

Kerning with Macros
WordPerfect Magazine
By Elden Nelson

Macros are great for providing quick access to obscure features that you may want to use more often. For example, suppose you need to kern¹ a headline or move two letters closer together or further apart to make the headline look nicer. To do this manually, quite a few steps are required. This isn't a big deal if you need to adjust a headline only once. However, if you need to keep adjusting the same headline several times or kern lots of headlines, you'll quickly get tired of repeating the same steps.

Here's what you can do: create two macros, one that moves two letters slightly closer and one that moves two letters slightly further apart (see Figure 1). Here's how:



Figure 1

The included KERNL.WPM and KERNR.WPM (L for left and R for right) macros do just that.

To play each macro, place the cursor on the right-most letter (or between the letters if you're in Graphics Mode in WP 6.x), then press (Alt+F10), type "kernl" or "kernr" and press (Enter).

Of course, these simple keystroke macros are just two of many macros you can create to make your work go faster. As you work with your desktop publishing documents, think of the common tasks you perform and create macros to speed up your work.

For example, if you get files from other people for your monthly newsletter, you'll probably have some cleanup work to do. You may want to create a simple keystroke macro that changes double spaces to single spaces and converts dashes made with two hyphens (--) to solid em-dashes (—).

¹ What does kern mean? It means to make adjustments to the space between characters of a word.