

HyperSense[®]

Multi-purpose Authoring for NEXTSTEP

some questions and answers

What is *HyperSense*?

HyperSense is the easy-to-use multipurpose authoring tool for NEXTSTEP which is truly compatible with HyperCard[®]. *HyperSense* lets anyone create interactive documents.

What is an *interactive* document?

A *HyperSense* interactive document can be as simple as a one-page memo or as complex as a complete multimedia application. Every document that you create in *HyperSense* is much more than passive text and graphics. Each element on a page can interact with the user, asking questions, playing sounds, displaying different pages or pictures depending on user actions. Here are a few ideas of things you can do:

- *Develop Interactive Business Tutorials*
- *Create Hypertext Books*
- *Design Educational Courseware*
- *Prepare Multimedia Medical Presentations*
- *Create Flexible Personal Databases*
- *Construct Software For Yourself And Others*
- *Lay Out And Publish PostScript Documents*

By simply dragging elements like pre-scripted buttons, fields, and graphics into place, you can create your own interactive documents, with pictures, sounds and text. By clicking on "hot" areas of a picture, page, or text selection, a user can initiate the actions that you have defined, such as jumping to another part of the document. This "hypertext linking" adds impact and depth to any type of information content.

Can I really create complete multimedia applications?

Yes. The **SenseTalk**[™] scripting language gives you the power and flexibility you need to create sophisticated applications. Yet **SenseTalk**'s power is easy to use. **SenseTalk** scripts are similar to standard English, making them easy to read, write, and understand. For example, the script command for a button that takes a reader to the next page of a document is simply "go to the next page". We don't think you'll find an easier scripting language anywhere. As NeXTWORLD magazine said in it's review of *HyperSense*, "Thoughtful Software has pulled off a real coup in providing NEXTSTEP users with such an accessible programming language."

Our comprehensive online help system (created with *HyperSense*), and the ability to easily copy and modify pre-written scripts, will have you creating custom applications in no time – even if you don't know anything about programming. Celia Duffy, who uses *HyperSense* to create detailed music tutorials at Glasgow University writes "Not everyone has the expertise or need to program with Objective-C and Interface Builder... that's why us ordinary non-programming mortals choose *HyperSense* as our preferred authoring software."

What does HyperCard compatibility mean?

HyperSense is designed to be compatible with HyperCard version 2.1, which means that thousands of "Stack" applications can be imported from the Macintosh and modified. After conversion, your stacks can take advantage of the full power of **HyperSense** and NEXTSTEP.

What advanced features does **HyperSense** offer?

HyperSense takes you far beyond the limitations of other authoring systems. Powerful browsing and inspecting tools give you a clear view of your document, and enable you to make changes and enhancements with ease. **HyperSense** allows you to create pages of any size, with multiple layers of objects on each page. Multiple stacks in a document and windows with their own layers of objects provide even greater flexibility. You can easily create your own custom palettes of drag and drop tools, too. Full access to your computer's serial ports is built in, enabling you to control a video disc player or communicate with other devices. If you've used HyperCard, you'll appreciate the powerful architecture of **HyperSense**.

Can **HyperSense** be customized for my particular needs?

Yes. Extensibility has been designed in at many levels, from the ability to create your own palettes of fully-scripted objects, to custom additions to the SenseTalk language itself. Many of the tool panels in **HyperSense** are actually documents which you can enhance or modify for your own needs. For example, if precise layout of elements on a page is of particular importance to you, the built in Alignment panel can easily be modified or replaced by your own set of tools.

In addition, **HyperSense** can cooperate with other programs, allowing it to be used as a central controller for launching other applications or opening any type of document.

What kinds of tools are built into **HyperSense**?

- **SenseTalk**[™] Scripting Language, compatible with HyperTalk
- Object Oriented Drawing, with multiple layers on a page
- Data Base Creation, with both fixed formats and customization of individual pages
- HyperText Linking
- Import and Modify HyperCard Stacks
- Powerful Tools for Browsing, Inspecting, and Modifying Documents
- Word Processing, including multiple fonts, embedded graphics and spell-checking
- Digital Audio Recording & Editing
- Button and Field Creation and Inspection Tools
- Import and Export of TIFF and EPS Graphics
- Serial Port Access for VideoDisc Control
- Custom Tool Palettes
- PostScript Printing, and more!

How can I get more information?

Call or write to us at the address below, or send e-mail to info@thoughtful.com on the Internet. We will be happy to answer your questions. We also have an e-mail forum for **HyperSense** users (send a message to hypersense-user-request@thoughtful.com to join).

HyperSense: Free Your Imagination.

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