Puny Prince Level Files Format Specification

© 26 January 2023 Norbert de Jonge (nlmdejonge@gmail.com); GNU FDL 1.3+

Table of Contents

| Introduction | 1 |
|--------------|---|
| Filenames | |
| File Layouts | |
| Colors | |
| Characters | |

Introduction

Inspired by Anne Bras' Mini Prince.

Puny Prince loads levels from external level files. This document describes the format of these files. Puny Prince can generate such files from the Prince of Persia LEVELS.DAT file, with command-line option --generate (and -g), allowing modders to customize Puny Prince. In this document, the in-game appearance of characters is emulated using TrueType file Mx437_IBM_VGA_8x16.ttf.¹ For the examples, FreeMono is used.²

Filenames

Level files reside in directory "games/dir/":

- levelnne.txt: events
- levelnnr.txt: room links
- levelnns.txt: starting locations
- levelnnt.txt: tiles

Used are *nn* 01 through 14. Generation, which exports to *dir* "LEVELS.DAT", also creates *nn* 00 (demo) and 15 (potions), but these are unused by *Puny Prince*.

File Layouts

Events files (*e.txt)

Contains max. 36 lines. From top to bottom, each line starts with a unique character in the ranges A-R and a-r, in any order. These characters are followed by a space, and then one or more 4-digit blocks, that are separated by spaces. The first 2 digits are the room number, the second 2 digits the tile number. Example:

A 0510 0506

Room links files (*r.txt)

Contains 24 lines. Each line contains the room links for that (line number's) room. The link order is: left, right, up, down. Each number is made up of two characters, left-padded with zero if necessary. Example:

05 00 00 02

^{1 &}lt;a href="http://int10h.org/oldschool-pc-fonts/">http://int10h.org/oldschool-pc-fonts/

^{2 &}lt;a href="https://www.gnu.org/software/freefont/">https://www.gnu.org/software/freefont/

Starting locations files (*s.txt)

Contains the starting locations of the prince (P), easy (E) and hard (H) guards, and Jaffar (J).

When the files are generated, guard types 0-4 and 8 are considered to be easy, guard types 5-7 and 9-b hard. All guards in level 13 become Jaffar. Example:

P 0101

Tiles files (*t.txt)

From top to bottom, contains 24 rectangles of 10 (horizontal) by 3 (vertical) <u>characters</u>. Each rectangle represent a rooms. The rectangles are divided by empty lines. Example:

Colors

| color | description | color | description | |
|---|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|--|
| | black (#000000) | | dark gray (#555555) | |
| | blue (#0000aa) | | light blue (#5555ff) | |
| | green (#00aa00) | | light green (#55ff55) | |
| | cyan (#00aaaa) | | light cyan (#55ffff) | |
| | red (#aa0000) light red (#ff5555) | | | |
| magenta (#aa00aa) light magenta (#ff55ff) | | light magenta (#ff55ff) | | |
| | brown (#aa5500) | | yellow (#ffff55) | |
| | light gray (#aaaaaa) | | white (#ffffff) | |

Characters

| in-file | in-game | description |
|---------|---|--|
| space | | SHOULD NEVER BE USED |
| ! | - | Sword. |
| " | П | Gate (open). |
| # | | Wall (inc. floor with tapestry). |
| \$ | Coin on floor. Generated from group 0x01 (floor), variant 0x04. | |
| % | | Mirror. |
| & | | WILL NEVER BE USED, AVAILABLE TO MODDERS |
| • | | Torch on floor (inc. with debris). |
| (| # | Gate top (inc. tapestry). |
|) | | Gate (closed). |
| * | _ | Spikes (in). Harmless. |
| + | t | Skeleton. |
| , | 1 | Teleport right. |
| - | | Debris. |

| | | Empty. | |
|-------|----------|--|--|
| 1 | † | Lattice top. | |
| 0 | | Potion (empty). | |
| 1 | | Potion (heal). | |
| 2 | | Potion (life). | |
| 3 | | Potion (float). | |
| 4 | | Potion (flip). | |
| 5 | | Potion (hurt). | |
| 6 | | Potion (special blue). | |
| 7 | | RESERVED FOR FUTURE USE | |
| 8 | | Fake wall (floor that looks like a wall). | |
| 9 | | Fake empty (floor that looks empty). | |
| : | ſ | Pillar top. | |
| • ; | J | Pillar bottom. | |
| < | | RESERVED FOR FUTURE USE | |
| = | † | Chomper (closed). | |
| > | | RESERVED FOR FUTURE USE | |
| ? | | Unknown tile. Converted to - and appears in-game as - empty. | |
| @ | | Chomper (open). | |
| A-R | _ | Raise buttons A - R (18). | |
| S-Z | Г | Teleports left S - Z (8). | |
| [| Ī | Level door left (closed). | |
| / | Τ | Lattice (inc. small, left, right). | |
|] | 1 | Level door right (closed). | |
| ۸ | A | Spikes (out). Harmful. | |
| _ | | Floor (inc. balcony left/right, stuck button). | |
| ` | Δ | Empty with window. | |
| a - r | _ | Drop buttons a - r (18). | |
| S - Z | Г | Teleports left s - z (8). | |
| { | F | Level door left (open). | |
| | | Pillar (inc. for lattice). | |
| } | 1 | Level door right (open). | |
| ~ | | Loose floor (inc. stuck). | |