

Create Page Borders Containing Text  
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When making page borders, many people use graphic images. Graphic images are fine, but sometimes I get creative and border my page with a running line of text. To help me do this, I created a macro. Using four figure boxes, the macro produces results like the examples shown in Figure 1 below.

### Creating the macro

The macro is included as TEXTBORD.WPM. Be sure to place it in the directory that contains your macros.

### Using the macro

Begin with a blank document screen. Press Macro (Alt-F10), type "textbord" and press (Enter). At the Enter the border text: prompt, type in the word or phrase you want to wrap around the page, then press (Enter). You may use up to 128 characters. If you have a long phrase, the text wraps to the next line. Don't worry, it still works.

You can add eye-catching variety to the border text using any of the 1,500-plus WordPerfect special characters. To insert a special character, press Compose (Ctrl-2), then type x,y where x equals the character set number and y equals the number of the character in the set. Don't forget the comma. For example, to get the heart character shown in Figure 1, press Compose (Ctrl-2) type 5,0, then press (Enter).

*Note: Consult the CHARACTR.DOC document that installs with WordPerfect to see a list of all special characters and their key combinations.*

At the Highlight a scalable font, then press (Enter) prompt, use the arrow keys to highlight the font you want and press (Enter). Enter the point size you want for your text. Point sizes must be whole numbers, like 12 or 10; numbers like 13.75 won't work.

While the macro is running, you'll see a \* Please Wait \* message that can last up to a minute. The smaller the font, the longer the macro takes to run. When the border has been created, you'll be taken into the View Document screen to view the border.

Press Exit (F7) when done. Experiment with the font type and size to achieve the desired effect. If you want the text to wrap differently, try recreating the border with a different font size. You're now ready to type your text.

### Customizing your border

You can try making the border any font size you wish, but I wouldn't recommend going over 36 points. One way to break up the monotony, especially if the text is small, is to type the phrase twice, once with one special character, then again with a different character. In Figure 1, the Robyn Shoopman example was achieved by typing Robyn Shoopman (heart) Robyn Shoopman (diamond) then pressing (Enter). As long as you don't go over the 128-character limit, you can add as much variety to the basic phrase as you wish.

## How the macro works

Lines 1-3: These set half-inch margins all around the page. If you want to make the text border any size you wish, omit lines 1-3 and 29-30. Without these lines, you'll need to specify margins before running the macro, or the border will be created at the default margins. You'll also need to reset the margins after running the macro, so that your text doesn't run into the border.

Lines 4-7: You're first prompted for the text you want to use as a border. The text you enter is assigned to variable Phrase. Once in the Base Font menu, you're prompted to select a scalable font and press (Enter). The font you select is assigned to variable Font (line 6). The number you enter (line 7) is used to help calculate line length in the graphics boxes.

Line 8 multiplies the point size you entered by 19 and assigns the answer to variable Buffer. This may seem like a large number, but remember that it's calculated in WordPerfect units, where one unit equals 1/1200th of an inch.

The {FOR} loop (lines 9-11) is the key to the macro. Basically, each character of the phrase you typed in is assigned to its own variable name. Using this method of variable assignment makes the wraparound effect at the corners of the border possible.

Label Top (lines 12-17) creates and formats the first graphics box. It then inserts the font you selected on line 5. Line 17 fully justifies the text to be inserted by label Text (line 43).

The {WHILE} and {FOR} loops in label Text (lines 43-49) insert the characters of your phrase, until the text reaches the end of the text line as calculated on line 14.

From label Text the macro moves to label Loop (lines 50-56). At the end of the text line, the macro backspaces to the end of the last word, then adds a full justification code before leaving the graphics box and returning to the document screen.

Labels Right (lines 18-20), Bottom (lines 21-24) and Left (lines 25-27) are all the same—they create the appropriate graphics box, format it, then call label FontAdd.

Label FontAdd (lines 32-35) does the same thing as lines 15-17. When it's done, it moves on to label Continue.

The phrase that was being placed in the previous box may not have fit, so label Continue (lines 36-42) inserts the remainder of the phrase, resets variable Index, then moves to label Text. Label Text starts the process of reinserting the phrase all over again. When the last box is created and filled with your phrase, the macro moves to label Finish (lines 28-31) where the margins are reset, and you're left in the View Document screen.

A little stirring of the gray matter will produce some marvelous results. Try a landscape orientation, or how about using the macro on an invitation? Be adventurous!

Figure 1

