HRULE

HRule is a module that lets you create horizontal rules (solid horizontal lines of various thicknesses) in a TEdit document. Rules are often used to set off titles and page headings from regular text, and to create decorative effects.
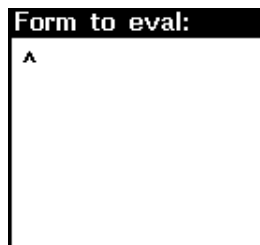
Requirements

IMAGEOBJ
EDITBITMAP
TEDIT

Installation

Load `HRULE.LCOM` and the required `.LCOM` modules from the library.

Creating Horizontal Rules

You specify a rule's thickness in decimal fractions of a printer's point (1/72 of an inch).

To create a horizontal rule, place the caret at the point in your document where you want the rule to begin, then type Control-O.   This will bring up a small window titled "Form to Eval" that contains a blinking caret. Type `(HRULE.CREATE` *N*`)` after the caret, with *N* indicating the thickness of the rule.

For example, to create a 4-point rule you would type `(HRULE.CREATE 4)`; to create a 2½-point rule you would type `(HRULE.CREATE 2.5)`. Then press the carriage return. The window closes, and a rule of the specified size is created, extending from the TEdit caret to the right margin of the paragraph.

Note: This means that nothing can appear to the right of a rule on the same line.

So, for example if you type the following paragraph

This is an example of a paragraph that is about to
have a horizontal rule inserted in it, to show what
happens.

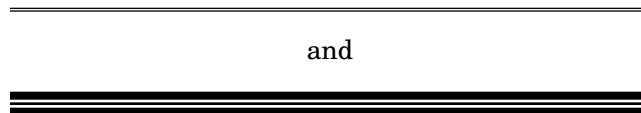and insert a 2½-point rule after the word "rule," you end up with

> This is an example of a paragraph that is about to
> have a horizontal rule——————————
> inserted in it, to show what happens.

Like other image objects in TEdit, a rule is a single character that can be deleted, moved, and copied like any other character.

You can use the TEdit Paragraph Looks menu to change the width of a rule if you don't want it to extend to the normal right margin of your document.

Stacking Several Rules in a Single Object

Sometimes, you may want to stack several rules atop one another, with space between them. This can be used to achieve effects like
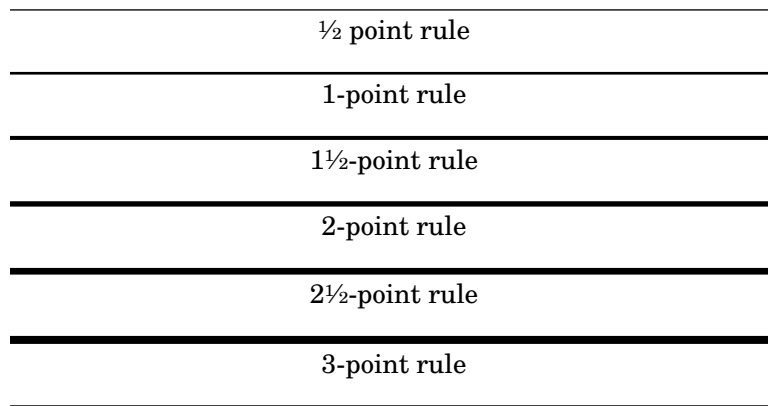
and

To create built-up rules of this type, follow the same procedure as above, but provide a list of rule widths and spacings in place of the single rule width. The first example above was created using the form `(HRULE.CREATE '(.5 .5 .5))`, and the second example was created using the form `(HRULE.CREATE '(3 1 1 1 3))`. The first number in the list is the thickness of the topmost rule, the next number is the space below it, the third number is the next rule, and so on.

Limitations

Theoretically, a rule can be infinitely small or infinitely large. For most documents, however, you will probably want to create rules that are between half a point and six points thick. On printers, you usually cannot tell the difference between rules that are less than ½ point apart in thickness.

Examples

Shown in Figure 4 are some examples of horizontal rules. In addition, you might want to look at the rules in this document, which were all created with HRule.
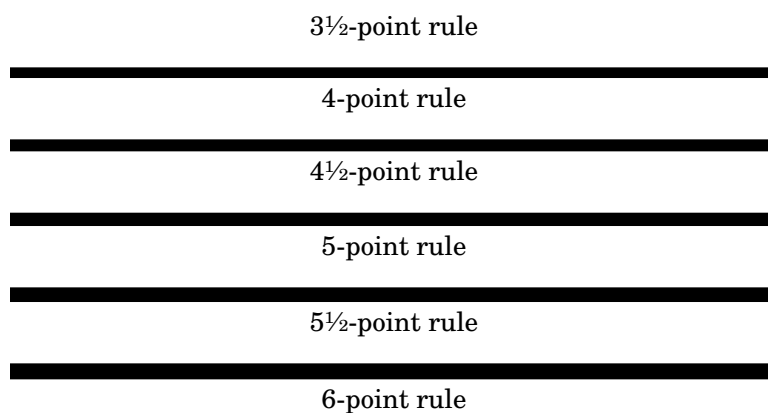
½ point rule

1-point rule

1½-point rule

2-point rule

2½-point rule

3-point rule

3½-point rule

_____

4-point rule

_____

4½-point rule

_____

5-point rule

_____

5½-point rule

_____

6-point rule

Figure 4.   Horizontal rules

Shown in Figure 5 are some examples of built-up rules, along with what you would type to create them:

```
(HRULE.CREATE '(1 1 1))
```

```
(HRULE.CREATE '(1 1 3))
```

```
(HRULE.CREATE '(.5 .5 .5 1 6))
```

```
(HRULE.CREATE '(2 1 2))
```
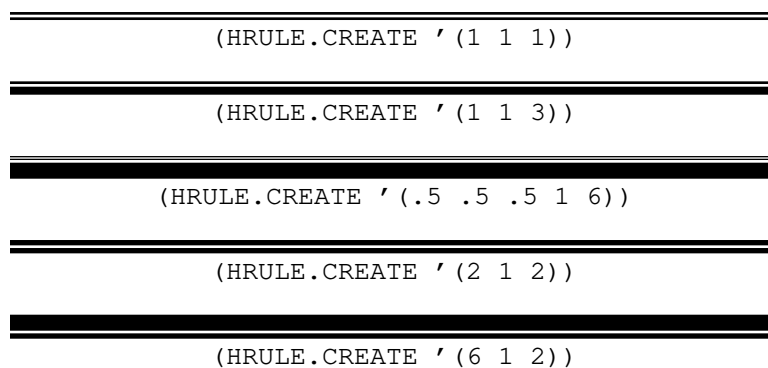
```
(HRULE.CREATE '(6 1 2))
```

Figure 5.   Built-up rules

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