

A Keyboard for Math and Other Symbols

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There are several ways to create symbols with WordPerfect 5.1. You can use the old tried-and-true method of Alt-ASCII decimals, where you type the decimal number on the number keypad while depressing the Alt key. Or you can use WordPerfect's Compose function, by pressing (Ctrl-V) followed by the number of the symbol you want. There are some 1,700 of them, so you have plenty of choices.

Or you can use a dead key: a key that, when pressed, produces no immediate result on the screen; instead it waits for the next key press which may be programmed for whatever purpose suits you. It is great for supplying symbols. (It comes in very handy for typing in a foreign language, too.)

The included SYMBOLS.WPK keyboard supplies over a forty symbols or diacritical marks with only one keystroke. As opposed to other methods, such as remapping keys, the keycaps will continue to faithfully describe the operation of each key. They easily and mnemonically produce typographical, mathematical, and other symbols. A dead key keystroke, in this case – [– followed by c could render ©, d for —, p for ¶, or any other of the myriad symbols in the Compose stable of character sets. Once you learn the technique, you will soon find other applications for them to the extent you may not bother to remap keys again.

To use the SYMBOLS keyboard, copy the included file to the directory where you keep your macros and choose it as the active keyboard: press (Shift F1), 5, then select SYMBOLS and press 1. Once you're done with the SYMBOLS keyboard, press (Ctrl-6) to return to your original keyboard.

Here are the symbols in the keyboard that can be accessed by depressing the [key when it has been arranged as a dead key:

Key	Symbol	Description
<	≤	less than
>	≥	greater than
=	≈	similar
-	≅	congruent
/	≠	not equal
		vertical line
a	α	alpha
b	β	beta
d	δ	delta
D	Δ	Delta
e	ε	epsilon
f	φ	phi
g	γ	gamma

h	½	one-half
i	∞	infinity
t	θ	theta
l	λ	lambda
m	μ	mu
n	η	eta
o	ω	omega
p	π	pi
q	¼	one-quarter
r	ρ	rho
s	σ	sigma
S	Σ	summation

And here are the symbols that can be accessed via key combinations or by pressing the other dead keys: **[, { and }]**.

For the dead keys **{** and **}**, the term “Shift 4 Caps” means that you must press one of the dead keys, then hold down the Shift key, then press the vowel you want to insert. For example, press **{**, hold down the Shift key while pressing the a key in order to insert an upper case Ä. If you do not hold down the Shift key, a lower case ä will be inserted.

Keyboard: Edit

Name: SYMBOLS

Key	Action	Description
Ctrl-Tab	[+;6,22]	← (Left Arrow)
Alt-Tab	[+;6,21]	→ (Right Arrow)
Ctrl-A	{KEY MACRO 21}	SUP (Superscript)
Ctrl-B	{KEY MACRO 22}	BAR (Bar)
Ctrl-E	{KEY MACRO 31}	IN (Member, Element)
Ctrl-F	{KEY MACRO 36}	FROM TO (x From a, To b)
Ctrl-G	{KEY MACRO 35}	GRAD (Nabla, Gradient)
Ctrl-I	{KEY MACRO 15}	INT (Integral)
Ctrl-L	{KEY MACRO 25}	OVERLINE (Overline)
Ctrl-N	{KEY MACRO 34}	GRAD (Nabla, Gradient)
Ctrl-O	{KEY MACRO 19}	OVER (Over)
Ctrl-P	{KEY MACRO 14}	PARTIAL (Partial)
Ctrl-Q	{KEY MACRO 17}	SQRT (Square Root)
Ctrl-S	{KEY MACRO 18}	SUM (Sum)
Ctrl-Z	{KEY MACRO 20}	SUB (Subscript)
[{KEY MACRO 1}	MATH SYMBOLS
]	{KEY MACRO 2}	More
{	{KEY MACRO 3}	ä ë ï ö ü (Shift 4 Caps)
}	{KEY MACRO 4}	â ê î ô û (Shift 4 Caps)