VEDIT PLUS

Multiple File, Windowing, Programmable Text Editor

For Program Development and Word Processing

Version 2.03 / 2.33

Written By:

Theodore Green

Programmed By:

Theodore Green

Thomas Burt

CompuView Products, Inc.
1955 Pauline Blvd.
Ann Arbor, MI 48103
(313) 996-1299

DISCLAIMER

Last Manual Revision: February 11, 1987

Table of Contents

INTRODUCTION

Introduction to VEDIT PLUS

VEDIT PLUS is a multiple file, windowing, programmable editor equally suited for program development and word processing. VEDIT PLUS is simple enough to learn and use for the novice, yet has the speed, flexibility and power to satisfy the most demanding computer professional. VEDIT PLUS is particularly suited for writing assembly language and structured programs ('C', Pascal, PL/I) and lengthy documents such as reports or manuscripts.

VEDIT PLUS achieves the seemingly conflicting goals of "ease of use" and "power" by having two modes of operation. The primary or *"Visual"* mode offers true "What you see is what you get" editing, with an exceptionally wide array of easy to use editing functions. You can perform all typical editing, even multiple file editing in this mode. Many operations can be accessed by "pop-up" menus.

The *"Command"* mode serves the dual purpose of separating the less commonly used functions from the Visual Mode and of giving you editing power which goes far beyond the capabilities of any other word processor. The Command Mode contains a complete programming language which is oriented towards editing. Complex or repetitive editing tasks can be automated, such as numerous search/replace operations on multiple files and source code translations. Despite its power, the Command Mode can be mastered by users with no previous programming experience.

The comprehensive and easy to use Installation lets you completely determine your own keyboard layout and select numerous default settings to configure VEDIT PLUS to your particular hardware, applications and personal preferences. You can even build keystroke macros and your own editing functions into VEDIT PLUS.

In addition to the version of VEDIT PLUS that you have purchased, versions are available for virtually every computer running under the PCDOS, MS-DOS (IBM and non-IBM compatible), CP/M-86 and CP/M operating systems and their derivatives, including MP/M, MP/M-86, Concurrent DOS, CDOS and CROMIX. The IBM PC version supports monochrome, CGA, EGA, and screen sizes up to 70 lines and 250 columns. The CRT terminal version supports virtually every terminal on the market including terminals externally connected to an IBM PC. Attractive pricing is available for additional machines and for educational, OEM and site licensing.

Features of Visual Mode

*   Multiple file editing. Simultaneously edit two, three, four
    or more files (up to 37), each of unlimited size. Blocks of
    text can easily be copied from one file to another.

*   Flexible windowing. Display each file you are editing in its
    own variable sized window, set the color for each window,
    create forms and menus within windows and much more.

*   Virtual file handling. MS-DOS (PCDOS) pathname support.
    Edit files of any size - automatic disk buffering handles
    files larger than what will fit into memory.

*   Additional memory support. When available, 64K of memory is
    reserved for each file being edited, up to the memory
    capacity of the machine.

*   Keystroke macros. Any combination of keystrokes can be
    assigned to a single key. Allows single key access to menu
    functions. Allows Dvorak layout. Keystroke macros may be
    built into VEDIT PLUS, saved to/loaded from disk.

    Interactive on-line help. The supplied help text is user
    changeable and expandable. Add your own help prompts and
    help messages, even create on-line help for other programs
    you use.

*   Pop-up menus. Common file handling, printing, block
    moving/copying, windowing and word processing functions can
    be accessed from simple one line menus.

*   Word processing. Word wrap, paragraph formatting between
    adjustable margins, optional justification, printing.

*   Automatic indenting simplifies editing of structured
    programs; advantageous for word processing. Check for proper
    nesting of parentheses, i.e. "{" and "}", aids C programming.

*   36 text registers may be used as scratch-pad buffers for
    extensive "cut and paste" operations.

*   Powerful search and selective replace functions. Reverse
    searching. Global replace. Sophisticated pattern matching.

*   Status line displays useful information and prompts with
    pop-up menus when selecting edit functions.

*   Horizontal scrolling for editing long lines - spreadsheets,
    program listings.

Features of Command Mode

*   On-line calculator. Any algebraic expression entered on the
    command line is immediately calculated and displayed.

*   36 text registers may hold filenames, search strings, blocks
    of text or entire files. They can be directly edited.
    Single command comparison of two files or two text registers.

*   Extensive file handling. Multiple file editing. Files can
    be split and merged. Blocks of text can be copied between
    files. Access/log-into any drive and any MS-DOS
    subdirectory. Easy recovery from running out of disk space -
    delete files or insert another disk.

*   Execute MS-DOS commands. Execute single MS-DOS commands
    (DIR, compilers, V-SPELL, etc.) or enter MS-DOS and return
    later.

*   Commands can be combined to create powerful "macros" which
    save you time by automating complex editing operations.
    Macros can be saved to disk and loaded from disk.

*   Auto-execution. A file containing "macro" commands can be
    specified for automatic execution when VEDIT PLUS is invoked.
    This file can be used in place of or in addition to the
    normal VEDIT.INI auto-startup file.

*   Complete numerical capability with 26 "variables", numerical,
    logical and relational functions and expression evaluation.

*   Program flow control with looping, "REPEAT UNTIL", "IF THEN",
    "IF THEN ELSE", "CASE" and conditional "JUMP". Numeric,
    character and string testing.

    Interactive input and output. Messages and prompts can be
    displayed on the console. Input can be in the form of single
    characters, character strings, numbers, or numerical
    expressions.

*   Screen control (Forms entry). Address, write and erase the
    screen (or individual windows) - write application programs
    (macros) with windows, menu prompts and forms entry.

*   Flexible window control. Creating, deleting, size, position
    and color of windows is fully programmable.

*   Command Mode window. Visual and Command Mode can operate in
    separate windows - you can observe the effect of Command Mode
    commands in the Visual Mode window.

Ready To Use Macros

Four ready to use programs or "macros" are supplied with VEDIT PLUS
and a Z80 to 8086 source code Translator and a Mail Merge macro are
available for a moderate charge. The "auto-execution" feature can
automatically execute macros when VEDIT PLUS is invoked. This
allows someone without any knowledge of VEDIT PLUS commands to use
these or custom macros.

*   Main menu macro. You can optionally replace the Command Mode
        with a menu for performing the most common operations.

*   File comparison macro. Displays the differences between two
        files on the screen and lets you merge/edit them in any way
        you wish.   After displaying a point of difference the macro
        can re-align the files and then continue looking for further
        differences. It is useful when two people, on two computers,
        have revised a program or a report and their revisions now
        have to be merged back into one file. For example, after the
        macro finds where revisions were made, you can copy blocks of
        text from one file to the another.

*   Mailing list sort macro. Sorts a typical list of mailing
        addresses into alphabetic order.

*   Print formatting macro. This easy to use macro extends VEDIT
        PLUS's printing capabilities a little by printing files with
        a header and page number on each page.   Containing only a
        dozen commands, it also serves as a simple example of a
        useful macro. It can readily be extended for fancier print
        formatting.

*   Z80 to 8086 Translator.   Translates 8080 or Z80 assembly
        language source code (INTEL extended mnemonics) into ready to
        assemble 8086 source code. Available as an option for $50.

*   Mail Merge. You can create, update and maintain files of
        mailing addresses. The mailing addresses can then be merged
        into a form letter and printed one after another.   The form
        letter may be created with VEDIT PLUS alone, or with V-PRINT.
        Available as an option for $50.

The macros are ready for immediate use and are self prompting.
Anyone can use them without knowing much else about VEDIT PLUS.
Since they are supplied in "Source Code", they also serve as
elaborate examples of VEDIT PLUS macro programming.   And you can
modify them to suit your personal needs.

V-PRINT and V-SPELL

These two powerful products work with VEDIT PLUS to give you a complete word processing system.

V-PRINT Document Formatter

V-PRINT is a powerful document (text) formatter which handles the details of page layout including headers, footers, automatic page numbering, indenting and justification.

V-PRINT not only handles the details of page layout, but also has facilities for automatic Index and Table of Contents generation, underlining, overstriking, multiple font support for popular printers and much more. Multiple files can be included in your document at print time with an "Include" statement. Single sheets, continuous forms and any selected page range can be printed.

Combining VEDIT PLUS with V-PRINT gives you the capabilities of a full featured word processor. Both are particularly well suited to handling long documents such as reports, manuals and manuscripts.

This manual was printed with V-PRINT driving a Canon Laser Printer (Model LBP-8 A1). The Table of Contents and Index were generated automatically by V-PRINT. The Index can contain both words which appear in the text and "concepts" which are not explicitly mentioned in the text. V-PRINT also allows the Table of Contents and the Index to be edited before final printing. List price $79.

V-SPELL Spelling Corrector

This is the ultimate spelling corrector that proofreads 50 pages (100K) of text in 30 seconds (on an IBM PC/AT), displays misspelled words in context and can instantly suggest corrections for any misspelling. Since it automatically corrects the words in the document, there is no need to go back to the word processor. The 65,000 main dictionary is expandable - you can have your own supplemental dictionaries and/or merge them into the main dictionary. You can even create your own main dictionary. Not only VEDIT PLUS, but most popular word processors are supported.

For typesetting, desktop publishing and other applications V-SPELL can perform file hyphenation by inserting "soft hyphens" in all words of a document. Since the hyphenation points are built into the dictionary, you can be sure it is 100% correct - no error prone algorithms are used! List price $79.

Getting Started

Getting Started Fast

Despite the hundreds of pages in this manual, basic editing with
VEDIT PLUS is very intuitive and you can start using it
immediately, without having to study this manual. (This assumes
you have the IBM PC or other version for which we supply a
pre-installed VPLUS.COM file.)

It is easiest to start the editor by specifying the name of the
file you want to edit:

            VPLUS *filename.ext*

To get help while you are editing press the [HELP] key (ALT-<F1>).
This first displays the key assignments for all of VEDIT PLUS's
functions. To get more help on any function, just press the
corresponding key.

To finish editing press the [FILE] key (<F3>) and type either "E"
(to exit and save your edited text) or "Q" (to quit and abandon
your edited text).

Should your experimentation put you into Command Mode ("COMMAND"
appears on left side of status line), you can type "V" and a **RETURN**
to put you back into Visual Mode. Or type "H" and a **RETURN** to get
help in Command Mode.

Installation

The IBM PC version of VEDIT PLUS comes pre-configured in the file
"VPLUS.COM"; you do not have to first install it. The alternate
file "EXPERT.COM" is also pre-configured; it uses a different
keyboard layout which experienced users may find preferable. To
use "EXPERT.COM" just rename it to "VPLUS.COM" or "VEDIT.COM". The
keyboard layouts for the IBM-PC "VPLUS.COM" and "EXPERT.COM" files
are included at the end of the Installation section.

Other (non-IBM PC) versions of VEDIT PLUS are supplied with
additional appendices of keyboard layouts and installation notes
for a wide range of computers and CRT terminals. We also supply
ready to run versions of VEDIT PLUS for the TI Professional, Zenith
Z100 and the Tandy 2000. Otherwise, before you can begin using
VEDIT PLUS, you will have to perform the installation.

Even if you received a pre-configured VEDIT PLUS you will want to
fine-tune (customize) the installation after becoming familiar with
VEDIT PLUS. The menu driven installation lets you quickly change

single parameters without having to perform the entire
installation.

Since the installation does not destroy or alter the "master"
editor files on disk, but rather creates a new file with your
customized editor in it, you may go through the process as often as
you like. As you gain experience with VEDIT PLUS you will probably
perform the installation several times until you have everything
exactly the way you like.

Using This Manual

This manual is organized into six main sections and an Index.

INTRODUCTION

> Introduces VEDIT PLUS and helps you get started. It
> includes a "30 Minute Tutorial" to familiarize you with
> the   basic   aspects of using VEDIT PLUS, including
> accessing the on-line help. After finishing this short
> tutorial you should skim the "Short Overview" which
> introduces the main features of VEDIT PLUS and the modes
> of operation.

TUTORIAL

> This in-depth tutorial thoroughly covers the "Visual" or
> primary editing mode of VEDIT PLUS. It is split into
> "Basic", "Intermediate", "Word Processing" and "Advanced"
> sections.   After finishing the "Basic" section you are
> ready to use VEDIT PLUS productively and can come back to
> the rest of the tutorial as the need arises.   The
> tutorial both describes various editing topics and gives
> step by step directions for performing common operations.

USER GUIDE

> Explains the supplied "Ready to use" macros.   Introduces
> the Command Mode topics including file handling, multiple
> file editing, windows, searching, text registers and
> memory management. Explains most topics of the Command
> Mode except those primarily applicable to "macros".

PROGRAMMING GUIDE

> Covers the more advanced topics of the Command Mode -
> primarily how to write "macros". The second half of the
> section is an in-depth description of each command.

INSTALLATION

> Covers the details of customizing VEDIT PLUS to the wide
> variety of supported computers.   Also   explains   how   to
> fine-tune   VEDIT   PLUS   to personal preferences and
> applications.

REFERENCE

> Includes a list of all error messages, a reference guide
> to the Visual Mode functions and Command Mode commands.
> Most of this information is also available with the
> on-line help.

VEDIT PLUS's primary editing mode, *"Visual Mode"*, should always be
learned first. The Visual (full screen) Mode is exceptionally easy
to use and can be learned by experimenting with the various edit
functions.   The novice VEDIT PLUS user does not need to use the
Command Mode at all.

Once you have had some practice with the Visual Mode of VEDIT PLUS,
you will then want to try out the *"Command Mode"*. If you are new
to editors, the Command Mode may at first seem complicated.
However, with a little practice, you will discover that some tasks
are easier to do in Command Mode than in Visual Mode. Since the
Command Mode includes a complete programming language it lets you
perform useful tasks which are impossible with other editors and
word processors. All basic editing can be done entirely in the
Visual Mode, and the Command Mode can be learned gradually as the
need arises. The Tutorial introduces the most used commands of
this mode.

Even though you will typically spend 99% of your time in the Visual
Mode and only 1% in the Command Mode, the majority of this manual
deals with the Command Mode.   This is appropriate due to the
richness of commands and options in the Command Mode.   The
Programming Guide covers the most technical aspects of this mode.
You should not feel compelled to understand the Programming Guide
until you are quite familiar with all other aspects of VEDIT PLUS.

We hope that you will enjoy using VEDIT PLUS and its many features.

Good Luck!

Organizing Your VEDIT PLUS Files

Your VEDIT PLUS disk contains the executable program files
(VPLUS.COM, INSTALL.EXE) and supplemental files - three on-line
help files (VPHELP.HLP, VPEHELP.HLP, VVHELP.HLP), four macro files
(PRINT.VDM, COMPARE.VDM, SORT.VDM, MENU.VDM) and the auto-startup
file MENU.INI.

The only file absolutely needed to use VEDIT PLUS is VPLUS.COM.
(You can rename it if you wish.) To access the on-line help you
also need one or all of the ".HLP" files. VEDIT PLUS can be
customized (Installation) to search for its help and supplemental
files in the root directory or special "\VEDIT" subdirectory of any
drive you select.

The VPLUS.COM file we deliver for the IBM PC will immediately run
on any machine, but is not in fact customized ideally for floppy
nor hard disk systems. You only need to change the installation
Tasks 9.2 and 9.3 to adapt VEDIT PLUS to your particular disk
configuration. Unless you customize it, VEDIT PLUS only searches
the current drive and subdirectory for its help and other files.

VEDIT PLUS will be much easier to use if you create a special
MS-DOS subdirectory "\VEDIT" on the hard disk (or floppy system
disk) to store all of VEDIT PLUS's help and other supplemental
files. Then customize VEDIT PLUS (see Installation) and set Task
9.2 to "0" and set Task 9.3 to "3" - assuming your hard disk is
drive "C".

If you have a hard disk, your computer is probably set up to search
for program files in the "\BIN" subdirectory of the hard drive.
(See your DOS manual under "PATH" command and "AUTOEXEC.BAT" files
for more information.) Therefore, you will want to keep the
executable VEDIT PLUS file (typically VPLUS.COM) in the "\BIN"
directory which contains all of your other executable files. Any
time you invoke VEDIT PLUS, MS-DOS can then find the VPLUS.COM file
regardless of which drive or subdirectory you are currently in.

If you do not have a hard disk, you may want to only copy the
VPLUS.COM, VVHELP.HLP and VPHELP.HLP files to your system disk on
drive A. (You can copy the other files, but you may not have the
disk space.) Optionally, you can create a "\VEDIT" subdirectory
and copy the supplemental files to it. Then customize VEDIT PLUS
with Task 9.2 set to "0" and 9.3 set to "1" - corresponding to
drive "A".

Using the "\VEDIT" subdirectory is optional - you can use the root
directory instead, but using the subdirectory will keep your root
directory less cluttered.

Setting up VEDIT PLUS on an IBM PC-XT or AT

Make sure you are in the root directory of drive C. Put the
original VEDIT PLUS diskette into drive A.

C>MD VEDIT

C>CD VEDIT

C>COPY A:*.*

C>INSTALL VPLUS.COM

In the INSTALL program select Task 9. In the Task 9 menu change
entries 2 and 3 so that they read as follows:

    LOOK FOR HELP AND VEDIT.INI ON CURRENT DRIVE   0

    ALTERNATE DRIVE FOR HELP AND VEDIT.INI FILES   3

Press **RETURN** to return to the main menu. Then type "E" to exit the
INSTALL program and type "**Y**" at the confirmation prompt to save
your changes.

C>COPY VPLUS.COM \BIN\VPLUS.COM

Your VEDIT PLUS is now ready to use!

Note to IBM AT users: Due to the AT's higher speed you should slow
                      down the cursor blink rate.   This   is
                      controlled with Installation Task 5.2.
                      Start with a value of 100 for an AT and a
                      value of 200 for a Compaq (tm) 386.

30 Minute Tutorial

This short tutorial assumes that you are running the pre-configured
IBM PC version of VEDIT PLUS. (If you have a non-IBM PC version,
you will have to refer to your keyboard layout to see what keys are
assigned to the editing functions.)

In this "edit session" you will create a short file with the name
of "SAMPLE.TXT", which you can subsequently type out from the
operating system.

To create this sample file invoke VEDIT PLUS with the command:

        VPLUS SAMPLE.TXT

After a short pause in which VEDIT PLUS is loaded from disk, it
briefly displays the message:

        NEW FILE

This indicates that a new file is being created and not an existing
one being edited. VEDIT PLUS then enters "Visual Mode" in which
you can immediately begin editing. The screen will appear as:

The "*cursor*" is initially at the top left of the screen. The
cursor indicates the exact location at which any edit changes, such
as typing in new text, will be made.

The "*status line*" at the top of the screen indicates what line
number in the file the cursor is on, the cursor's column position,
and what file is currently being edited. In the course of your
editing it will also display other messages including "pop-up"
menus.

You can now type some text which will appear on the screen and will
be soon made into a file. Type in the following text. Press the
RETURN ("Enter") key at the end of each line.

```
     LINE:    6  COL:  1   FILE: SAMPLE  .TXT
Bach simply awed the professional musicians
who met or just observed him.  Their descriptions
indicate that Bach, at the head of an orchestra,
was a conductor very much like the great
conductors of today.
█
```

Altering your text

You can make corrections while typing by pressing [BACKSPACE]
(<---) which moves the cursor left and deletes the character there.
Of course, you can easily edit text after it has been typed in.
First, position the cursor at the text which needs changing.
Although VEDIT PLUS has many cursor movement keys, you can get by
for now using just the four basic movements [CURSOR UP],
[CURSOR DOWN], [CURSOR RIGHT] and [CURSOR LEFT]. These are
assigned to the cursor keys on the IBM PC. As you use these keys
you will notice that you can generally only position the cursor at
real characters in the text and at the ends of lines. You cannot
position it on the screen where there is no text.

With the cursor positioned correctly, you are ready to make your
changes. The three basic types of changes are over-writing
existing text, deleting text and inserting text. To over-write any
text, simply position the cursor at the first character to be
over-written and type in the new text. This is the easiest way to
correct mis-typed letters. "█" indicates the cursor in the
following example:

```
Bach simply █ade the professional musicians
```

After typing the word "**awed**" the new line will appear as:

```
Bach simply awed█the professional musicians
```

Use the "*Insert Mode*" when you want to insert new text into the
middle of a line. The [INSERT] function (<**Ins**> key on IBM PC)
toggles Insert Mode on and off. Press the key and the message
`INSERT` will appear on the status line. In Insert Mode, text typed
in the middle of a line does not over-type any existing text but
shifts the text right in order to make room for the new text.
Consider the following line:

```
Bach simply awed█the professional musicians
```

After typing the word " **all**" in Insert Mode, the line will appear
as:

Bach simply awed all the professional musicians

Deletions are also an important part of editing. VEDIT PLUS's two
most used deletion functions are [BACKSPACE] and [DELETE] (the
"<---" and <Del> keys on the IBM PC). [BACKSPACE] deletes the
character to the left of the cursor, i.e. the character you may
have just typed in. [DELETE] deletes the character at the cursor
position. The line always closes up after any type of deletion.
Consider the following line:

Bach simply awed the professional musicians

After pressing [DELETE] twice, the line will be:

Bach simply awed the professional musicians

Although VEDIT PLUS can automatically reformat paragraphs, it is
good practice to try it manually. Position the cursor in the first
line as follows:

Bach simply awed the professional musicians

Press the RETURN key and the line splits into two lines:

Bach simply awed the
professional musicians

Move the cursor to the end of the first line and press the [DELETE]
key. This appends the second line to the end of the first, giving
you your original line back.

Continue making edit changes until the text is modified to your
satisfaction.

On-line Help in Visual Mode

The [HELP] function assists you with the editing functions
available in Visual Mode. Press the [HELP] key (ALT-<F1> on IBM
PC). You will see the first of two screen menus which list the
keyboard layout. Press RETURN at the first menu prompt to see the
second screen. At either screen menu prompt you can find out more
about a particular edit function by simply pressing the key for
that function.

Alternatively, you can press RETURN again at the second menu prompt
to see a menu of additional Visual Mode topics for which help is
available. This includes descriptions of all the status line
messages and assistance with word processing. To see the help
information, just type the indicated code word for the desired
topic.

-21-

Entering Command Mode

Although you may never need the full power of Command Mode, you
should be comfortable with performing simple operations in Command
Mode.   To exit Visual Mode and enter the "Command Mode" press
[VISUAL ESCAPE] (<ESC> key on IBM PC).   The screen display will
change to:

```
 COMMAND                       FILE: SAMPLE  .TXT
 indicate that Bach, at the head of an orchestra,
 was a conductor very much like the great
 conductors of today.


 "EX" to Exit, "EQ" to Quit, "V" to Edit, "H" or "EH" for Help

 COMMAND: █
```

The status line now indicates that you are in Command Mode.   The
line -- "EX" to Exit, "EQ" to Quit, "V" to Edit, "H" or "EH" for
Help -- typically only appears three times and is a reminder of the
most used commands.   The "COMMAND:" is your prompt to enter a
command line.

Type the desired command or commands and remember to end each
"*command line*" with the **RETURN** key.

The command to go back into Visual Mode is:

         V   (Remember the **RETURN** key)

This puts you back into Visual Mode. The cursor is positioned at
the same place in the text, although not necessarily on the screen,
as it was when you exited Visual Mode earlier. Go back to Command
Mode.   If necessary, repeat switching between Command and Visual
Mode until you can clearly identify which mode you are in.

On-line Calculator

You can perform integer calculations in Command Mode by just typing
in the algebraic expression. For example, type:

       12 + (169 / 13)   and a **RETURN**

The resulting answer is of course 25. Remember that the calculator
is only for integers - it cannot handle decimal points.

On-line Help in Command Mode

There are two types of on-line help available in Command Mode via
the commands "H" and "EH". "H" displays a short description of any
command. "EH" lets you select from a list of common editing tasks
and find out what commands are used to perform that task.

Give the command: (Remember the **RETURN**)

> **H**

You will see the first screen of a menu listing all the commands.
Press **RETURN** to see the next screen of commands. When you see the
desired command in the menu, simply type its letter(s) and a
RETURN. A short description of the command is then displayed.

Often you already know what command you need help with. You can
skip the menu by following the "H" with the command you need help
with. For example, to see a summary of the "ES" (edit switches)
command, give the command:

> **H ES**

Many times you know what editing task you want to perform, but do
not know what commands to use. In this case give the command:

> **EH**

You will see the first screen of a menu listing common editing
tasks. Press **RETURN** to see the next screen of tasks. When you see
the desired task, type its task name. A description of the
commands needed for that task is then displayed.

Keep in mind that the menu prompts and descriptions in the on-line
help systems are all changeable and expandable. We describe h
personalize the on-line help in the User Guide.

Printing Text

Be sure you are in Visual Mode.

With a printer connected to your computer you can print the
you have just created. Make sure that your printer is pro
connected and "ON LINE". Press [PRINT] (Alt-<F3> on IBM PC).
status line will change into a menu prompt:

```
[A]ll [B]lock [E]ject [L]ines [M]argin
```

-23-

Press "A" and the text should print. The printer also advances to
the beginning of the next page.

Notice that the text started a few lines down on the page and was
not printed on the left edge of the paper, but rather has about a
one inch margin. You will learn in the Tutorial section how to
select various printing options.

You will also learn later that VEDIT PLUS has several other "menus"
and other types of prompts on the status line. Remember that
pressing "<CTRL-C>" aborts any function which is prompting you on
the status line.

> <CTRL-C>   Abort Function / Abort Command

> [CANCEL]   Equivalent on IBM PC

You can think of <CTRL-C> as the "Panic Button". It aborts any
function prompting you on the status line, aborts any printing and,
when in Command Mode, stops the execution of any macros that are
running. On the IBM PC and some other machines, [CANCEL] may be
used in place of <CTRL-C>. (Unlike other programs you may have
used, <CTRL-C> never aborts the editor - you won't lose text by
pressing <CTRL-C>.)

Saving Your Text

To save your text from Visual Mode press [FILE] (<F3> on IBM PC)
and the status line will prompt with:

`[E]xit [Q]uit [N]ew [S]ave [D]irectory`

Press "E" to save your text on disk and exit back to the operating
system.

As an alternative, you could have gone to Command Mode and exited
in the same way with the command:

> **EX**

You should now be back in the operating system. You can check that
your file is on disk with the directory command "DIR", and can type
it out with the "TYPE" command, i.e.:

> **TYPE SAMPLE.TXT**

This has introduced you to only a small part of VEDIT PLUS's
capabilities. However, you have experimented with the basics which
make up 90% of any editing task, and have tried one of the ways of
invoking VEDIT PLUS and saving the text on disk. The following
pages give an overview of more of VEDIT PLUS's capabilities, and
the following Tutorial gives a hands-on introduction to almost all
of the Visual Mode and more of the Command Mode.

NOTES: A garbled screen display or status line on a CRT terminal
       indicates that the terminal is not being supported
       correctly. Check that you have selected the correct entry
       in the installation CRT menu. Also be sure that you have
       selected the correct number of screen lines (use 24 lines
       for all Televideo terminals).

       If after invoking VEDIT PLUS you end up in the Command Mode
       (a "COMMAND:" prompt and COMMAND on the status line), this
       indicates your VEDIT PLUS was customized to begin in Command
       Mode (See installation Task 8.7). All of our pre-configured
       versions start in Visual Mode.

       If you have changed your keyboard layout, you will find that
       the keyboard layout displayed by the Visual Mode [HELP] is
       no longer correct. The User Guide topic "Modifying On-line
       Help Files" describes how to remedy this situation.

Short Overview

VEDIT PLUS is a full screen, or "visual" editor capable of
simultaneously editing multiple files. The screen can be split
into variable sized "windows" to display two or more of the files
being edited. VEDIT PLUS has two operating modes: Visual Mode and
Command Mode.

Visual Mode

Visual Mode is the primary editing mode in which typical users will
spend 99% of their time. It offers true "What you see is what you
get" type of editing with a wide array of cursor movements and
editing functions. Several word processing functions such as word
wrap and formatting of paragraphs simplify the writing of letters
and other documents. Other features simplify the editing of
assembly language and structured programs such as C, Pascal and
PL/I. The Visual Mode is complete enough to satisfy all basic
editing needs - some users will not need the Command Mode at all.

In Visual Mode the screen continuously displays the current
contents of the file in the region you are editing along with a
visible "*cursor*" that marks the edit position. Changes are made by
first moving the cursor to the text to be changed.   You can then
overtype, insert any amount of new text, or use editing functions
to make other kinds of changes, all of which are immediately shown
on the screen and become the changes to the file.

VEDIT PLUS has two modes for entering new text: "*Insert*" mode and
"*Overstrike*" mode. In overstrike mode, the new text overwrites the
existing text.   In insert mode, the existing text is not
overwritten, but rather is squeezed to the right as the new text is
typed.   You can start new lines by simply pressing the **RETURN** key.
Pressing **RETURN** in the middle of a line splits it into two lines.

Besides entering new text, you can also perform a wide range of
editing functions. The user customized keyboard layout determines
which function or control key you must press to perform an edit
function.

The simplest editing functions are the cursor movements which cause
no change to the file, but rather just move the cursor to the
position in the file which is to be changed. Many of the available
editing operations are grouped into seven functions which display a
menu on the status line of the individual operations.   These
"*menu-functions*" are:

[GOTO] -   move cursor to begin/end of file, line number, marker

[BLOCK] -   perform "cut and paste"; delete blocks of text

[PRINT] -   print all or part of the text; change margins

[FILE] -   exit/quit editor; edit new file; display directory

[WINDOW] - create, switch, delete or zoom window

[USER] -   change word processing parameters

[MISC] -   misc. functions - parentheses match, case conversion

"*Keystroke macros*" let you directly access any operation within a
"menu-function" with a single keystroke - skipping the menu
completely. Keystroke macros can assign any sequence of keys to a
single control or function key. Keystroke macros can also perform
Command Mode operations - this lets you create your own editing
functions.

The menu-function [BLOCK] allows sophisticated "cut and paste"
operations. You can move or copy a block of text to any other
position(s) in the file. This is done by first copying, moving or
appending the block of text to one of the 36 text registers
(scratch pad buffers), and then inserting the text register at any
place or places in the file.

Multiple files, each of unlimited length, can be edited
simultaneously. Blocks of text can readily be moved from one file
to another. The contents of the text registers can also be
directly edited.

Multiple files can be edited with or without windows. The screen
can be split into windows of selectable size and position. With
windows, several files can be displayed on the screen at the same
time.

The [PRINT] menu-function can print the entire document or just a
section of it. You can control the left margin and the number of
lines printed per page. You can embed special printer control
characters into the text.

Search and Replace operations can be performed in the forward or
backward direction. The next or "nth" occurrence of a "string" can
be searched. Extensive pattern matching is provided. If desired,
replacement may be done "globally" - throughout the file, or
"selectively" - you are prompted whether each occurrence of the
original text is to be replaced with the new text.

For word processing VEDIT PLUS can perform word wrap and formatting
of paragraphs between right and left margins. These margins can be
changed anywhere within the document.   With word wrap enabled,
VEDIT PLUS moves an entire word which did not fit within the right
margin to a new line, while you are typing.   Existing paragraphs
may also be re-formatted to fit newly set margins.   When a
paragraph is formatted, you can optionally select to have the right
margin justified, as in this paragraph.

VEDIT PLUS is especially designed for program development editing.
Several auto indentation options simplify editing of structured
languages such as Pascal, PL/I and C. The editor can automatically
indent new lines to match the previous line. The indent position
can be moved right and left by an adjustable *"indent increment"*.

For programming languages, such as 'C', the proper syntax of nested
parentheses, i.e.   "{" and "}", can be checked with a single
keystroke.

Many assembly language programmers prefer their program code to be
in upper case letters with comments in upper and lower case. VEDIT
PLUS can accept text in all lower case and automatically convert
the labels, opcodes and operands to upper case while leaving the
comments in lower case. This conversion operates with respect to a
special character, such as ";", on the line being entered or
edited. To the left of the ";" lower case letters are converted,
to the right of the ";" they are not converted.

Files can be created/edited with or without tab characters. The
<TAB> key can be used to insert a tab character into the text or,
optionally, spaces to the next tab position. This is convenient
when interfacing with other programs which don't deal well with tab
characters. The tab positions are fully adjustable.

The Visual Mode can handle lines which are up to 1024 characters
long (260 on 8080/Z80 versions).   The screen can be scrolled
horizontally (or sideways) for editing files with long lines, such
as spreadsheets.   Optionally, long text lines can be "wrapped" to
the next screen line - this lets you see the entire line at once.
The screen automatically scrolls sideways and/or wraps lines as you
enter text.

Command Mode

Although very sophisticated editing can be done entirely in the
Visual Mode, the Command Mode gives you still more editing
capabilities.   The most powerful aspect of the Command Mode is its
ability to perform repetitive and automated editing operations
using its *"command macro"* capability.

The Command Mode separates the less commonly used editing functions
from the Visual Mode to keep the Visual Mode streamlined and reduce
your chances for errors. Additional file handling, windowing, text
register, searching and other operations are available in the
Command Mode.

The installation lets you set the default values for the "edit
switches", "edit parameters" and "tab positions". These default
values can be changed in the Command Mode so that you can adjust
VEDIT PLUS to your immediate needs.

The wide array of commands can perform all common editing
operations - searching, replacing, inserting, deleting and moving
blocks of text. Files can be read, written, opened and closed,
split and merged. These commands can be used individually or in
groups.

Single commands and groups of commands can be repeated any desired
number of times in order to perform repetitive editing operations.
A group of commands is repeated simply by enclosing them in the two
characters "[" and "]", which creates a simple loop called an
"*iteration loop*".

More complex groups of commands or commands which you don't want to
type in each time can be made into "*command macros*". Command
macros are groups of commands stored in the text registers for
immediate and later use. Since command macros can be saved and
loaded from disk, they can be created and then reused at a later
time. Command macros can also be accessed from Visual Mode,
allowing you to create your own editing functions. (Command macros
are in addition to and separate from "keystroke macros".)

Command macros can be created "on the fly" - you can create or
modify a command macro by editing the corresponding text register
in Visual Mode. The macro can then immediately be executed with a
single keystroke. The whole process takes less than a minute,
often just a few seconds.

More sophisticated command macros can have all the elements of a
programming language - numeric and string variables, testing,
conditional branching, looping, interactive input and output, error
checking and much more.

Command macros can be automatically executed when VEDIT PLUS is
invoked - you can pre-load other macros into text registers,
configure VEDIT PLUS for special applications, load a different
Visual Mode keyboard layout, or execute a macro as an application
program.

Basic Editing Concepts

The purpose of editing is to either create a file, which may then
be printed or saved on disk, or to modify an existing file which is
already on disk. When a file is first created, the initial text of
the file is entered with the editor, corrections are made, and the
text is then saved on disk. When a file is edited, the existing
file is read from the disk into the computer's "main memory", the
changes are made with the use of the editor, and the modified text
is then saved as a new file on disk.

Each file on disk has a name called the "*filename*" and when a file
is created with the editor, the user assigns the file its filename.
MS-DOS (and CP/M) has filenames which are up to eight characters
long with an optional filename "*extension*" consisting of a period
"." and up to another three characters. In practice most filenames
have an extension.   MS-DOS also allows a disk to be split into
different directories, here called "*subdirectories*".   VEDIT PLUS
allows any filename to be preceded by a "*path*" to specify that the
desired file is in a different subdirectory from the current one.
The syntax is identical to that used in the MS-DOS manual.

When an existing file is edited, it is read from disk. The
modified file can be written to disk with a new file name or with
the original name.   The normal way of invoking and exiting VEDIT
PLUS causes the edited file to be written to disk with its original
name. One question in this case is: "What happens to the original
text file?" VEDIT PLUS leaves the original file on disk too, but
since you cannot have two files on disk with the same name, the
name of the original file is changed to have an extension of
".BAK". This is referred to as the "*backup*" of the file.   Any
previous backup of the file is deleted by this process.

When a file is read from disk, its contents are stored in the "main
memory" of the computer.   The portion of main memory used for
storing the file is referred to as the "*edit buffer*". All changes
made to the file are made in the edit buffer. When the editing is
complete, the file is saved again on disk. This process of reading
a file from disk (or creating a new file), making changes to the
file and saving it on disk, is referred to as an "*edit session*".
Therefore, two files are being processed while editing - the file
being read is called the "*input*" file and the file being written is
called the "*output*" file. Specifying to the editor which file is
to be used for input or output is referred to as "*opening*" the
file.   The   way   VEDIT   PLUS   is   normally invoked, i.e.
"**VPLUS** *filename*", the specified file is opened for input, and
another file is opened for output which temporarily has the desired
filename, but with an extension of ".$$$". When completing the
edit session (referred to as "*closing* the output file"), VEDIT PLUS
performs some file renaming - it first renames the original input
file to have an extension of ".BAK"; it then renames the ".$$$"

output file to have the exact name of the original input file.
(This complexity is totally invisible to the normal user!)

In some cases the file to be edited is too large for all of it to
be stored in the edit buffer at one time. VEDIT PLUS handles such
a file by reading the first part of the file into the edit buffer,
where you can make any desired changes. After this first part is
edited, VEDIT PLUS writes the first lines of the edit buffer to the
output file and reads in more unedited lines from the input file.
This is repeated until the entire file is edited.   If desired,
VEDIT PLUS can also read edited text back from the output file for
further editing. VEDIT PLUS can perform this read/write process
automatically and almost invisibly to the user. In particular,
when the user reaches the end of the edit buffer in Visual Mode,
the beginning of the edit buffer is written out to disk (to the
output file) and more of the file being edited (the input file) is
read or "appended" to the end of the edit buffer. This process,
when done automatically, is referred to as *"auto-buffering"*.

Word Processing with VEDIT PLUS

VEDIT PLUS can be used for two types of word processing. One is
stand alone word processing in which the text is composed entirely
with VEDIT PLUS and then printed out exactly as it appears on the
screen. (Normally VEDIT PLUS adds a left margin and skips over
page perforations.) For this, the text has to be formatted exactly
the way it is to be printed out. This includes the centering of
lines and other details which VEDIT PLUS does not perform
automatically.

VEDIT PLUS can format paragraphs between adjustable left and right
margins. If after formatting you decide, for example, that you now
want the paragraph indented on both sides, VEDIT PLUS can also do
this for you automatically. During formatting, paragraphs can also
be "justified" to have an even right margin.

The second type of word processing uses a "Print Formatter", such
as CompuView's V-PRINT, which takes care of the details of page
layout, such as page headings, centering of lines, justification
and more. In this case VEDIT PLUS is used to create a file which
contains the text and short command lines to the Print Formatter
which does the final printing. Using word wrap still makes it
easier to enter the text, but the formatting of paragraphs becomes
mostly cosmetic since the Print Formatter generally formats its own
paragraphs. V-PRINT takes commands which begin with a period "."
in the first column of a line.

This manual was created by V-PRINT driving a Canon Laser Printer
model LBP-8-A1. The Table of Contents and Index were generated
automatically.