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PetPet

PetPet is a PETSCII editor for Commodore 64 computers. As it is written entirely in Python, it runs on any platform supported by Python (Windows, MacOS, Linux and others).

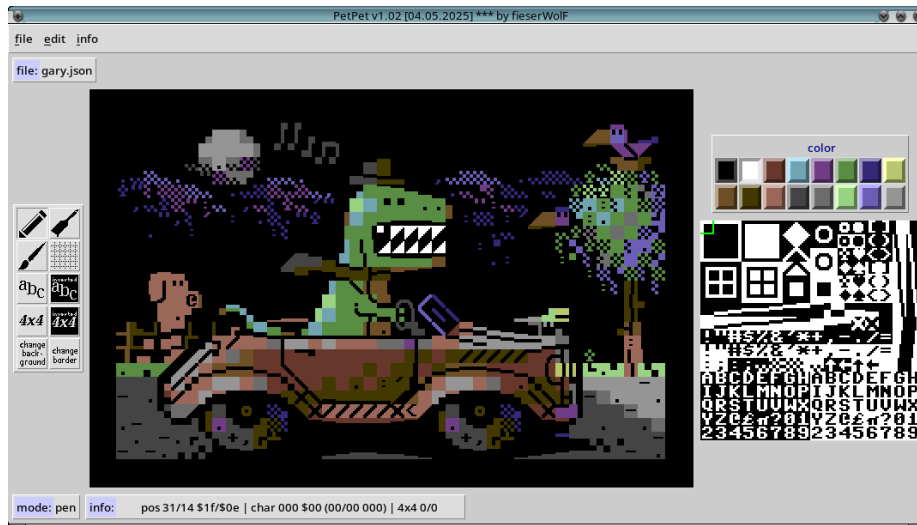


Figure 1: screenshot

Why PetPet?

reason	description
script	no compiling, easy to modify import and export to your needs
portable	available on Linux, MacOS, Windows and any other system supported by Python3

Author

- fieserWolf/Abyss-Connection - *initial work* - <https://github.com/fieserWolf> <https://csdb.dk/scener/?id=3623>

Acknowledgements

- Logiker for testing and feature ideas

- Mermaid for the still wonderful PETSCII entitled “Gary”

Using PetPet

shortcuts

key	function
Alt-q	quit
Alt-o	open PETSCII (json)
Alt-s	save PETSCII (json)
Ctrl-s	save PETSCII (json)
Alt-Shift-s	save PETSCII (json) as
Alt-g	toggle grid
Ctrl-z	undo
Ctrl-x	cut
Ctrl-c	copy
Ctrl-v	paste

drawing modes

Use left mouse-button to draw. These are the drawing modes:

mode	description
pen	draw characters and colors
brush	draw only colors
pencil	draw only characters
writemode	type characters on your keyboard directly at mouse position
inverted writemode	type inverted characters on your keyboard directly at mouse position
4x4	draw 4x4 pixels freely with your mouse
inverted 4x4	draw inverted 4x4 pixels freely with your mouse
set bg	choose a color, then click into the picture to change the background color (\$d021)
set border	choose a color, then click into the picture to change the border color (\$d020)

cut, copy and paste

Use right mouse-button to select an area. Then, use the usual hotkeys (STRG+X, STRG+C, STRG+V) to cut, copy and paste.

How to change the color-palette

The default palette is PEPTO. You can change the color-palette for previewing on your PC in your own configuration-file. In this JSON file you can edit the “palette” array. See section “PetPet JSON configuration format”.

How to change the layout

You can change the layout of the available characters in your own configuration-file. In this JSON file you can edit the “layout” array. See section “PetPet JSON configuration format”.

Example layouts:



Figure 2: layout1

Commandline options

PetPet v1.00 REVISION PARTY 2025 [19.04.2025] *** by fieserWolf

usage: petpet.py [-h] [-p PETSCII_FILENAME] [-c CONFIG_FILENAME] [-f FONT_FILENAME]

This is a PETSCII editor. Press F1 for help in the program.

options:

```
-h, --help            show this help message and exit
-p, --petSCII_file PETSCII_FILENAME
                        petSCII filename (.json)
-c, --config_file CONFIG_FILENAME
                        name of configuration file (.json)
```



Figure 3: layout2

```
-f, --font_file FONT_FILENAME
                        name of font (2048 bytes)
```

Example: `./petpet.py -p gfx.json -c config.json -f font.bin`

Getting Started

Petpet comes in two flavors:

- standalone executable for 64-bit systems Linux and Windows (see releases)
- Python3 script

Run the standalone executable

Just download your bundle at releases, extract the zip file and enjoy.

Run the Python3 script directly

Install Python

Prerequisites Python3 is needed to run PetPet. Everything else needed should be provided in your Python3 installation by default:

- json
- tkinter
- argparse

Install Python on Windows or Mac

- Download Python from <https://www.python.org>.
- Install Python on your computer.

Install Python on Linux On my Debian GNU/Linux machine I use apt to install everything needed:

```
apt update  
apt install python3 python3-tk
```

Alternatively, you can use pip to install missing modules:

```
pip3 install tk argparse json
```

Download PetPet

- Go to <https://github.com/fieserWolf/petpet>.
- Click on the green “Code” button and “Download ZIP”.
- Extract the downloaded ZIP-file to any folder.

File Formats

The PETSCII image is natively stored as a json file. There is also a binary import and export.

PetPet JSON format

object	key	type	value
info	program	string	“PetPet”
info	version	string	e.g. “1.0”
settings	background	number	color 0-15
settings	border	number	color 0-15
settings	font	string	filename of font
settings	grid	boolean	True or False
.	char	array of 1000 numbers	characters (0-255)
.	color	array of 1000 numbers	colors (0-15)

binary format

You can customize this to your own needs in code/action.py in the functions load_petscii_bin() and save_petscii_bin() .

offset	size in bytes	value
0	1000	characters
1000	1000	colors
1001	1	background color
1002	1	border color

PETSCII-EDITOR binary format

Use this to exchange images with my native C64 tool “Petscii-Editor” (see <https://csdb.dk/release/?id=155723>).

offset	size in bytes	value
0	2	start address \$3000 (low, high)
2	1000	characters
1002	1	border color
1003	1	background color
1004	1	\$d018 value (\$14 or \$16)
1026	1000	colors

PetPet JSON configuration format

object	key	type	value
info	program	string	“PetPet”
info	version	string	e.g. “1.0”
settings	background	number	color 0-15
settings	border	number	color 0-15
settings	font	string	filename of font
settings	grid	boolean	True or False
.	palette	array of 16*3 numbers	red, green, blue value for each C64 color (default: PEPTO colors) (0-255)
.	layout	array of 256 numbers	characters (0-255)

Changelog

Future plans

Any help and support in any form is highly appreciated.

If you have a feature request, a bug report or if you want to offer help, please, contact me:

<http://csdb.dk/scener/?id=3623> or wolf@abyss-connection.de

Changes in 1.02

(next release candidate)

- improved undo
- character selection preview in selected color (thanks, Groepaz!)
- image-preview export for PC (PPM format)
- improved documentation
- new mode: inverted writemode
- new mode: 4x4 mode (just draw with your mouse)
- new mode: inverted 4x4 mode
- improved help
- new about infowindow
- various bug-fixes

Changes in 1.01

- improved selection box
- added write-mode
- gui improvements
- export to C64 executable
- improved documentation

Changes in 1.0

released on REVISION PARTY 2025

- initial release

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Version 3, 29 June 2007

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argparse

<https://github.com/bewest/argparse> library used

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History

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