

APPLICATION NOTE NO. 8

USE OF THE 'LOOK' COMMAND.

LOOK is a command used in association with graphics modes. Its purpose is to return the palette colour of any specified point on the graphics screen (pixel).

The command takes the form:-

LOOK AT X,Y:VALUE

X and Y are horizontal and vertical co-ordinates and VALUE is the variable which will hold the palette colour.

Say, for example, that a point is plotted in palette colour 3 at position 500,340 on a graphics screen. Typing:

```
LOOK AT 500,340:V <ENTER>
PRINT V           <ENTER>
```

Will print the number 3.

It should be noted that palette numbers run from 0 to 15. In 256 colours mode, the LOOK function will return the actual INK number which can be any integer from 0 to 255.

Also note that the screen addressing system which is based on a matrix of 1280 x 720 points is not the screen resolution. This means that the LOOK command will generate the same value if the two pairs of co-ordinates actually point to different places within the same pixel.

Here is a program to demonstrate the use of the LOOK command for collision detection. Feel free to experiment with it as you like, and use it in your own programs.

```
100 PROGRAM "bounce"
110 ! By Gerald Morgan
120 GRAPHICS HIRES 16
130 OPTION ANGLE DEGREES
140 SET PALETTE 0,255,RED
150 PLOT 630,360,
160 SET INK 2
170 PLOT ANGLE 180
180 PLOT FORWARD 200,LEFT 90; FORWARD 200,LEFT 90;
    FORWARD 200,LEFT 90; FORWARD 200,LEFT 90;
    FORWARD 200,LEFT 90
190 SET INK 1
200 X=530:Y=260
210 X=X+5
```

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```
220 LOOK AT X+5,Y:HIT
230 IF HIT = 2 THEN CALL RETURN
240 PLOT X,Y
250 SET INK 0
260 PLOT X-5,Y
270 SET INK 1
280 GOTO 210
290 DEF RETURN
300 SET INK 0
310 PLOT X-5,Y
320 PLOT X,Y
330 DO
340 X=X-5
350 LOOK AT X-10,Y:HIT
360 PLOT X,Y
370 SET INK 0
380 PLOT X+5,Y
390 SET INK 1
400 LOOP WHILE HIT = 0
410 END DEF
```