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

QLCis 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 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.

Table of Contents

QLCommander Install

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 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 inclued)

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

Using QLCOMMANDER

Warning:

The SBASIC version of QLCCOMMANDER 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

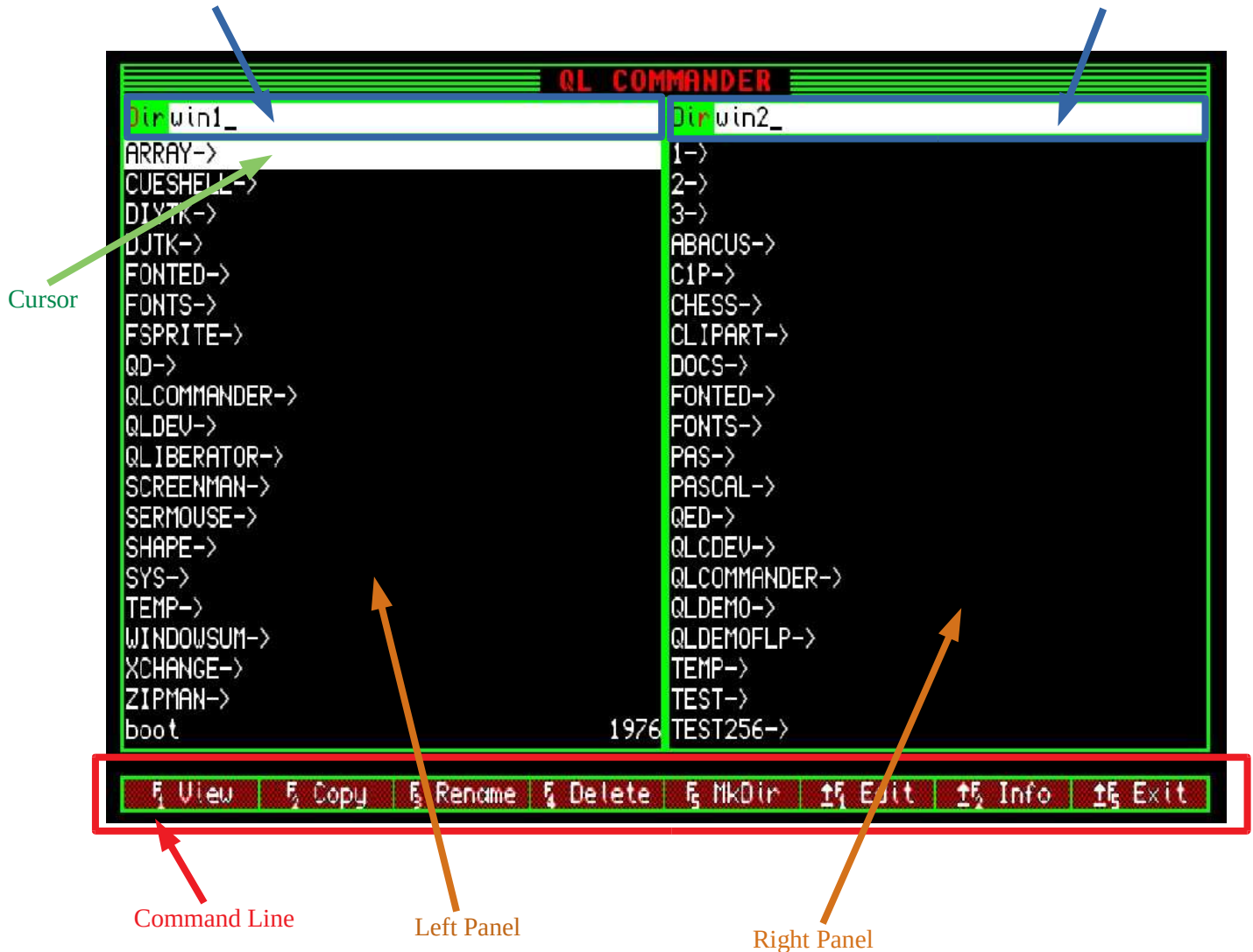Your selected editor may use other extensions, so make sure all are loaded

The QLC Screen

LeftDir$
the selected directory listed in left panel

RightDir$
the selected directory listed in right panel

Cursor

Command Line

Left Panel

Right Panel

```
QL COMMANDER
Dir win1_                          Dir win2_
ARRAY->                           1->
CUESHELL->                        2->
DIYTK->                           3->
DJTK->                            ABACUS->
FONTED->                          C1P->
FONTS->                           CHESS->
FSPRITE->                         CLIPART->
QD->                              DOCS->
QLCOMMANDER->                     FONTED->
QLDEV->                           FONTS->
QLIBERATOR->                      PAS->
SCREENMAN->                       PASCAL->
SERMOUSE->                        QED->
SHAPE->                           QLCDEV->
SYS->                             QLCOMMANDER->
TEMP->                            QLDEMO->
WINDOWSUM->                       QLDEMOFLP->
XCHANGE->                         TEMP->
ZIPMAN->                          TEST->
boot                         1976 TEST256->

 F₁ View  F₂ Copy  F₃ Rename  F₄ Delete  F₅ MkDir  ⇧F₁ Edit  ⇧F₂ Info  ⇧F₃ Exit
```

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	If cursor is on item `..->` then go one level up on the directory tree If cursor is on a directory then go one level down on the directory tree, into the selected directory If the cursor is on file with a known extension then it will perform the following action: _see table below_
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

Enter action 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

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. Note: 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. Note: 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 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 than will call *more* extension to view the file. Press ESC to exit the viewer.
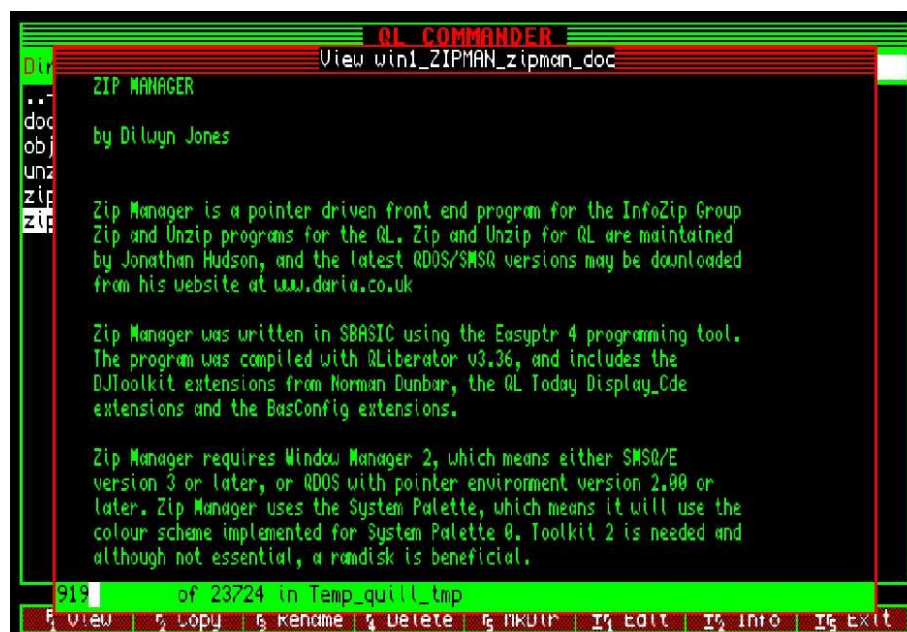
View Zip archive

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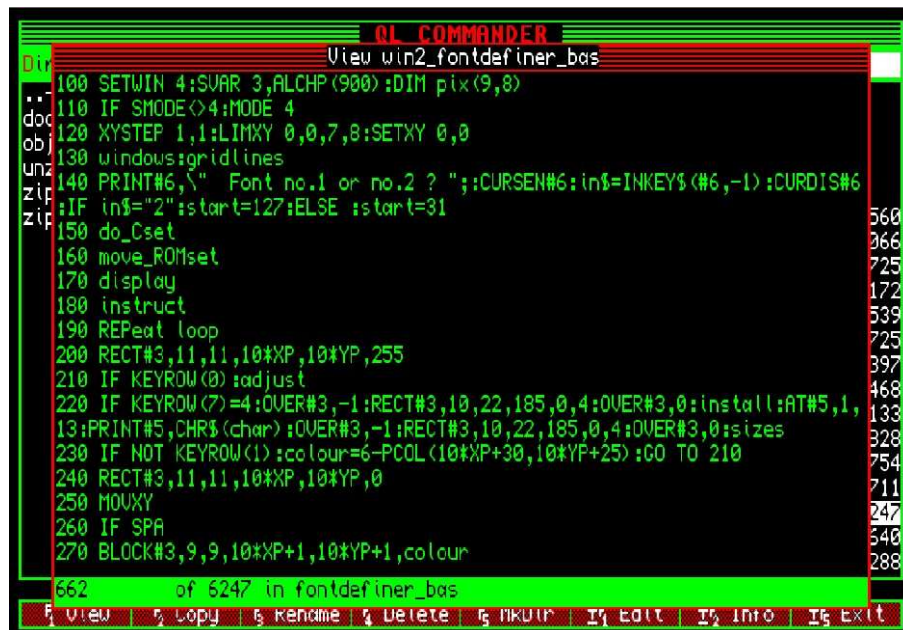
The image is first loaded in mode 4 You can press 8 to change to mode 8, or 4 to change to mode 4. Any other key will close the image.

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
Dir
    100 SETWIN 4:SVAR 3,ALCHP(900):DIM pix(9,8)
doc 110 IF SMODE<>4:MODE 4
obj 120 XYSTEP 1,1:LIMXY 0,0,7,8:SETXY 0,0
unz 130 windows:gridlines
zip 140 PRINT#6,\"  Font no.1 or no.2 ? ";:CURSEN#6:in$=INKEY$(#6,-1):CURDIS#6
zip :IF in$="2":start=127:ELSE :start=31                                560
    150 do_Cset                                                         066
    160 move_ROMset                                                     725
    170 display                                                         172
    180 instruct                                                        539
    190 REPeat loop                                                     725
    200 RECT#3,11,11,10*XP,10*YP,255                                    397
    210 IF KEYROW(0):adjust                                             468
    220 IF KEYROW(7)=4:OVER#3,-1:RECT#3,10,22,185,0,4:OVER#3,0:install:AT#5,1, 133
    13:PRINT#5,CHR$(char):OVER#3,-1:RECT#3,10,22,185,0,4:OVER#3,0:sizes 328
    230 IF NOT KEYROW(1):colour=6-PCOL(10*XP+30,10*YP+25):GO TO 210     754
    240 RECT#3,11,11,10*XP,10*YP,0                                      711
    250 MOVXY                                                           247
    260 IF SPA                                                          540
    270 BLOCK#3,9,9,10*XP+1,10*YP+1,colour                              288
    662       of 6247 in fontdefiner_bas
  F, View  | F, Copy | F, Rename | F, Delete | F, MkDir | F, Edit | F, Info | F, Exit
```

Create a directory

To create a directory just press F5 – the Create Directory window will appear and you will be able to enter the directory name., then press Enter.
If you leave the edit box empty and press Enter the creation is canceled

```
                        QL COMMANDER
Dir win1_                          Dir win4_
AAA->                              JPG->
PSION->                            5pixel_fnt              875
SYS->                              bold8_fnt              875
XCHANGE->                         btool.zip             27632
XCHANGEDOCS->                      cat_bas               1197
ZIPMAN->                          detaildir_bas         1359
123456789012345678901234567890..  269560 direxists.zip  1281
booot_bas                                                4577
boot                              Create Directory       32768
boot_bas                                                 26368
changes.txt          Directory Name:                    5105
codegen_task         MyTestDir                           6410
display_cde                                               364
                      ... leave it empty to cancel ...
display_doc              15468 halfheight_fnt            1452
djtoolkit_bin            4444 header_code                 144
djtoolkit_doc           51078 home_zip                  25718
doc2rtf_exe             20936 j_toolkit_zip             26137
env_bin                   896 level2.zip                 3785
env_txt                  7894 level2_cde                  174
flist                    1728 mem_code                    414
  F, View  | F, Copy | F, Rename| F, Delete | F, MkDir | F, Load | F, Run | F, Info | F, Exit
```

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 ion 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 ion 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 !
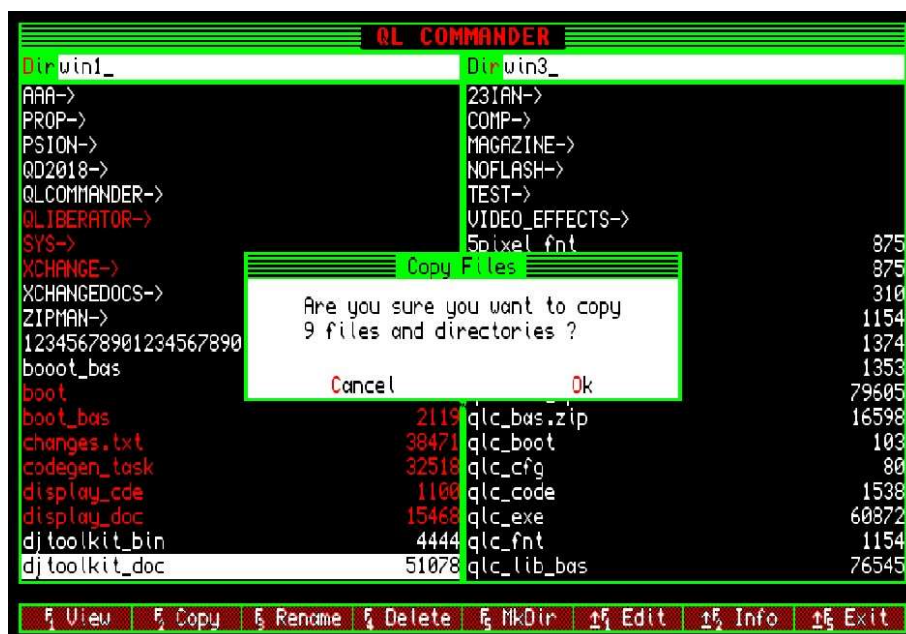
Delete files

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)

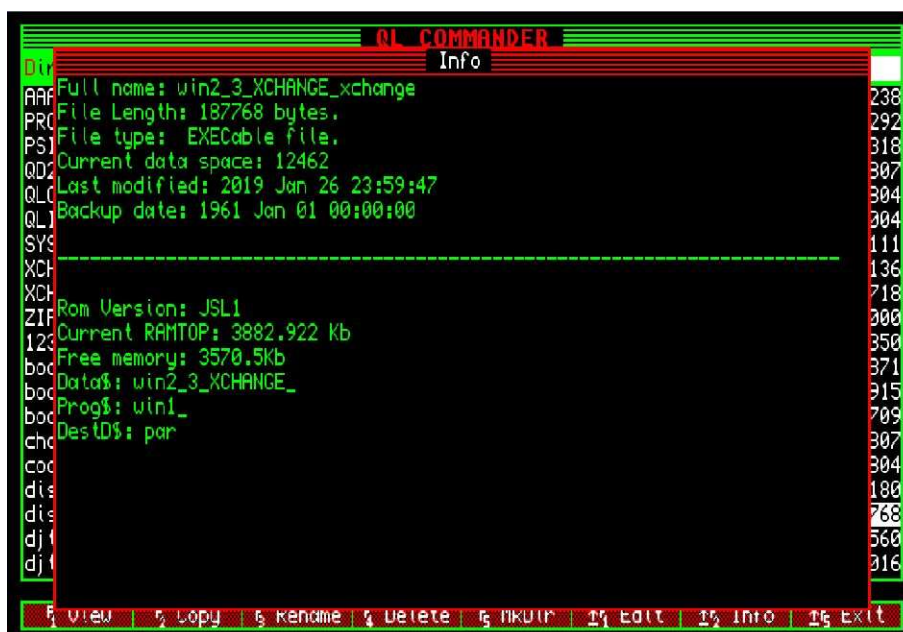The following extensions are associated with Xchange documents:
- _doc – Quill document
- _aba – Abacus document
- _grf – Easel documentation
- _dbf – Archive document (database)
- _prg - Archive document (program)

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 unziped into the directory selected in the opposite panel.
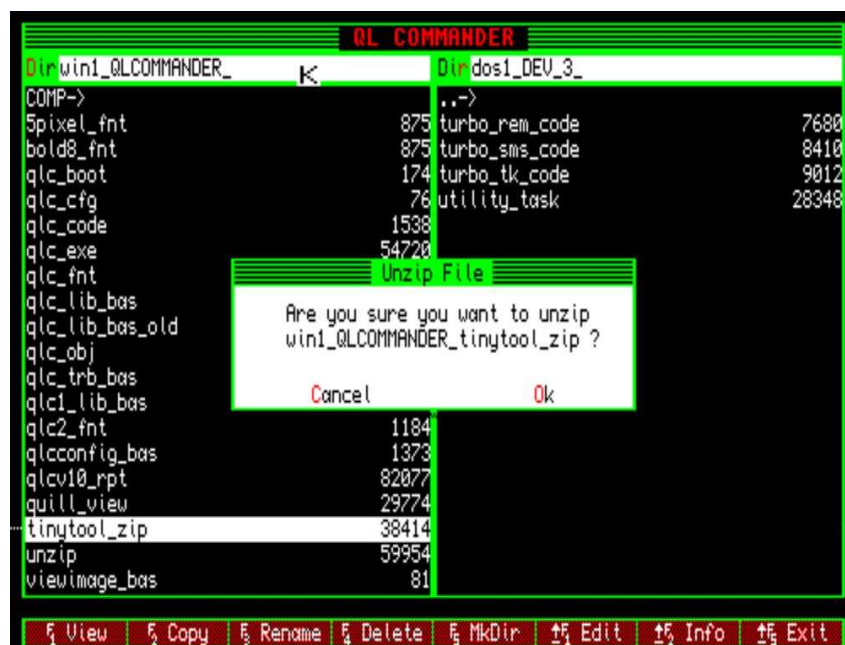
QLCommander uses unzip program that is located in the program's directory. This is an older version – unzip v5.0, as newer version seem unable to list contents of a zip archive into a file for viewing it's content.
QLCOmmander does not checks the integrity of the zip archive so in case of any errors, 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:
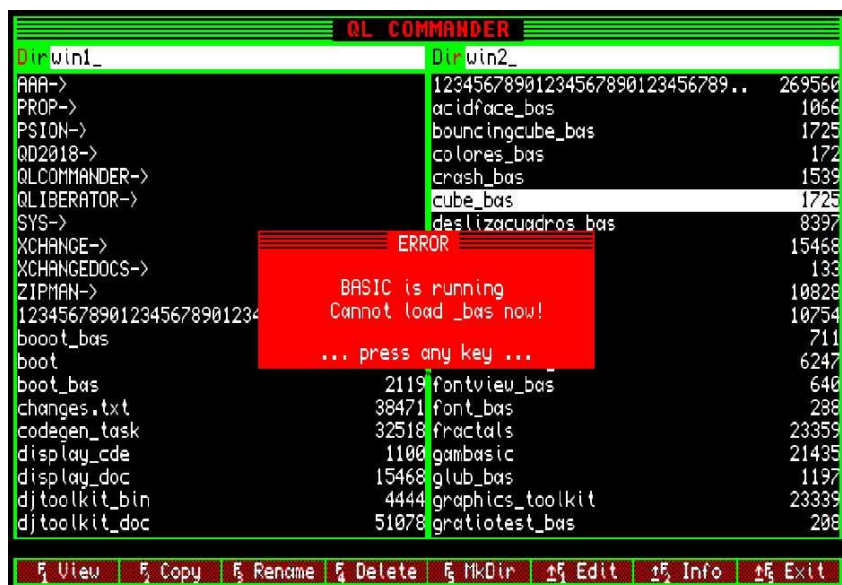
Note: QLCommander will consider that BASIC is running if either:
  • a basic program is actually running
  • a basic program's run was interrupted with BREAK (CTRL-SPACE) but no CLEAR command was issued afterwards . In this case just type Clear or New command at the prompt

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:
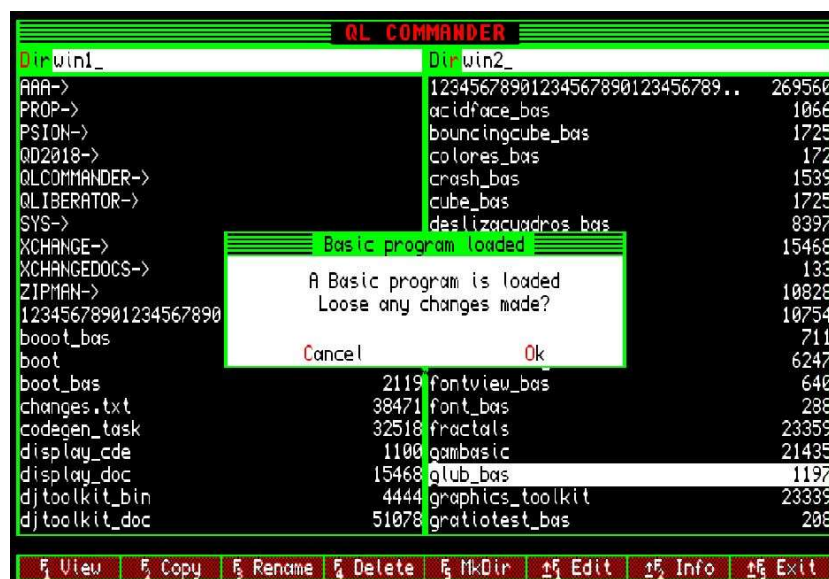
Known Bugs and issues encountered

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