

Alphabet /Ace a . a :

a . is a list of the elements of the alphabet; it determines the collating sequence used in grading and sorting (/ : and \ :). The content of a . as well as the ordering of its elements may differ on different computing systems.

The number of elements in the alphabet is given by \$a ., and a 32-column display is given by an expression such as 8 32\$a . . The inclusion of certain control characters (such as the carriage return) and non-printing characters make such a display difficult to decipher, but the major alphabet is usually given by :

```
1 2 3 { 8 32 $ a .
!"#$%&'()*+,-./0123456789:;<=>?
@ABCDEFGHIJKLMNPOQRSTUVWXYZ[\]^_
`abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz{|}~•
```

The index of the carriage return is commonly 13 (as may be tested by entering 13{a .), and the indices of the space and other characters may be determined as illustrated below:

```
a . i . 'aA +- *%'
97 65 32 43 45 42 37
```

The ace (a unit, from Latin as) is denoted by a :. It is the boxed empty list <\$0.

Certain of the characters in the ASCII alphabet are designated as national use characters because they are, on typewriters in various countries, displaced by certain other symbols such as the pound currency sign. These may be entered (on any keyboard) according to the following scheme:

	.	:		.	:		
@	AT.	AT1.	AT2.	#	NO.	NO1.	NO2.
\	BS.	BS1.	BS2.]	RB.	RB1.	RB2.
^	CA.	CA1.	CA2.	}	RC.	RC1.	RC2.
`	GR.	GR1.	GR2.	\$	SH.	SH1.	SH2.
[LB.	LB1.	LB2.		ST.	ST1.	ST2.
{	LC.	LC1.	LC2.	~	TI.	TI1.	TI2.