Overview
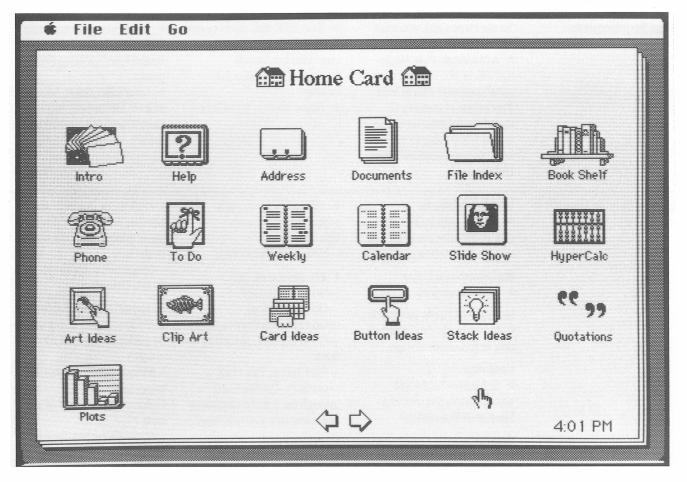
HyperCard® software for the Macintosh® family of personal computers lets you organize information much the way you do in your mind—by association and context. It lets you explore large amounts of information at exceptional speeds, or quickly zero in on exactly what you need. HyperCard is also the ideal tool for managing and creating information using virtually any type of media, including video, animation, and sound.

HyperCard uses as a metaphor a nearly universal method for storing information: the index card. Text, graphics, and sounds are stored on cards that appear on the Macintosh screen. A group of these cards is called a "stack." You can make notes, type, or draw on them just as you might on paper index cards. You can sort cards, browse among them, or quickly find specific information by pointing and clicking on "buttons."

Buttons do specific tasks, such as connecting one card to another. Buttons can also do many other things, such as dialing a phone, printing a report—even launching other applications. You can simply cut and paste the buttons that come with HyperCard and use them in your stacks. There's even a powerful English-like scripting language, HyperTalk™, built into HyperCard. HyperTalk lets you write your own scripts to give directions to buttons. Developers can extend HyperTalk to control external devices such as videodisc players, on-line information services, and CD-ROM drives.

HyperCard is a powerful new medium for creating and exchanging information. It is an extension of Macintosh technology that puts new power into the hands of all Macintosh users. With this power, people without special training in programming can create entirely new uses for the Macintosh.

Features	Benefits
▶ Information organized by association and context as well as by hierarchy	▶ Gives more intuitive and efficient access to information.
▶ High speed, high capacity	▶ Provides rapid access to an extremely large amount of information.
▶ Powerful tools to manipulate graphics, text, and buttons	▶ Allows you to customize stacks and templates using the familiar Macintosh interface.
▶ Built-in stacks and templates	▶ Enables you to get started immediately with hundreds of ready-to-use stacks, such as an address file, a datebook, "To Do" lists, calendars, clip art, and filing systems. There are also templates and card designs to help you make your own stacks.
▶ HyperTalk scripting language	▶ Lets you expand and customize the function of buttons, cards, and stacks.
▶ Complete on-line help system	▶ Gives you immediate reference information and assistance.
▶ Platform for interactive multimedia presentations	▶ Enriches definition of information beyond text and graphics to include video, sound, voice, and animation.
▶ Supports read-only access	▶ Allows stacks to be stored on CD-ROMs. ▶ Permits multiuser access over the AppleShare® file server. ▶ Allows stacks to be stored on locked floppy disks. ▶ Lets users lock files from the Finder™ or from within the HyperCard program.

System Requirements

To use HyperCard, you must have:

▶ A Macintosh Plus, Macintosh SE, or Macintosh II personal computer with at least 1 megabyte of memory (2 megabytes of memory are required when using HyperCard with other applications under MultiFinder™)

▶ Two 800K disk drives or one 800K disk drive and one hard-disk drive (preferred)
▶ System file Version 3.2 or later
▶ Finder Version 5.3 or later

▶ ImageWriter driver, Version 2.6 or later, for use with Apple® ImageWriter® or ImageWriter II printer
▶ LaserWriter driver, Version 4.0 or later, for use with Apple LaserWriter® or LaserWriter Plus printer

Technical Specifications

Number of stacks
▶ Limited only by available disk or file-server storage—each stack is one Macintosh disk file

Maximum stack size
▶ 4,096 megabytes

Number of cards per stack
▶ Limited only by available disk or file-server storage

Card size
▶ 512 horizontal by 342 vertical pixels (the size of a Macintosh Plus screen)

Graphics
▶ Black-and-white bitmaps with opaque and transparent areas

Number of text fields per card
▶ Unlimited

Maximum amount of text per field
▶ 30,000 characters

Number of buttons and links per card
▶ Unlimited

Number of variables
▶ Unlimited

User interface
▶ File menu commands
—Standard Macintosh File menu (HyperCard automatically saves changes)
—Print Card, Stack, or Report

▶ Edit menu commands
—Standard Macintosh Edit menu
—New Card, Delete Card

▶ Go menu commands
—Go to Home Card
—Go to Help Card
—Go to Next or Previous Card
—Go to First or Last Card in Stack
—Find Text in This Stack
—Go Back, Card by Card, through the last 100 cards seen
—Review Last 42 Cards Seen

▶ Painting tools
—MacPaint tools on a "tear off" menu
—Import and export graphics from and to other files
—Draw transparent or opaque graphics
—Lighten and darken filled-in areas
—Draw regular polygons
—Select the last object drawn

▶ Authoring commands
—Create, delete, or change styles of fields and buttons
—Edit any script
—Search or print a script (HyperTalk commands can be executed immediately)

▶ HyperTalk
—Object-oriented and message-passing
—Any button, field, card, background, or stack can have a script

—Each script can have any number of "handlers" for messages generated by the system or the user
—Maximum script length: 30,000 characters

▶ HyperTalk commands
—Go to any card in any stack, by position, name, or ID number
—Visual effects such as fade, wipe, or scroll
—Put text in any field of any card
—Show dialog box for user input
—Perform numeric calculations

Control structures
▶ Repeat until condition
▶ Repeat with loop counter
▶ If/then/else conditionals
▶ Exit loop or procedure
▶ Pass message/send message

Data types
▶ Strings of unlimited length
▶ Conversion to SANE® numerics (9-place accuracy)
▶ Conversion to date and time

Variables
▶ Contents of any field
▶ Dynamically created local variables
▶ Global variables

Ordering Information

HyperCard 1.2
Order No. M0556/A

With your order, you'll receive:
- ▶ HyperCard & Stacks disk
- ▶ HyperCard Help stacks
- ▶ HyperCard Ideas stack
- ▶ User manual
- ▶ Quick Reference Card