## VT100 escape codes

This document describes how to control a VT100 terminal. The entries are of the form "name, description, escape code".

The name isn't important, and the description is just to help you find what you're looking for. What you have to do is send the "escape code" to the screen. These codes are often several characters long, but they all begin with ^[. This isn't the two characters ^ and [, but rather a representation of the ASCII code ESC (which is why these are called escape codes).

ESC has the value:

Ada 27, #8#33 #16#1B C 27, 033, 0x1b

English 27 decimal, 33 octal, 1b hexadecimal

and should be sent before the rest of the code, which is simply an ASCII string.

As an example of how to use this information, here's how to clear the screen in Ada and C, using the VT100 escape codes:

## Ada

```
PUT( ASCII.ESC );
PUT_LINE( "[2J" );

C

#define ASCII_ESC 27
printf( "%c[2J", ESC );

or

puts( "\033[2J" );
```

| Name                | Description                   | Esc Code |  |
|---------------------|-------------------------------|----------|--|
| setnl LMN           | Set new line mode             | ^[[20h   |  |
| setappl DECCKM      | Set cursor key to application | ^[[?1h   |  |
| setansi DECANM      | Set ANSI (versus VT52)        | none     |  |
| setcol DECCOLM      | Set number of columns to 132  | ^[[?3h   |  |
| setsmooth DECSCLM   | Set smooth scrolling          | ^[[?4h   |  |
| setrevscrn DECSCNM  | Set reverse video on screen   | ^[[?5h   |  |
| setorgrel DECOM     | Set origin to relative        | ^[[?6h   |  |
| setwrap DECAWM      | Set auto-wrap mode            | ^[[?7h   |  |
| setrep DECARM       | Set auto-repeat mode          | ^[[?8h   |  |
| setinter DECINLM    | Set interlacing mode          | ^[[?9h   |  |
| setlf LMN           | Set line feed mode            | ^[[201   |  |
| setcursor DECCKM    | Set cursor key to cursor      | ^[[?11   |  |
| setvt52 DECANM      | Set VT52 (versus ANSI)        | ^[[?21   |  |
| resetcol DECCOLM    | Set number of columns to 80   | ^[[?31   |  |
| setjump DECSCLM     | Set jump scrolling            | ^[[?41   |  |
| setnormscrn DECSCNM | Set normal video on screen    | ^[[?51   |  |
| setorgabs DECOM     | Set origin to absolute        | ^[[?61   |  |
| resetwrap DECAWM    | Reset auto-wrap mode          | ^[[?71   |  |
| resetrep DECARM     | Reset auto-repeat mode        | ^[[?81   |  |
| resetinter DECINLM  | Reset interlacing mode        | ^[[?91   |  |
| altkeypad DECKPAM   | Set alternate keypad mode     | ^[=      |  |

| 10/5/21, 7:29 PM  | VT100 escape  | codes   |
|---|---|---|
| numkeypad DECKPNM   | Set numeric keypad mode   | ^[>   |
| setukg0 setukg1 setusg0 setusg1 setspecg0 setspecg1 setaltg0 setaltg1 setaltspecg0 setaltspecg1   | Set United Kingdom GO character set Set United Kingdom G1 character set Set United States GO character set Set United States G1 character set Set GO special chars. & line set Set G1 special chars. & line set Set G0 alternate character ROM Set G1 alternate character ROM Set G0 alt char ROM and spec. graphics Set G1 alt char ROM and spec. graphics   |   |
| setss2 SS2<br>setss3 SS3  | Set single shift 2<br>Set single shift 3  | ^[N<br>^[O  |
| modesoff SGR0 modesoff SGR0 bold SGR1 lowint SGR2 underline SGR4 blink SGR5 reverse SGR7 invisible SGR8 setwin DECSTBM  | Turn off character attributes Turn off character attributes Turn bold mode on Turn low intensity mode on Turn underline mode on Turn blinking mode on Turn reverse video on Turn invisible text mode on Set top and bottom line#s of a window   | ^[[m<br>^[[0m<br>^[[1m<br>^[[2m<br>^[[4m<br>^[[5m<br>^[[7m<br>^[[8m                   |
| cursorup(n) CUU cursordn(n) CUD cursorrt(n) CUF cursorlf(n) CUB cursorhome cursorhome cursorpos(v,h) CUP hvhome hvhome hvpos(v,h) CUP index IND revindex RI nextline NEL savecursor DECSC restorecursor DECSC | Move cursor up n lines Move cursor down n lines Move cursor right n lines Move cursor left n lines Move cursor to upper left corner Move cursor to upper left corner Move cursor to screen location v,h Move cursor to upper left corner Move cursor to screen location v,h Move/scroll window up one line Move/scroll window down one line Move to next line Save cursor position and attributes Restore cursor position and attributes | ^[[A<br>^[[B<br>^[[D<br>^[[H<br>^[[;H<br>^[[;f<br>^[[;f<br>^[[];f<br>^[[];f<br>^[[];f |
| tabset HTS<br>tabclr TBC<br>tabclr TBC<br>tabclrall TBC   | Set a tab at the current column<br>Clear a tab at the current column<br>Clear a tab at the current column<br>Clear all tabs   | ^[H<br>^[[g<br>^[[0g<br>^[[3g   |
| dhtop DECDHL<br>dhbot DECDHL<br>swsh DECSWL<br>dwsh DECDWL  | Double-height letters, top half<br>Double-height letters, bottom half<br>Single width, single height letters<br>Double width, single height letters   | ^[#3<br>^[#4<br>^[#5<br>^[#6  |
| cleareol EL0<br>cleareol EL0<br>clearbol EL1<br>clearline EL2   | Clear line from cursor right Clear line from cursor right Clear line from cursor left Clear entire line   | ^[[K<br>^[[0K<br>^[[1K<br>^[[2K   |
| cleareos ED0<br>cleareos ED0<br>clearbos ED1<br>clearscreen ED2   | Clear screen from cursor down<br>Clear screen from cursor down<br>Clear screen from cursor up<br>Clear entire screen  | ^[[]<br>^[[0]<br>^[[1]<br>^[[2]   |
| devstat DSR<br>termok DSR<br>termnok DSR  | Device status report Response: terminal is OK Response: terminal is not OK  | ^[5n<br>^[0n<br>^[3n  |
| getcursor DSR<br>cursorpos CPR  | Get cursor position<br>Response: cursor is at v,h   | ^[6n<br>^[;R  |

```
ident DA
                                                              ^[[c
                      Identify what terminal type
                                                              ^[[0c
ident DA
                      Identify what terminal type (another)
                         Response: terminal type code n
                                                              ^[[?1;0c
gettype DA
reset RIS
                      Reset terminal to initial state
                                                              ^[c
align DECALN
                      Screen alignment display
                                                              ^[#8
testpu DECTST
                      Confidence power up test
                                                              ^[[2;1y
testlb DECTST
                      Confidence loopback test
                                                              ^[[2;2y
                      Repeat power up test
                                                              ^[[2;9y
testpurep DECTST
test1brep DECTST
                      Repeat loopback test
                                                              ^[[2;10y
                      Turn off all four leds
ledsoff DECLL0
                                                              ^[[0q
                      Turn on LED #1
led1 DECLL1
                                                              ^[[1q
led2 DECLL2
                      Turn on LED #2
                                                              ^[[2q
led3 DECLL3
                      Turn on LED #3
                                                              ^[[3q
led4 DECLL4
                      Turn on LED #4
                                                              ^[[4q
#
  All codes below are for use in VT52 compatibility mode.
#
setansi
                      Enter/exit ANSI mode (VT52)
                                                              ^[<
                      Enter alternate keypad mode
                                                              ^[=
altkeypad
                      Exit alternate keypad mode
numkeypad
                                                              ^[>
                      Use special graphics character set
                                                              ^[F
setgr
                      Use normal US/UK character set
resetgr
                                                              ^[G
                                                              ^[A
cursorup
                      Move cursor up one line
                      Move cursor down one line
                                                              ^[B
cursordn
                                                              ^[C
                      Move cursor right one char
cursorrt
                      Move cursor left one char
                                                              ^[D
cursorlf
                                                              ^[H
                      Move cursor to upper left corner
cursorhome
                                                              ^[
                      Move cursor to v,h location
cursorpos(v,h)
                                                              ^[I
                      Generate a reverse line-feed
revindex
                      Erase to end of current line
cleareol
                                                              ^[K
cleareos
                      Erase to end of screen
                                                              ^[J
ident
                      Identify what the terminal is
                                                              ^[Z
identresp
                      Correct response to ident
                                                              ^[/Z
```

# Arrow Keys:

Reset Set ---- --up ^[A ^[OA

| down  | ^[B | ^[OB |
|-------|-----|------|
| right | ^[C | ^[00 |
| left  | ^[D | ^[OD |

## # Numeric Keypad Keys:

| Keypad Mode |             |  |
|-------------|-------------|--|
| Numeric     | Alternate   |  |
|             |             |  |
| 0           | ^[0p        |  |
| 1           | ^[0q        |  |
| 2           | ^[0r        |  |
| 3           | ^[0s        |  |
| 4           | ^[0t        |  |
| 5           | ^[Ou        |  |
| 6           | ^[0v        |  |
| 7           | ^[Ow        |  |
| 8           | ^[0x        |  |
| 9           | ^[0y        |  |
| -           | ^[Om        |  |
| ,           | ^[01        |  |
|             | ^[0n        |  |
| ^M          | ^[OM        |  |
|             | Numeric<br> |  |

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