

Briel Altair 8800 Quick Reference

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Based on firmware version 5.1. Features marked with * require firmware 5.2.

Keyboard Function Keys

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| <Control>C | Aborts in-progress SD card directory listing. |
| <Control><Alt>C* | SD Card command shell. Commands: CLS, DIR, DEL. <Escape> to exit. |
| <Control><Alt>D | Use at file name prompt to get directory of SD card. |
| <Control>S | Pause SD card directory listing. Press any key to resume. |
| <Control>F1 | Send text file, e.g. to load a text file into BASIC. |
| <Control>F2 | Toggle text capture to file. |
| <Control>F3 | Increment VGA text color. |
| <Control><Shift>F3 | Decrement VGA text color. |
| <Control><Alt>F3 | Increment VGA background color. |
| <Control><Shift><Alt>F3 | Decrement VGA background color. |
| <Control>F4 | Change cursor appearance and blink rate. |
| <Control><Alt>F4 | Turn off composite cursor. |
| <Control>F5 | Increment composite text color. |
| <Control><Shift>F5 | Decrement composite text color. |
| <Control><Alt>F5 | Increment composite background color. |
| <Control><Shift><Alt>F5 | Decrement composite background color. |
| <Control>F6 | Toggle backspace as BS or _ for Altair BASIC. |
| <Control><Shift>F6 | Toggle Caps Lock on/off at startup. |
| <Control><Alt>F6 | Toggle Num Lock on/off at startup. |
| <Control><Shift><Alt>F6 | Toggle between Wordstar and VT100 arrow key functions. |
| <Control>F7 | Toggle serial port on/off. |
| <Control><Shift>F7* | Set serial console bit rate. |
| <Control>Alt>F7* | Change bit rate used between Propeller and ATmega |
| <Control>F8 | Save current terminal settings to EEPROM. |
| <Control>F9 | Toggle line wrap mode. |
| <Control><Alt>F9 | Toggle newline/linefeed mode. |
| <Control><Alt>F10 | Perform terminal firmware update. |

Switch Settings

| STOP/RUN | PROTECT | AUX | Address | Comments |
|----------|---------|------|---------------|---|
| RUN | Down | Down | | Fast run mode. |
| STOP | Down | Down | | Step mode. Steps when STEP pressed up. |
| STOP | Down | Up | | Step mode with terminal output for each machine cycle. |
| STOP | Up | Up | | Step mode with terminal output for each machine instruction. |
| STOP | Down | Down | | Auto step mode. Raise and hold STEP, select RUN, release STEP. |
| | Down | Up | 11 | Load binary file on reset or powerup (e.g. 8kbas.bin). Hold down <Shift> to save as autoloader. |
| STOP | Up | Up | 8 | Press STEP to save memory to SD card. Turn off PROTECT to continue. |
| | Up | Down | <address> | Set breakpoint based on address switches. Push PROTECT down and RUN to continue. |
| | Down | Up | 14, 12, 10, 8 | Perform CPU firmware update. |
| STOP | Up | Up | 10 | Flip up STEP to run SD Card to RAM Disk file transfer utility. |
| | | Up | 9 | Perform memory test on reset or powerup. |
| STOP | Up | Up | 11 | Press STEP to load binary file. |
| RUN | | Up | 12 | Load and run autoloader binary on reset or powerup. |