



# TextSpresso™

## Text Brewed To Perfection

## QuickStart Guide

Welcome to TextSpresso! This QuickStart is designed to get you up and running with TextSpresso as quickly as possible. It's short, sweet, and to the point at just 7 pages.

This QuickStart assumes that you're familiar with your computer and general concepts such as launching applications, opening files, text editing, copy/paste, saving files, etc.

## What is TextSpresso?

TextSpresso is a text editor that helps you clean up and process text with a few clicks rather than a lot of repetitive, tedious typing. Consider the text below, forwarded via e-mail a few times:

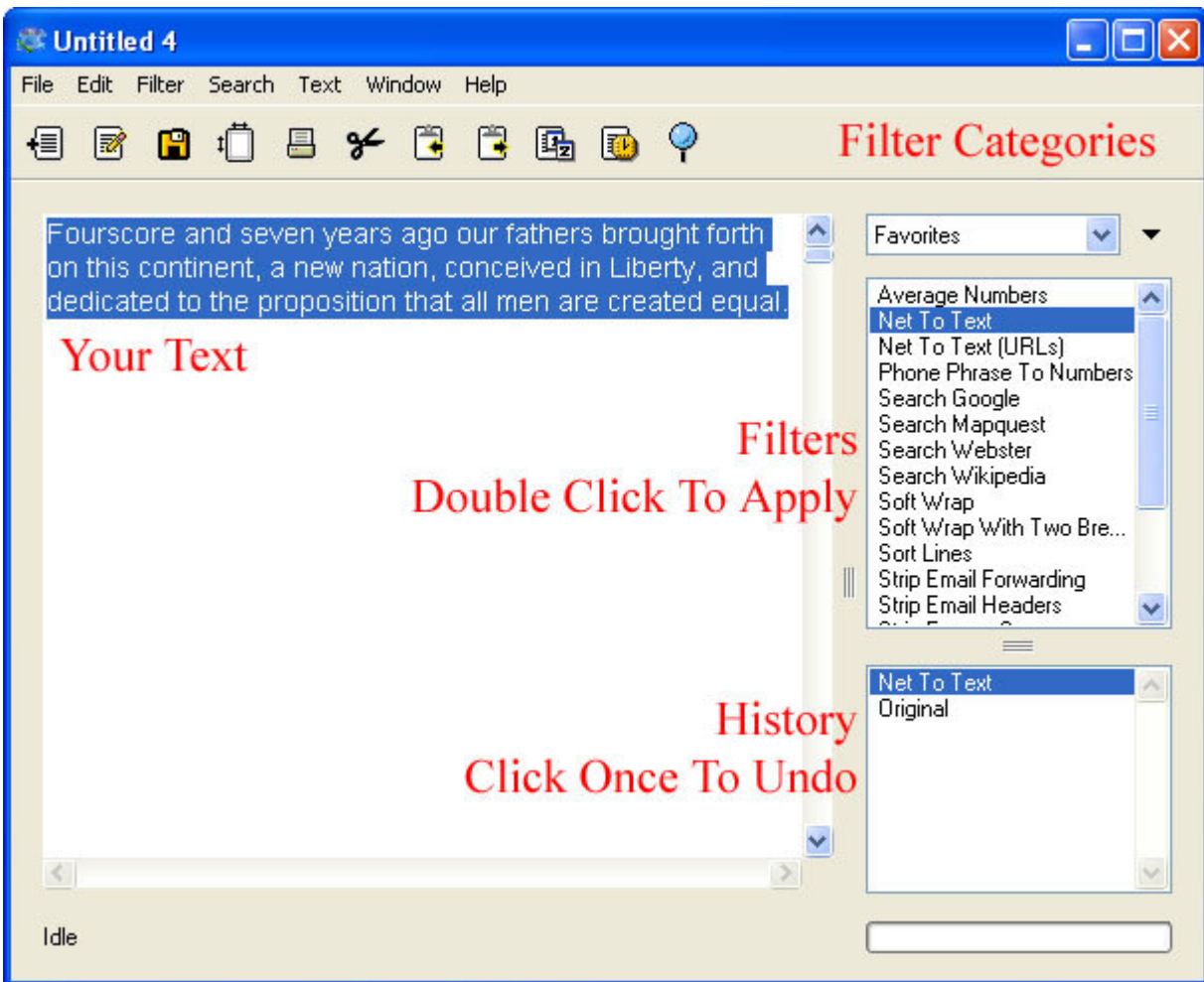
```
>> Fourscore and seven years ago our fathers brought  
forth on this contin=  
>> ent, a new nation, conceived in Liberty, and  
dedicated to the  
>> proposition that all men are created equal.
```

Imagine pages of text like this. You could manually clean up the text, a boring chore. Or with TextSpresso, you could clean it up with a double click on the Net To Text filter:

```
Fourscore and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this  
continent, a new nation, conceived in Liberty, and dedicated to the  
proposition that all men are created equal.
```

TextSpresso includes over 250 filters for cleaning, processing, and parsing text in various ways. You can apply filters in three different ways. You can open and filter a file in TextSpresso. You can select and filter text while inside of other applications. And you can tell TextSpresso to filter multiple files at once (a batch).

# Filtering Files in TextSpresso



When you launch TextSpresso you'll see an editor window like the one above (only bigger). This is where you can view, edit, and filter your text files. Using this workflow, you would:

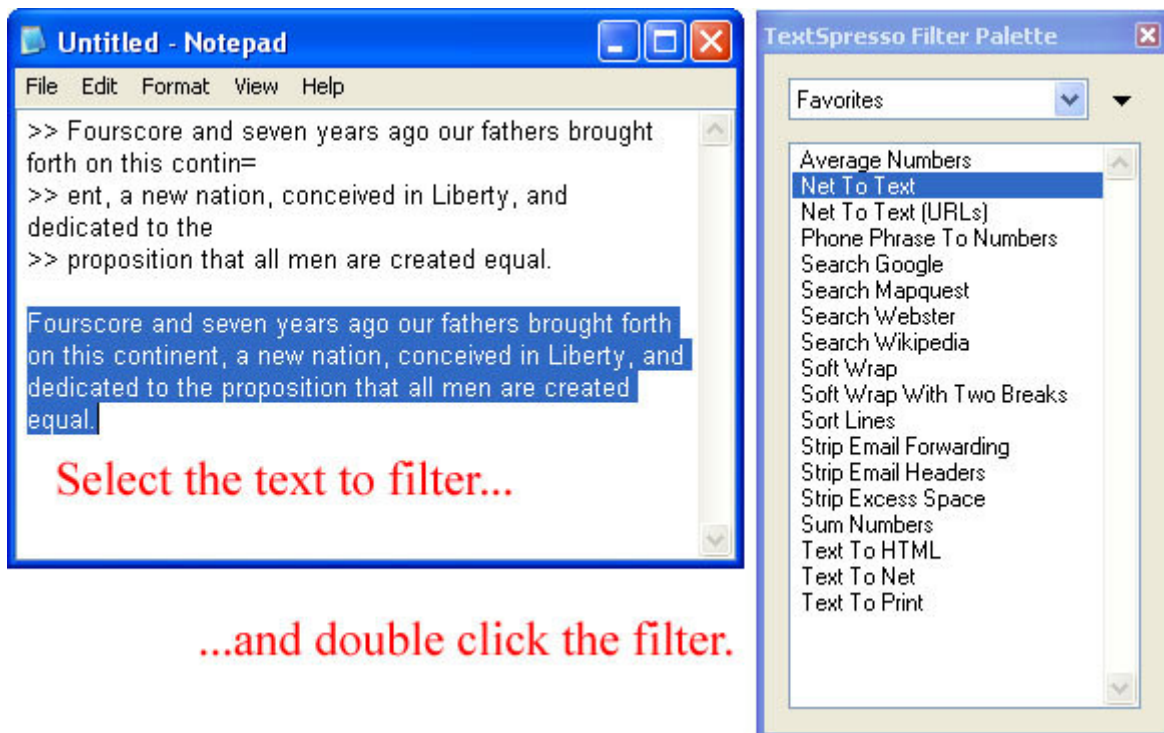
- Open a file in TextSpresso by selecting **Open** from the **File** menu, or by clicking the open file icon (page with a pencil) in the toolbar. The text will appear in the editor.
- Select the text you want to filter if you only want to filter part of it. Or leave the text unselected to filter all of it.
- Double click the filter you wish to apply from the filter list to the right. You can also select the filter to apply from the Filter menu.
- Save the file by selecting **Save** from the **File** menu or by clicking the save file icon (disk) in the toolbar.

As you edit and filter your text, TextSpresso lists your actions in the History list (bottom right). You can go back to any point in the list by simply clicking that action.

# Filtering Text in Other Applications

TextSpresso lets you filter the selected text in any application that supports copy and paste using the standard menu commands and shortcuts. Generally if you can copy text using control or command-C, and paste text using control or command-V, so can TextSpresso.

How does this work? Launch TextSpresso and select the **Global Filter Palette...** command from the **Window** menu. A palette will appear on your screen. This palette will remain on your screen, in front of other windows, no matter what application you switch to.



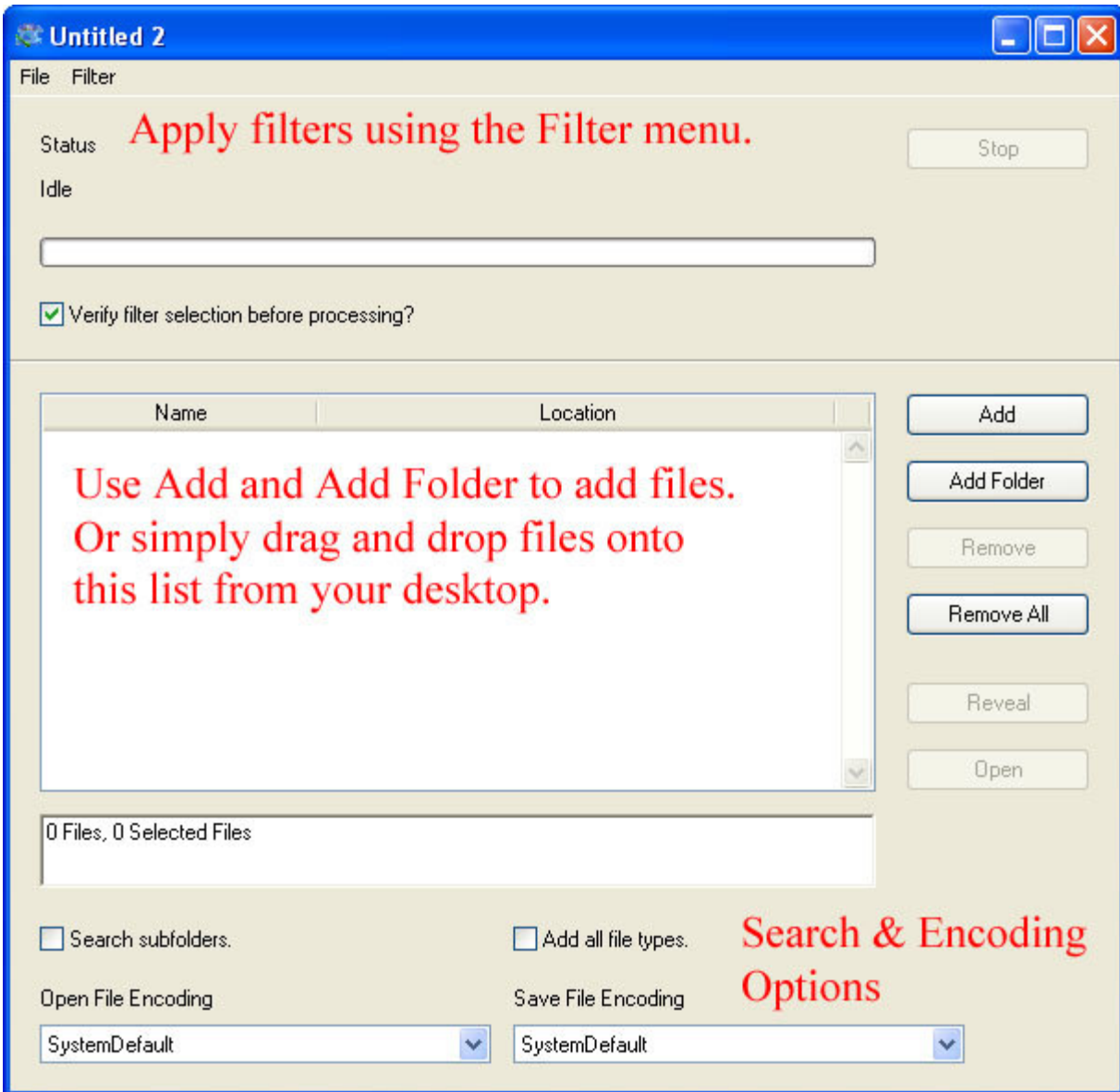
When you want to filter text in another application, simply select the text to filter and double click the filter in the palette.

You may have noticed that when TextSpresso is running there's a small icon of a blue coffee cup in your menubar (Mac users) or taskbar (Windows users), by your clock. You can click that icon to see a menu of TextSpresso's filters. Selecting a filter here is the same as double clicking it in the global palette.

TextSpresso uses the clipboard when filtering in other applications, so beware that the clipboard contents will be replaced just as if you copied the text. Also, TextSpresso does not preserve styling information (font, size, bold, etc.) when filtering text in programs with styles, though if the text you've selected is all one style it should be retained. (We have been working on that feature and will be adding it as soon as possible.)

# Filtering a File Batch

TextSpesso can automatically filter multiple files on disk, allowing you to apply the same processing to a group of files with a single menu command. To filter a batch of files, launch TextSpesso and select **New Batch** from the **File menu**.



To filter a batch of files you first need to add the files to the batch, then select a filter from the Filter menu.

- Before you start adding files, decide if you want to turn on the options **Search subfolders** and **Add all file types**. Be careful with the add all file types option. When this is checked TextSpesso will filter all files you add regardless of whether or not they're text files. This

could result in damage to non-text files (such as images or even applications) that shouldn't be in the batch.

- Click **Add** to choose and add a single file. Click **Add Folder** to choose and add all the files in a folder. Or just drag and drop files and folders from your desktop to the file list.
- If the files you are filtering use a specific text encoding, or you want to save them with a specific encoding, you can choose those options using the popup menus.
- Review your batch list and make sure that only files you want to filter appear in the list. You can select a file which shouldn't be there and click **Remove** to remove it from the batch. (This doesn't do anything to the file on disk.)
- Select the filter to apply from the **Filter** menu. TextSpresso will filter all the listed files. Since TextSpresso is multithreaded, you can do other things in TextSpresso while it works. You can also stop the filtering at any time by clicking the **Stop** button. However, this **does not** restore or undo files which have already been filtered.

# TextSpresso Tips

- TextSpresso has a lot of filters. It's worth it to just choose the different categories and skim the filter names to get an idea of what's available and what you might use for your work. If you can't find a filter for something you need, ask us!
- TextSpresso lets you create your own filters using 11 core filter types. You can do everything from automating a simple find and replace to writing a BASIC program to process your text. Creating filters is beyond the scope of a QuickStart, but the Tutorial and Manual contain more information. And each filter editor has on screen help which describes the filter type. To get started select **Edit Filters...** from the **Filter** menu.
- Filters like **Sum Numbers** and **Search Webster** illustrate some of the unique things you can do with the BASIC filter type. BASIC filters can compute values, parse text for web search engines, download web pages for parsing, and much more.
- The TextSpresso Global Filter Menu (little coffee cup in the menubar on Mac OS and the taskbar on Windows) has a command **Edit Selected Text....** This command will copy the selected text in another application and open it in a new editor for you.
- TextSpresso has an array of preferences which allow you to customize its behavior. You can edit them by selecting **Preferences...** from the **TextSpresso** menu on Mac OS X or from the **Edit** menu on Windows.
- Under the **Edit** menu is a command **Edit String Codes....** This command opens an editor containing the characters of the text you've selected alongside their Unicode values. You can use this editor to enter any Unicode character you like, even characters that do not display in your current font. This editor is available in a lot of fields, including the fields in the search dialog and fields in the filter editors.
- When moving text files between platforms you'll want to be aware of File Encodings. A File Encoding is simply the way different computers understand characters. If you were opening a Windows text file on a Mac, you would want to open it with the appropriate Windows encoding and save it using your default Mac OS encoding. You can set the open and save file encodings using the preferences or by selecting **Set File Encodings...** from the **File** menu.
- TextSpresso is a RAM based, 32 bit application and is currently limited to dealing with files up to 2 GB in size. Because it's RAM based, you should have enough physical RAM to hold the file you're dealing with (along with your OS and TextSpresso itself) for maximum speed. Within these limitations, TextSpresso was engineered to deal very efficiently with large files and can open, display, edit, and filter hundreds of MB's of text and data with ease.

# TextSpresso Support

If you have any questions, feature requests, or bug reports, please let us know.

You can e-mail us at:  
[help@taylor-design.com](mailto:help@taylor-design.com)

Our web site with the latest TextSpresso downloads and information is at:  
<http://www.taylor-design.com/>

Thank you for trying TextSpresso. We hope you find it easy to use and very useful!



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