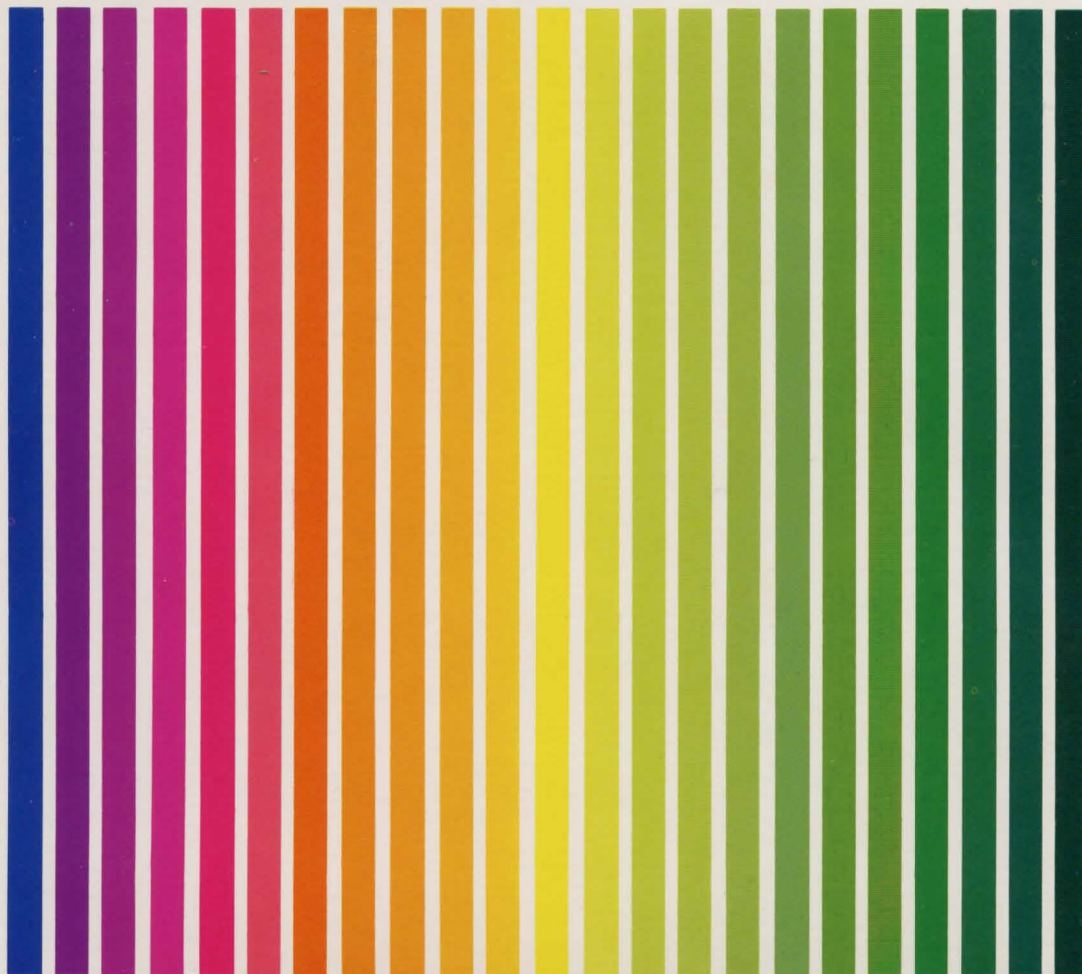


APX ATARI® PROGRAM EXCHANGE



Robert Zdybel

CASTLE

APX-20019

User-Written Software for ATARI Home Computers



Robert Zdybel

CASTLE

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CASTLE

by

Robert Zdybel

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GAME OVERVIEW

You're vacationing in Pomerania and, desperate to escape your tour guide, you sneak out of the country inn to take a walk alone. Unknowingly, you wander into an enchanted forest down the lane. Up ahead you can just make out the outlines of a castle shrouded in mist. You're mysteriously drawn toward it. Even though you know better, you decide to take just a quick peek into one of the castle's heavy-lead windows (to impress your friends back home when you corner them with tales of your vacation). Slowly you push open the iron gate and tiptoe up to the nearest window. Your frustration grows; it's totally dark inside, except for one small beam of light coming from a hallway in the direction of the front entrance. Glancing at the castle door, you notice it's ajar. "What the heck," you mumble as you steal toward the door, "I'll never vacation in Pomerania again, so it's now or never!" You no sooner step gingerly inside when BAM! The door slams shut and the forest's evil wizard has lured another victim into his trap! In the dark, you accidentally step on the wizard's pet tarantula. The wizard becomes enraged. Your only chance for survival is to escape the castle before the wizard turns you into a newt, which he'll do once he tires of watching your frenetic attempts at escape. You can go from bell towers to dungeons looking for an exit, but don't pass up chances to bring along helpful objects like amulets and swords, or you'll be unprepared when you finally see a way out!

CASTLE belongs to the family of games called Adventure. These are maze games in which descriptions of your current surroundings display on your video screen. This game uses text only--no sound, motion, color, or graphics.

REQUIRED ACCESSORIES

24K RAM
ATARI BASIC Language Cartridge
ATARI 810 Disk Drive

GETTING STARTED

1. Turn on your first (or only) disk drive and insert the game diskette.
2. Power up your computer and turn on your video screen.
3. At the READY prompt, type RUN "D:CASTLE" and press RETURN. The program will load into RAM and begin.

The first display screen

You'll see the message WELCOME TO ADVENTURE, followed by a description of your locale and your task and a summary of game instructions. Once you press the RETURN key, your adventure begins!

PLAYING THE GAME

So you're trapped in the castle! You'd better start looking for an escape route. Move around by entering any of these one-letter commands:

- U for up
- D for down
- N for north
- E for east
- S for south
- W for west

Try drawing a map of your meanderings if you become confused.

You'll encounter objects like amulets and lamps as you wander around. It's often wise to take these along with you, for you'll find them useful in other locations to help you escape or to protect you from lurking dangers. Take and use these objects by entering two-word commands, such as TAKE AMULET and TURN ON LAMP. Some players prefer to discover for themselves the verbs used in these commands, while others are impatient with this aspect of Adventure games. For these latter players, there's a list of the verbs used in CASTLE at the end of these instructions.

If you're stumped, ask for a clue by typing HINT. To redisplay the description of your immediate surroundings, type L for "look around", and to request a list of all the objects you currently have with you, type I for "inventory". You can also request a summary of these instructions at any time by typing HELP.

One more thing, CASTLE has some secret words, which, when used at the right time and in the right place, effect wondrous results.

SCORING

There's only one way you can win at playing CASTLE--by escaping!

RESTARTING AND REPLAYING THE GAME

You can interrupt the game at any time and start over by first pressing the BREAK key and then typing RUN. If you manage to escape but are so foolish as to want to relive your adventure, simply type RUN.

VERB LIST

DRINK
DROP
EAT
FEED
INSERT
LIFT
MOVE
OPEN
READ
SAY
SWING
TAKE
TURN
TURNOFF
TURNON
UNLOCK
WATER
WAVE

MOVEMENT COMMANDS

U (up)
D (down)
N (north)
E (east)
S (south)
W (west)

OTHER COMMANDS

HINT for some helpful information
HELP for the game instructions
L for a description of your immediate surroundings
I for your list of objects

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1. Name and APX number of program _____

2. If you have problems using the program, please describe them here.

3. What do you especially like about this program?

4. What do you think the program's weaknesses are?

5. How can the catalog description be more accurate and/or comprehensive?

6. On a scale of 1 to 10, 1 being "poor" and 10 being "excellent", please rate the following aspects of this program?

- _____ Easy to use
- _____ User-oriented (e.g., menus, prompts, clear language)
- _____ Enjoyable
- _____ Self-instructive
- _____ Useful (non-game software)
- _____ Imaginative graphics and sound

7. Describe any technical errors you found in the user instructions (please give page numbers).

8. What did you especially like about the user instructions?

9. What revisions or additions would improve these instructions?

10. On a scale of 1 to 10, 1 representing "poor" and 10 representing "excellent", how would you rate the user instructions and why?

11. Other comments about the software or user instructions:

STAMP

ATARI Program Exchange
P.O. Box 427
155 Moffett Park Drive, B-1
Sunnyvale, CA 94086

