
M A R T I A N

memorandum

PLAYERS MANUAL

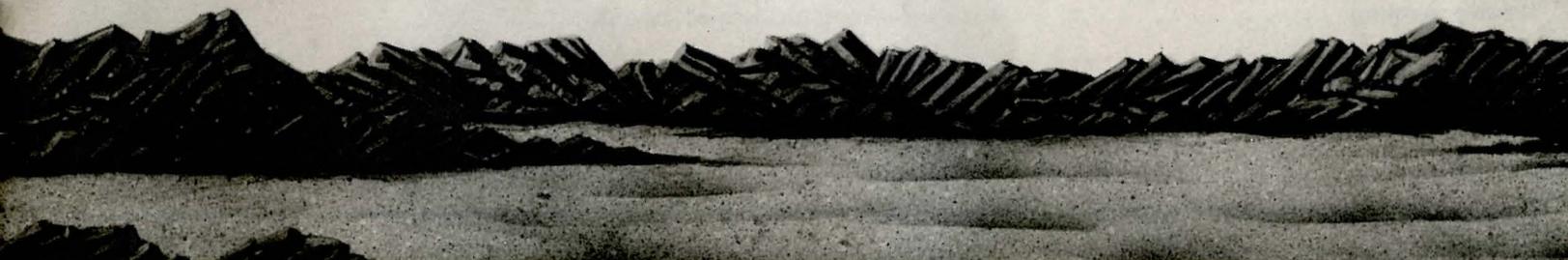


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Installing MARTIAN MEMORANDUM

- Martian Memorandum must be installed on a hard disk to operate correctly.
- Martian Memorandum is not copy protected
- Martian Memorandum can be installed using two methods.

NOTE: When you see [ENTER] in this manual it means to press the ENTER key, not to type the word ENTER.

Using the INSTALL program:

- 1) Insert disk #1 into the floppy disk drive you wish to install from.
- 2) Type the letter of the drive followed by a colon (:) and press ENTER (e.g. A: [ENTER]).
- 3) Type INSTALL and press ENTER.
- 4) Follow the instructions on screen.

Alternate installation method:

If the install program fails to operate properly, you may install Martian Memorandum through normal DOS functions:

- 1) Create a subdirectory on your hard disk.
Type: MD \MARS [ENTER]
- 2) Copy all files from each disk into the Martian Memorandum (MARS) directory.
Type: CD \MARS [ENTER]
Insert disk #1 into disk drive A: or B:
Type: COPY A:.* [ENTER] (Use B:.* for the B drive.)
Repeat the previous step for each disk.

Requirements

- Martian Memorandum will require:
- IBM PC, XT, AT, 286, 386, PS/2 or compatible.
- MSDOS 3.2 or higher.
- 640 K with 530 K free memory (see note).
- VGA or MCGA graphics card and color monitor.
- Hard disk with at least 7.2 megabytes free.

Martian Memorandum supports:

- Mouse, joystick and keyboard (mouse is recommended.)
- SoundBlaster™, Adlib™, Roland™, IBM® speech card™, MSound™ and RealSound™ (PC speaker).

Running Martian Memorandum

After installation, Martian Memorandum can be executed by:

Switching to the directory containing MARTIAN MEMORANDUM.

(e.g. type: `CD \MARS [ENTER]`)

Execute the program by typing `MM [ENTER]`.

NOTE: You must have at least 530K of free memory to run MARTIAN MEMORANDUM. Use the program CHKDSK (which comes with DOS) to determine your free memory (see Trouble shooting section).

Configuring Martian Memorandum

The information to configure Martian Memorandum is contained in a small file called MM.CFG. This file contains information on sound boards, input device, and misc. other information. Martian Memorandum can be configured through two methods.

NOTE: MARTIAN MEMORANDUM must be installed on a hard disk to operate correctly.

At startup

When first run, Martian Memorandum will ask you to select your computer's configuration from a list of possibilities. You will only be prompted for this information once. The information will be saved in the file MM.CFG. If you need to reconfigure Martian Memorandum, you may simply delete the file MM.CFG (see your DOS manual). You will then be prompted again for you computers configuration.

The direct method

You can directly modify the contents of MM.CFG using any text editor (such as EDLIN supplied with DOS). The file consists of five bytes representing input device, sound board, SoundBlaster™ port, SoundBlaster™ interrupt and music system. To modify a parameter simply change the corresponding byte to a new value and save the file back out. The bytes values correspond to:

Byte 1- Input device:

- 1 = mouse (recommended)
- 2 = joystick
- 3 = keyboard

Byte 2- Digital sound device:

- 1 = RealSound™ (PC Speaker)
- 2 = Adlib™
- 3 = IBM® speech card™
- 4 = SoundBlaster™
- 5 = Msound™
- 6 = None

NOTE: You must have a mouse driver installed before running MARTIAN MEMORANDUM. It is recommended that your mouse driver be compatible with Microsoft® version 6.00.

Byte 3- (SoundBlaster™ only) Port:

- 1 = 210h
- 2 = 220h (default)
- 3 = 230h
- 4 = 240h
- 5 = 250h

NOTE: You can determine your SoundBlaster's port and interrupt numbers by running the program called TEST-SBC.EXE which is found on the disks that came with your SoundBlaster™ card.

Byte 4- (SoundBlaster™ only) Interrupt:

- 1 = 2
- 2 = 3 (default on older boards)
- 3 = 5
- 4 = 7 (default on newer boards)

Byte 5- Music device:

- 1 = Adlib™
- 2 = Roland™
- 3 = None

The Story

You are a classic, hard boiled private investigator in the year 2039. Marshall Alexander, head of Terraform, Inc., has hired you to search for his missing daughter, Alexis Alexander. Your job is to search out clues (and do other P.I. stuff) that will lead you to Mr. Alexander's daughter and the secret of the Martian Memorandum. Easy? We'll see about that.

Tex is a rugged, handsome P.I. with a typical P.I. attitude, which sometimes gets him into trouble. Even though the year is 2039, the mood, characterizations and ambiance are set in the typical style of the classic Hollywood detective movies.



Searching rooms

Throughout the manual we will refer to user input through the generic term **SELECT**. For mouse users this means to place the mouse cursor over an item and press the left button. For joystick users this means to place the cursor over an item and press button #1. For keyboard users this means to move the cursor over an item (using the cursor keys) and press the [ENTER] key.

The majority of the game time will be spent searching for clues at various locations. There are several commands to use in searching and manipulating objects in rooms.

LOOK - This command allows you to inspect an object.

MOVE - This command allows you to move an object from one position to another. **MOVE** can be used to move an object from place to place, such as a pillow, or to change a state, such as flipping a wall switch.

OPEN - This command allows you to open an object, such as a box or door.

GET - This command allows you to pick up an object.

USE - This command allows you to manipulate one object with another. The **USE** command always uses an item from the inventory (see inventory section) on an object in a room (e.g. A door is locked and a key is resting on the floor. To open the door you must first **GET** the key. The key is now in your inventory. Next **USE** the key on the door. The door will now open.)

TALK - This command allows you to initiate a conversation with another character.

TRAVEL - This command allows you to travel from location to location (see travel section).

HELP - This command allows you to get hints to aid you in completing a search of a room.

DISK - This command allows you to Load or Save a game to disk.



To search a room, choose the command you wish to use (the command will highlight) and select an on screen object. The command will be executed. If nothing happens the object may not be affected by the command (LOOK will almost always return an answer if the object is defined).



Interrogating Characters

You will run across many characters that have valuable information. You must extract this information using your wit and charm. At different points during a conversation, you will be required to interact with the character. Simply select one of the on screen responses (by selecting the response number from the command bar) to speak the reply. Often you will be able to offer or ask about items (if the character will allow it). There will be numerous subjects you will be able to ask characters about. Try to be very thorough when questioning. In addition, it's a good idea to go back and talk to characters, which were previously interviewed, when a new name appears on the ASK ABOUT list. Don't think that just because you've talked to a character once, you're done with them.

Moving Through The Duct

At some point in the game you will find yourself crawling through an air duct. The controls are simple. To move forward, select the arrow pointing to the top of the screen. To move backward, select the arrow pointing to the bottom of the screen. To turn left, select the arrow pointing left (if you're not at an intersection, selecting the left or right arrow will simply turn you around). To turn right, select the right arrow. You can tell if you're at an intersection when the area in the middle of the arrows shows a cross. When a cross is showing, it is possible to turn in a new direction. Your current heading (north, south, east or west) is shown as a highlighted arrow. This highlighted arrow is the direction you are facing. If you want to travel in the direction you are facing, select the arrow pointing up, not the arrow that is highlighted. If you're still having difficulty and you've tried everything, see the "troubleshooting" section.

Using your COMLINK

Your secretary is your constant companion through the game via your COMLINK (if you find it). Your secretary is your information source and will keep you informed of events happening throughout the game. To access your secretary, select the USE command and select the COMLINK from your inventory. Your secretary will ask you what you would like to know about. Select an item from you ASK ABOUT LIST. Your secretary will return the information and it will automatically be entered into your TRAVEL or ASK ABOUT LIST if appropriate.

NOTE: The COMLINK is a valuable source of information. Use it to get background on subjects and characters.

Traveling

Tex may travel only when the situation will allow it (if Tex is tied up in a basement, he will not be allowed to get out by traveling). If you wish to travel, select the TRAVEL icon. A list of locations which Tex currently knows will be displayed (this list changes as Tex gathers clues). To travel to a location, simply select one of the locations from the list (select the OK icon or select the location twice). Tex will arrive at the new location in a short time.

Inventory

The inventory is where Tex stores items he picks up. When Tex uses the GET command on an object in a room or when a character gives Tex something, it goes here. The objects can be retrieved by either USING them in a room or OFFERING them to a character. The list will grow and shrink as Tex obtains or uses items. There is no limit to what Tex can carry, so it's a good idea to take everything you can, you never know when you're going to need it.

Ask About List

The ASK ABOUT system is similar to the inventory except that it stores names and intangible information as opposed to physical items. ASK ABOUT items are used during character interrogations or with your secretary. Items are automatically added to the ASK ABOUT LIST when Tex comes across them.

Loading and Saving Games

Games can be saved at anytime during a room search. Select the disk icon from the command bar.

To save a new game; click on the box next to the word FILE. A flashing cursor will appear signaling that it's waiting for you to type in a new name and press [ENTER]. Select the SAVE icon. To save over an old game; choose a file name by selecting a name from the list, and select the SAVE icon. A box will appear to verify that you really wanted to save over the file.

To load a file; either select a current file from the list of files or select the box to the right of the word FILE and type in a name. Select the LOAD icon.

It's recommended that you save often, and under different names, just in case something goes wrong.

You can delete all saved games by switching to your Martian Memorandum directory (\MARS is the default) and typing: DEL *.GAM [ENTER] (see your DOS manual). All saved games will be erased, so be very careful using this command.

Exiting the Game

The game can be exited at any time by pressing the CONTROL and Q keys (CTRL-Q). Make sure you have saved your game before exiting or it will be lost.

Hints and Tips

Game hints are available at any time while searching a room. Hints are context sensitive, meaning that the only hints available will be based on the current room the player is in. To access the hints, select on the select the HELP icon from the command bar and select the object you need help with. Hints are given at differnt levels- from vague to specific. You can stop at any point if you don't want the puzzle to be given away. To advance to the next hint level, select the same object again.

Trouble shooting

The following are answers to some commonly asked questions. If you are having problems, review the manual thoroughly. There is a file on disk #1 called READ.ME that contains any updated information after this manual was printed. If you are still having trouble, give us a call at 801-359-2900 or leave Email on Compuserve to ID# 70127.766. Please have information on your computer system handy and we will do our best to make things work.

I get an OUT OF MEMORY ERROR but my computer has 640k or more.

The memory in the computer that can run a program is only the first 640k. All additional memory takes special memory drivers to access. This means every program must occupy the same 640k memory area. Many programs which are installed at boot up time, mouse drivers, memory managers, dos extenders (called TSR's or Terminate and Stay Resident) stay in memory at all times, taking a piece of that precious 640K. Martian Memorandum is very lenient on the amount of memory it needs. MM requires only about 520K left after all TSR's are installed. You can check how much memory is left in your system by running CHKDSK (see your DOS manual). If your system does not have 520k free, you must remove some TSR's or boot your computer from a floppy boot disk (see your DOS manual for information on making a SYSTEM disk.).

I can hear sound but nothing is displayed.

Martian Memorandum requires a VGA graphics card and monitor. If the graphics are muddy or distorted and if you have a multisync monitor make sure it is in analog mode (as opposed to TTL mode).

I can see graphics but there's no sound.

You must have configured Martian Memorandum to use a sound device other than #6 (none) and/or a music device other than #3 (see configuration).

I just got a new sound board but the program won't use it.

You need to reconfigure Martian Memorandum to use the new board (see configuration).



The game slows down when a sound plays.

Your computer may be too slow to play digital sound and music. Reconfigure the sound to use no sound or get a faster computer. The SoundBlaster™ board is recommended for slower computers.

The game locks up after playing one sound through the SoundBlaster™.

The wrong interrupt number was selected at configuration time. Reconfigure using the correct interrupt. You can find out the correct interrupt number by running the program TEST-SBC.EXE found on your SoundBlaster™ disk.

I chose Adlib but I only get sound effects.

If you want Adlib™ music you must choose something other than Adlib™ for the sound effects, such as RealSound™.

The INSTALL program didn't work.

Try using the alternate install method. If it doesn't work something else is wrong and you should give us a call.

I've tried everything and I can't get out of the duct!

Because the duct is difficult for some people to visualize, we've added a bonus feature to minimize your frustration. While holding down the insert key [INS], press the "O" key and move in any direction. This will take you out of the duct.

REPLACEMENTS

During the first 90 days that you own Martian Memorandum, we will replace a bad disk or other component that has a defect in the materials or workmanship (meaning it was our fault). Simply call 1-800-800-4880 and explain the problem. We'll have you return the defective merchandise to us and we will repair or replace it and ship it back to you.

If you lose or damage any of the components or if the 90 day warranty has expired, replacement parts are available for a nominal charge.

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