

About this document

This document is an extract from the GUI Editor Guide for use with VICOM MultiTerm Plus and VICOM Pro SDK software for Mac OS. The last section of this document explains how keyboards can be used with VICOM Connect for Windows.

- 1 Customising a Keyboard
- 2 Issuing Virtual Keys
- 3 Issuing strings
- 4 Using a keyboard map with VICOM Connect for Windows

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1 Customising a Keyboard

Each emulation has a default keyboard mapping. You may wish to change the layout or the function of keyboards for use on specific hosts. For example, for a VT220/VT320 emulation, you can change the “HELP” function key to be the `HELP` key on the extended keyboard (instead of `F5` which is the default).


Take care that when reassigning a key, you do not override the mapping for an existing item or that you duplicate a key mapping.

You can customise the keyboard for a particular service, or you can change the default mapping. It is not recommended that the default mapping be changed in normal use, as the only way to revert to the original mappings is to reinstall the VICOM application.

To change the mapping for one service:

- Create a new button window or open an existing one. VICOM comes with a folder called “Keyboards” which contains all the default keypads; you may use these as a basis for your custom keyboard.
- You need to create a button for each key that you want mapped. Assign the keyboard key to the button and set button’s function to either “Virtual Key” or “Send String”. Use “Virtual Key” if you want to assign a function that exists for that emulation (e.g. “HELP” for VT220); use “Send String” to send a sequence that is normally not available for the emulation.
- Save the button window.
- Assign the button window to the service using the **Keyboard...** key in the extended ServiceBook. The keyboard mapping specified in the window will override the default mapping.

To change the default mapping (which will apply to all services using the selected emulation):

- Open up an Online window for the emulation.
- Hold down the `COMMAND/APPLE` and `OPTION/ALT` keys and click on the keyboard tool in the bottom left corner of the Online window.
- The keyboard tool -  - is the fourth icon from the left at the bottom of the terminal window
- The emulation keypad will come up in editing mode.
- Edit the keypad as required and then save it.
- The new keypad will come into effect the next time you open an Online Window for this emulation.

!!! Changing the default mapping is not recommended in normal circumstances, as this will result in writing resources back into the VICOM Terminal Emulation Application. The result is that a particular emulation will always default to your new keyboard mapping.

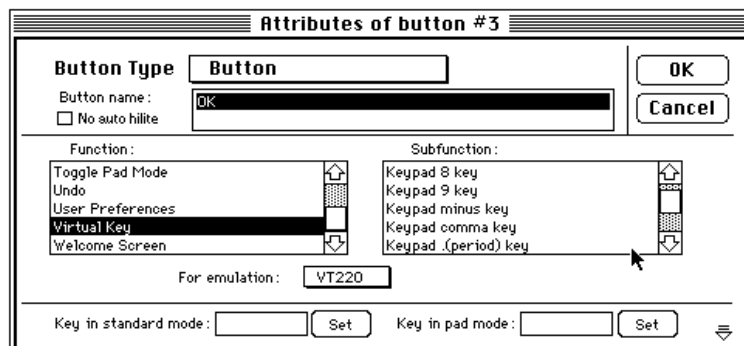
The only way to restore the original keyboard defaults is to re-install your software.

2 Issuing Virtual Keys

The keyboard mapping includes a certain number of “virtual keys” or “function keys”. A virtual key describes a character sequence relevant only to a certain emulation. Each emulation has a specified number of virtual keys. For example, the VT220 emulation has “Next Page” virtual key, while the TTY emulation doesn’t.

The advantage of using virtual keys instead of typing in the sequences yourself is that you don’t have to know what the sequence is. For example, you can select “F10” for a VT220 emulation instead of sending the string “<ESC>[21~”. The procedure for creating virtual keys is as follows:

- Create a keyboard window, or double-click on an existing keyboard window.
- The button attribute window will appear. Select “Virtual Key” from the functions list. A menu with all emulations installed in your copy of VICOM will appear, and the subfunction list will display all virtual keys defined for that emulation:



- Select the appropriate emulation and choose the virtual key function from the subfunctions list

- Assign, if required, a keycode for this button.

3 Issuing strings

Within the function list is an item "Send String". This operates in either ASCII or Hexadecimal mode. The mode is selected by disabling or enabling the Hex check box at the end of the line. Text entered into the data box will be shown as either ASCII or its Hex value equivalent, depending upon which mode is selected.

!!! The data box will interpret commands such as Backspace . If you want to issue a Backspace sequence, enter its Hex equivalent (h08). When you set the Edit Box to display ASCII, the Backspace character will be denoted by a ^Bₛ

4 Using a keyboard map with VICOM Connect for Windows

VICOM Connect for Windows can not create or modify keyboard maps. It can however use a keyboard map created on the Mac as described above. This procedure also requires that your Mac can read and write MS-DOS formatted disks. It is also recommended that you adopt the MS-DOS naming convention of 8 character file names and use an extension of ".kbd". For example, "VT420 Keyboard" should be renamed "vt420.kbd".

- 1 Copy the keyboard file to an MS-DOS formatted disk.
- 2 Take the disk to the PC and view its contents.
- 3 You should see a folder "resource.frk".
If you do not see the folder under Windows 95/NT, do the following...
 - 3.1 Select Options... from the view menu
 - 3.2 Click on the View tab in the Options window
 - 3.3 Click on the "Show all files" radio button
 - 3.4 Click on OK
- 4 Copy the keyboard file from the "resource.frk" folder to your VICOM folder
We are only concerned with the file within the resource.frk folder, ignore the file of the same name within the parent directory.
- 5 Run VICOM Connect for Windows
- 6 Select ServiceBook from the Command menu
- 7 Select/Create your service entry
- 8 Click on the Keyboard button
- 9 Locate the keyboard file
- 10 Save and close the ServiceBook
- 11 Your Service entry will now run with the revised keyboard file

!!! The Macintosh keyboard and a standard PC keyboard do differ in the number of function keys available and the layout of the numeric keypad. Before copying the keyboard file, you should ensure that the mapped keys are available on the PC keyboard.

If the mapped key is not available, the key function can still be issued by clicking on the keyboard button on the screen.