

## Two-Key Macros WordPerfect Magazine Tips

I love the convenient Alt+*letter* method of playing macros. But I'm quickly running out of letters. To solve this, I've written a macro that lets me run macros with two-letter names. The first character of the name must be a letter, but the second character can be any valid character.

First, I create macros with names such as WJ.WPM, WR.WPM, and WS.WPM, where the first letter of each macro is the same, in this case "w." I then create a separate macro to run each individual macro. For example, I use the included ALTW.WPM macro (i.e., the first character in the macros above) to display a prompt allowing me to enter the second letter of my macro. Using the examples above, I first press (Alt-W), then I press J, R or S, depending on my preference.

Here's how you can do it.

- First, create a practice macro that types your name. Press Macro Define (Ctrl-F10), type "wj" and press (Enter). At the Description: prompt, type "Insert my name" and press (Enter). With Macro Def flashing at the bottom of the screen, type your name. Press Macro Define (Ctrl-F10) when you're done. (The WJ.WPM macro is included for your convenience.)
- Play the ALTW.WPM macro. At the prompt in your status line, type "j" to play the macro that displays your name.

Now that you know what to do, create several more macros where the first letter is "w" and the second character is your choice. You've just added 26 more macros to your keyboard!

*Note: You can rename ALTW.WPM to an Alt-letter of your choice. Just be sure to use that letter as the first character in your other new macros. Using the examples above, if you change ALTW to ALTZ, your other macros will need to be named ZJ.WPM, ZR.WPM and ZS.WPM.*

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turnsouth, a user from the WordPerfect Universe forum (wpuniverse.com), has modified the macro such that a menu of second key choices appears after the initial Alt+letter combination is pressed. That macro is included as 2KEYMENU.WPM.

You should first rename 2KEYMENU.WPM to an Alt+letter name of your choice. For example, you can rename it to ALTZ.WPM. Then make sure your second key macros are named ZA.WPM, ZB.WPM, etc.

To customize the menu, open the Macro Editor by pressing (Ctrl-F10), typing "altz" (or whatever you renamed the 2KEYMENU.WPM macro) and pressing E.

The Macro Editor shows the macro commands in the box in red below. You must change the yellow highlighted lines. For example, change line 8 to the second key letter of your choice. Then change line 9 to the second key macro's description. The lavender highlighted lines are comment lines, but you

should also change them to properly document the macro names for others who might use the macro. Then you need to change the rest of the highlighted lines to fully customize the menu.

Finally, change the blue highlighted line 38 from "W" to the Alt+letter you chose, for example "Z" for ALTZ.WPM.

```
1 // WPMAG's 2-key macro with a simple menu system; May 1996 Tips
2 // Using "SHOWTEXT"
3 // Authored by turnsouth and published on wpuniverse.com forum on 4/12/2025
4
5 SHOWCODE(ClrScreen!)
6 LABEL(Top)
7
8 // Calls WC.WPM
9 SHOWPOSITION(5;3)
10 SHOWATTRON(Bold!) SHOWTEXT("C")
11 SHOWATTROFF(Bold!) SHOWTEXT(" = Calculate Table")
12
13 // Calls WN.WPM
14 SHOWPOSITION(5;5)
15 SHOWATTRON(Bold!) SHOWTEXT("N")
16 SHOWATTROFF(Bold!) SHOWTEXT(" = Open the Notebook")
17
18 // Calls WT.WPM
19 SHOWPOSITION(5;7)
20 SHOWATTRON(Bold!) SHOWTEXT("T")
21 SHOWATTROFF(Bold!) SHOWTEXT(" = Today, new journal entry.")
22
23 // Calls WA.WPM
24 SHOWPOSITION(5;9)
25 SHOWATTRON(Bold!) SHOWTEXT("A")
26 SHOWATTROFF(Bold!) SHOWTEXT(" = Select All")
27 SHOWPOSITION(5;11)
28
29 // Calls WI.WPM
30 SHOWATTRON(Bold!) SHOWTEXT("I")
31 SHOWATTROFF(Bold!) SHOWTEXT(" = Insert the Time")
32
33 // Calls WD.WPM
34 SHOWPOSITION(5;13)
35 SHOWATTRON(Bold!) SHOWTEXT("D")
36 SHOWATTROFF(Bold!) SHOWTEXT(" = Insert the Date")
37
38 // Calls WR.WPM
39 SHOWPOSITION(5;15)
40 SHOWATTRON(Bold!) SHOWTEXT("R")
41 SHOWATTROFF(Bold!) SHOWTEXT(" = Insert Table Row Above")
42
43 // Original WPMAG 2-key macro code:
```

```
35 CHAR(Key;"Press second key of desired macro:")
36 ASSIGN(Key; NTOC(Key))
37 ONERROR(Top)
38 NEST("W"+Key)
39 ASSIGN(Key;"")
40 DISCARD(Key)
41 SHOWCODE(RestoreScreen!)
42 QUIT
```

The figure below shows the menu for turnsouth's two-key macros. You'll note that the menu comports with the yellow highlighted lines in the red box above. Your customized menu will list the macros you have chosen.

```
C = Calculate Table
N = Open the Notebook
T = Today, new journal entry.
A = Select All
I = Insert the Time
D = Insert the Date
R = Insert Table Row Above

Press second key of desired macro:
```