

Create a Pop-Up Calendar
WordPerfect Magazine
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Has this ever happened to you? You're typing along in WordPerfect, and you need to know what day of the week your boss's birthday falls on. And wouldn't you know it, the half dozen or so desk calendars you got for Christmas are nowhere in sight.

The included POPCAL.WPM macro will come to your rescue. When you run it, a monthly calendar pops up on the screen (see figure below). This handy little tool is sure to become a regular part of your word processing arsenal.

Using the Macro

To use the macro, press (Alt-F10), type "popcal" and press (Enter). You'll now see the calendar on your screen. The calendar defaults to the current month. If you want to see next month, press (N) Next. Keep pressing (N) Next to move on to future months. To move backward in time, press (P) Previous. You can also return to the current month by pressing (T) Today. When done, press (Enter) or choose (E) Exit to dismiss the dialog box.

How the Macro Works

While some people think of macros as some kind of voodoo magic and aren't interested in how they work, others like to know what's going on behind the scenes. For the curious macro mavens in the audience, here's a brief explanation of POPCAL.WPM:

Line 1 is the information-gathering portion of the macro. The System variables ?DateDay, ?DateWeekday, ?DateMonth and ?DateYear are used to find out exactly what day it is. These values are stored in variables that are used later in the macro. Lines 2-3 assign the names of the 12 months to a variable array.

Lines 5-71 set up a Repeat/Until loop that does all the work of creating the calendar on your screen. A Repeat loop continues running until some event occurs. In this case, the macro examines the value of the variable Dlg (see lines 42 and 71) to find out when you've dismissed the dialog box.

Lines 7-9 determine the first weekday of the month by counting back from the current day. Line 10 uses a formula to determine if the current year is a leap year. Lines 11-12 create the title for the dialog box, including the name of the month and year. If the current month is displayed, line 11 ensures that the current day is included in the title.

Lines 13-14 initialize a series of variables that are used later to create the weeks in your calendar. Lines 15-19 label the days in the first week of the calendar. Lines 20-24 determine how many days are in the current month. Lines 26-39 label the remaining weeks in the calendar.

If the end of the month occurs before the end of the week, blanks are inserted to fill out the week and any other unused weeks on lines 30-36.

Lines 41-54 constitute the artistic portion of the macro. These lines draw the dialog box that makes up the calendar. Lines 55-70 check to see which control (Today, Next, Previous or Exit) you choose while the box is displayed and respond accordingly.

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9	10	11	12	13	14	15
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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

TodayNextPreviousExit