

# QUICK START

R:BASE 5000  
HP TOUCHSCREEN

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You can begin working with R:base 5000 quickly and successfully using the simple instructions in this booklet:

- If you have used another database application
- If you are familiar with MS-DOS
- If you prefer to experiment and learn on your own, rather than work with tutorials and read manuals

If you need more information than you find in QUICK START, consult the *R:base 5000 User's Manual* and the *R:base 5000 Reference Manual*. The topics covered here are explained in greater detail in these books. QUICK START includes references to the chapters where you can find assistance.

The installation procedures in Chapter 1 of the *Reference Manual*, however, are not correct for your HP Touchscreen PC. To install R:base 5000 and start it running, follow the steps on page 3 of QUICK START or the more detailed steps in the READ ME booklet.

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## SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS AND OPTIONS

R:base 5000 is designed to run on the HP Touchscreen Personal Computer.

Your system must have:

- MS-DOS, version 2.01 or higher
  - At least 512K RAM (that is, a separate memory board with at least 256K additional RAM)
  - A hard disk drive and one 3.5-inch floppy disk drive
- OR
- Two double-sided, double-density 3.5-inch floppy-disk drives.

A hard-disk system and a printer are recommended.

## QUICK START FOR INSTALLATION AND RUNNING

(These instructions supersede chapter 1 of the *R:base 5000 User's Manual*; see the READ ME booklet for more details.)

### If You Have a Hard-Disk System:

1. With System Disk 1 in drive *b:*, TYPE **INSTALLH B: A:** at the **B>** prompt and follow the screen instructions. This will copy all eight R:base 5000 disks to a directory on your hard disk drive *a:*. Store the original disks in a safe place.

2. Decide which directory you want for your database files. Make it your current directory. If it is not the same directory as the one that has your R:base program files, use the DOS PATH command to set a path to that directory.
3. To accommodate R:base 5000, your system needs a system-configuration file (*config.sys*) with this command: **FILES=20**. Use the R:base configuration program to configure your system. At the A> prompt, type **CONFIG**. Follow the program's instructions.
4. At the A> prompt, TYPE **RB5000**.

Now you can run any program by placing the cursor over its name. The options are:

- **EXPRESS**: the Application EXPRESS
- **GATEWAY**: the FileGateway file-conversion program
- **RBASE**: the R:base database management system
- **RBEDIT**: the file editor
- **RCOMPILER**: the application program compiler

### If You Have a Floppy-Disk System:

1. With System Disk 1 in drive *b:*, type **INSTALLF B: A:** at the B> prompt and follow the screen instructions. This will copy all eight single-sided R:base 5000 disks to four double-sided disks. Store the original disks in a safe place.

2. To accommodate R:base 5000, your system needs a system-configuration file (*config.sys*) with this command: **FILES=20**. Use the R:base configuration program on your double-sided Utilities work disk to configure your system. With the Utilities work disk in drive *a:*, type **CONFIG** at the A> prompt. Follow the program's instructions.
3. Use the DOS PATH command to set a path. At the A> prompt, type:

```
PATH A:\
```

4. Make *b:* your default drive.
5. Put the appropriate program work disk in drive *a:* and your data disk--the disk containing data files--in drive *b:*. Then, at the B> prompt, type the name of the program you want to run:
  - **RBEDIT**: the file editor (on Utilities disk)
  - **EXPRESS**: the Application EXPRESS (on Express/Gateway disk)
  - **RBASE**: the R:base database management system (on System disk)
  - **RCOMPILER**: the application program compiler (on Utilities disk)
  - **GATEWAY**: the FileGateway file-conversion program (on Express/Gateway disk)

## QUICK START FOR DATABASE MANAGEMENT

### Data Basics

(See the *R:base 5000 User's Manual*, chapters 2 and 5.)

R:base stores data in tables having columns and rows. An R:base database can contain up to 40 tables and up to 400 columns. In general, you can have as many rows as your storage device or operating system allow.

You begin database management by defining the structure of the database: giving it a name, giving names to the tables it will have, and giving names and data types (text, integer, real, dollar, time, or date) to the columns that each table will have.

### Defining a Database

(See the *R:base 5000 User's Manual*, chapters 2, 3, and 14.)

Defining a database is easy with R:base 5000. Use the Application EXPRESS.

With the EXPRESS main menu on screen, press [1] to define a new database. Follow the directions. The EXPRESS gives you a visual display and on-screen information.

You can also use the EXPRESS to create menu screens and help screens as well as to build applications.

## Working with a Database

(See the *R:base 5000 User's Manual*, part 2.)

Explore R:base. You can use R:base commands with a database you define or with the sample database, *compuco*, that is included with R:base. (If you have double-sided floppy disks, *compuco* is on the Utilities work disk; otherwise, it is on your hard disk.)

The *compuco* database has six tables, each with several rows of data, and a report. This sample database is similar to one that would serve the needs of a sales manager. It contains data on the products of a company, sales transactions, customers, and sales representatives. The design of *compuco* is described in the *R:base 5000 User's Manual*, chapter 2.

To make the sample database available, at the R> prompt type:

### OPEN COMPUCO

Use R:base to:

- Enter data into a database
- Change or delete data you have entered
- Create a customized entry form or a report
- Display your data on screen
- Print the data in a report

## Help!

R:base on-line help is available to explain R:base commands and to show how to enter the commands correctly. When you need help in R:base, press [F10], one of the unmarked keys in the upper right corner of the keyboard.

The Help key, [F10], is the key third from the right on the top row of the keyboard. <sup>▲</sup>

A prompt mode is also available to assist you in entering and executing R:base commands. To use the prompt mode, at the R> prompt, type **PROMPT**. <sup>▲</sup>

The R:base 5000 Command Card shows the syntax for all R:base commands.

When you finish working with R:base, at the R> prompt, type **EXIT**.

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<sup>▲</sup>To use help or prompts with a floppy-disk system, you need to copy the help or prompt file to your work disk. The file names are **HELP.RBS** and **PROMPT.RBS**. Neither file is required for the operation of R:base.

## QUICK START FOR APPLICATION BUILDING

(See the *R:base 5000 User's Manual*, chapters 4 and 14.)

A database is a collection of tables of data. A database application is a database plus menus and commands to process the database. These menus and commands allow you to keep data current, to print reports, and to answer questions from data.

With the Application EXPRESS, you can create menu-driven applications in minutes. Screen menus and prompts guide you through the necessary steps. You can create information screens, entry forms, and reports.

Build a sample application--or part of one--for practice.

Before you start building an application, you need a database. You can either define your own database by selecting option 1 from the Application EXPRESS main menu, or use the sample database, *compuco*, that comes with R:base 5000.

When you are ready to begin, select option 3 from the Application EXPRESS main menu.

To run an application you build, exit from the EXPRESS. Start R:base and at the R> prompt enter the RUN command with the name of the application. For example, if you named your EXPRESS application *myappl1*, type:

**RUN MYAPPL1 IN MYAPPL1.APX**

(*Myappl1.apx* is the DOS file name of the procedure file that stores your application.)

## QUICK START FOR THE SAMPLE APPLICATION

(See the *R:base 5000 User's Manual*, chapter 17.)

*Order*, a sample application included with R:base 5000, demonstrates R:base application file commands at work. The application is designed to keep track of customers, inventory, and sales orders. It includes these features:

- It automatically updates the inventory when you enter customer sales orders.
- It keeps track of backorders, automatically filling them on a first-come, first-served basis.
- It prints picking lists for use by warehouse personnel.
- It prints customer invoices and then automatically provides a sales register.

*Order* has other useful features. For example, it can:

- Print three-up mailing labels either for all customers or only those customers within a range of zip codes which you supply.
- Print price lists sorted by item number or description. Accounting personnel can easily obtain a complete listing of all inventory items showing the quantity and cost of inventory on hand and the total cost of the inventory.
- Print a worksheet showing the inventory by warehouse location when it is time to make a physical count of inventory items.
- List items you need to order.

To help you become familiar with *order*, a sample database has been included.

To see how *order* works, start up R:base. Then, at the R> prompt, type:

**RUN INIT IN PROCS.ORD**

This menu-driven application will guide you through the choices available.