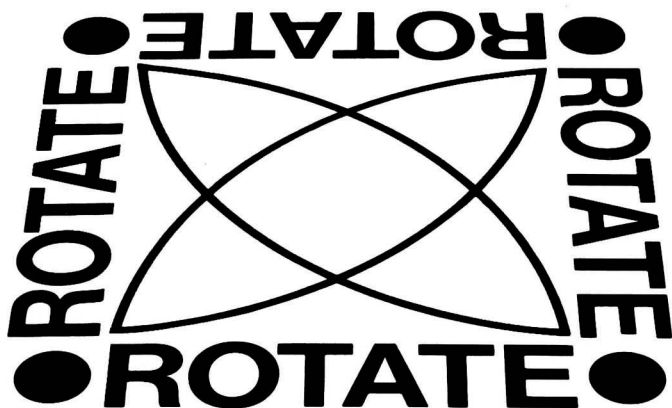


USER MANUAL



ROTATE

USER

MANUAL

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SECTION 1 — INTRODUCTION

Rotate is a very straightforward program designed to print sideways on the standard Amstrad printer. This allows you to output tables which would normally be far too wide for the printer. The depth of such tables is limited to the width of the paper, but by choosing the smallest of the available character sizes it is possible to print up to 96 lines.

It is important to understand that with this program it is impossible to create or edit a file; Rotate is purely a method of outputting. So before using Rotate make sure that you edit your files to your satisfaction using standard Amstrad software, storing them on disk in the normal way. In addition, Rotate will read files created using other software, provided they are to ASCII standard. Section 4 summarises the files which Rotate is capable of printing.

Rotate allows you to select a variety of line spacings, character spacings, character sizes, and fonts. The program works with both continuous feed or single-sheet paper, and can print not only in the sideways mode, but also in the normal 'east-west' mode. Thus it is not necessary to change programs to use the printer in the conventional manner.

SECTION 2 — STARTING UP

2.1 The first time

1 - Plug in the computer and switch on the power button under the monitor. Load the CP/M disc into the top drive and wait for the red light on that drive to go out and stay out. You should now have 'A>' on the screen.

2 - Take a backup of your Rotate disk by following the instructions in the Amstrad manual. Ensure that when the copying is finished, the 'A>' is back on the screen and the backup disk is in the top drive.

3 - Store your original Rotate disk in a safe place. From now on the backup is your working disk.

4 - Type **ROTATE** and press **RETURN**. Rotate's main menu will shortly appear on the screen. (Note for more experienced computer users: Rotate runs under CP/M. To boot up with the Rotate disk, first copy the operating system onto it).

2.2 Subsequently

1 - Proceed as in section 2.1, item 1.

2 - Remove the CP/M disk and substitute your Rotate backup disk.

3 - Proceed as in section 2.1, item 4.

SECTION 3 — USING THE PROGRAM

Rotate is menu driven, offering simple choices through the use of a main menu and several sub-menus. The options on each menu are numbered - to choose an option simply type the number of the option required. If the wrong number is selected, this can be overridden simply by following it with the right number. Once you are satisfied with the selection, press **RETURN** to execute the command. We will now work through the various menus in turn; there is a menu plan at the back of this manual and you will find it helpful to have the plan open as you read.

3.1 Main menu

This is the basic list of options. It allows you to print a file in either normal or rotated form (options 3 and 4 respectively), and also allows you to change the printer format before the file is printed, using options 1 and/or 2. The box at the base of the screen tells you the current printer format; after switching on, it will automatically set itself to the following parameters:

Rotated print

96 lines,	Single height characters,
Quarter line space,	Rotate Standard font,
8/72 character space,	Continuous paper feed.

Unrotated or 'east-west' print

96 columns,	Single width characters,
Quarter character space,	Rotate Standard font,
8/72 line space,	Continuous paper feed.

The fifth option is 'Quit', which allows you to exit the Rotate program, taking you back to the 'A>' situation described in section 2.1.

Now:

If you want to print a file in rotated form and are happy with the printer format shown in the box, read on to section 3.2.

If you want to print rotated but in some other format, turn to sections 3.3 and 3.4.

If you want to print 'east-west', turn to section 3.5.

3.2 Printing a rotated text file without changing print format

1 - Select option 4 on the main menu. This gives you a sub-menu with three choices; select option 1. (Option 2 is dealt with in section 3.6; option 3 just returns you to the main menu).

2 - The screen now asks you for the source drive name - **A** (top drive), **B** (bottom drive), or **M** (RAM disk). Enter whichever is appropriate.

3 - Enter the name of the file to be printed, and press **RETURN**. (See section 3.6, second paragraph on, for procedure if you select a wrong or incorrectly formatted drive.)

4 - The screen now gives you the option of printing (press **C**), entering again (**E**), or returning to the sub-menu (**Q**). Printing will commence immediately the **C** is pressed. If pressing **C** produces a bleep, the printer is probably incorrectly set, either with the wrong paper (sheet instead of continuous, or vice versa) or none at all. Once the paper problem has been remedied, press **EXIT** and then **C**; printing will now commence.

5 - When the printing is finished, the sub-menu will reappear. To abort the printing, press **S**, followed by any key, to return to the sub-menu.

The **E** option is useful if for some reason you have entered the wrong file name; it takes you back to stage 3 above. If you have entered a non-existent file name, options of **E** (as above), or **Q** (return to sub-menu) will appear.

3.3 Printing a rotated text file in a different font

Option 1 on the main menu allows you to change the font; it produces a sub-menu with five choices, the first four being various fonts, and the fifth a return to the main menu. Note that with rotated print the choice of font affects the 'line count' (the number of lines which can be accommodated on the paper). Rotate Standard is the most compact, allowing a maximum of 96 lines; the other three all have characters nearly twice as high, so the maximum line count drops to 53 when any of these is selected. Examples of the fonts can be found on the print samples table at the back of this manual.

When you have made your selection, the main menu will automatically reappear. Check the box at the bottom to confirm your selection and its effect on the line count.

You can now proceed with printing as described in section 3.2.

3.4 Printing a rotated text file with different printer settings

Main-menu option 2 produces a sub-menu entitled 'printer settings menu'. This sub-menu merely acts as a method of accessing four different sub-sub menus, one for each printer setting parameter. The fifth option on the printer settings menu returns you to the main menu. We will deal with each parameter in turn.

Line spacing - This menu offers a choice of five line spacings, or of returning to the printer setting menu. A line spacing of '1' means that the height of the characters is the same as the amount of space between each line.

Note that the line spacings are not absolute, but are relative to the font style and font size. Thus if a double-size font is chosen, the number of millimetres between the lines will also double, without any change of line spacing.

Selecting a line spacing automatically takes you back to the printer settings menu and hence if required to the main menu. Remember that the line spacing chosen will affect the line count; the box on the main menu will confirm your selection and can be used to check its effect on the line count.

Character spacing - Character spacing is measured in 72nds of an inch. Anything from 1/12 inch (6/72) to 1 inch (72/72) is permissible; the screen will tell you the present value, and if this is acceptable, simply press **RETURN**. To change the value, enter the appropriate number between 6 and 72 and press **RETURN**. The screen will confirm your choice and then any key can be pressed to get back to the printer settings menu and hence if required to the main menu. The box on the main menu will confirm your choice of character spacing.

Unlike line spacing, character spacing is not dependent on font style or size.

Character height - Single or double height characters can be selected, or you can return to the printer settings menu. Once the character height has been chosen, the screen will confirm your choice; pressing any key then returns you to the printer settings menu, and hence if required to the main menu. The box in the main menu will confirm your choice of character height and its effect on the line count.

Remember that Rotate Standard is just over half the height of the other fonts (see section 3.3). Thus double-height Rotate Standard gives a similar line count to single-height with any other font, assuming the same line spacing in each case.

Paper mode - Continuous or sheet feed can be chosen, or you can return to the printer settings menu. The box in the main menu

will confirm your choice. Press **EXIT** after each paper change to restart printing, or to reactivate the keyboard if printing is finished.

When all the printer settings have been made to your satisfaction, return to the main menu, make a final check of the box to ensure that all the parameters are in order, and then proceed as described in section 3.2.

3.5 Printing a text file

Option 3 on the main menu allows you to output a file in conventional 'east-west' printing. Before printing, fonts and printer settings can be selected as desired, just as with rotated print (see sections 3.3 and 3.4), but note the following differences:

1 - An extra font is available, known as standard text. Double size characters are not available in this font. The use of standard text is discussed below.

2 - Because of the difference in print orientation, the functions of line spacing and character spacing are reversed. Similarly, for character height in rotated print, read character width when printing 'east-west'. When standard text is selected, the output cannot be character spaced.

When main menu option 3 is selected, the 'print a text file' submenu with four choices appears on the screen. Of the four, it is the first two which concern us here; the third is explained in section 3.6, while the fourth merely takes you back to the main menu.

The first choice, 'Print a file', allows you to print a file in the printer's standard text. This extra font, available only for 'east-west' printing, is not as compact as the other four fonts, offering only 80 characters across the paper, against 96 for the others. However, it has the advantage of speed, as the printer works very much faster in standard text.

The second choice allows you to print a file in 'current font', ie whichever font has been selected under main menu option 1. If you are unsure which this is, return to the main menu and check the box, if necessary altering the font selection as described in section 3.3.

Note, however, that whichever font you choose, the shape of the characters will not be the same as when they are printed rotated. Examples of the fonts are given in the print samples table at the back of this manual.

Whether you opt to print in standard text or a current font, the procedure from this point on is exactly the same as for printing a rotated text file - see section 3.2, second paragraph onwards.

3.6 Listing files

To obtain a list of files, use either option 3 or option 4 of the main menu. In both cases, the resulting sub-menus include 'list available files' among their choices.

On choosing this option, you will be asked which source you are interested in - top drive **A**, bottom drive **B**, or RAM disk **M**. Enter the appropriate letter and a list will appear on screen; pressing any character key then returns you to the sub-menu. Pressing **Q** instead of **A**, **B** or **M** will return you direct to the sub-menu without any list appearing. Note that Rotate will list all files on the disk, even non-ASCII files which it is not capable of printing. See section 4 for details of how to make ASCII standard files.

If a warning message appears instead of a list of files, the disk is incorrectly formatted, or not engaged in the drive. Remedy the problem by referring to the Amstrad manual.

On single disk drive machines - If you attempt to list files in drive B, the computer will bleep and ask you to insert a disk in the drive door. By pressing any key, it is possible to fool the computer into thinking that drive A is drive B and vice versa, whereupon the files on drive A will be listed on the screen. Remember, however, that this 'swap-over' process will have to be repeated before the computer will obey any subsequent instruction regarding drive A.

SECTION 4 — PRODUCING ASCII FILES

Below is a list of other software which will produce ASCII-standard files suitable for use with Rotate.

4.1 Caxton

Scratchpad Plus® - See section 6.1 of Scratchpad Plus. Print the spreadsheet model to disk.

Cardbox® - Print Cardbox records to disk using the PRINT option.

Brainstorm® - Section 2.9 of the Brainstorm manual. Print file to disk. The file will have a .DOC extension.

4.2 Digital Research

See relevant software manuals. Save file to disk.

4.3 Compact

Daybook®, Nominal Ledger®, Purchase Ledger®, Sales Ledger®, Invoicing®, Payroll®, Stock Control®, Interfacer® - for all these programs, see Amstrad additional appendices in the relevant Compact software manuals.

4.4 Sorcim

Supercalc 2® - Use the 'Output to disk' option. Select the setup printer routine and change the following parameters: page length should be 0, page width should be 255. The file will have a .PRN extension.

4.5 Micropro

Wordstar® - Use the 'Non document' option from the main menu to create a file. Save the file in the normal way.

4.6 Locomotive

Locoscript (version 1.1 and later)® - See Locoscript manual to produce an ASCII file.

4.7 Any other software

For any product not mentioned above, refer to its manual.

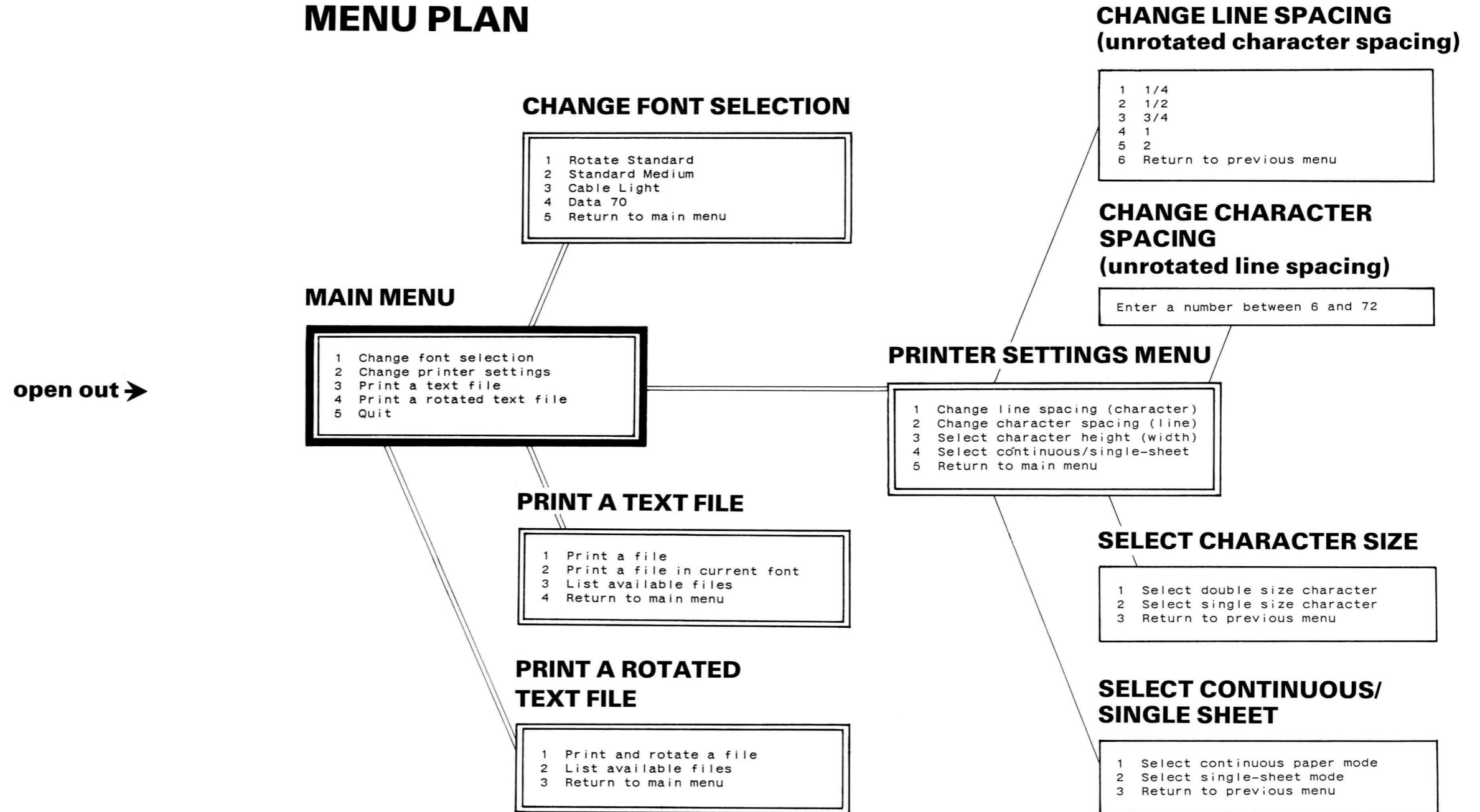
SECTION 5 — TUTORIAL

Included on the same disk as the Rotate program is a sample file, so you can get some practice using the program before working on your own material. The sample file is called RODEMO.PRN, and it is of course on drive A.

To familiarise yourself with Rotate, we suggest that you output the file in a variety of different fonts, spacings, and character heights, working not only with rotated print but also with normal printing. Also, try the program with both continuous and sheet feed.

After a short period with the sample file, you should have a thorough grasp of the versatility of the program. Proteus Computing Ltd sincerely hopes you find it reliable and useful. The company is always pleased to receive comments and enquiries from users, at 2 Iffley Road, Hammersmith, London W6 0PA.

MENU PLAN



PRINT SAMPLES

Examples of characters produced by running Rotate on the standard Amstrad printer (actual size)

	Single height rotated	Double height rotated	Single width 'east-west'	Double width 'east-west'
Rotate Standard	A, a, B, b, C, c, 1, 2, 3.	A, a, B, b, C, c, 1, 2, 3.	A, a, B, b, C, c, 1, 2, 3.	A, a, B, b, C, c, 1, 2, 3.
Standard Medium	A, a, B, b, C, c, 1, 2, 3.	A, a, B, b, C, c, 1, 2, 3.	A, a, B, b, C, c, 1, 2, 3.	A, a, B, b, C, c, 1, 2, 3.
Cable Light	A, a, B, b, C, c, 1, 2, 3.	A, a, B, b, C, c, 1, 2, 3.	A, a, B, b, C, c, 1, 2, 3.	A, a, B, b, C, c, 1, 2, 3.
Data 70	A, a, B, b, C, c, 1, 2, 3.	A, a, B, b, C, c, 1, 2, 3.	A, a, B, b, C, c, 1, 2, 3.	A, a, B, b, C, c, 1, 2, 3.
Standard text			A, a, B, b, C, c, 1, 2, 3.	

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