

Jr MEMORY PROGRAMS FOR BASIC

June 11, 1988

SETBASjr and BASICjr -- programs that make cartridge
BASIC available to PCjr's with more than 128K of RAM

Introduction

SETBASjr and BASICjr are two programs that let PCjr owners take full advantage of cartridge BASIC even if they have memory expansion boards.

If you have extra memory, you may have figured out some easy ways to hang your PCjr. For example, you can put your memory device driver in "compatible" mode (option "/C") and run the following program in cartridge BASIC:

```
100 CLEAR,,,32768
110 SCREEN 5
```

Or how about creating a 256K RAMdisk and then typing "BASIC".

And if you have your device driver in "enhanced" mode (option "/E"), you can draw an invisible line with the following program:

```
100 CLEAR,,,32768
110 SCREEN 5
120 LINE (50,50)-(100,100)
```

SETBASjr and BASICjr make these adventures a thing of the past. The system requirements are:

1. Your memory device driver must be in "compatible" mode (e.g., "DEVICE=JRVIDMA2.SYS /C" for a Racore expansion board).
2. If you have a Racore Drive II Plus, the switch must be on "jr".
3. Your cartridge BASIC must be in the rightmost slot.
4. You must have at least 1K of RAM available for executable programs (e.g., if you have 256K total you should not install a RAMdisk greater than 127K, since the "compatible" mode reserves the first 128K)

Using SETBASjr and BASICjr

The first thing you should do is put a disk with DEBUG.COM in the current drive and type what's in lower case letters below (comments are in parentheses):

```

A>debug
-r cs
CS XXXX      (doesn't matter what the numbers are)
:eB00
-u c e
EB00:000C E9B201      JMP 0191
-q

```

A> (you are done)

If something other than "JMP 0191" showed up, let me know and I'll tell you how to fix BASICjr.COM for your version of cartridge BASIC.

Otherwise, you can go ahead and run SETBASjr. This is a memory-resident program that patches your memory device driver. It should be run only ONCE after booting your computer and should NEVER be used when your driver is in "normal" or "enhanced" mode.

Now, just type "BASICjr" instead of "BASIC" and into cartridge BASIC you'll go. Since BASICjr is not a memory-resident program, you can run it over and over just like cartridge BASIC. To see if BASICjr is working, execute the program below:

```

100 CLEAR,,,32768
110 SCREEN 5
120 LINE (50,50)-(100,100),1

```

A blue line should show up on your screen. If not, check to make sure your system meets the requirements listed in the "Introduction" section above. Also, try to remember whether you ran SETBASjr first. If you still can't get BASICjr to work, then you need ...

Technical Support

If you need technical support, please send a self-addressed, stamped, business-size envelope to the address below. I'll make every effort to help anybody who asks. Just be sure to provide as much information as possible about your particular problem. Also if you want me to try to solve some other PCjr problem, let me know (SETBASjr and BASICjr were the result of a long distance request from a reader in Goshen, Alabama).

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Although SETBASjr and BASICjr are donated to the public domain, they may not be distributed under different names or without this documentation. If you find SETBASjr and BASICjr useful and want to show your appreciation, you can certainly send me a check for whatever amount you think the programs are worth.

Updates:

06/11/88 - I modified BASICjr.COM so it can load and run BASIC files from the DOS prompt. For example,

```
A>BASICjr filename
```

where "filename" is a file with a .BAS extension.

By the way, here are some definitions that people have frequently asked me for:

1. "normal" mode - This means that you have not installed a memory device driver. Any memory above the first 128K is unavailable to DOS for loading programs.

2. "enhanced" mode - This means that you have installed a memory device driver to take advantage of your additional memory, but you've reserved 32K of RAM for video. On my Racore, if I use "DEVICE=JRVIDMA2.SYS" without the "/E" option, it only sets aside 16K for video.

3. "compatible" mode - This means that the device driver is reserving the first 128K of memory for video. DOS will load all programs in the so-called "fast" memory.

And finally, here's a suggestion: I like to put BASICjr.COM on my RAMdisk under the name "B.COM". That way, I can get into BASIC very quickly.