

PRELIMINARY OPERATION MANUAL - QL DISK

A. Starting out

To transfer a file (data or program) from microdrive to the QL DISK system.

1. Place a disk in the drive type in `FORMAT FLD1_diskname`. Upon pressing `<ENTER>`, the formatting will commence (in the same way that cartridges are formatted).

At the bottom of your screen you will see the side being formatted and the progressive record of the track count.

When the information "720/720" is printed on screen, the formatting is completed and you can then begin to transfer a file.

Enter `"COPY MDV1_filename TO FLD1_filename"` and the transfer will be made from cartridge to disk.

Once completed and the flashing cursor is on your screen, input `"DIR FLD1_"` to verify that the copy has been made. As with a microdrive directory, directory information will include the number of sectors remaining followed by the full sector count of the disk.

QL DISK will hold about three microdrive cartridges of information. One of the principal advantages of disk drives over the cartridge system there is greater security in reliability. Also, programmes load faster.

Immediately beneath this will be the name of your file.

The next step is to type in `"LOAD FLD1_filename"`.

B.1.0 SUGGESTIONS FOR FILING CONVENTIONS

B.2.0 VARIOUS TYPES OF FILES

File type	Suggested Naming convention	Nature of file
BASIC	BAS	A program written in machin code or a compiled BASIC program.
BINARY	BIN or CODE	
SYSTEM	SYS	
DATA	DAT	
SCREEN	SCR or SCN	
TEXT	TXT or EDT	
COMMAND	CMD	
MATRIX	ARY	

C.1.0 GENERAL INFORMATION REGARDING DISKS

Each track is divided into sectors, each with a 512 byte capacity. Layout of the disk formatted in QL Disk is:

- 80 tracks per side.
- 9 sectors per track.
- 512 bytes per sector.

NOTE: (ATTENTION)

The command `FORMAT` will, in common with the QL's microdrive system, completely erase all data contained on a disk, so use the command with care.

C.1.1 DISK MEDIA