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DEC VT100, 101, and 102 Terminals: Have No Function Keys

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TOPIC -----

We're installing MacTerminal 3.0 on a Macintosh SE/30 with an extended keyboard II to do VT100, 101, or 102 emulation on a SCO Xenix 2.3.4 system. The function keys 1 through 5 don't operate.

DISCUSSION -----

Because you're trying to emulate DEC VT100, VT101, or VT102 terminals, we assume you're using the VT102 Tool rather than VT320.

This isn't a problem with MacTerminal 3.0, or the VT102 Tool. If you look at the real DEC VT100, 101, or 102 terminals, they don't have any Function Keys such as F1 through F20. They only have the PF keys, PF1 through PF4 -- the top four keys on the keypad. The VT102 Tool maps these keys to the Keys menu, or the Macintosh keyboard keypad:

Key Pad Keys

PF1 Num lock/Clear
PF2 =
PF3 /
PF4 *

So, since the VT102 Tool emulates the VT102 terminal, it doesn't have to provide the function keys F1 through F5, which don't exist on the real terminal.

On the real VT320 keyboard, F1 through F5 are Hold Screen, Print Screen, Set Up, F4, and Break, respectively. The VT320 emulates all except the F4 keys in the VT320 Tool using the File Menu, Settings Menu, Session Menu, or

Option Keys combination.

You will have to reprogram your application to accept other keys, if that's possible. The VT320 Tool will allow mapping of function keys F6 through F20.

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