



# QLCOMMANDER v1.1

**QLCommander (QLC)** is an orthodox file manager (OFM), inspired by the Norton Commander that was widely used in late '80s and during the 1990's on PCs. QLC provides a text-based user interface for managing files on top of QDOS, on expanded QLS

QLC is easy to use because the user has a constant view of two file manipulation objects at once (panels with file lists). Each panel can be easily configured to show information about a drive or a directory. At the bottom of the screen QLC displays a list of commands that are accessible using the function keys. Thus, without the use of the mouse (although mouse functionality is planned to be integrated), the user is able to perform many file manipulation actions quickly and efficiently.

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# QLCommander Install

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To install the program follow the steps:

1. Create a directory for QLC  
e.g win1\_QLCOMMANDER\_
2. Create a directory for temporary files, if you do not already have one  
e.g. win2\_TEMP
3. unzip QLC\_zip into QLC directory. You should have the following files:
  1. 5pixels\_fnt
  2. bold8\_fnt
  3. qlc\_fnt
  4. qlc\_obj
  5. qlc\_exe
  6. qlc\_cfg
  7. qlc\_code
  8. qlcconfig\_bas
  9. quill\_view
  10. unzip
4. load the (very crude) configuration program qlcconfig\_cfg and edit it to match your configuration

Line	Variable	Description
100	ConfigDrv\$	The directory where QLC is installed
150	MaxFiles%	Maximum number of files and subdirs to load from a dir, including the fake dir ..-> that acts as DDUP
180	TempDir\$	Temporary dir used by some viewers
210	leftDir\$	Drive or dir to load in left panel at program start
240	rightDir\$	Drive or dir to load in right panel at program start
270	Qubide%	If you have a QUBIDE drive set this to 1 The QUBIDE interface does not allow you to use MAKE_DIR to create a sub-directory if any files already exist which would fall into that sub-directory
300	ClassicFont%	Accepted values: 0 or 1 1= QLC will use the classic QL font (6 pixels wide) to list the files in the panels 0=QLC will use the narrow font (5 pixels wide) to list the files in the panels
330	linelen%	The number of characters per line in a panel If ClassicFont%=1 then linelen% should be between 36 and 42 If ClassicFont%=0 then linelen% should be between 44 and 50 and even number This permits to scale the width of QLC on monitor
360	XChangePath\$	Path to Xchange directory - it must include the last '_' e.g. win1_XChange_
390	XChangeProg\$	Name of the Xchange executable - normally it is XChange
420	EditPath\$	Path to your editor. The editor must accept the filename as parameter and also must use DATAD\$ e.g. QD editor ; QED editor
430	EditProg\$	Name of the editor's executable

5. Run `qlcconfig_bas`. It will overwrite the configuration file `qlc_cfg`  
Observation: You can of course edit the `qlc_file` with any text editor :)
6. Make sure that you have loaded the necessary general extensions:
  - QPTR
  - Turbo Toolkit
  - any other extensions needed by your selected editor
7. Load the `qlc_code`:  
e.g.: `LRESPR qlc_code`
8. Run QLC using the command (modify the drive and directory name to those in your setup):  
`EX win1_QLCOMMANDER_qlc_obj; win1_QLCOMMANDER_`  
OR  
`EX win1_QLCOMMANDER_qlc_exe; win1_QLCOMMANDER_`

`qlc_exe` – is QLC executable compiled with Turbo

`qlc_obj` – is QLC executable compiled with Qliberator (with runtime included)

**Both are provided for testing ! Please report back all error !**

## Using QLCOMMANDER

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### Warning:

The SBASIC version of QLCOMMANDER is provided for testing, bug fixing and improvements. On an unexpanded QL the loading of directory lists is quite slow. On a QL+GoldCard it is bearable. On QL+SuperGoldCard or faster computer it runs ok. But still it needs to be compiled.

### Extensions used

QLC uses the following extensions : `More_code`, `Header_code` and `Function_code`, all from DIY Toolkit. All 3 extensions have been packed in file `qlc_code`

It also uses :

- QPTR toolkit (just needs the `Outln` function)
- Turbo Toolkit

Your selected editor may use other extensions, so make sure all are loaded

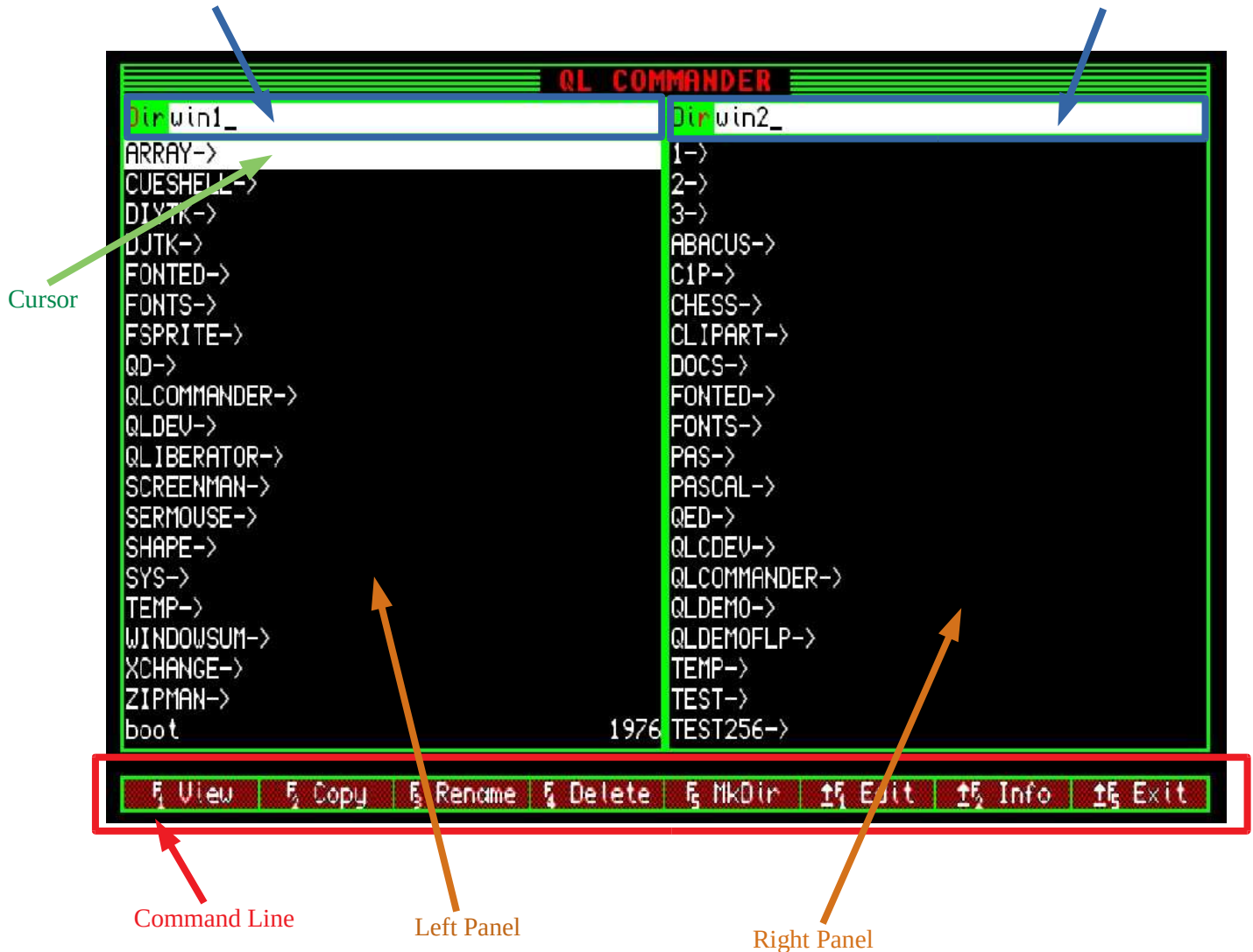
# The QLC Screen

LeftDir\$

the selected directory listed in left panel

RightDir\$

the selected directory listed in right panel



**Convention:** Regardless on how are saved on the QL drive:

- All directories are shown in uppercase
- All directories are marked with ->
- All files are shown in lowercase

# Commands

Command	Description												
Ctrl-d	Change the directory listed in the left panel (edit box in place)												
Ctrl-r	Change the directory listed in the right panel (edit box in place)												
Tab	Change active panel												
Up arrow	Move the cursor one item up in the list												
Down arrow	Move the cursor one item down in the list												
Shift-Up arrow	Move the cursor one page up in the list												
Shift-Down arrow	Move the cursor one page down in the list												
Ctrl-Up arrow	Jump to first item in the current panel												
Ctrl-Down arrow	Jump to last item in the current panel												
Ctrl-Left arrow	Open parent directory. If the current directory has no parent (is root of the drive) then it jumps to first item in the panel												
Enter	<p>If cursor is on item <b>..-&gt;</b> then go one level up on the directory tree</p> <p>If cursor is on a directory then go one level down on the directory tree, into the selected directory</p> <p>If the cursor is on file with a known extension then it will perform the following action:</p> <table> <tr> <th>Extension</th><th>Action</th></tr> <tr> <td>_bas</td><td>Load the file in the SBASIC editor, then calls ED editor</td></tr> <tr> <td>_cde    _code _rext</td><td>It will LRESPR the file</td></tr> <tr> <td>_doc    _aba _grf    _dbf _prg</td><td>Load the file in XChange</td></tr> <tr> <td>_zip</td><td>Unzips the file into the directory selected in the opposing panel</td></tr> <tr> <td>Any other extension</td><td>Tests if the file if EXECable, and if it is it execs it</td></tr> </table>	Extension	Action	_bas	Load the file in the SBASIC editor, then calls ED editor	_cde    _code _rext	It will LRESPR the file	_doc    _aba _grf    _dbf _prg	Load the file in XChange	_zip	Unzips the file into the directory selected in the opposing panel	Any other extension	Tests if the file if EXECable, and if it is it execs it
Extension	Action												
_bas	Load the file in the SBASIC editor, then calls ED editor												
_cde    _code _rext	It will LRESPR the file												
_doc    _aba _grf    _dbf _prg	Load the file in XChange												
_zip	Unzips the file into the directory selected in the opposing panel												
Any other extension	Tests if the file if EXECable, and if it is it execs it												
Space	Select the item under the cursor for further operations. If the item is selected it will deselect it. Selected items are printed in red												
+ or =	Selects all files and directories from the current panel												
- or _	Deselects all files and directories from the current panel												
Ctrl-a	Show About box												
a.. z a umlaut..oe diphthong	Move cursor to first file that starts with the letter. If none found then move to first file that starts with a letter greater than that												
A.. Z A umlaut..OE diphthong	Move cursor to first directory that starts with the letter. If none found then move to first file that starts with a letter greater than that												
0..9	Move cursor to next file or directory that starts with that number												
F1	View the file under the cursor												

Command	Description	
	Extension	Action
	_fnt .fnt _fat .fat	View as font. Regardless of the extension fnt or fat the program will test if the font is a regular font or a fat font and will try to render it accordingly
	_doc .doc	View Quill document. QLCommander will check that the file has a valid Quill header. <b>Note:</b> there are no checks performed to test the integrity of the file, so if the document is corrupted a crash might occur.
	_scr .scr	View as image. Only the file is longer than 32k then only the first 32k will be loaded on screen.
	_zip .zip	View as zip archive. It will list the content of the archive. QLCommander will check that the file has a valid Zi[p header. <b>Note:</b> there are no checks performed to test the integrity of the file, so if the archive is corrupted or is a zip archive created on a different operating system and does not conforms with QDOS requirements a crash might occur.
	Any other extension	View as text
F2	Copy the selected items to the other panel (in the directory currently displayed in the other panel) If there are no selected items then it will copy the item under the cursor	
F3	Rename the file under the cursor. It is not possible to rename directories	
F4	Deletes the selected items If there are no selected items then it will delete the item under the cursor All delete operations require confirmation from user	
F5	Make Directory	
Shift-F1	Loads the file under into the editor (if editor was configured)	
	Extension	Action
	_doc _aba _grf _dbf	Load the file in Xchange Quill, in corresponding program
	Any other extension	Load the file in the configured editor
	Xchange and/or editor are started as separate tasks. You can go back to QLCommander by pressing CTRL_C	
Shift-F2	Shows the Info window. Press any key to close the window	
Shift-F4	Redraw screen	
Shift-F5	Exit program	

## Viewing files

All files can be viewed, but some have dedicated viewers:

- Font files (\_fnt, .fnt, \_fat and .fat)
- Quill documents (\_doc and .doc)
- Zip archives (\_zip and .zip)
- Image files (\_scr and .scr)
- Text files (all other extensions)

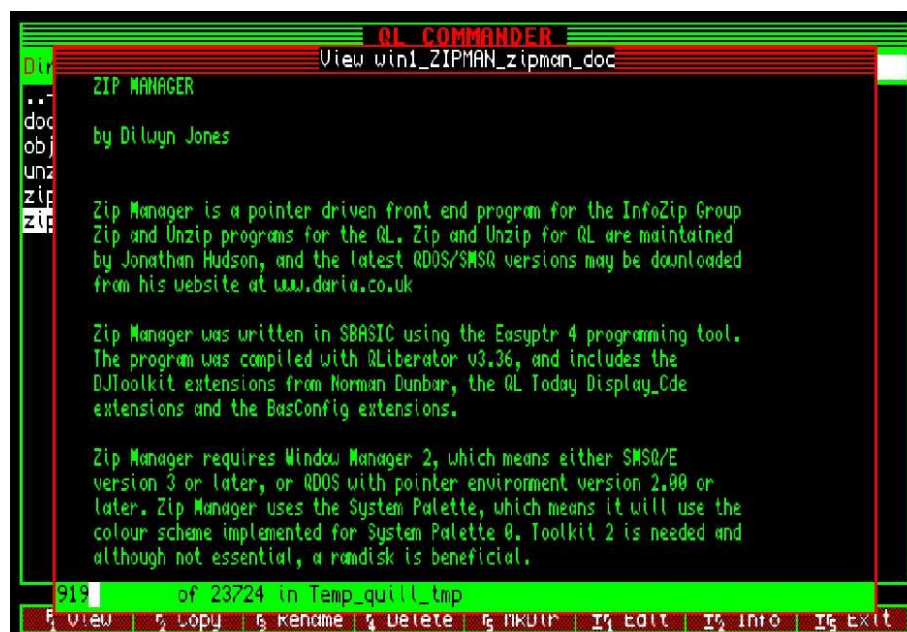
### View a Font file

For viewing Font files move cursor over a font file that has \_fnt or \_fat extension and press F1  
Press any key to close the window



### View Quill document

For viewing a Quill document file move cursor over a the file press F1. File must have \_doc extension in order to be recognized as a Quill doc, and a valid Quill header. QLC will execute *quill\_view* that will create a fair rendition of the document in text mode, in the temporary directory, and then will call *more* extension to view the file. Press ESC to exit the viewer.





## View Zip archive

For viewing a Zip archive move cursor over a the file press F1. File must have `_zip` extension in order to be recognized as a zip document. QLC will execute `unzip` that will create a temporary file in the temporary directory, and then will call `more` extension to view the file. Press ESC to exit the viewer.

**Observation - Probably Unzip bug - This process works only with unzip v5.0 or older. Newer versions do not ever finish creating a file in quiet mode !**



## View image document

Only `_scr` images can be viewed. The image will be loaded on the screen at address 131072., so this option only works on standard QL screen (mode 8 and mode 4)

On SMSQ/E with higher resolution or more colors it will not work.

If you want this option to work please setup your SMSQ/E system in 512x256 resolution and QL colors.

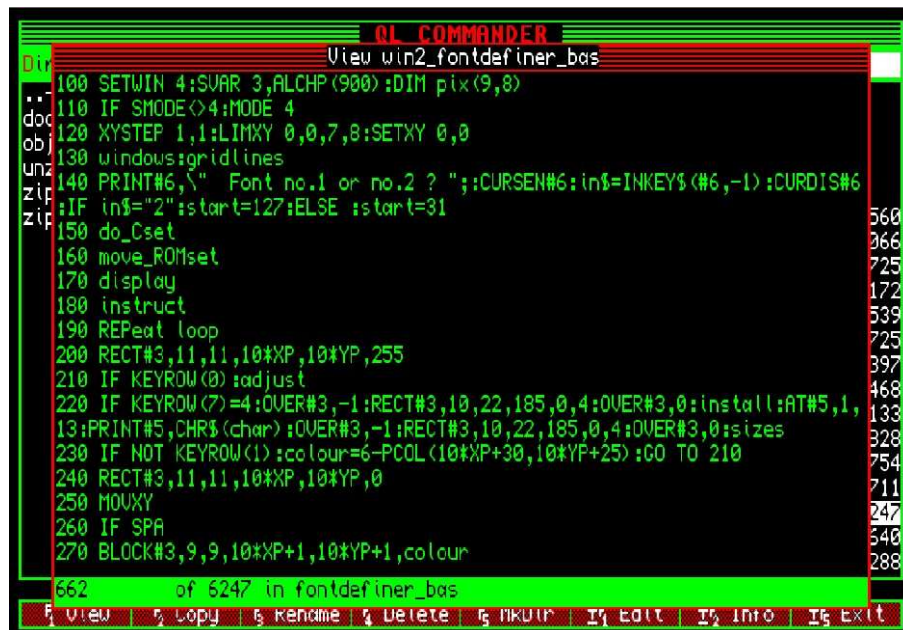
The image is first loaded in mode 4 You can press 8 to change to mode 8, or 4 to change to mode 4. Any other key will close the image.



## View any other document type

For viewing, as you already guessed, move cursor over a the file press F1. QLC will call *more* extension to view the file. Press ESC to exit the viewer.

If the file is a plain file (a \_bas file, text file etc) then it will be readable.



```
QL COMMANDER
View win2_fontdefiner_bas
100 SETWIN 4:SVAR 3,ALCHP(900):DIM pix(9,8)
110 IF SMODE<>4:MODE 4
120 XYSTEP 1,1:LIMXY 0,0,7,8:SETXY 0,0
130 windows:gridlines
140 PRINT#6," Font no.1 or no.2 ? ";:CURSEN#6:in%=INKEY%(<#6,-1):CURDIS#6
150 IF in%="2":start=127:ELSE :start=31
160 do_Cset
170 move_ROMset
180 display
190 instruct
200 REPEAT loop
210 IF KEYROW(0):adjust
220 IF KEYROW(7)=4:OVER#3,-1:RECT#3,10,22,185,0,4:OVER#3,0:install:AT#5,1,
230 PRINT#5,CHR$(char):OVER#3,-1:RECT#3,10,22,185,0,4:OVER#3,0:sizes
240 IF NOT KEYROW(1):colour=6-PCOL(10*XP+30,10*YP+25):GO TO 210
250 RECT#3,11,11,10*XP,10*YP,0
260 MOUXY
270 IF SPA
280 BLOCK#3,9,9,10*XP+1,10*YP+1,colour
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# Copy files

## Copy a single file

Move the cursor over the file and press F2. The file will be copied in the directory currently selected on the other panel.

Copying a single file does not require confirmation from the user

## Copy a single directory

Move the cursor over the directory and press F2. The directory will be copied in the directory currently selected on the other panel.

Copying a single directory requires confirmation from the user

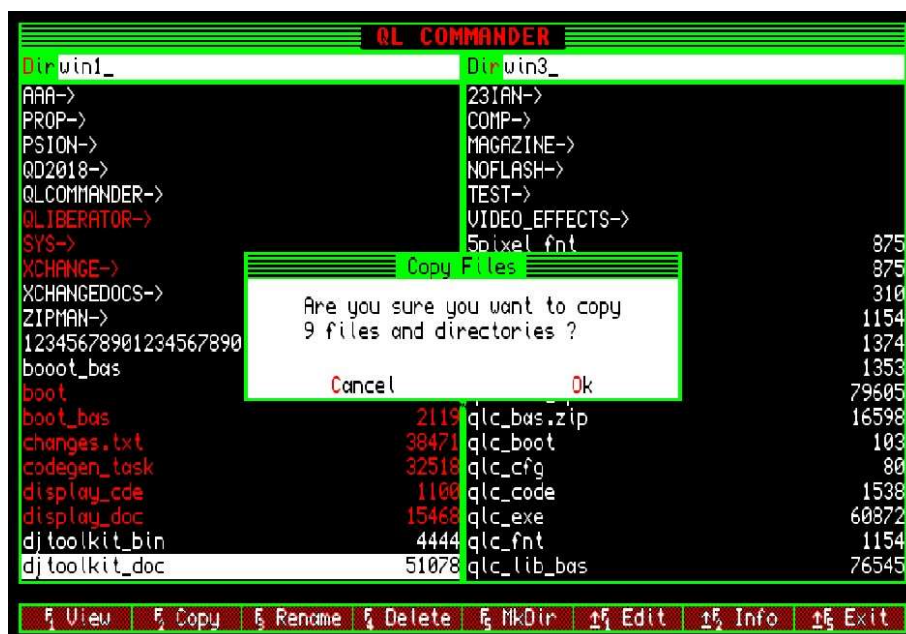
**Attention:** Copy process will not copy any subdirectories of the directory you are copying !

## Copy multiple files and/or directories

First select all the files/directories to copy using SPACE key . The selected items will be written with red. Then press F2.

Copying multiple files and/or directories requires confirmation from the user

**Attention:** Copy process will not copy any subdirectories of the directory you are copying !







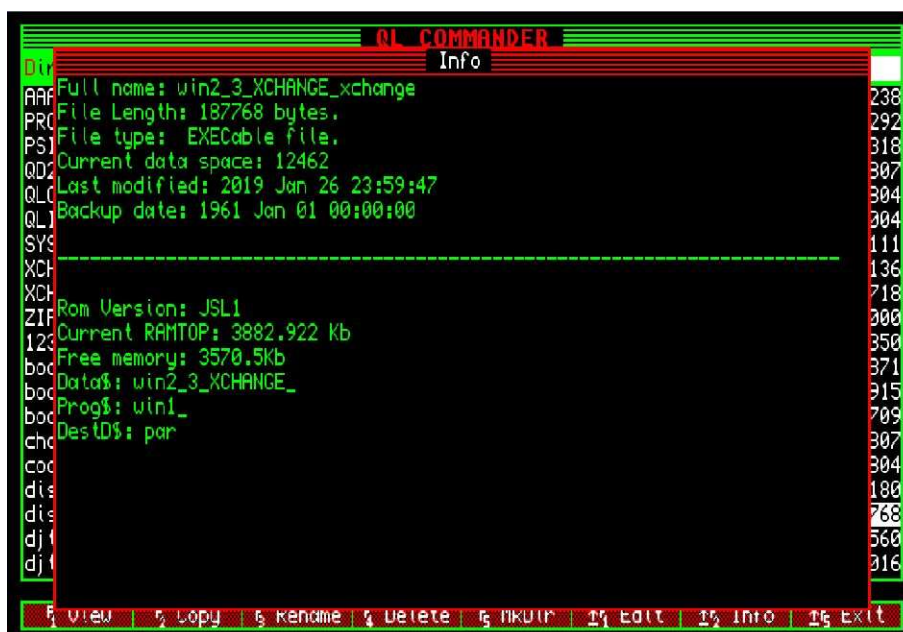
## Delete files

Delete operations are analogous with copy operations, but all delete operations require user confirmation !

**Attention:** Delete process will **not** parse subdirectories and will **not** delete any subdirectories of the directories you are deleting !

## Show File Info

Move the cursor over the file and press Shift-F2. The file info will be displayed. Press any key to close the window



## Open a XChange document

You can open a Xchange document only if you configured QLCommander to use it (you have set the correct path to Xchange and the correct executable name – this generally is Xchange)

The following extensions are associated with Xchange documents:

- `_doc` – Quill document
- `_aba` – Abacus document
- `_grf` – Easel documentation
- `_dbf` – Archive document (database)
- `_prg` – Archive document (program)

Move the cursor over the file and press Enter. The file will be loaded into Xchange and the correct program will start.

You can use CTRL-C to switch back to QLCOMMANDER or to other task.

After closing Xchange press CTRL-C to return to QLCommander

## Edit a document

You can open a document in the editor only if you configured QLCommander to use an editor - you have set the correct path to editor and the correct executable name when you configured QLCommander.

Some editors require extensions in order to run – those extensions must be loaded on your system, preferably in your boot filename

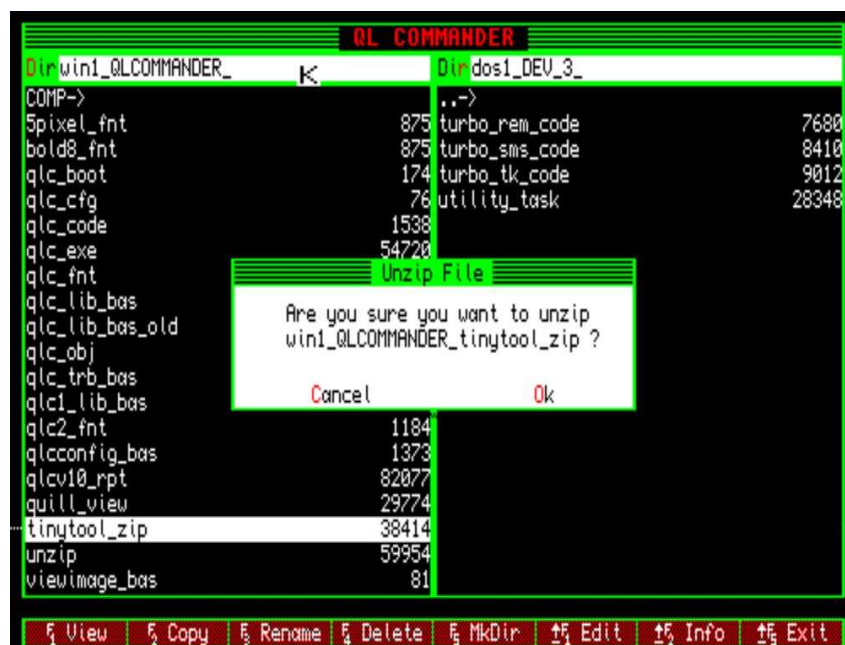
Move the cursor over the file and press Enter. The file will be loaded into your selected editor.

You can use CTRL-C to switch back to QLCOMMANDER or to other task.

After closing the editor press CTRL-C to return to QLCommander

## Unzip a `_zip` archive

Move the cursor over the `_zip` file and press Enter. The archive will be unzipped into the directory selected in the opposite panel.



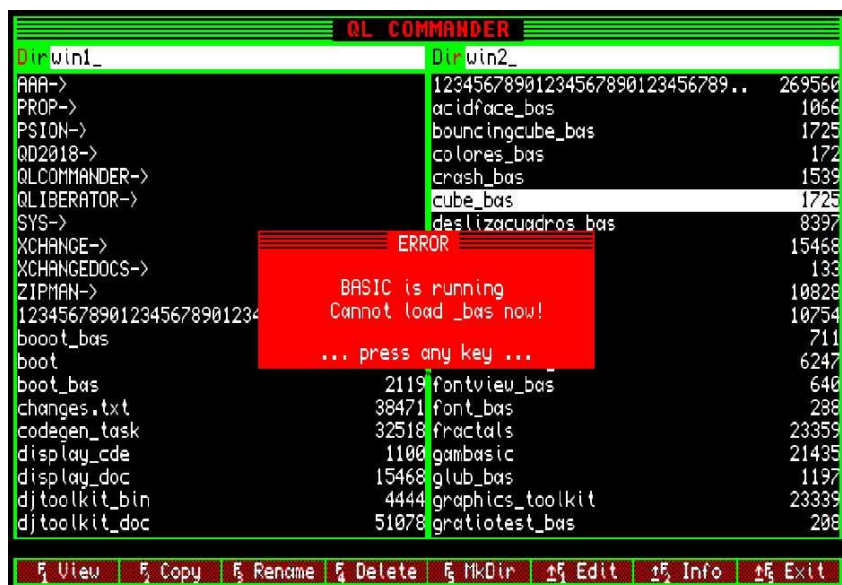
QLCommander uses unzip program that is located in the program's directory. This is an older version - unzip v5.0, as newer version seem unable to list contents of a zip archive into a file for viewing it's content.

QLCommander does not checks the integrity of the zip archive so in case of any errors, if unzip crashes, then QLCommander might also crash.

## Load a \_bas file

Move the cursor over the \_bas file and press Enter. QLCommander will first test if a basic file is already running in the interpreter.

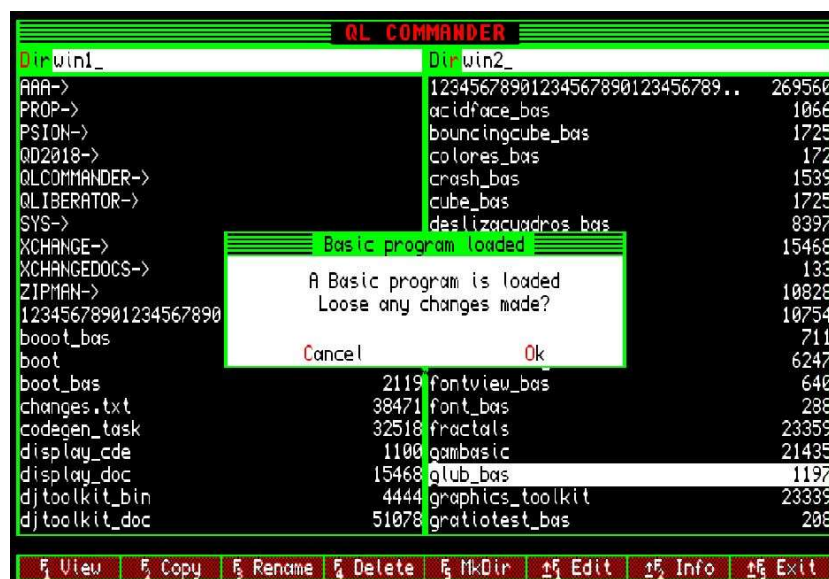
If a Basic program is already running the following message will be shown:



**Note:** QLCommander will consider that BASIC is running if either:

- a basic program is actually running
- a basic program's run was interrupted with BREAK (CTRL-SPACE) but no CLEAR command was issued afterwards . In this case just type Clear or New command at the prompt

If no BASIC program is running QLCommander will test if a basic file is already loaded, and if it is will show the following message:



# Known Bugs and issues encountered

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## FMAKE\_DIR issue

Creating a directory uses FMAKE\_DIR function.

The SBASIC/SuperBASIC Reference Manual Online states:

FMAKE\_DIR is identical to MAKE\_DIR except that it is a function and does not stop a program if an error occurs, instead it returns the code of the error concerned.

The following errors need some explanation:

Error -9 (in use) : There is already a sub-directory with the same name;

Error -8 (already exists) : File (not a sub-directory) exists already with that name;

In Qemulator it returns -8 in both cases ! Not tested in QPC2...

## Unzip Issue

Unzip versions newer than v5.0 seem never to complete the extraction process if set to list the contents of the archive to a file. The process seems to halt just before closing the file.

## QPC2 char\_inc issue 1

On QPC2 when a fat font is used with **char\_inc** the text is not rendered correctly.

The chars are rendered with the correct width, but the paper under the characters is still set to 5 pixels wide – the other pixels are left as before.

The following code:

```
100 OPEN#3, con
110 WINDOW#3, 300, 50, 10, 10: BORDER#3, 1, 4: PAPER#3, 0, 4, 1: CLS#3
120 PAPER#3, 0: INK#3, 2
130 a$='win1_bold8_fnt'
140 basefont3 = ALCHP(Lng%)
150 LBYTES a$, basefont3
160 CHAR_USE#3, basefont3, 0
170 CHAR_INC #3, 9, 10
180 CURSOR#3, 20, 5
190 PRINT #3, "THIS IS A TEST abcdefg"
```

will have as result:



## QPC2 char\_inc issue 2

On QPC2 Lbytes "win1\_image\_scr", 131072 resets the characters width to the default 6 pixels in all channels