RECOVERING "SCRIPSIT" DOCUMENTS ON THE TRS-80 MODEL II, 12 & 16

Developed By

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* * SO YOUR SCRIPSIT DISKETTE BLEW UP * *

Let me assure you that immortal words have been uttered over far-lesser catastrophes, such as - -

THE IMMORTAL WORDS	UTTERER	CATASTROPHE
"Good grief, Charley Brown !!!"	Lucy	A dropped fly ball.
"Holy bat guano, Batman !!!"	Robin	Spots on the Batmobile.
"Bad cheese!" (Spoken subduedly)	Margaret Thatcher	Virginia Wade double-faults twice in a row.

Well, fret no more. Barnhisel persistence to the rescue. They say, "Necessity is the Mother of invention." I say, "If that's true, then disgust over losing another SCRIPSIT Diskette is the Father.

Let's talk about what happened. Odds are, you were typing away on a SCRIPSIT document when your power company suddenly ran out of inventory - - or - - like some of us, your computer is plugged into a wall plug controlled by a light switch by the door, and your #1 Son just walked in and flipped the switch.

BLAM !! There went the power; and with it, your diskette. You FRANTICALLY re-boot (probably without waiting the recommended 15 seconds), and you realize your worst fears, as you stare cross-eyed at:

```
.          ** SCRIPSIT D.RECTORY LIST as of Feb.  7, 1984 **
  .                .
   .     NAME              FM.  CREATED  REVISED  AUTH/OPR  PAGES  SIZE  EFF  ACT
=====.=======================.=============================================
 TRSDO.                          .1/20/84                              DRIVE 0
1      .    This Diskette has 2.% of its space used for  32 documents
--------.---------------------.---------------------------------------------
 TRSDOS  ..                 .  .
2         ..                  .
----------..-----------------.---------------------------------------------
* * * * * * THE DOCUMENT IN THIS DIRECTORY POSITION IS UNREADABLE * * * * * * *
3
-------------..--------------------.---------------------------------------
* * * * * * THE DOCUMENT IN THIS DIRECTORY POSITION IS UNREADABLE * * * * * * *
4
----------------.----------------------    ./.  65535    55%    0%   ----------
* * * * * * THE DOCUMENT IN THIS DIRECTORY POSITION IS UNREADABLE * * * * * * *
5
------------------.-------------------------------------------------------.--
* * * * * * THE DOCUMENT IN THIS DIRECTORY POSITION IS UNREADABLE * * * * * * *
6
--------------------.-----------------------------------------------------
.                DOCUMEN.: Open, Copy, Print,  Fl Create,  F2 Delete
 .  NEXT: Screen, Disk   .ELL: 1 - 6   DISK: Utilities   Time   End session
```

WHAT TO DO ?

OK. Let's settle down to business, and clean up this mess.

The process requires two disk drives. If you have only one drive, you still have several choices. You may know a friend who has compatable equipment and at least twice as many disk drives as you do. Or, you might ask your Radio Shack store for permission to use their equipment. After all, it's their program that blew up in your face. Or, you have the choice of sending your busted diskette to me, whereupon, I will attempt to recover your documents for you.

Assuming that you are successful in gaining access to two disk drives, the steps necessary to recover your documents are as follows:

1. Make a BACKUP (not a FORMAT) of your busted diskette. It's important that the Diskette Password be "PASSWORD" on the two diskettes we will be using for the recovery process. If the Diskette password on your busted diskette is "PASSWORD", you can use your fast and fancy backup program to make the BACKUP. **DO NOT** use your fast and fancy backup routine unless you are positive that (A) your busted diskette password is "PASSWORD", or (B) you can change the Diskette Password TO "PASSWORD" with your fast and fancy.....

   If the answers to both (A) and (B) are "not positive", make the BACKUP of your busted diskette, using the old, slow SCRIPSIT BACKUP routine. At the SCRIPSIT BACKUP screen, answer the prompts as you normally would, except when you come to the last prompt asking for "New diskette password (if any) ?". At this prompt, type in the word "PASSWORD". This has the effect of changing whatever Diskette Password you might have on the busted source diskette, to "PASSWORD" on the new BACKUP diskette. Thus, you can now copy, open, or delete any document on your BACKUP copy of the busted diskette, using "PASSWORD" as your password.

   File the original busted diskette away for possible future use, in case the process doesn't work right the first time, and you need another backup with which to try again. We will work with the BACKUP copy. End the session and label the new backup from drive 1 **BUSTED.**

2. Now, format a diskette using the FORMAT routine from a SCRIPSIT master. Again, answer the prompts as you usually would, and, at the prompt, "Password to be assigned ?", type in the word "PASSWORD" as the password on your newly formatted diskette. Then, at the last prompt, "Will this diskette be used in drive 0 (Y or N) ?", answer <**Y**>es. After formatting is complete, the SCRIPSIT Directory re-appears. End the session and at "TRSDOS READY", remove both diskettes. Tuck your SCRIPSIT master safely away. Label the newly formatted diskette from drive 1 **RECOVERY.**

3. Place **RECOVERY** in drive 0. Type "SCRIPSIT" and get to the Directory. If there are any documents on the Directory, hit <**F2**>. This prompt will appear, "DELETE ALL DOCUMENTS FROM DISKETTE TRSDOS (Y or N) ?". Type <**Y**>es. All the documents in the directory will disappear, resulting in a clean, empty SCRIPSIT Directory on **RECOVERY**. I suggest that you go through this awkward process of shifting **RECOVERY** to drive 0 so that you lessen the chance of accidentally deleting all the documents from your SCRIPSIT master.

4. Again, end the session and get to "TRSDOS READY". Place **BUSTED** in drive 0, and **RECOVERY** back in drive 1. Type "SCRIPSIT". Notice that you are again staring at "The Mess".

DEFINING USER KEY 1

5. Now, hit "U" for <**U**>tilities, then "U" again for <**U**>ser Sequence Editing. You should be looking at a blank user-defined key screen which is asking you which user-defined key you would like either to define or edit. Enter <**1**>. (Those of you who know User Keys, please bear with us.)

   If User Key 1 has previously been defined by you or a clever friend, there are characters in the box. In this case, the cursor is blinking on an "E" for "Edit the existing definition of User Key 1". If this User Key sequence is one you wish to save, either copy it down by hand or print it on your printer using <**CTRL .**>. (This <**CTRL .**> means to hold down the CONTROL key while you hit the PERIOD key. We will use this style of nomenclature throughout this memo.) Then, hit <**C**>, then <**ENTER**> to "Clear the existing User Key 1 sequence". Now, the cursor is in the upper left-hand corner of an empty box, awaiting your new definition of User Key 1. Go to Step 6.

   If, however, User Key 1 has not previously been defined, the box is already empty, and the cursor is blinking in the upper left-hand corner of the box. Again, go to Step 6.

6. Now comes the the asphalt which will pave the road to recovery of your diskette - - User-Defined key 1. I suggest that you read all of Paragraphs 6, 7 and 8 before you start entering characters.

   Enter the following boldfaced keystrokes in the order they are written here. DO NOT enter any of the brackets or slashes. DO NOT leave spaces between the keystrokes. I strongly suggest that you enter the entire sequence, mistakes and all, then edit the mistakes, rather than clearing the errant sequence and starting over.

Don't forget the nomenclature I spoke of above. The first key to be entered, "<**ESC**>ape", means you hit the "ESCAPE" key. It DOES NOT mean to type out "<ESC>" or "<ESC>ape". Also, when you get to the <**UP**> arrow keystroke, "<**UP**> arrow" means you hit the cursor movement key with the arrow pointing up. The exception to the fact that the keystrokes are all single keys on the keyboard arises when you get to the word <**PASSWORD**>. Here you type out the word "PASSWORD,". (Obviously, there is no key labeled "PASSWORD"). All other keystrokes represent a single key with the BOLD letters representing the letters on top of the particular key, except for the "UP Arrow" keystroke discussed above. Enough of this !!!!! Let's do it.

<**ESC**>ape / <**Q**>uit / <**UP**> arrow / <**C**>opy / <**PASSWORD**> / <**ENTER**> / <**ENTER**> / <**1**> / <**ESC**>ape / <**D**>isk / <**UP**> arrow / <**F2**> / <**Y**>es / <**PASSWORD**> / <**ENTER**> / <**D**>isk / <**DOWN**> arrow / <**O**>pen / <**PASSWORD**> / <**ENTER**> / <**ESC**>ape / <**ESC**>ape / <**1**> / <**CTRL Z**>

(Hold down "**CTRL**" while you hit "**Z**".)

When you hit <**CTRL Z**>, SCRIPSIT records the User Key 1 sequence and returns you to the Disk Utilities Menu.

7. Now, from the Disk Utilities Menu, type <**U**> again, and ask for User Key 1. When it appears, notice the Total Character Count in the upper right-hand area of the screen. There should be a Total Character Count of 44 characters. With your printer at the ready, hit <**CTRL .**>. This prints the User Key 1 sequence. The printout should look exactly like this:

```
                    * * SCRIPSIT EDIT USER KEYS * *

 (E)dit current sequence or (C)lear and enter new sequence.
E

USER KEY = 1                                    TOTAL CHARACTER COUNT = 44

  .ESQ.UPCPASSWORD.EN.EN1.ESD.UP.F2YPASSWORD.END.DNOPASSWORD.EN.ES.ES1.^Z
```

8. If you are the epitome of perfection in your creation of User Key 1, you are ready to recover your documents, so hit <**BREAK**> to return to the Disk Utilities Menu, then <**BREAK**> again to return to the **BUSTED** Directory. Go directly to Step 9.

If, on the other hand, you have any mistakes in the recordation of User Key 1, there is a clear discussion of how to insert, delete, and otherwise edit user key sequences in the SCRIPSIT manual, commencing at Page 70, under the title, "To edit an existing sequence". Continue editing User Key 1, and repeating Steps 7 and 8 until you have the printout looking just like the model above. Then, go to Step 9.

COMMENCING THE PROCESS

9. Since we can only commence the action of a User Key from an open document, and since you cannot get into any of the documents in **BUSTED**, hit <**D**> for "next <**D**>isk", which puts you onto the disk in drive 1 we called **RECOVERY**. Now hit <**F1**>, <**ENTER**>, and <**ESC**>ape to open a blank, new document screen.

10. To commence the recovery process, merely hit <**ESC**>ape <**1**>

    ..... and HERE WE GO !!!

    You will see the documents being copied from drive 0 onto drive 1, in the same order that they were situated on **BUSTED**. And, after they are copied onto drive 1, they are deleted from drive 0, so that the sequence is always copying the bottom document from drive 0 to drive 1.

11. I'm betting that the most recent (ie., the first) document on **BUSTED** was the one that busted the diskette. Therefore, it should be the last document the sequence attempts to recover. The process will recover this "glitched" document, then the process will stop, and there is probably an error message flashing "Attempt To Read Past EOF". (EOF means "End Of File".) Hit <**BREAK**> to get back to the Directory, then End the process and get to "TRSDOS READY". We are finished with **BUSTED**, so you can return that diskette to the "Available For Other Things" pile.

    As for **RECOVERY**, the first document (the last one to be recovered) is probably no good, so - - move **RECOVERY** TO drive 0. Get back into SCRIPSIT and open the first document. You should be looking at some sort of mess on the screen. Hit <**ESC**ape>, <**Q**>uit to get back to the Directory, and delete this document. If this glitched document had a password carried over from **BUSTED**, you will have to type "PASSWORD" in order to delete it. Next, open any other document, then <**ESC**>ape, <**Q**>uit this document. At this point, the Directory should be free of those funny graphics "R's", and all of your good documents should be neatly listed and accessible. You are **ALL DONE**. And, you are to be congratulated !!

STOPPING AND RE-STARTING THE PROCESS

12. You can stop the automatic sequence anytime you want by hitting the <**BREAK**> key. I usually hold down the <**BREAK**> key together with the <**REPEAT**> key, just to make sure the process stops as soon as possible.

    You can then re-start the recovery sequence by getting back to the **BUSTED** Directory, hitting <**D**> to get to the **RECOVERY** Directory on drive 1, then the <**DOWN**> arrow to get to the first document. Open this document, then hit <**ESC**ape> <**1**>. This is much like the procedure we used to commence the process (Step 9 above) except that we are now using an existing document to re-start User Key 1, rather than creating another new document.

    HOWEVER, if you stop and then re-start the recovery process just after a document was copied from **BUSTED** to **RECOVERY**, the process will attempt to again copy the same document onto **RECOVERY** and an error message will appear stating "Document already exists". In this case, manually get back to the **RECOVERY** Directory, hit the <**DOWN**> arrow to get to Document 1 (the duplicated document), and hit <**F2**> to delete the duplicate document from **RECOVERY**. Then simply restart the process as described in the paragraph above.

A WORD ABOUT PASSWORDS

13. This process will recover any and all documents which were in the original Directory, whether or not they have an Individual Document Password. And, if they do have an Individual Document Password, that password is carried over to the recovered document.

    Remember back on Page 2, Paragraph 2, during Formatting, you established the Diskette Password of **RECOVERY** as "PASSWORD"? Well, if you now want to establish the Diskette Password as something other than "PASSWORD", simply use the SCRIPSIT BACKUP routine to make a backup copy of **RECOVERY**. And, at the prompt, "New diskette passsword, if any ?", enter your new password.

WHEN ALL ELSE FAILS

14. Failing all else, you may send your **BUSTED** diskette, together with a blank diskette, to us, and we will attempt to recover your documents. Be sure, of course, to let us know the Diskette Password you used on your busted diskette, and the password of any documents.

The cost for our recovering your documents, if you have purchased our Crashed Directory Recovery, is $25.00 per diskette. If you have not yet purchased the Crashed Directory Recovery, The cost is $40.00 per diskette. Our experience has been that if the diskette directory is damaged by some means other than a power failure, dip or surge, then the faulty disk sector may have to be completely reconstructed manually.

We guarantee that, if we are unable to recover your documents, your fees for our attempt will be refunded. When sending us your damaged diskette, please include the fees for the recovery attempt and include a blank diskette onto which we may transfer your recovered data. We will return both diskettes to you within three working days after they are received.

People who have used our services to recover their busted diskettes have had good success with Express Mail and with Federal Express. In most instances they have the recovered diskette back in 2 or 3 working days, and a BIG **"YIPPEE"** on their lips.

We invite your comments and questions, and especially any suggestions you have for making these recovery instructions more understandable.

We are a staff of people who have gained an expertise in analyzing programs and finding ways to glean out of them everything they are capable of accomplishing. Our expertise lies with SCRIPSIT, PROFILE+ with all its add-ons, VISICALC, and all the Radio Shack business programs. We are Certified Public Accountants with a love for the micro and its extensive capabilities, and are pleased to respond to any particular problems you are having with any program. Should there be a number of users who are having a similar problem, we will attempt to solve the problem, and, if successful, will make the solution available at a reasonable price.

Please call or write -

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