

## A Keyboard for Math and Other Symbols Author Unknown

There are several ways to create symbols with WordPerfect 5.1. You can use the old tried-and-true method of Alt-ASCII decimals, where you type the decimal number on the number keypad while depressing the Alt key. Or you can use WordPerfect's Compose function, by pressing (Ctrl-V) followed by the number of the symbol you want. There are some 1,700 of them so you have plenty of choices.

Or you can use a dead key: a key that, when pressed, produces no immediate result on the screen; instead it waits for the next key press which may be programmed for whatever purpose suits you. It is great for supplying symbols. (It comes in very handy for typing in a foreign language, too.)

The included SYMBOLS.WPK keyboard supplies over a forty symbols - or diacritical marks - with only one keystroke. As opposed to other methods, such as remapping keys, the keycaps will continue to faithfully describe the operation of each key. They easily and mnemonically produce typographical, mathematical, and other symbols. A dead key stroke followed by c could render ©, for example. Or d for a dash—, P for ¶, or any other of the myriad symbols in the Compose stable of character sets. Once you learn the technique, you will soon find other applications for them to the extent you may not bother to remap keys again.

To use the SYMBOLS keyboard, copy the included file to the directory where you keep your macros and choose it as the active keyboard: press (Shift F1), 5, then select SYMBOLS and press 1.

Here are the symbols that can be accessed by depressing the [ key when it has been arranged as a dead key:

Key	Symbol	Description
<	≤	Less Than
>	≥	Greater Than
=	~	Similar
-	≡	Congruent
/	≠	Not Equal
		LINE
a		alpha
b		beta
d		delta
D		Delta
e		epsilon
f		phi
g		gamma
h	½	One Half
i	∞	infinity
t		theta
l		lambda

Key	Symbol	Description
m	$\mu$	mu
n		eta
o		omega
p		pi
q	$\frac{1}{4}$	One Quarter
r		rho
s		sigma
S	$\Sigma$	SUMmation