



# Tech Info Library

## HyperCard 2.0: Bypassing Dialog Boxes

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TOPIC -----

When I use certain HyperCard 2.0 commands, either from the menu bar or from a script, I get a dialog box that must be responded to. Examples:

command	dialog box
-----	-----
Import Paint...	Import Paint from...
Export Paint...	Save Paint document as:

Is it possible to execute these commands from scripts, or from the message box, without having to respond to the dialog boxes? And is it possible to open a stack in new window from a HyperTalk script, also without dealing with a dialog box?

DISCUSSION -----

Here are some commands that do what you want. In the examples, "stackname" represents either a stack name, or the path to a given stack.

The first one imports a bitmap from the specified MacPaint file to the card picture. It starts with the top-left corner of the MacPaint file, and clips to HyperCard's current card size. It requires that one of HyperCard's paint tools (such as the line tool) is first chosen.

```
choose line tool
import paint from file "stackname"
```

The next one creates a new MacPaint file, to which it exports the card image. This is the equivalent of doing a screen dump from HyperCard, but you get to choose the name of the output file in advance.

```
choose line tool
export paint to file "stackname"
```

Here's a command that opens a specified stack in a new window:

```
go "stackname" in new window
```

And one that creates a new stack and gives it a name:

```
create stack "stackname" <with backgroundname> <in new window>
```

The card size of the current stack becomes the card size of the new stack. If no background is specified, the new stack is created with a blank background. Otherwise, a copy of the specified background becomes the background of the new stack. If "new window" is specified, the new stack is created in a new window -- in other words, the old card window remains on-screen.

This one saves a copy of the specified stack under the new name you specify in advance:

```
save stack "stackname1" as "stackname2"
```

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