

No Symbols in WordPerfect

I'm using WordPerfect X6 and Windows 10. I used to be able to bring up the various symbols in WP by pressing the Cntl-W combo. When I tried it today (for the 1st time in many years), nothing seemed to happen, except that the WP window was no longer the active window. I also went to Insert, then Symbols in the WP menus, nothing happened-same response.

Google wasn't any help. I'm guessing that Windows has hijacked the Cntl-W combo. Is there some way to make it work again in WordPerfect?

I just tried ctrl-W in word perfect 9 and it worked fine?

Kristi A. Bodin, Massachusetts

What I'd do is select Tools/Customize, select the Keyboards tab, double click on your current keyboard, and scroll down to see what is assigned to W-Ctrl . Should be "Insert Symbol;" if it's not, add Insert/Symbol MRU. Or you could just do what I do, and have a list of common Alt-codes, which often is a bit quicker:

<https://www.koeneckelaw.com/attorneys/resources/commonaltcodes.pdf>

Michael Koenecke, Texas

Could try Alt symbols

alt +20 is paragraph symbol, alt +21 is section symbolSee list here.

<https://www.posterpresentations.com/alt-code-cheatsheet.html>

In other words, hold down alt key and quickly type the numbers.

Ron Jones, Florida

Ok, so I have this abacus and I'm trying to!! I know you WP folks are serious about your WP. It is a shame MS or Apple didn't buy it and make it the root for their word processor.

Robert "Robby" W. Hughes, Jr., Georgia

Besides a Windows hijack, other programs can remap key sequences. Some keyboard software does it, but any program you install could automatically remap the keys. Others have posted ways to check on this, and I have nothing to add there.

Darrell G. Stewart, Texas

Mike, Ron & Darrell, thanks for the suggestions. Something is either screwed up with my computer (Lenovo ThinkPad X1 Carbon) or WordPerfect is corrupted. I checked out Tools/Settings/Customize and W+Cntl was correctly set for "Insert Symbol . . ."

I tried the Alt+20 combo for a Paragraph symbol, all I got was a nice chime sound every time I pressed a number.

Then I remembered that I have another version of WP (X7) on this machine. Cntl+W worked fine and brought up the Symbol options. However, the Alt+20 still didn't work. Getting closer.

I went back to WP X6 to see if I could get it to work. I figured out that Cntl+W was working BUT it was apparently displaying the Symbols window somewhere OTHER THAN on my monitors. When I entered the appropriate response (even though I couldn't see it), the symbol appeared in the document. Weird.

Thanks for the help.

John Varde, Illinois

Heh. The one thing I regret about WordPerfect is that I have all these nifty procedures I have figured out that are unbelievably efficient, and totally outside Word's capabilities, and nobody to show them to.

Michael Koenecke

Unfortunately, the nifty Alt- stuff (e.g., §, ¶) only works on 10-key style numeric keypads (i.e., desktop computers).

That is weird: seems like the system may think there's a second monitor out there somewhere. Did you perhaps use one at one time, and WordPerfect X6 got the idea that the Insert Symbols dialog box was located on the second one? Might need to re-connect Monitor 2 and move everything over to Monitor 1.

Michael Koenecke

Mike,

I was thinking the same thing about the monitor issue. But, John may only need to go into his display settings to be sure there isn't a second monitor showing as present and available. Also, I wonder if John has restarted his computer. It could be the gremlins will die off with the restart.

P.S. Thanks for the "nifty procedures" you have figured out and have on your "Mike's Macros and Tips" site. Is the "BlankChk.zip" file new enough to use to print on plain check stock, about which you wrote a few weeks ago?

Mark E. Peneguy, Louisiana

Mark, I restarted the computer a couple of times to see if that would resolve the issue. Nada.

I think Mike is on the right track. I used to have a different monitor attached and perhaps WP isn't that great at keeping track of the different monitor set-ups. Next time I'm in my office, I'll see if I can move the Symbols window to the laptop monitor, so I'll know where to find it.

John Varde

The "BlankChk.zip" file formerly contained only Peachtree (now Sage) Accounting forms, and an open source MICR font. I just updated it by adding WordPerfect blank check forms (the ".FRM" files are for Peachtree, not WordPerfect), which you can tweak to work with your own bank and your own account.

Michael Koenecke

Windows tip: If you do something in a program that you believe has opened a window on a different display, or just outside the range of any display, regardless of the number of monitors -- it

can happen if a mouse freaks out or something and drags a window off-screen -- look to the taskbar. Almost always, if there's a window open, especially if it's modal, and even if it's just a status message, there will be a preview of it when you mouse over the application in the taskbar.

If you don't get previews of application windows in the taskbar, let me know, and I'll tell you how to fix that, but I didn't want to clutter this message, since most people have that feature enabled.

If it shows up there, you can click on the preview of the window you want to ensure it's the active window, and then you can press Alt-Spacebar to bring down the window frame menu. Even if you can't see it, if you tap the X key at that point, that window should go full-screen (assuming the programmers didn't block that).

If you can do that, tap in the upper left corner of that window (to the left of any icons that may be up there) to get the window frame menu again and choose "Restore." It will go back to wherever it was. (If you can't get the window frame menu to appear, do the Alt-Spacebar trick again then tap R.)

If you now know that it's out there somewhere:

- If you were using an additional monitor and WP didn't grasp that and left the window where it used to be, do an Alt-Spacebar, the M for "Move" and use the arrow keys to bring the window back on-screen from wherever it was on the imaginary second monitor, wherever you last had it (left arrow to drag it over from a now-disconnected monitor on the right, etc.)

- If you were not using an additional monitor, you may have to experiment to get it back; after you press M to put the window into Move mode, slowly click once and hold and move your mouse around to see if you can get it back on-screen. (Alt-Spacebar, M, click-and-hold will have your mouse holding the invisible window by the upper bar, so move your mouse accordingly.)

If it's not there in the preview when you type Ctrl-W, it's unlikely that Windows has taken over that function key combination, and something may just be munged up in your WP configuration.

Richard J. Rutledge, Jr., North Carolina

It might help if John would upgrade. Ya think?

Russ Carmichael, Pennsylvania

Interesting idea, Russ, but I highly doubt that Corel has made any significant improvements to WordPerfect over the last 5 or 6 years.

Maybe Mike K. can weigh in on whether it's worth the money to "upgrade" one's version of WP. Perhaps they've fixed the handling of multiple monitors and different set-ups.

John Varde

They have upgraded things I use all the time, like TOC, Tables of Authorities, and indexes.

They have substantially upgraded PDF creation and handling.

It occurred to me that you might do a "repair" re-install after cleaning your registry?

I always wait for a "deal" before upgrading, anyhow.

Russ Carmichael

There have been some improvements, but most of them are small. The biggest one, for me, was the elimination of the nine-document limit (you can now have an unlimited number of documents open at once) and the ability to split into separate windows. That started in version X7, and to me was worth the upgrade for that alone. It has totally changed my approach to generating estate planning document sets for the better.

Michael Koenecke

Not Mike K, but the multiple monitors issue was addressed quite some time ago. I keep several different word processors on each machine, typically WordPerfect, Word and LibreOffice. I am running X9 on most everything right now.

Darrell G. Stewart

Thanks for the tips, Rick.

The "Move" approach worked just as you said.

This list is amazing. I learn something new almost every day. I wish I had more to contribute.

John Varde
