Tech Info Library

HyperCard: Card Name Limitation

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TOPIC ---

While working on a HyperCard stack, I entered a card name that contained 29
characters. From any card, I could type "go to [card name]" in the message
box or from a script, and go to that card. If I changed the name of that
card to a 34-character name and made the appropriate changes in my script
or the message box, I get a message "String too long."

I can type much more than 29 characters in the name of that card, but is
there a HyperCard limit on the card name length?

DISCUSSION --

Official HyperCard documentation states that HyperCard (up through version
2.1) will read up to 31 characters as a valid parameter when you use the GO
HyperTalk command or a script to address a card by name. This is the
theoretical limit, though tests show that HyperCard accepts 33-character
names as a valid practical limit. Bigger and more complex stacks could pull
the practical limit more in line with the theoretical. In tests, entering a
card name of 34 or longer gives the message "String too long."

The 31 character limit concerns accessing the card, not simply naming it.
You can type as many characters as you want into the Card Name area of the
Card Info dialog box, but for obvious reasons this is not advised. You
would not be able to access the card directly with a name over the maximum
valid number above.
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