

TI-RUNNER MODIFIER

By John Guion

INTRODUCTION:

This program will allow the user to copy, view, print, or edit any one of the 50 different levels of the popular game TI-RUNNER.

The TI-RUNNER game uses a file named "LEVEL28" which contains each level (screen) of the game. Each one of these screens is composed of various ASCII characters. Each of these characters represents a different element of the screen. For example: a lower case 'h' represents a regular brick. When assembled together in a logical fashion, a screen full of bricks, ladders, and treasures is made.

When a level is reached while playing TI-RUNNER, the computer reads the "LEVEL28" file and prints the contents on the screen, thus displaying the new level.

The TI-RUNNER MODIFIER will allow the user to copy the "LEVEL28" file, either entirely or only a single level; display any level on the screen, complete with the location of hidden ladders and "fall-through" bricks; print (using any TI compatible full width printer) all levels as they would be displayed on the screen when viewing levels; and load, edit, and resave any individual level. NOTE: The "LEVEL28" file must retain its original name in order for TI-RUNNER to be able to read it. It is suggested that when altering any levels, the "LEVEL28" file be copied to the disk containing the TI-RUNNER MODIFIER program using the copy file option of this program. Then when the game is played, put the disk containing the modified file in drive #1. The "LEVEL28" file must be in drive #1 and named "LEVEL28" for the TI-RUNNER program to work properly. For ease of use, the TI-RUNNER game may also be copied to the same disk using the DISK MANAGER.

SCREEN CODES:

h-regular brick
j-fall through brick
n-solid brick (can't be bombed)
i-bottom brick layer (must be underneath any type of brick layer)

p-key
q-treasure chest
r-diamond

` (FCTN 'C')-ladder
x-invisible ladder (appears when last treasure is acquired)

INSTRUCTIONS:

To load the TI-RUNNER MODIFIER program: turn on your system, select EXTENDED BASIC, place the diskette containing the program in drive #1, type "OLD DSK1.RUNNERMOD", then type "RUN".

The main menu will appear as follows:

TI-RUNNER MODIFIER

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- 1) COPY 'LEVEL28' FILE
- 2) COPY SINGLE SCREEN
- 3) VIEW LEVELS
- 4) PRINT 'LEVEL28' FILE
- 5) LEVEL EDITOR
- 6) QUIT

CHOICE?

To select an option, simply press the number of your desired choice, ENTER is not required.

NOTE: To exit the program, always return to the main menu and select option 6. Failure to do so could leave to "LEVEL28" file open and render it unusable.

1) COPY 'LEVEL28' FILE

To copy the entire file, select option 1 on the main menu. The program will ask for the source disk drive number and the destination disk drive number. Enter both and the program will proceed to copy the file. This procedure will take about 5 minutes and 8 seconds. When finished, it will return to the main menu.

2) COPY SINGLE SCREEN

To copy an individual screen, select option 2 on the main menu. The program will ask for the number of the screen to be copied, the source disk drive number and the destination disk drive number. First enter the screen number or 0 to return to the menu. Then enter the appropriate disk drive numbers. When finished, it will return to the main menu.

3) VIEW LEVELS

To view any level in its non-redefined state (which allows the user to see hidden objects), select option 3 on the main menu. The program will ask for the number of the screen to be displayed. Enter the screen number or 0 to return to the main menu. The program will display the screen with the prompt "PRESS ANY KEY TO CONTINUE". The characters which compose the screen are identified under the SCREEN CODES portion of this document. When any key is pressed, the program will return to the screen number prompt.

4) PRINT 'LEVEL28' FILE

To obtain a printout of the entire "LEVEL28" file, select option 4 on the main menu. The program will ask for the disk drive number of the "LEVEL28" file that is to be printed and the printer device name. Enter these and the program will produce a hard copy of all levels as they would

be displayed using the view screen option.

NOTE: While it is not necessary, it is suggested that your printer be placed in the 8 lines-to-the-inch mode to obtain a neater printout.

5) LEVEL EDITOR

To modify any level, select option 5 on the main menu. The program will ask for the disk drive number of the "LEVEL28" file from which you wish to read and send screen information. Once entered, the command prompt appears at the bottom of the screen. The LEVEL EDITOR has four different commands: <L>oad, <R>edo, <S>ave, and <Q>uit. These commands may be entered in either upper or lower case. The <L>oad command loads a screen so that it may be edited. When <L>oad is selected, the number of the screen to be loaded is asked for. Enter the screen number and it will load and display the screen then return to the command prompt. To edit a screen, enter the <R>edo command. Two arrows will appear at the top of the screen displaying which line is currently being edited. To change the information on a line, use the arrow keys (FCTN 'S' and FCTN 'D') to move to the area to be changed. Then type in the new characters which will compose that line. The only characters that the LEVEL EDITOR will accept are those listed under SCREEN CODES in this document or a space. When a line is completed, press enter and the LEVEL EDITOR will move down to the next line. To skip a line, simply press enter and no changes will be made. When the cursor reaches the bottom of the screen, the command prompt returns. <R>edo may be performed as many times as desired. When editing of a screen is complete, the <S>ave command will ask for the screen number that the new screen is to be saved under. NOTE: No information is changed in the "LEVEL28" file until the <S>ave command is executed. To leave the LEVEL EDITOR, enter the <Q>uit command and the program will return to the main menu.

6) QUIT

To leave the TI-RUNNER MODIFIER program select option 6 on the main menu. This will ensure that all previously opened files will be properly closed.

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Docs for the screen designer for the
TI-Runner game:

TI-Runner was one of my favorite games way back when. I always thought it would be neat to be able to design these game screens for playing. Unfortunately I never completed that project when my TI was my main computer. Now, thanks to Win994a, I have dug up the old files and wrote my screen designer. Together with the game, files, and some loading programs, I have put together a disk that will allow you to play TIRunner as well as design the screens.

This documentation is for the program Designer only and is available from the main menu on the disk. I did not write TIRunner, just the screen designer. I did modify TIRunner slightly to allow the loading of different games from a single disk.

DESIGNER - Rediware Software 2006

Designer uses file LEVEL01 for modification. LEVEL02 is the screen file that comes with the program, and LEVEL03 appears to be a French modification. These files as released here are somewhat corrupted in the middle levels. I had received them that way a long time ago. With Designer, they can be repaired easily, but I'll leave that up to you if desired. When Designer loads, it will load the first screen of what I believe to be 49 total. All graphics will load except for the runner positions. If you are modifying a screen a lot, it is best to redefine these positions. If you do not, your runners may be stuck inside walls. The colors used for that particular screen will be loaded also. The left and right sides of the graphics screen will show the menu options. They are:

To activate each menu item, press the first letter of the item. This does not apply to the arrow keys. Your CAPS lock must be on!

QUIT - quits the Designer program and asks if you wish to run the game. This makes it easy to design and test. Note that quitting DOES NOT prompt you to save your changes!

NXT - loads the next game screen for editing.

PRV - loads the previous game screen for editing. Note that the software limits the loading of screens 1 through 49. If more screens are found, Designer can be changed accordingly.

ARROWS - use the arrow keys to move the cursor around the screen. The cursor is the location for any graphic objects that will be placed on the screen.

TXT - allows you to place text on the screen one character at a time. Press T. A blinking ? will appear. Press the letter of text you wish and then press enter.

GET - Get (load) a particular screen, 1-49. After pressing G, you will see the current screen number flashing in the

bottom right corner. Change this to the screen number you wish to load.

SAVE - Save a screen you have edited. You will see the current screen number flashing in the bottom right corner. You can keep this the same by pressing enter, or change it to another screen number and press enter. This is how to repair any screens that are corrupted on this disk. (get a good screen, save it to a bad screen). Save goes through a number of steps to get the information needed. A check is done for the number of prizes. The screen and code is read and saved. After pressing S, the screen will turn white. After a short bit, you will see the screen graphics flickering one row at a time as they are read. This lets you know that it is still working. The screen will turn black again when the save option has finished.

MODE - Each time you press M, the mode will change and the cursor will change accordingly. A plain square cursor is for entering a single graphic. An E with a box around it shows that it is in erase mode. any graphics that the cursor is moved over will be erased. An A with a box around it shows that the cursor is in auto mode. By pressing a graphic item when the cursor is in auto mode, you will then be able to move around the screen using the arrow keys and continually draw that graphic each time the cursor is moved. Note that in simple box mode, a single graphic is entered at that location by pressing one of the graphic keys described below. The last mode is the Runner mode and will change the cursor to a man figure. See RUNR below on how to see this mode.

CODE - I recommend that you do not use this. For each screen there is some code that tells the TI-Runner game some needed information. editing the screen will automatically change this code accordingly. However, if you wanted to, you could enter this information into the code itself. Unless you know what you are doing, do not edit this code. This was more of a programming tool for me to decipher what parts of the code did what.

RUNR - This will place a runner on the screen. For R to work, your cursor must be in Runner mode (press M until the cursor looks like a man figure) In Runner mode the cursor moves 1 pixel at a time rather than 8 pixels like the character graphics modes. It is best to move the cursor near where you will be putting your runners before changing to runner mode. When you have the runner positioned, press R. Move the cursor and you will see the runner behind it. TIRunner uses 4 runners. Each time you place a runner, the color of the runner will change. These colors will cycle. The first runner, white is you, the player. The remaining three are the ones after you. NOTE: It is not good to place a runner on a ladder. Unless it is perfectly even with the rows, it will not run correctly. I have elected not to add this to the program because it would change the position of the runner in an attempt to fit, and may cause other problems. Place the runners on flat surfaces (no overlap, no space between the foot and the surface). You can also place

them in an open space where they will fall to the surface below.

1,2,3 keys - Press 1, 2, or 3 to place a prize graphic on the screen. Note that each screen can have a maximum of 9 prizes. The program will notify you if you have more when attempting to save.

4,5 keys - Pressing 4 will cycle through the colors available for the prizes and 5 will cycle through the ladder colors. They will be saved with the screen.

B - place a brick graphic.

F - Place a foundation graphic (goes beneath the brick)

U - place an unbreakable brick graphic.

H - Place a hidden ladder graphic. This ladder will appear only after all prizes have been gathered and must reach the top of the screen to escape.

L - Place a regular ladder graphic on the screen.

D - Place a drop-through brick on the screen. In TIRunner these look like regular bricks, but for design purposes they appear different in Designer. When TIRunner loads them, they will look like regular bricks.

? - A short help screen. It takes a while to load and display because the screen needs to be stored first so after the help screen is finished, it can be restored. Normally I would put a routine like this in assembly to speed it up, but I think this screen will be used only in the beginning, and you have this file you can print out.

Designer written by Rediware Software 2006

Rediware Software did not write TIRunner. See the game for credits.

Designer was written in Super Extended Basic on the Win994a Simulator for Windows.