# TURBO PASCAL® PROGRAM LIBRARY



## Turbo Pascal Program Library

Tom Rugg Phil Feldman

Que™ Corporation Indianapolis

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## Dedication

To Gabby Johnson, for clearly stating what needed to be said.

## About the Authors

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### **Preface**

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Our design philosophy for the *Turbo Pascal Program Library* is easily stated: "Make it a programming companion. Create a reference for repeated use." Contained in these pages is a comprehensive library of practical Turbo Pascal subprograms (procedures and functions).

At first glance, it may seem odd that our *program* library is composed of *subprograms*, not programs. The reason is that Pascal encourages a modular programming style in which most of a program's detailed tasks are delegated to subprograms. The subprograms are then assimilated into the full program to form one cohesive unit.

This book is a library of subprograms that are meant to be building blocks toward your finished programs. Think of these subprograms as the foundation stones on which your programming construction projects are built. Whether your undertaking is simple or complex, you should find in this book useful components that will save you time and trouble.

Is this book for you? If you program in Turbo Pascal, the answer is yes. By taking advantage of our ready-made routines, you can improve your productivity immediately. The first time you use one of these subprograms, you should be able to justify the cost of the book in the hours you save by not having to develop original code. And if you use any of our complete programs, your savings are even greater.

If you are an intermediate or advanced programmer, think of this book as an instant software reference library. For you, its primary benefits are simplified program development and expediency. If you are a beginner in Pascal, you receive the additional benefit of practical program components you might otherwise be unable to develop yourself.

We assume that you know how to program in Pascal, at least rudimentarily. This book is neither a tutorial on Pascal in general nor a tutorial on Turbo Pascal in particular. (Many excellent books that teach these subjects are available.) At a minimum, you should know how to get Pascal running on your computer, type a program, save it on disk, compile the program, and run it.

Even if you are just beginning to learn Pascal (especially if you are a "learn by doing" person), this book will be a useful companion. We explain many programming tips and techniques throughout the presentation of these subprograms. Additionally, the exposure to well-structured, useful subprograms and full programs will help you understand more than just the rules of Pascal. Pascal encourages a clean, structured, top-down programming style, and we have tried to exemplify it. We hope this book will help you become a more knowledgeable programmer.

Our target audience is the largest group of Turbo Pascal users—those with IBM PCs or compatibles. However, those who use Turbo Pascal on other computers (CP/M® computers, Apple®, etc.) should find the subprograms helpful, as will users of other versions of Pascal. You may have to make some changes, though, to enable certain programs to work.

## Acknowledgments

The work of a few is always the result of many. We are especially grateful . . .

To Maria Katinos for the figures and research. She never floundered.

To the imponderable Dave Feldman. His contributions are simply not explainable.

To everyone at Que. Their faith and perseverance made this book a reality. Special thanks to Ginny Noble, Pegg Kennedy, and Chris DeVoney.

To Philippe Kahn, president of Borland International. His vision resulted in a watershed software product. Turbo is much more than just a Pascal compiler for microcomputers. It is a well designed programming environment. Its power, ease of use, and fair price have created a standard for future software products. The growing popularity of Turbo Pascal is a testament to this foresight.

And, finally, to Louisa Gillette for her understanding and support. We love her.

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