about 30 pictures. Around 3 pictures per minute can be obtained on tape.

On receiving the software, a copy should be made for normal use and the original stored in a safe place. In line with the design objectives of putting the the user's requirements first and easy conversion to other disks or merius for non-English languages, the software provides facilities for making copies. Filease do not abuse this user friendly facility for making iliegal Eopies. As a purchaser you are licensed to make copies for your dwn use and on only one computer at a time.

1) Load the software as described below; a menu will appear;
2) press 0 for utilities; the utilities menu will be displayed;
3) press 8 (save software); a copyright notice is given:
4) remove the ROYEOT software from the drive and insert a tape, pre-formatted disk or microdrive cartridge as appropriate; press any key other than EDIT to save.

For disks or microdrives, the software will be saved automatically. For tape, the riormal "Firess FEC \& FLAY" or "Start tape" message will be given for each of the three parts to be saved (speccifax, infcode and index; saving time 108, 35 and $B 0$ seconds): for later convenierit operation, the third part should be saved on a separate tape.
5) after copying press 0 to exit to the main menu.

LOADING THE SOFTWARE
Tape - LOAD "" or LOAD "speccifax". The tape loader option can be used on the +2 .
+3 Disk - Fieset the computer, select the loader or +3 EASIC and LOAD "disk".

Microdrive - Reset the computer (select 128 or 48 EASIC), type RUN and press ENTER or LOAD *"m":1:"run".

## CONVERSION FOR OTHER DFIVES OF DIFFEFENT LANGUAGES

With the main menu loaded, press EREAK (CAFS SHIFT SFACE), cursor down and ENTER. The following lines can be changed:

20 to $890,910,930,950$ for menus and messages. The normal Spectrum user defined graphics characters can be used for special characters. Note: the array dimensions are given in line 4690 and should not normally be changed.

900, 920, 940, 960 to save BASIC, load code, save code and er ase file. Line 960 should be just RETURN when a file can be overwritten without erase.

970, 980, 990 for RAMDISC load, save and erase.

1000, 1010 for copying the screen to a printer.
WAFiNING: inicreasing the size of the firogram can lead to "Out of memory errors", particularly where microdrive like devices are Lised which require extra memory for loadirig etc.

After conversion, type Filin and save the software as atove.

TYFitive text (mín ment 1)

1) Fress 1: a SīZE menu will appear:
2) press 1 to 4 for size; the EOFDEF colour menu will te displayed:
I) press 0 to 7 for colour or SFACE for existirig border colour: the meriu for F'AFEF colour is next;

3) press to 7, or SF'ACE for last used paper and irik colours:
4) on the following INK menu, again select $\emptyset$ to 7 , noting the contrast;
5) the firial colour menu choice is $\square$ to 3 for dark, tiright, dart flashing or tiright flashing;


Characters can now be typed in, the colour beirig inserted ori pressing a kEy. The following can also be used:

* < keys move the cursor without changirig the colour;
* DELETE removes a character to the left of the cursor and its colour moving the remainder of the line to the left, including colours;

* capital letters can be inserted using CAFS SHIFT or symbols with SYMEOL SHIFT; CAFS LOCK, EXTENDED and GFAFH enable other characters with $C, E, G$ flashing on the screen; the lock modes are reset by pressing the keys again;
* as indicated in the message box, pressing INV VIDEO allows a new colour to be chosen via the same menus as before.

When the line is finished, press ENTER. The "Select Size" menu is given for the next line, followed by "Faper Colour", "Ink colour" and "Attributes". The same size as the previous line can be selected by ENTEF and the last used colours also by ENTER.

After the last line has been typed, the program returns to the main menu. Input can also be stopped by pressing EDIT when the "Select Size" menu appears.

A page which has just been tyfed cari be caricelled by reselectirig type page or most other merili options. An iritermediate step requires ENTEF to te pressed or anotrier key to save. If a wrong selection has teen made, select save then press EDIT to rethirn to the mairi menu.

EDIT FAGE (MAIN MENL 2)
Fress 2 to edit the page which has just been typed in. The page will te displayed with the meriu options at the bottom of the screen.

On selecting overtype, type or pairit the cursor leys are used for moving
 to the point to be changed.

1 Overtype - allows characters to te overwritten with insert and delete inactive. The colour is not changed.

2 Type - this is the same as used for input, except the last chosen colour is inserted and cannot be changed. The main use is for deletirig or inserting to move part of a picture left or right. On delete, the colour of the last column is not changed.

F Faint - the paper and ink colours have to be selected as on infut: pressing space selects the colours used in column 1 of the cursor line. Moving the cursor up, down or across does not charige existing colours. Faintirig down, up or backwards is achieved by pressing space then a cursor key. Fainting along a lirie can be via space and cursor right or by simply pressing a letter ley: letters or symbols on the screen are riot changed. Different coiours can be selected by pressing INV VIDEO.

After the above, ENTEF returris to the edit menu.
4 Deletelirie - deletes the cursor line and saves it for reinsertion. This can be used to move pictures up and down the screen, one line at a time.

5 Insert line - this inserts a new line for entry in the same way as initial input, the existing cursor line and those below are moved down 1 or 2 lines, depending on the size chosen.

6 Fieinsert - reinserts the last deleted line or last line where the size has been changed, moving other lines down.

7 Change size - allows the size of characters on a line to be changed via the size menu used on input.

8 keyboard - displays the 221 defined keyboard characters and provides access to the character designer (see later).

9 New line - moves the cursor down a line. An alternative for up or down a line is by selecting overtype and using cursor keys.

When editirig 15 complete, 015 pressed to Exit. The comolete plcture 15 then displayed. If a suitable pririter 15 availatile, a copy of the screen can be obtained by pressing c ifor buFy ar e ifor CDFY ExF on a ts). Fressing any other dey returris to the mairi menu.

## ENTEFING GFAFHILS AND SFEEIAL CHAFALTEFS

In gerieral, entering graprics is easier using trie edit menu option, often entered in blac: and white and painted later. However, it is first necessary to initialise a pictire and colour for the first line: select 1 type page, size 1 , press space twice for previous torder colour and existing paperiink colours (thack arid white), then press ENTEF and EDIT for the nair menu, followed by 2 to edit. The graphics character set and e:ample pictures are given iri the appendices.

In order to become aware of the range of characters and symbals, it is a useful exercise to type each of the $3 \mathrm{ib}_{\mathrm{b}} \mathrm{keys}$ ( 1 to m) with the foillowirig:

```
no shift
CAFSS LOLK
SYME SHIFT
```

GFFFFH
EXTENDED
EXTENDED + CAFS LIDCK
EXTENDED + SYME SHIFT
EXT + CAFS LOCK + SYME SHIFT
rilinters arid lower case letters riminters and capital letters
normal shift characters except < etc. on older Spectrums grapiacs symbols sideways rumbers and capitais Gathic capitals more grafhics symbels a few more graptics symbols

Note that, as CAFS LOCK, EXTENLED and GFAFH keys are pressed, C, E and $G+1 a j t$ on the edge of the message bor to show the shift mode. GFiAFH overrijes the other options.

SAVING A FIETUFE (MAIN MENU 4:

1) Fress 4; the index is displayed, the format teing shown on the right;
2) select the required page rumber, lusing the cursor keys; press ENTEF;
3) the riext options govern whether the picture and the index are saved, or just the picture. The latter mode
 is provided for tapes where a rumber of pictures can be typed and saved. Later, the index can be saved on a different tape.
4) the final action is to type the name when prompted and ENTEF.
5) the save then starts. For tape, the usual "Start tape" or "FFESS REC" message will be given for each save. On saving, the index entry is changed to have a bright white background. After saving the program returns to the main menu.
6) Fress 4; the index will be displayed (see SAUING A FICTURE);
7) select the required number, using the cursor keys: press ENTEF to load or EDIT to cancel:
8) the page will be loaded, a message appearing on the screen, e.g. LCIAD info.pl, to show which page is requiredi
9) the picture will be diplayed theri pressing any key returnis to the mairi menu.

Loading of a picture which is not iri the indes is carried out via the utilities meriu.

## DISFLAY INDEX (MAIN MENU 5)

Selecting 5 on the mairi meriu displays the index. Theri any bey can be pressed to return to the menlu. The inder has $6 b$ eritries (see SAVING A FICTURE). Fictures which have apparently beeri saved successfuily have a brighit white backgrourid.

48K: AND 1281: DISF.LAY (MAIN MENU 6/7)

Fress 6 for 126k Display and 7 for 48K Display. The DISFLAY MENL stiowir on the right appears. Ecth options car, be used on 128k systems. If $128 k$ is selected on 48k systems a prograin stop will occur with a "Nonserise iri EASIC" message: tyfe RUN to restart the program.

128K/48K DISPLAY MENU
- Exir
1 select series
2 Randon occess
3 Edit list
4 Run list
5 stide show

MENU SELECTION PrEss nueber

SELECT SEFIES (DISFLLAY OFTTION 1;

1) Fress 1: the inde» will be displayed;
2) select the first required picture and press ENTEF;

उ) select the last required picture and press ENTEF;
No matter what range of entries are selected, a maximum of 6 pages will be read in 48k mode and 29 in 128k mode (the limit on Spectrum +3): gaps iri the indes are ignored.
4) select paging mode down, across or opening up from the centre of the screen by pressing $a, b$ or $c$ (see prompt);
5) select the delay between displays by pressing $\theta$ to 9, for mirimum period, $10,20,30$ to 90 seconds (see prompt):
6) confirm the displayed modes by pressing any key ottier than EDIT to load the pages. EDIT causes a return to the main menu.

As on all loading, the page number required 15 displayed e.g. LOAD info.pl: this helps when pictures are on different tapes.

After loading, each picture will be displayed in turn. To stop, hold down the EDIT key to return to the main menu. If the edit or save page options are chosen, the last displayed picture will be availatle for editing or saving.

Feselection of the display menu allows thie same series to be displayed by pressing ENTEF, when iridicated ori the screen, or EDIT to select and read a different series. The same pictures can also be reselected via the Fiaridom Access or Slide Show menu options.

FANDOM ACCESS (DISFEAY OFTIGN 2 )

1) Fress 2; the iridex will te displayed;
2) if a previous series has not been loaded, select first and last as for the series. The pictures will be loaded arid the iride: will te displayed again;
3) select the required picture;

The software maintains a list of pictures in memory. Whien orie is selected from the inder, it is placed at the top of the list. If it is in memory, it is displayed straight away: if riot, it is read ir and overwrites the least used picture, at the bot om of the list, if the memory is full (6 pages 48k, 29 pages 128k).

The picture is displayed until ariy key is pressed: the aridex is then displayed for thie riext selectiori. Fressirig EDIT returris to the majn menu. The picture can be edited or saved.

The same pictures can be reselected agair, for fiandom Access, Slide Show or Series. For trie latter, the pictures are displayed across the screen with a delay of 10 seconds wheri they have been loaded via fiandom Access.

INFLIT OF EIIT LIST (DISFLAY OFTION E)

1) Fress $\overline{-}$; a message will appear requesting selection of one of the four available lists;
2) press 1 to 4 for the list:

उ) if the list exists, an entry will be displayed, showing the page riumber, paging mode and deilay between dispiays (see SEFiES 4 arid 5). ENTEF selects the riext entry and EDIT as below;
4) for a new eritry or one to te edited, the picture is selected from the index, then display mode and delay selected, as for SEFIES. Step 3 is therir repeated.

Up to 3 Bentries can be included iri the list and picture selections cari be repeated, if required.

Note that there is no delete option but, if a picture is to be omitted, the one for the previous entry should be selected with page across and delay 0 .

When the last required entry has been completed, press the e key to end (see prompt). An option is the given to save the inder, which contains the lists, by pressing any key except $n$. The edit can be repeated if the saving step is missed.

## RUN LIST (DISFLAY OFTTION 4)

Fress 4: then, when prompted, select one of the four lists which has been defined. The pictures will te loaded and displayed iri turn, according to the defined mode and delay.

To end, hold down the EDIT key. If the list is reselected and another list or series has not been loaded, the pictures can be re-displayed without loadirig.

SLIDE SHOW (DISFLAY OFTICN 5)
Slide show can be used with any loaded series or list. If no pictures are loaded, the ruri list options are giveri.

A picture will te dispiayed until a key is pressed. EDIT returns to the mairimenu, cursor up selects the previous picture and other keys select the next picture.

## SA'VING QF LOADING FFGELEMS

Tape loadirig or saving can te stopped ty pressing EfiEfik. After triss, or other stoppages, the program can be restarted by enteririg FUN, preceded ty cursor dowri and ENTEF ori 128k systems.

If, for some reason, à failure occurred or saving a picture, an eritry may appear in the index. When this is selected for reading a dist or microdrive, the frogram will stop with ari error message. The program can be restarted, as above, and the index entry erased via the Utilities menu.

There are certain difficulties in desigring software to run on all types of Spectrums which may make operation seem rather illogical:
a) the method of loading via the index is to prevent a wrong name from being eritered, which could cause the program to stop. To erisure that the program works successfully with microdrives, saving an existing entry executes EFiASE before SAVE, whereas orily SAVE is used for a new index entry. Savirig existing files without erase can be via the Utilities.
b) with +3 disks, a file can be overwritten with an automatic back-up copy being produced, so it is better not to use EFiASE. However, tack:-up copies reduce available space.

The naming corivention used for the pictures, e.g. info.pi, info.p12, is to save space as only one info. BAk back-up copy will be produced, that is for the last saved picture. An index. BAK is generated.
c) RAMDISCS on the +2 and +3 work in different ways. Or, the former, files must be erased before saving but they can be overwitten on the +3 . If the memory is required for different files, existing ones need to be erased in both cases. The software arranges for this to te done if a second set of pages is loaded but, occasionally, with drive errors or misoperation, thinge can go wrong and cause the program to stop. It might be necessary to erase RAMDISC files mariually to avoid having to reload the software - +2 use CAT !, note the names, then ERASE ! "name", or +3 just ERASE "mi:".
d) it is difficult to produce a foolproof filing system for use with tapes, particularly where updating is involved. Two ways of operation are suggested to avoid problems. The first method is to load a page to be changed and the last one on a tape via Fandom Access: after editirig, save the page with a new number at the end of the tape, then erase the old entry from the index using the Utilities. The second method is to use a number of tapes with a small number of pictures on each tape $(6$ on 48 k Spectrums): load as a Series and, after editing, save all via the Utilitities. Using Fiandom Access changes the order iri which pages are saved, that is the most frequeritly used pages first: to avoid this, use Slide Show for dispiaying pictures or save each page iridividually via Save Fage.

Failures are tound to occur. If a complex new character set or picture has been defiried, it is advisable to mai:e a second copy.

## UTILITIEE (MAIN MENU ©)

Fressing 0 or, the mair menu switches to the utilities menu. This has various facilities for producing varieties of picture base systems. The following options are available:
© Exit returris to the main menu.
1 Load Fage; this is used in loading a picture that is not in the inder, the number being requested. The page can be saved via the main menu.

2 Load Index, simply loads the iridex:
E Elank Index, deletes index entries and defined lists.

4 Save Iridex; simply saves thie index: without erase on disk or microdrive
 program versions. If an index needs erasing, it can be arranged via the Save Fage or Edit List options.

5 Erase; this first displays the index and the appropriate entry is selected in the usual way. Four options are then given: 1 erase a file from disk or microdrive; 2 delete an entry from the index: 3 both erase file and delete from index; 0 cancel. The index is not saved (see Save Index).

6 Save $128 k$ and 7 Save 48k: these save pages that have been loaded as a series or via the randon access option. Again, no erase is involved. These options do not save pictures loaded as lists, as the same picture may be included more than orice, which would lead to stoppages with certain drives.

8 Save Software - see page 3.
An example of using the above is creating a new empty picture base by selecting Elank. Index then Save Software.

A second exampie is creating a picture base with some of the pages froin the existing one: load the required pictures via Fandom Access; save via Utilities option 6 or 7 ; delete unwanted iride: entries then save the index. For tapes load a series and save pages in the same way or as separate pages.

## COFYING SCFEENS TO A FRINTEF

Screen dumps can be obtained when the full screen display is giveri after editing, or on a random access display.

The c key is pressed to execute the Spectrum COFY command. When a suitatile printer is coninected, 22 lines will be copied i.e. not the last 2 lines. For the $+\mathcal{S}$, $e$ can be pressed for COF'Y EXF to produce a full screen shaded copy (see +3 manual fage 174).

SAVING SCFEENS AS CODE
This facility is riot incorporated but trie program cari be modified to do it. The COF'V command is executed via line 1000 ard this can be modified. For disks and microdrives all that is necessary is to insert SAVE "screen" SCFEEN: or SAVE *"m";1;"screen" SCFEEN*, followed by RETUFN.

SAVE SCREEN: with tape deletes the last two lines but the following EASIC can be inserted: FOF $i=16384$ TO 23295: FOKE $i+30616$,FEEK i: NEXT i: SAVE "screen" CODE 47000,6912: RETUFIN then load via CLS: LCIAD "" SCFEEN\$. The poling takes about 4 minutes. The memory used is that for a 48k Series: an existing 48k. series or list must be reluaded after using the memory for other purposes or the software will crast..

## CHARACTEF DESIGNER

The character designer is accessed via the main menu Ecit Fiage optiori. If a picture is not being created select Type Fiage, theri size, SFACE twice for same colours, ENTER for riew line, EDIT for main menu, press 2 Edit Fage, then 8 keyboard.

With the keyboard displayed, select the character to be viewed or edited: as usual, the CAFS, EXT and GFAFH lock mode will be displayed on the edge of the message box. The enlarged character will appear in the top editing box and a menu displayed.

1 Change; using cursor teys to move around the box: SFACE inserts white, letter keys black. ENTEF inserts the new character in the keyboard memory, EDIT does not.

2 Kief Char: a cursor flashes in the botton tox, where the next selected character is displayed:

3 Use ref; transfers the reference character into the editing box.


5 Invert: changes black to white and white to black.

6 Rotate; rotates the character 90
 degrees anti clockwise.
(2) End: returns to keyboard display.

After each change, the program returnis to the keyboard display, where ENTEF is pressed to end the session. A prompt is thien given to press any key to save the inde\% or $n$ to avoid the save.

For those who wish to use their own ctiaracter designis for other purposes, the character set is stored between addresses 63こ20 ard 65367, with character code 3.3 starting at 63584, 34 at 63542 etc. The character codes are given in the appendices.

## VIDEG FECOFぁING

Froviding the particular Spectrum does not generate too much interference, reasonable quality videas can be produced by connecting the TV lead to the video aerial socket. The main protulen is that the video output channel is likely to be thie same as the Spectrum sigrial, causing distortion: the video channel and associated TV channei can usually te changed.

## DATAEASE FOFMS AND DF•EFATION

A blank form or tat.le should be designed and saved then loaded for eact, new entry. It is more appropriate to use different colours for boxes or columns than lines, which can easily be overwritten. Data entry should tie via Edit Fage and Overtype. To create blank tatles, use Type Fage for headings and the first line then, with Edit Fage, delete the first iline and use reinsert to duplicate the lines.

On 128k systems, $t$ pages can be loaded via 48k mode, then others via 128 k mode. The 6 in FiAM will still te displayed if chosen from the index but will not tie overwritten.

## KEYBORRD DEFINITION




ニロㄷ•ㅌ


CODEE

Б4-95 ع R










- ESM 9
- ES
4

7


## ROYBOT ORIGINAL SOFTWARE

COMPLETE MACHINE CODE FACKAGE
Assembler, Disassembler, Debugger, Tester,
Teach lourself Machine Coot Package. Example
orograms for games sereen operation and
copying tapes.

SPECCIFAX FICTURE BASE SYSTEM

```
Type pietures with zzu user defiriable
keyboard Eharacters or graphic symbols in 7
5izes and any colour. Access pictures like a
database. Lisplay as a slite projector,
random access or a repeating series.
```

    MICFildFive MANAGEMENT AND RECOVEFY FACKAGE
    Fecover Eorrlift riles. sensible catalog,
copy cartridges, reorganise cartridges.
FANDOM ACCESE MICFODFIVE OFEFATING SY'STEM
Randon actess files, screen Eaitor, sortiig
and searehing. Write your Don sortware.

## MICFODFIVE FFEE TEXT DATAFASE

Generai purpase filling and text protessing package for microarives. USES RAMDUS.

