

ASHTON-TATE



INFORMATION™

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dBASE III TM, THE NEW STANDARD
FOR INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

CULVER CITY, Calif. -- dBASE III is a powerful yet easy-to-use and learn microcomputer database management system for 16-bit and larger computers.

"dBASE III is the new industry standard for database management software," said Edward M. Esber, Jr., president and chief executive officer of Culver City-based Ashton-Tate. "Since its release in June 1984, dBASE III has become the top-selling database management system for 16-bit machines."

dBASE III allows the user to enter, manipulate and retrieve large volumes of data and develop customized application programs that put the data to work using simple English-like commands.

Features include storage capabilities of over two billion records per file (limited by user's computer system) and 128 fields per database and the ability to use 10 database files simultaneously. The system also provides ultra-fast sorting and indexing of stored data, color display and user interactive features such as the command assistance mode that guides the first-time user.

"We developed dBASE III to take full advantage of the power and technology of 16-bit and larger computers," Esber said.

"With dBASE III and dBASE II, Ashton-Tate now has the best-selling database management software products for 8-bit and 16-bit microcomputers."

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"dBASE III has already become the industry standard for 16-bit IBM PC and compatible machines and we are confident that dBASE II will continue to be the top relational database management system for the 8-bit microcomputer," said Esber. "There is still a large base of dBASE II users with 8-bit machines. We will continue to service and support these customers."

Like its predecessor, dBASE III has the dBASE programming language which allows users to develop customized application programs for business or home.

dBASE III also uses the same English-like commands, modified and enhanced for new functions and program changes.

But according to Wayne Ratliff, chief scientist, that is where the similarities end.

"Although we have kept all the features of dBASE II that make it so popular, dBASE III was written in C language from the ground up to have greater capabilities, storage, speed, power and ease of use," he said.

An important feature of dBASE III is its command assistance mode, the dBASE Assistant, which brings powerful and sophisticated database management to the first-time user.

The dBASE Assistant guides the new user through the most common areas of database use and can be turned off once he or she becomes comfortable with the dBASE command language.

Full on-line and context sensitive help is also available at the touch of a key.

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Other features include a full-screen entry and modification of data and report and mailing label generating capabilities.

dBASE III comes with a comprehensive tutorial.

Additionally, Ashton-Tate's integrated software program, Framework, is compatible with dBASE III and dBASE II.

dBASE III currently runs on the IBM PC, XT, AT, PC 3270, AT&T 6300 and all IBM compatibles, with more systems planned for the future, including Texas Instruments' Professional family of computers, Tandy's business computers and ACT's Apricot computers. System requirements include a minimum 256 bytes of RAM, two 5 1/2-inch 360K bytes diskette drives or one fixed disk drive and one diskette drive, a monochrome or color display, PC-DOS 2.0 or 3.0 operating system and printer with at least 80 columns.

dBASE III is currently available from dealers at a suggested retail price of \$695.

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