



Tech Info Library

HyperCard: Various Search Scripts

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HyperCard: Various Search Scripts

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You'll often use HyperCard to search for specific information. The usual way to do this is with the Find command in the message box, but sometimes a button that searches only specific fields is more appropriate.

The standard Find command searches all text fields on all backgrounds of the current stack. If you want searches to include more than one stack, you need to include a stack script in each stack to extend the Find command to search all relevant stacks.

The following button script searches for the selection in stacks "A" and "B":

```
on mouseUp
  set lockScreen to true      - so you don't see the stacks change
  get selection
  go to stack A
  find it
  if the result is empty then
    go to stack B
    find it
    if the result is empty then
      go back
      answer "Sorry, no more information on that topic."
    end if
  end if
  set lockScreen to false
end mouseUp
```

Sometimes, however, you may not want a search to occur because of an explicit Find Command: you'll want a script to search for text in your stacks as a result of an action.

For example, in a phone message stack, when you enter the name of the caller, you want to look up the caller's phone number in the Address stack. Include

the following in the background script:

```
on closeField          - on Tab or Return key or mouse click
  set lockScreen to true
  get field "Name"     - from this stack
  go to stack "address"
  find it
  get field "Phone"    - from Address stack
  go back              - to first card of Address stack
  go back              - to original card
  put it into field "Phone" - on the stack
  set lockScreen to false
end closeField
```

If you know what you are searching for, such as a name, you can limit the search to certain fields, using the form:

```
find it in field "Name"
```

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