Summary

EdgeWrite is a new design for text entry.

Devices
- Palm OS PDA
- Trackball
- Touchpad
- Game controller
- Wheelchair joystick
- Isometric joystick
- Four buttons or keys
- Mobile phone

EdgeWrite is good for some people with motor impairments, and for "situational impairments" induced by using mobile devices "on the go."

Alphabet

EdgeWrite uses the same alphabet on all devices. Bowed segments are for illustrative purposes only; all strokes are in straight lines. Most characters have many alternate forms, not shown here.

Feature
- Consistent
- Highly tactile
- Spatially compact
- Versatile

Features
- Highly stable
- Highly learnable
- Highly guessable

EdgeWrite offers a gestural means to do text entry from a wheelchair joystick, instead of selection with on-screen keyboards. We imposed a plastic template over the joystick to provide a square boundary for EdgeWrite.

Try it!
We are looking for people to try out our software. Let us know if you’d be willing to help in user studies.


EdgeWrite Alphabet, version 2.1.0 (C) 2005 Carnegie Mellon University

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Technology already exists to enable mouse control from a power wheelchair joystick. But no integrated text entry solutions exist. EdgeWrite provides a gestural means of entering text from a power wheelchair joystick. Our prototype was used in studies but is not available commercially. Talk to us if you have interest!

Analysis

4.7% Errors
19.1 WPM*
4.7% Errors

8.4% Errors
14.7 WPM*
8.8% Errors

6.6% Errors
12.7 WPM*
6.6% Errors

2.8% Errors
24.0 WPM*
2.8% Errors

0.71
4.88

0.73
4.39

0.62
4.43

0.94
4.37

0.61
3.70

(0.82)
4.25

(0.47)
3.71

(0.94)
4.70

(0.71)
3.71

(0.94)
4.70

With an on-screen keyboard, there is just too much visual scanning and concentration. In EdgeWrite, if you know the letter, you just bang it out by feel, and you can keep your eyes on your document. - Expert trackball user

Try it!

Tired of using on-screen keyboards? Many people with motor impairments use on-screen keyboards, but text entry with on-screen keyboards can be tedious. Desktop EdgeWrite works well with trackballs, game controllers, and touchpads, allowing users to make gestures and rely more on feel than sight.

EdgeWrite for Power Wheelchairs

Technology already exists to enable mouse control from a power wheelchair joystick. But no integrated text entry solutions exist. EdgeWrite provides a gestural means of entering text from a power wheelchair joystick. Our prototype was used in studies but is not available commercially. Talk to us if you have interest!

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Try it!

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