Apple Guide: Can I Print the Entire Apple Guide? (10/95)

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TOPIC --

I want to print out the entire Macintosh Apple Guide. I cannot seem to find the
Print command. How can I send the Apple Guide to print?

DISCUSSION ---

There is no way to print Apple Guides. They have no menu items associated with
them because they exist in a floating palette that is independent of the
frontmost application and its menubar. That is, you can switch applications and
the Guide stays on the top layer even though the menubar and application context
has changed. This is so Guides can lead you through steps that may involve
switching between multiple applications and always be the topmost window.

Tutorial Guide files do not lend themselves to printing in a linear fashion
anyway. They are context sensitive databases. Guide sequences are really tree
structures describing different actions to take with several branch paths
depending on the current environment. You may notice that a Guide may not lead
you through the same steps to perform an action every time. This is because it
detects that, maybe today, you already have the Apple Menu Items folder or
Control Panels folder open and it will skip the associated steps telling you to
open that folder. So one user may see a different set of steps than another user
for the same action sequence.

If you were able to print the branches of the tree sequence linearly, then each
page would have to tell you which page to turn to next, since many times it
would not be the following page. This would not be an easy book to follow. The
advantage of the Guide is that it can do this jumping for you and even skip the
pages you do not need to see.

There are five classes of Guide files. Tutorial, Help, and Other Guide files do
not lend themselves to printing as described above. About and Shortcut Guides
are simpler cases where each page is usually a stand alone piece of information
with no action sequencing. These Guides usually contain a small number of Guide
Panels. An About Guide might have one or two pages and a Shortcut Guide might
have six to twelve pages. You could take screen shots of these types of Guides
using Command-Shift-3 and open, edit and print the captured PICT files.

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