

Shade Alternate Table Rows with a Macro
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Here's a macro that shades every other row in a table. This helps you keep track of information across the table.

Creating the Macro

The macro is included as SHADE.WPM. Be sure to place it in the directory that contains your macros.

Using the Macro

To use the macro, place your cursor in a table and press Macro (Alt-F10), then type "shade" and press (Enter). The macro enters Table Edit mode, then you'll see the prompt "Place cursor at beginning of first row to be shaded and press (Enter)." After you've done this, the macro shades every other row in the table. The macro won't shade the last row of the table, and it's possible that the last two rows won't be shaded.

Depending on the complexity of your table and the speed of your computer, this may take a minute or two to complete. Once the macro is finished, however, the shading will be complete. To see how the table will print, press Print (Shift-F7), (V) View Document. Press Exit (F7) when done. To print the table, press Print (Shift-F7), (F) Full Document.

Explaining the Macro

Lines 1-6: The macro first assigns the value of nothing to variable RowCount. This is done to ensure a clean start when the macro runs. Line 3 then enters Table Edit mode and goes to the bottom row of the table. Line 4 assigns the row number to variable Row and then goes back to the top of the table (line 6).

Lines 7-9: A bell rings and the prompt Place cursor at beginning of first row to be shaded and press (Enter) appears. The macro pauses for you to do this, then the prompt is cleared on line 9.

Lines 10-17: In the While loop beginning on line 10, the macro checks if the last row of the table ({VARIABLE} Row-) equals the current row ({VARIABLE}RowCount-). Then a prompt displays, telling you which row is being shaded (lines 11 and 12). As long as variable Row and variable RowCount aren't equal, the macro shades that row (line 13), goes down two lines (line 14) and assigns the current row to variable RowCount (line 15). When the macro gets to the end of the table, it takes the cursor to the top of the table and exits Table Edit mode (line 17).