The Differences between WordPerfect 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11

by Gary Kukis; updated January 19, 2003

The last three versions of WordPerfect which were put out by Corel after Corel took over WordPerfect are all three extraordinary programs. They are all designed for Windows 9x, although WordPerfect 7 and 8 were specifically designed for Windows '95 and WP 9 for Windows '98, they all seem to run quite well on Windows '98.[1] I have loaded and run WP 9 quite successfully on Windows 2000 as well.

We all have our favorites. I, having become less and less enchanted with MS products, usually use WP 7 at home, mostly because it doesn't look like a MS product. WordPerfect's subsequent *look* in versions 8 and 9 is much more like MS Word and for users of MS Word who plan to exit the overpriced upgrading of MS Word, will want to go with either version 8 or 9 (people who have used Word for a long time will want to use WP 9). I do use version 8 at home occasionally, and always in the office, however, and I use version 9 at school. Versions 8 and 9 suck up a lot of resources, which is not a problem for the newer computers (200 MHz and above with 32 RAM and higher). However, depending upon RAM and other factors, version 7 might be your best choice if you are using a computer which runs at 100 MHz. Not only is speed a factor, but stability is a factor as well. The less resources, the more often you will have to reboot (as you have no doubt found with Windows 9x in general). No matter which version you choose, most people will find any of these versions easier to use and more feature-full than any of the MS Word products on up to MS Word 2000. I see WordPerfect 7 and MS Word 2000 are being fairly evenly matched, with WP 7 as having the slight edge (they both have some good features that the other does not); WP 8 and 9 are superior to all versions of Word so far.

Now you may think that with these various flavors of WordPerfect that 8 is better than 7 and that 9 is better than both 7 and 8; however, that is incorrect. From the standpoint of stability, required resources, interface, and documents created for the web, in some respects, it is almost like we have three different products here. I personally prefer the interface of WordPerfect 7, mostly because it doesn't look like MS Word. But then I use WP 8 exclusively for saving my work as HTML documents. However, only WP 9 allows me to publish a document in PDF format and only WP 9 has instant preview, which is important to those of us who are anal retentive. Therefore, I have all three versions and have no reason to remove one version and use a different version exclusively. The differences between the three programs are often slight, but, in some areas, they are significant—important enough to cause one to purchase one rather than the other. Now, where can you get WordPerfect 7 and 8? You would have to go to ebay or some other auction or used item alternative. And, WP 7 is an outstanding product whose available supplies are limited—therefore, if you decide that is the product for you, the search may become more intensive.

Why the Upgrade? A Summary:

A reasonable question is: if WordPerfect 7 is so good (and it is), why did Corel continue to put out new versions? First of all, for any software company, they are in the business to make money. You cannot put out a great piece of software and then let that be your lifetime legacy. You have to make changes (ideally, improvements) so that you can sell more products.

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[1] I am not examining WordPerfect 7 for Windows 3x, although it is by far the best word processing program designed for those who still use Windows 3x. It does take up a lot of room, and, being the size program that it is, it can by slow to load and slow when performing certain functions (assuming that you are running Windows 3x on an older computer). On a newer computer—say, 133 mHz or faster—WP 7 is a speed-demon running under Windows 3x. However, the two WP 7 programs are **very** different—more so than the differences between WP 7 and 9.

We will compare several features: **Customization**, **Documents**, **General Environment**, **Graphics**, **Menu**, **Navigation**, **Tables**, **Toolbars**, **Tools**, **View**, **Web Features**, **Miscellaneous Considerations** and **Miscellaneous Features**. **If you don't particularly want to wade through a lot of this, then check out the Summary or the Final Scores at the very end**.

Also, in this comparison, I made some judgment calls as to which version had the better feature. In many cases, the differences between them may not be important enough for you.

<return to top>	WordPerfect 7	WordPerfect 8	WordPerfect 9	WordPerfect 10	

Customization

<return to top>	WordPerfect 7	WordPerfect 8	WordPerfect 9	WordPerfect 10	
Keyboard	Regardless of where the macro is found, only the name of the macro is saved next to the keystroke. §	Regardless of where the macro is found, only the name of the macro is saved next to the keystroke. §	When a key is customized to reflect the use of a macro, you may choose *save the entire path*. If your macros are organized on your hard drive into more than two locations, and you choose to save the entire path, then the entire macro path is placed next to the keystroke. Unfortunately, the dialogue box is so small and the path so long that what macro goes with what key is impossible to determine (unless you only use a few macros and they are all found in the same place).	This is just like WP 9.	
Keyboard map	This must be done pretty much by hand.	Ditto—it is easier to have two programs open in order to do this.	Because of the long paths in WP 9, this can be difficult to do.	WP 10 provides a way to export the keyboard shortcuts as a table. §§	
Status Bar (or, the Application Bar; found at the bottom of the screen)	You can choose the font and the size for the Status Bar (the bar on the bottom). §	You can only choose between three font sizes (small, medium or large) for the Status Bar (it is controlled by whatever settings are made for Windows). Some of the items can be written out or given an icon.	You can only choose between two font sizes (normal or large) for the Status Bar (it is controlled by whatever settings are made for Windows). However, a different computer allowed me the *small* setting as well. Some of the items can be shown an icon or written out.	You can only choose between three font sizes (small, medium or large) for the Status Bar (it is controlled by whatever settings are made for Windows). The setting of *small* is really small. Some of the items can be written out or given an icon.	

	I would like to be able to choose my font and override the Windows settings for the status bar (as is allowed with *Reveal Codes*).				

Documents

	WordPerfect 7	**WordPerfect 8**	**WordPerfect 9**	**WordPerfect 10**	
Documents	I have been able to open documents created in WP 8 or 9 generally without incident. When opening this particular document, the page size was messed up. Opening it in WP 8 put things back to normal. A second document created in WP 9 also was totally wack when I opened it in WP 7. In both cases, the documents involved a huge table.	I have been able to open documents created in WP 7, 8 or 9 without incident. §	WP 9 SP 4 messed my *Suite Comparison* document up when I opened it; the problem was the page size, which was completely customized originally. I changed the page size, and that immediately fixed the document.	Most documents open fine in WP 10. Opening several macros continually shut WP 10 down for me (I finally edited them in WP 9).	
Word documents	This can open MS Word 6/7 documents and possibly Word '95 documents with an update.	This should open Word documents to MS Word 97. §	This should open MS Word documents up to MS Word 2000. §§	This should open MS Word documents up to MS Word 2000. According to one review I read, it did not open all Word documents, however. §§	
WordPerfect 5 files	WP 5 files appear very much as they did in WP 5. Some slight reformatting occurs. §	WP 5 files appear very much as they did in WP 5; some slight reformatting occurs. §	Heavily formatting documents from WP 5 may be drastically changed by WP 9.	I haven't opened anything from WP 5 (I don't know if I have anything left in that format).	

Formatting

	WordPerfect 7	**WordPerfect 8**	**WordPerfect 9**	**WordPerfect 10**	
Margins	Margins can be set using mouse (it is easier and more intuitive than MS Word).	Same as WP 7	Ditto. All programs set margins via the menu as well.	Ditto. All programs set margins via the menu as well.	

General Environment

	WordPerfect 7	**WordPerfect 8**	**WordPerfect 9**	**WordPerfect 10**	

Background	Document background is white.	Document background is white.	Document background is whatever color you chose for *window* under Windows appearance settings. I liked this; to most people, this would be a non-issue. §	Document background is whatever color you chose for *window* under Windows appearance settings. §	
Display	Displays and prints several advances without problem. §§	Will display correctly but will not always print correctly several advances on the same line. What appears to be the case is when there are ten or more advances on the same line, this can end up not printing properly.	Will not always display correctly or print correctly several advances on the same line (it appears to print better than WP 8, however). Sometimes it displays incorrectly but prints correctly, and sometimes it displays as it should, but the advances are not properly done when printed. I should add that this problem occurs when there are many advances—say ten or so—on the same line.	Displaying advances seems to have improved greatly with WP 10, although with smaller fonts (I often use *11*), there are display problems.	
QuickMenu from selected text:	Thirteen choices: Cut, Copy, Paste, Delete, Highlight, Block Protect, What's This?, Font..., Quick Format..., Spell Check..., Reveal Codes, Bullets..., Create Comment.	Twelve choices: Cut, Copy, Paste, Paste without Font/Attributes, Highlight, Block Protect, What's This?, Font..., Quick Format..., Spell Check..., Reveal Codes, Create Comment.	Fourteen choices: Cut, Copy, Paste, Paste without Font/Attributes, Delete, Highlight, Block Protect, What's This?, Font..., Quick Format..., Spell Checker..., Reveal Codes, Make It Fit, Create Comment.	Fifteen choices: Cut, Copy, Paste, Paste without Font/Attributes, Delete, Highlight, Black Protect, What's This?, Font..., Quick Format..., Spell Checker..., Dictionary, Reveal Codes, Make It Fit, Create Comment.	

QuickMenu from text:	From simple text, fourteen options are offered from a *right click* menu: Center, Flush Right, Indent, Default Tab Settings, Highlight, Paste, Properties..., What's This?, Font..., QuickFormat..., Spell Check..., Reveal Codes, Bullets..., Characters....	From simple text, fourteen options are offered from a *right click* menu: Center, Flush Right, Indent, Default Tab Settings, Paste, Paste Without Font/Attributes, Properties..., What's This?, Font..., Symbols..., Spell Check..., Shadow Cursor, QuickFormat..., Reveal Codes.	Fourteen options are offered from a right click menu: Center, Flush Right, Indent, Default Tab Settings, Paste, Paste Without Font/Attributes, Properties..., What's This?, Font..., Symbols..., Spell Checker..., Shadow Cursor, QuickFormat..., Reveal Codes. Same as WP 8.	Sixteen options are offered from a right click menu: Center, Flush Right, Indent, Default Tab Settings, Paste, Paste Without Font/Attributes, Properties..., What's This?, Font..., Symbols..., Spell Checker..., Dictionary, Shadow Cursor, QuickFormat..., Reveal Codes, Drop Cap.	
QuickMenu from within a table	Fifteen choices: Paste, Format..., Number Format..., Speed Format..., Lines/Fill..., Insert..., Delete..., Size Column to Fit, Split Cell, Quick Sum, Calculate, Row/Column indicators, Formula Bar, Table Tools, What's This?	Eighteen choices: Paste, Paste Without Font/Attributes, Format..., Number Format..., Speed Format..., Borders/Fill..., Insert..., Delete..., Size Column to Fit, Split Cell, Quick Sum, Calculate, Quick Format, Chart, Row/Column indicators, Formula Bar, Table Tools, What's This?	Eighteen choices: Paste, Paste Without Font/Attributes, Format..., Number Format..., Speed Format..., Borders/Fill..., Insert..., Delete..., Size Column to Fit, Split Cell, Quick Sum, Calculate, Quick Format, Chart, Row/Column indicators, Formula Bar, Table Tools, What's This? The same as WP 8.	Eighteen choices: Paste, Paste Without Font/Attributes, Format..., Number Format..., Speed Format..., Borders/Fill..., Insert..., Delete..., Size Column to Fit, Split Cell, Quick Sum, Calculate, Quick Format, Chart, Row/Column indicators, Formula Toolbar, Table Tools, What's This? The same as WP 8 and 9.	
QuickSpots	Yes. These were little gray boxes often found in the corners of tables, graphs or next to paragraphs. Clicking on a QuickSpot was less intuitive than right clicking and provided a similar selection of options. These can be turned on or off and, quite frankly, I turned mine off and left them off.	No; the negative being that there were (and, in some cases) still are a lot of different things that can be clicked on with the mouse.	No	No	

	WordPerfect 7	WordPerfect 8	WordPerfect 9	WordPerfect 10	
Shadow Cursor	Can choose to have it simply *on* or *off*.	You can control the shape and color of the shadow cursor (which keeps it from being confused from the regular cursor). §	You can control the shape and the color of the shadow cursor (so it is not confused with the regular cursor). §	You can control the shape and the color of the shadow cursor (so it is not confused with the regular cursor). §	
Tab setting indicator	When you reset the tab in the middle of a document, there will be an icon which shows up off margin to indicate this.	Yes	Yes	Ditto	
Status Bar (or, Application Bar)	Name of font is given, and the font is shown in its proper color and attribute (e.g., **bold**, if any). §	Name of font is given, and the color and its attributes (if any) are on the status bar. §	Name of font is given, along with some font attributes (for instance, I can see *italics* on the status bar, but not **bold**). The color of the font is not on the status bar.	Name of font, as well and the color and attributes are seen in the name of the font on the status bar. §	

Graphics

<return to top>	WordPerfect 7	WordPerfect 8	WordPerfect 9	WordPerfect 10	
Colors	Color for text, graphics or tables is a 16x16 chart, offering 16 basic colors; 16 shades of 14 colors; and then a row of very pleasant table (or letter or graphic) color choices at the bottom. A wider selection of colors is available via one mouse click. §	Six rows of seven colors are offered for text, graphics or tables. A chart with a greater selection is available via a mouse click (however, it does not appear to have as much going on as in WP 7).	Six rows of seven colors are offered for text, graphics or tables. A chart with a greater selection is available via a mouse click (however, it does not appear to have as much going on as in WP 7).	Same as WP 8 and 9	
Colors	You have to make a reasonable guess, if you are trying to match colors in a graphic.	There is a seventh top row which offers the seven most recently chosen colors. §	There is a seventh top row which offers the seven most recently chosen colors. §	There is a seventh top row which offers the seven most recently chosen colors. §	

	WordPerfect 7	WordPerfect 8	WordPerfect 9	WordPerfect 10	
Graphics capabilities	Limited compared to MS Word.	Limited compared to MS Word.	WP 9 can draw hundreds of various shapes (along with hundreds of variations) right on the document itself without going into *Presentations*. §	WP 10 can draw hundreds of various shapes (along with hundreds of variations) right on the document itself without going into *Presentations*. §	
Preview graphics from file manager	Excellent §	Excellent §	I don't know what has happened here, but I have to periodically change *viewers* and I still don't always get the correct view of the graphic that I want to insert.	This seems to have improved over WP 9 (although, for some reason, the images stored in WP 9 often require specifically the WP viewer). §	

Menu

<return to top>	WordPerfect 7	WordPerfect 8	WordPerfect 9	WordPerfect 10	
Documents	Open documents are listed under *Window* on menu.	Open documents are listed under *Window* on menu.	Open documents are listed under *Window* on menu.	Open documents are listed under *Window* on menu.	
Menu	Graphics and Tables are Menu available. §§	Graphics and Tables Menu are available if you choose the WP 7 menu. §§	There is not a specific Graphics or a Tables menu on the menu bar, a full table menu one can be added to a toolbar or to a property bar. If you switch to the MS Word menu, you get a table menu; however, if you choose to stay with a WP menu, then you must modify it to include graphics and table choices.	*Tables* has returned as a menu choice. As in the previous versions, you can choose from several different menus (four, in fact). However, none of them offer *graphics* as a heading (which is a mistake in my opinion). The WP 7 menu is no longer an option (although it can be copied from a WP 7 template into the WP 10 template)*. §	

Navigation

<return to top>	WordPerfect 7	WordPerfect 8	WordPerfect 9	WordPerfect 10	

Ctrl+up arrow Ctrl+down arrow Ctrl+left arrow Ctrl+right arrow	Beginning of paragraph Beginning of next paragraph Beginning of word Beginning of next word	Beginning of paragraph Beginning of next paragraph Beginning of word Beginning of next word	This works the same, except when I go past a *paranum* I am sent to the top of the document (this is a defect in the version I have at work but not at home)	After previous hard return. After a subsequent hard return. To beginning of present or previous word (but it will also go to a hard return as if it were a word). To beginning of next word (and to hard returns as well).	
	This change in WP 10 wreaks havoc with some macros where you macros go forward or backward a certain number or words or paragraphs (for some of you, this will make no difference).				
Home(3)+up arrow Home(2)+up arrow Home+up arrow Home(2)+down Home+down arrow Page up Page down	Top of document before codes Top of document Top of window Bottom of document Bottom of window Top of previous page Top of next page	Top of document before codes Top of document Top of window Bottom of document Bottom of window Top of previous page Top of next page	Top of document before codes[2] Top of document Top of window Bottom of document Bottom of window Top of previous page Top of next page		
Mouse	Not applicable.	See WP 9.	In WP 9, the navigation via the mouse seems to be a bit more fluid then in WP 8. That is, it is easier to click on what it is you want to do. In WP 8, it was more difficult to chose between the changing of a margin or the placement of the cursor on one edge or the other. In WP 9, such a choice, even though it involves pointing to the same location, appears to be more accurate.[3] §	The mouse also has a more fluid feel to it in WP 10. However, inside a table, you can also click into specific areas (which I did not care for; I would like to be able to turn this feature off for tables). §	

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[2] Sometimes, I get taken to a blank screen in WP 9—the document disappears (a *page down* takes me to page 2).

[3] This may possibly be the improvement of Windows '98 second edition over Windows '95.

| Scroll bar | Scroll bar does not scroll real time. You tug on it, let go, and then the document adjusts (like MS Word '95 and '97). | Document moves while you tug on the scroll bar. § | Document moves while you tug on the scroll bar. § | Document moves while you tug on the scroll bar. § | |

Tables

<return to top>	WordPerfect 7	WordPerfect 8	WordPerfect 9	WordPerfect 10	
Making columns equal	Click in the table, then click the appropriate QuickSpot. Then select two or more cells from adjacent columns and click *Adjust Columns*.	Choose two or more columns and click an specific button.	Choose two or more columns and click an specific button.	Choose two or more columns and click an specific toolbar button.	
Property Bar	The toolbar itself changes.	The property bar becomes a toolbar designed for tables. The other toolbar(s) remains in place.	The property bar becomes a toolbar designed for tables. The other toolbar(s) remains in place.	The property bar becomes a toolbar designed for tables. The other toolbar(s) remains in place. I had to modify this property bar to suit my own needs.	
QuickFormat	Called SpeedFormat.	Yes	Yes	Yes	

Toolbars

<return to top>	WordPerfect 7	WordPerfect 8	WordPerfect 9	WordPerfect 10	
Environment (or property) bar	Toolbar will change with environment (about a half-dozen different, customizable toolbars). It is difficult to have enough buttons on this toolbar apart from making it two rows (or columns).	A separate bar changes	A separate bar changes.	A separate bar changes.	
Power bar	Yes (which can be customized and features words or icons or both). §	No.	No.	No.	

Status bar	Open documents are not found on the status bar.	Open documents appear on the status bar and can be clicked on to go from one to another. §	Open documents appear on the status bar and can be clicked on to go from one to another. §	Open documents on the status bar. §	
Status bar	Content is customizable; not the location.	Content is customizable; not the location.	Content is customizable; not the location.	Content is customizable, but not the location.	
Toolbars	Eighteen choices; a half-dozen or more are context specific. All can be customized. Additional non-customizable bars appear or can be added (for footnotes, hypertext, ruler or tables).	Eighteen pre-designed toolbars and another 43 property bars.	Twenty-one pre-designed toolbars (including a MS Word toolbar) and 38 property bars.	Twenty-two pre-designed toolbars are included (including a MS Word Toolbar. There are 31 different property bars.	
Toolbars	The number of displayed rows or columns of the toolbar can be changed[4] (since it is tricky to customize, toolbar should be copied and then modified both more than one row or column). Adding an extra column or row to my toolbar improved the functionality of WP 7 immeasurably.	More than one toolbar may be displayed. Different toolbars can be placed all over (one at the top, one at the side, etc). §	More than one toolbar may be displayed. Different toolbars can be placed all over (one at the top, one at the side, etc). §	More than one toolbar may be displayed. Different toolbars can be placed all over (one at the top, one at the side, etc). This feature allows you to conserve space for your documents. §	
Toolbar appearance	Raised toolbar buttons; if you don't care for MS Word on principle, then you might prefer this version of WP.	Flat toolbar buttons which *move* when the cursor is brought over them. Look is very similar to MS Word.	Flat toolbar buttons which *move* when the cursor is brought over them. Look is very similar to MS Word.	Flat toolbar buttons which *move* when the cursor is brought over them. Look is very similar to MS Word.	
Toolbar appearance	A few of the toolbar buttons (most notably, hypertext and outline) are lame icons. They have to be redone. Some icons are repetitive.	Fewer icons are repetitive and outline and hypertext have been improved. §	Fewer repetitive icons. §	Fewer repetitive icons. §	

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[4] Right click the tool bar, choose preferences, options, and increase the number of columns at the bottom of the dialog box.

	WordPerfect 7	WordPerfect 8	WordPerfect 9	WordPerfect 10	
Toolbar button appearance	The toolbar button which allows you to set the justification (which is one button as opposed to several, as we find in Word) looks the same whether left, right, center, full or all justified.	The toolbar button which allows you to set your justification looks like the justification that you have chosen. Unlike MS Word, only one button is necessary. §	The toolbar button which allows you to set your justification looks like the justification that you have chosen. Unlike MS Word, only one button is necessary. §	Just like WP 8 & 9. §	
Toolbar options	The number of rows or columns of a toolbar can be increased.	Toolbars and property bars can have more than one row or column.	Toolbars and property bars can have more than one row or column.	Toolbars and property bars can be up to three rows or columns.	
Toolbar spacers	Two spaces equals exactly the height and width of a toolbar button (which is important *if* your toolbar is two or more rows or columns). §	Two spaces on a toolbar is less than the height of a toolbar button, and three is larger. This is only important if your toolbars are two or more columns or rows. However, you can set up a macro to do nothing (e.g., type a space and then delete it) and add that button to your interface to get the spacing you want.	Two spaces on a toolbar is less than the height of a toolbar button, and three is larger. This is only important if your toolbars are two or more columns or rows. However, you can set up a macro to do nothing (e.g., type a space and then delete it) and add that button to your interface to get the spacing you want.	The spacers for vertical toolbars do not match the heights of the buttons themselves. However, if you set up a *do-nothing* macro, that can be added as a spacer (you right click the button, choose edit, choose image, and then delete the image—this makes it a blank spot on your toolbar).	

Tools

<return to top>	WordPerfect 7	WordPerfect 8	WordPerfect 9	WordPerfect 10	
Bookmarks	When designating a bookmark, when you click *create* with the mouse, the *okay* button for the name of the bookmark is found right under the mouse. §		When designating a bookmark, when you click on *create* with the mouse, you must move the mouse somewhat in order to click the *okay* button for the name of the bookmark.	When designating a bookmark, when you click on *create* with the mouse, you must move the mouse somewhat in order to click the *okay* button for the name of the bookmark.	

Dictionary	No	No	No	A new feature with WP 10; a dictionary has been added and access is as easy and convenient as QuickCorrect or the Thesaurus. §§	
Equation editor	The old fashioned, very difficult to deal with version.	The much improved, very intuitive equation editor. One can still use the version found in WP 7. §	Again improved and made larger. One can still use the version found in WP 7. Some have complained about the font used in WP 9. WP 8's equation editor can be used instead.[5] §	This looks better, but it was a mess to use. I got the wrong symbols over and over again. It was difficult to move from one insertion point to another. One option which could be added to the menu was *equation font,* but this did absolutely nothing (it would be nice to set the default equation font). Because of the problems, this is inferior to WP 9's equation editor.	
Link to a URL	Yes.	Yes, and the typing in of a URL address automatically makes it a web link.	Yes, and the typing in of a URL address automatically makes it a web link.	Yes, and the typing in of a URL address automatically makes it a web link.	

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[5] I don't know how to do this off the top of my head; I have just been told that it can be done.

Macros	Easy to record and edit; most macros can be shared between WP 6–9 (sometimes the first line of WP 8 and 9 macros must be deleted to work in WP 7).	Easy to record and edit; many macros can be shared between WP 6–9.[6] No major differences between macros in WP 8 and 9. §	Easy to record and edit; many macros can be shared between WP 6–9. No major differences between macros in WP 8 and 9. However, with SP 4, the macros are not as compatible. WP 7 and 8 macros will still run on WP 9 SP 4, but you will first get an *abort, retry, cancel* dialogue box (click on *abort*).	Earlier macros seem to do find on WP 10, except for the fact that some of the cursor movement has been changed (e.g., ctrl+up arrow, etc.). This has impacted the macros as well. An improvement over WP 9 SP 4 is that you no longer get that irritating dialogue box the first time you run a macro in any given session. §	
Macros	Running a macro in WP 7 seems to be a lot quicker than running the same macro in WP 8 or 9. I have been told that this has something to do with WP 8 and 9 compiling the macro the first time it is run (whatever that means). §	The first macro run on any session of WP 8 seems to be sluggish.	The first macro run on any session of WP 9 seems to be sluggish.	The macros seem to run relatively quickly even the first time through in WP 10. §	
Macro editing	Any macro can be opened and edited in WP 7. §	Any macro can be opened and edited in WP 8. §	Any macro can be opened and edited in WP 9. §	I had trouble opening and editing macros in WP 10, the chief problem being that some macros when opened for editing simply caused WP 10 to shut down.	
Make it Fit	A document can be condensed or expanded to any number of pages. Very different from MS Word's *Shrink Document*.	A document can be condensed or expanded to any number of pages. Very different from MS Word's *Shrink Document*.	Not only can a document be condensed or expanded, but so can a block of text. §	Not only can a document be condensed or expanded, but so can a block of text. §	

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[6] Macros shared between WordPerfect 7 and other higher versions will be recompiled in WP 8 and 9 when they are run. This does slow down the macro, but I am unaware of any other ill-effects. On this computer, I have five versions of WP (including Wp 6.2 for DOS) all sharing the same macros and macro file location. Quite obviously, WP 6.2 cannot make use of many maros created in the higher versions of WP.

No automatic capitalization after certain words	This is automatic; no automatic capitalization after B.C. or after Washington D.C.; but there is after ft. or after in.	Customizable list. §	Customizable list. §	Customizable list. §
QuickCorrect	Entering new words into QuickCorrect is quite easy. I have cued my ALT+Q key to the QuickCorrect dialogue box. I can immediately type in the misspelling, hit tab, type in the correction, hit return twice, and I am back in my document. My fingers never leave the keyboard. §	In WP 8 and 9, you have to use your F7 (if it is *keyed to escape*) or your *escape* key in order to leave QuickCorrect. The position of these keys makes it necessary to reset my fingers on the keyboard again.	See WP 8.	Like WP 8 and 9.
QuickCorrect	Automatically corrects words added to QuickCorrect dictionary (QuickCorrect must, of course, be turned on).	Automatically corrects words added to QuickCorrect dictionary as well as those with only one possible correct alternate spelling. §§	Automatically corrects words added to QuickCorrect dictionary. It also automatically corrects most words which have only one possible correct alternate spelling. I can't over-emphasize how fantastic this is. When I type a paragraph in WP 7, I often leave behind up to a half dozen errors. When I type the same paragraph in WP, I will have only one or two errors, since WP 9 corrects most of my typing errors automatically. §§	Same as WP 9. The serious problem is that it misidentifies some words as misspelled when they are not (this is a bug, of course). §

Quick Format	This works simply; you choose the text whose format you want to copy, and go with Quick Format, and then use the cursor to change whatever text needs to have the same format. If you change the formatting of some Quick Formatted text, it does not affect the other text.	With WP 8, we get *sticky* Quick Formatting. That is, it works like Quick Format in WP 7, except, when you change the formatting of text which has been Quick Formatted (or was the original text from whence the formatting was taken), then all of the Quick Formatted text is changed. This is one of the areas where Quick Formatting is head and shoulders above MS Word's *Format Painting*. §	Like WP 8, except that you can, from drop down menus, view *all* of the changes which occur in real time. This is great when you have formatted all of your subtitles the same via Quick Format, and you want to see how the appearance would change the overall look of the document in real time before applying the change in formatting. Like WP 8, change the format in one Quick Formatted text, and they all change. §	Functions like WP 9. §	
Thesaurus	Excellent. §	Excellent. §	Adequate, but far inferior to WP 7 or 8. Even when this was fixed, the fix appears to be half-baked. The words found therein are covered in great detail; however, some very simple words are missing entirely. SP 4 has changed the thesaurus, but it has not improved it.	Improved over WP 9. §	

QuickFormat	Select a word (or words), select QuickFormat, and then *paint* the words whose format you want to mimic the first selection. If you change the former or the latter's format, the change does not affect anything else.	QuickFormat works the same; however, when you change the entirety of formatting of one selection, then the other selections made with QuickFormat also change. This is great to maintain uniformity without having to go back and change everything or *repaint* everything. §	QuickFormat works the same; however, when you change the entirety of formatting of one selection, then the other selections made with QuickFormat also change. This is great to maintain uniformity without having to go back and change everything or *repaint* everything. §	Same as WP 9; when you change something which has been *Quickformatted,* the other *Quickformatted* sections change as well. §	

View

<return to top>	WordPerfect 7	WordPerfect 8	WordPerfect 9	WordPerfect 10	
Accent marks	It is difficult to tell an acute accent from a grave, both of which are indistinguishable from a soft or rough breathing.		It is easy to see the difference between the different accent marks in WP 9. §	If the font is large enough, it is easy to see the differences of the accent marks. §	
Advance view:	When several *advances* are used in the same line, it does not always appear on-screen in Windows '98 as it will print. Furthermore, the cursor does not match its true position in the letters which follow several advances on the same line.	Several advances appear just as they look on screen. §	Several advances look as they should appear on screen under Windows '98. §	If the font is made large enough, several advances look as they should on screen under Windows '98. I often use font size 11 and run my screen at 85%, in which case, the advances don't look as they should. §	

Default View	Can set the zoom amount under settings and all documents open with this setting. §	Can set the zoom amount under settings and all documents open with this setting. §	Opens to whatever zoom setting you closed the program in. If I set up a toggle switch to toggle between a *full page* and my preferred 88% view, and leave it in *full page* when I finish (which I often do prior to printing), in the next session, WP will open with *full page* view, but will not toggle to 88%. The solution is to write a macro, put it on a button, and click on it when you need to.	As WP 9.	
Exponents, subscripts	These appear to be in the document as they print.	Although exponents tend to look okay, subscripts tend to look too large on screen, and not exactly like subscripts. They print as they should, however.	Although exponents tend to look okay, subscripts tend to look too large on screen, and not exactly like subscripts. They print as they should, however.	Subscripts and superscripts appear most accurate in WP 10. §	
Font drop-down box. Note: in all versions, this drop down box MUST be on the top or the bottom of the screen in order to display properly!	The fonts are named, but you must know what the font looks like in advance (it's like MS Word '97 and previous).	The fonts are both named and you see what the font looks like with a few illustrative large letters on the screen. §	The fonts are named, you see what the font looks like, and, if you have selected text, you get to see what that text looks like with the chosen font. This is very important if you just need to see if the font you want has hyphens or other various typographical symbols. §§	Just like WP 9. §§	

Font view	*Italics* on the screen look more like the *italics* which are printed.	The *italics* seem to be a little larger than WP 7. I've heard one person complain about not being able to easily read his favorite font (Courier) on-screen.	The italics appear to be of a reasonable size in WP 9.	The italics appear to be reasonable in WP 10.
Font view	Small caps and outline are not properly displayed under Windows '98, second edition.	Small caps and outline are not properly displayed under Windows '98, 2nd edition.	Small caps and outline are not properly displayed under Windows '98, 2nd edition.	Small caps are and outline are not properly displayed in WP 10.
Footnote numbers	Look too small in footnotes.	They appear to be too large in document. They do not print that way, however.	They appear to be too large in document. They do not print that way, however.	Footnote numbers appear as they should. §
Microsoft-like environment:	WP 7 looks very different from the MS Word '97 and Word 2000.	WP 8 has a very similar environment to MS Word.	WP has designed menus and toolbars specifically for the MS Word user. WP has also added certain features which are actually unnecessary, but aid the MS Word user in the transition (like Print Preview).	WP 10, like its two predecessors, has a very Microsoft-like environment. There is a toolbar and menu for the MS Office '97 user.
Preview graphics	Preview window has always been good for WP graphics. §	Sometimes when going into the files, when I click through them with the preview window open, the cursor sometimes jumps two files at a time.	When I go to open up a graphic, and I preview it first, sometimes the preview isn't large enough or accurate enough (SP 4 did not solve this problem). Often, I must change to the WPG previewer. I wish this were a *sticky* function.	The preview seems to be better in WP 10 (perhaps it is a different computer that has made the difference?). I had to change to the WP graphic previewer less often than I did in WP 9. §

	WordPerfect 7	WordPerfect 8	WordPerfect 9	WordPerfect 10	
Print preview	No (WP is WYSIWYG)	No (WP is WYSIWYG)	Yes (WP is still WYSIWYG; however, there is, in my version, a bug involving using borders and a watermark together). WP 9 SP 4 seems to have solved that problem.	There is a Print Preview in WP 10 just like there was in WP 9. The chief difference between this and MS Word is that all normal formatting functions are still available when in Print Preview mode in WP.	
Real-time preview	No	No	Yes. This slick feature allows you to view the change a font, a justification, or several other items would make to your document prior to applying it. It is a must feature for the anal-retentive.[7] §§	Yes. If you care what the finished product of your documents looks like, you can't do without this. §§	
Reveal codes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes.	
Shadow cursor	Yes	Yes, and you can click anywhere in the document to begin typing	Yes, and you can click anywhere in the document to begin typing	Yes. Click anywhere in the document and you can begin typing (this can be set according to tabs or spaces).	
Supports the Intel Pentium with MMX technology.	No	Yes (the first Office Suite to do so)	Yes	Yes.	
View	Can set the zoom amount under settings and all documents open with this setting.	Can set the zoom amount under settings and all documents open with this setting.	*View/Zoom* has become a *sticky* feature; that is, it opens to whatever zoom setting you closed the program in. I would prefer to choose whether or not this is a *sticky* feature.	Same as WP 9; it is now a sticky feature.	

Web Features

<return to top>	WordPerfect 7	WordPerfect 8	WordPerfect 9	WordPerfect 10	
Font		Default font can be changed.	Default font cannot be changed.		

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[7] We like out documents to look *just so*.

	WordPerfect 7	WordPerfect 8	WordPerfect 9	WordPerfect 10	
Font		Colors of text are retained. §	All text is converted to black.	Text colors are retained. §	
Inserting backgrounds		When you go to insert a background, you get to view the file.	When you go to insert the background, you cannot view the file first (although it says that you can).	No HTML editor.	
Internet	Although documents can be saved to HTML, I had some problems with the conversion from the Corel format to the web format that I shouldn't have.	*Using the Internet Publisher, you can add form fields to your web document. These fields include radio buttons, check boxes, selection lists, and text boxes, making the gathering of information easier than ever.* This is directly quoted from Corel. I primarily used *save as an HTML document* and the transfer from Corel's format to a web document was generally quite faithful. §	Publishing to HTML seems to be slightly inferior to WP 8. It is still not as good of a conversion as it should be. §		
Internet editor	Yes, but I would use WP 8 or 9.	Yes, albeit imperfectly (but the results were better in WP 8 than with 9). §	Yes, albeit imperfectly. §	No. You cannot open and edit an HTML document anymore.	
PDF format, saving in	Can't be done in WP 7.	Can't be done in WP 8.	Documents can be saved in PDF format, which preserves more of the formatting than HTML does, and anyone may download PDF viewer for free. §	Yes, and hyperlinks are preserved as well. §§	

Miscellaneous Considerations

<return to top>	WordPerfect 7	WordPerfect 8	WordPerfect 9	WordPerfect 10	
Linux versions		Yes. §	Yes, and it is excellent! §§	Not yet.	

I need to point out that there is a specific version for Linux in these flavors of WP (that is, the windows version of WordPerfect Suite 9 cannot be used on Linux). However, this WP Suite 9 includes the entire suite, and it is almost identical to the Windows version of these products. What I found to be particularly gratifying is that after I had installed the basic Corel Linux system, I was able to slip the Corel Office Suite 2000 into the CD, double click on the install file, and it installed itself with very little input from me. I suspect that it may be as easy to install in any other version of Linux, but I have not tried it. WP 8 is a standalone product for Linux without the other members of the suite and I have not tried to installed it successfully as a separate product; it was installed as part of the first Corel Linux release.					
Operating system	Windows 9X	Windows 9X, 2000, ME and Windows NT 4.0 and above. §	Windows 9X, 2000, ME and Windows NT 4.0 and above. §	Windows 9X, 2000, ME and Windows NT 4.0 and above. §	
I have actually not tested all of these products on these other flavors of Windows. This is as per my understanding of which versions are compatible with which versions of Windows (I believe that Microsoft will have a listing on their web site of what works with what).					
Stability	Very stable. §§	Later versions are very stable. §§	SP-4 has been very stable (as have the previous incarnations of WP 9). §§	I have had stability problems with WP 10 on two different computers (in its first incarnation and with SP 1). Opening several macros to edit often shuts it down. It has shut down for other reasons as well.	
This should be a factor in anyone's purchase. You don't want to be continually shutting down your computer and rebooting. Now, the documents which I dealt with were rather complex documents and who knows what cause WP 10 to shut down. Other documents in WP 10 have given me no problem whatsoever. However, there is no way to tell in advance, and using one's computer is a frustrating experience when your program does not function as it should.					

Miscellaneous Features

<return to top>	WordPerfect 7	WordPerfect 8	WordPerfect 9	WordPerfect 10	
Compatibility	Can save in 75 different file formats.	Can save in 79 different file formats.	Can save in 79 different file formats. WP 9 can be set up to default save in a particular format. §	Can be saved in 77 file formats, as well as HTML and PDF (which must be done from the menu rather than from *save as...*). You can default save in a particular format as well. §	

Drawing layer	None; when you choose to draw something, you go into Corel Presentations and it is added as a graphics box.	Basic shapes can be drawn over document. Not as many choices as MS Word '97 nor as fluid. It is easy to end up as a graphics box being created in Presentations.	Comparable to MS Word '97 in terms of being fluid and having a tremendous number of choices. §	Comparable to MS Word '97 in terms of being fluid and having a tremendous number of choices. §	
Embedded fonts	No	No	Fonts can be embedded in any given document and therefore travel with the document. §	Yes. §	
Find and replace	When things are replaced, you have no clue as to how many were replaced.	When things are replaced, a dialogue box lets you know how many things were replaced. §	When things are replaced, a dialogue box lets you know how many things were replaced. §	When things are replaced, a dialogue box lets you know how many things were replaced. §	
Find and replace	Find and replace or search begins where the cursor is and goes toward the end of the document be default.	Once a search from the cursor to the end of the document has been completed, you are prompted with the option of continuing a search at the beginning of the document. §	Once a search from the cursor to the end of the document has been completed, you are prompted with the option of continuing a search at the beginning of the document. §	Once a search from the cursor to the end of the document has been completed, you are prompted with the option of continuing a search at the beginning of the document. §	
Fonts	Ships with about 1500 special characters.	Ships with about 1500 special characters.	Ships with about 1500 special characters.	Ships with about 1500 special characters and also, it is much easier to access the special characters for any particular font (Word could always do this, but it was a bit convoluted). §	

Printing	This is a biggie for *some* people: when several *advances* are made on the same line, WP 7 will print the document as you see it on screen. §§	When several *advances* are made on the same line, sometimes things do not print the way they should or the way that they look.	Too many advances on the same line can confuse the printing process in WP 9 as well. It will print, but not all of the advances will show up in print as they do on screen (even when using *print-preview*). This appears to do a better job than WP 8, but not as good as WP 7. I have also had advances look wrong on screen, but print correctly in WP 9. §	I have experienced no problems here, but I have not done an extensive amount of printing with advances. §	
QuickFormat	Called SpeedFormat.	Yes. An attribute change in one item which has been quick-formatted will change the same attributes in all quick-formatted text groups. What is nice about this is that you can, for instance, use QuickFormat on all of your subtitles, and when you change the formatting of one, it changes the formatting of the others to retain continuity. §	Yes. An attribute change in one item which has been quick-formatted will change the same attributes in all quick-formatted text groups. §	Same as WP 9. §	
Special characters	Always opens to character set 5 at the beginning of a session. Thereafter, it opens to wherever you were last.	Always opens to character set 5 when first opened during a session. Thereafter, it opens to wherever you were last.	Opens to whatever character set you opened previously, even during a new session. §	Opens to whatever character set you opened previously, even during a new session. §	

Windows compatibility	Designed for Win '95, NT 3.51 (with the warning that some applications may not run on this version) and NT 4.0. I have used it on Win '98 without incident.	Specifically for Windows 95 and NT 4.0 (I have used it on Win '98 without any problems on three separate computers). A friend has had serious speed problems with WP 8 and NT 4.0 and I have heard of other, isolated incidents of problems between these two	Designed for Windows 95, 98 and NT 4.0. I have run WP 9 (no service packs) under Windows 2000 without incident (but I was only able to do this as a trial for a few hours).	Designed for Windows 95, 98 and NT 4.0 and above. I have run WP 9 (no service packs) under Windows 2000 without incident (but I was only able to do this as a trial for a few hours).	

Summary: In no wise do I want to give you the idea that any of these versions of WordPerfect is merely adequate. I used WP 7 most of the time at home because 98% of what I need to do can be done via WP 7. However, I do not use it simply because I am unable to change to a different program. I used WP 8 at work until the day that I got my copy of WP 9 and I have stayed with 9 at work. The equation editor is far superior in 8 and 9. No matter which of the three programs that you use, I suspect that you will be happier with them than any other word processing program on the market. For some of you, your needs at this point in time would not really make one version superior to another. If you are new to computers or to Corel, then let me recommend WP 9. If you are new and broke, then let me recommend WP 7 or 8; you can purchase these through eBay or any number of on-line auctions, as well as through several different software companies (I have seen the entire Corel WP 8 office suite for as little as $11 on the Internet). If you have used MS Word and don't find it meeting your needs (or find it to be too convoluted), then WP 8 or 9 would be your best bet.

Each version has its own peculiarities which recommends it. Version 7 lacks the Microsoft-like environment, it comes with a specific graphics and a specific table menu heading, and it is not confused by using the advance feature several times on the same line. The version which I have (7.0.2.19; no updates) has been very stable under Windows '95 and '98. WordPerfect 8 also tends to be very stable (I have version 8.0.0.393 without updates) has also been very stable and looks more like a Microsoft product (a negative, in my opinion). For whatever reason, this version seemed to open up more documents with more accuracy than versions 7 or 9. The equation editor of version 8 is light years ahead of version 7; I use the former all the time and the latter not at all (it just isn't intuitive enough). Although WP 9 *improved* its equation editor, I am not yet convinced that it was an improvement. Some people have used workaround's to use their WP 8's equation editor under WP 9. Also, in dealing with weaknesses, I know of several incidents where WP 8 (and, in fewer cases, WP 7) did not appear to be compatible with Windows NT. So far, that does not appear to be the case with WP 9. It is possible that those reviewers who raved about WP 9's stability were operating under the NT OS. Now, areas where WP 9 has improved is that the drawing options found in Word '97 are now found in WP 9; and *real-time* preview is a marvelous idea.

If you are a math teacher, then you will **not** want WP 7 (unless you are familiar with their old equation editor, which sucks); if you want stability and a full-blown product, I would go with WP 8 (although the most recent version of WP 9, with service pack 4, is a big improvement in this area); if you are anal-retentive and you keep experimenting with the font and the size until your document looks perfectly balanced, then you **need** WP 9.

Now, I did not produce this document simply for WP fans. 95% of the time, you will come to like any version of WordPerfect more than Microsoft Word or Word Pro or Star Writer (those who don't generally have never given any recent version WP a try). You will find WordPerfect more intuitive, easier to use, and it has more powerful features. I have, in other comparisons studies published on the web, placed WP 9 side-by-side MS Word 2000, and, in the most thorough comparison, have shown WP 9 to be the superior program, by far, when it comes to features, power and ease-of-use. I want to say something about ease-of-use. I worked with a brand-new teacher a few years ago—this is a teacher who, when using a computer, had just learned that double-clicking on an icon would start up a program (she was a novice). I put a copy of WP 8 on her computer, gave her about 20 minutes of instruction (and later on, another 20 minutes of instruction). She produced in her first year many test and worksheet documents which looked professional, clean and balanced. By contrast, other members of our department who used MS Word, and had used MS for several years, and most of whom had MS Word on their computers at home, were continually adding additional mathematical markings to all of their documents after they had been printed. By contrast, their documents, even without their additional marks, were inferior to those of the novice computer user. Now, in some cases, the problem was that they did not know that MS Word could add the markings that they added by hand (MS Word simply is not as user-friendly); in other cases, adding these markings was their only option, as MS Word ships without about 150 poorly organized symbols whereas WP ships with 1500

reasonably well-organized symbols. What I am saying to you is that, if you are a teacher of math, science or a foreign language; or if your documents require several specialized symbols; then you want some version of WordPerfect.[8] You will find even WP 7 (a 1996 product) to be a superior product to MS Word 2000, even though four years is an eternity in the computer software business.

Summary

<return to top>	WordPerfect 7	WordPerfect 8	WordPerfect 9	WordPerfect 10
Strongest points:	WordPerfect 7 does not have a Microsoft appearance; it comes with a graphics and tables menu, is not confused by many *advances* on the same line, and my version, 7.0.02.19 (without updates) has been very stable on Windows '95 and '98. Also, the thesaurus is excellent.	My version (8.0.0.393 without updates) is very stable; the equation editor is outstanding, as is the thesaurus. I could import menus, toolbars and keyboards from WP 7 without causing stability problems. WP 8 is outstanding for converting a document to HTML. In conversing with a user of MS Word, he was surprised that so many of the formatting was retained by WP in such a conversion.	The biggest plus is real-time preview; I use it all of the time. The ability to draw shapes is nice. This version might be more compatible with Windows NT, although one of my friends who has Windows NT claims no stability improvement. I have personally used this on Windows 2000, with no problems (but it was for a short period of time) If you want to save your documents in a PDF format, then you **must** have WP 9 or 10.	Although WP 9 seemed to take a move backward in publishing to HTML (the colors of the fonts were often not preserved); WP 10 removes the ability to edit HTML documents, but provides a better result when publishing to HTML than all the other previous editions. Publishing to PDF also preserves hyperlinks, which is great if you have a web document with hyperlinks whose format you want preserved entirely. Upon installation, WP 10 took in the WP 9 QuickCorrect information, so that I did not have to begin from scratch here. It did not import any previous toolbars, menus or keyboards, however. I wasn't certain how I would take to the addition of the dictionary, but I have used it on several occasions, which indicates to me that it was an important addition. Since I have always made the most of modified keyboards, using as many as four different keyboards on the same computer, the fact that you can print out your keyboard shortcuts now in a

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[8] In following out a discussion once on a MS Word help line, a person posed the problem of needing a particular symbol and could not find it anywhere with MS Word. Several MS Word experts tried to help and eventually it was resolved. I've used that same symbol for years in WordPerfect; finding it was not big deal.

<return to top>	WordPerfect 7	WordPerfect 8	WordPerfect 9	WordPerfect 10
				table file is helpful. The table menu was also restored to WP 10; they ought to restore their graphics menu as well.
Weakest Points:	The equation editor is very un-intuitive; one cannot do as much drawing as one can with WP 9.	I have heard of problems with Windows NT. WP 8 lacks the drawing options of WP 9. If you use a lot of *advances* in a single line, this may not print correctly. Final versions can generally be printed perfectly by WP 7.	My version (9.0.0.664; with two service pack updates) tends to be rather unstable. Some don't like the changes which have been made to the equation editor (although there is a way to substitute in the equation editor of version 8). I personally like the newer equation editor. The thesaurus available in the update is only half-finished. The existing thesaurus is very limited in its scope. A very important negative about WP 9 is that the importation of keyboards and toolbars from previous versions seems to reduce the stability of WP 9. I have not noticed this, however, with SP 3 or with SP 4. Another problem with SP 4 and before is that when I use a menu or toolbar command, I always get a dialogue box on first use, for which I must click *abort*. After I do that one time, everything is fine. My toolbar was created in WP 10 and the menu was created in WP 8, so perhaps that is the problem. This occurs on all three computers that I use. Next problem is that I have had my speller shut down on me to where I cannot add additional words or place any additions	This is the first time that I have bought WP within a couple weeks of its coming out, but what I ended up with was particularly bug-ridden. Given that I use MS Windows '98, Corel was aware of any conflicts or problems that could have occurred and they should have been fixed prior to this release. The equation editor is all messed up. I had hoped that we could set the default font for it (as there is a command for *equation font*). You cannot. Many of the Greek letters do not come out to be the Greek letters one would expect in equation editor and I have had it shut down on me several times. In fact, I purchased the earliest version of WP 10, and its instability is unparalleled among WP products on my computer. I cannot open several macros to edit without it shutting down. There is a new feature called *Corel Recovery Manager* (or some damn thing), which collects information on what happened (I don't know whether this information is ever really transmitted to Corel). What it does *not* do is instantly save your work.

<return to top>	WordPerfect 7	WordPerfect 8	WordPerfect 9	WordPerfect 10
			into my QuickCorrect. This has happened on two computers.	A big problem with this initial release is that it makes changes to particular punctuation marks (I have had it continually remove the second parenthesis or bracket for no reason). I have also had correctly spelled words underlined as misspelled in WP 10. I could right click them and choose *add* (there are no variant spellings offered in this case), and then it is fine until it feels like doing it again.

Now, I am a strong supporter of Corel and what they have done with WordPerfect. What I want to do is to give you an unqualified recommendation to go out and buy this latest version. However, my copy of WP 10 was so bug-ridden that I cannot recommend it. We need to wait until a few updates or SP's come out first. |
| Conclusion: | WordPerfect is such an inexpensive product (go to *ebay* and type in *Corel WordPerfect*), that almost anyone can afford to have all three versions. Space is often more of a consideration than is price. I do a lot of formatting and have several varied uses for this product, so I have all four versions on each computer. With the projects that I do at home, I don't use real-time preview much, so I do most of my work on WP 9 (I used to do it in WP 7). At school, I use real-time preview with practically every document, as the documents I produce are printed and distributed; I therefore use WP 9 and 10 there (although occasionally I used WP 7 to print a document which contains a lot of advances). | | | |

Final Scores

<return to top>	WordPerfect 7	WordPerfect 8	WordPerfect 9	WordPerfect 10
Total Number of § 's	21	37	40	49
Comments	Unfortunately, the total number of §'s does not tell the whole story. WP 10, at least in its first incarnation, is very buggy. If you are looking to move up from WP 9, I would wait about six months (until a couple of SP's have come out). If you are moving up from MS Word any version, you might find WP 9 the better choice right now (which will have to be gotten off the Internet; ebay should have a lot of copies available). If you have WP 9, but you want better Internet publishing capabilities, then, by all means, pick up WP 10. You may find yourself working often in WP 9, however, and then publishing from WP 10.			

Addendum on WordPerfect 9 SP 4: Recently (October of 2000), WP put out Service Pack 4 for WP 9. It is not a download, as are WP SP's 1–3, but is a separate CD (they ship it to you for the modest sum of $9.95). I had a few problems with Corel Suite 2000 which did not seem to get solved with service packs #1–3. I ordered the CD

and installed it. There were some dramatic changes. First of all, the location of the macros and templates had changed. I keep my macros under one folder right off my D drive, as I use nearly 350 macros (really), not including the macros which WP ships with (which I rarely use), so I therefore change the macro folder and then organize my macros on the hard drive. That is easy to change under *Location of Files* under *Settings* (which is found under *Tools* on the menu). The changing of the template folder threw me for a loop, as I was not expecting it. WP had kept that under the *Corel* Folder and under *Templates*. When the WordPerfect Suite is removed using their removal software, many of the customized settings are left, as some of the folders are left behind (e.g., the *Templates,* which includes the menus, toolbars and keyboards). It is recommended that you uninstall the WP 2000 Suite prior to installing SP 4 (which is simply an entirely new program). This time, with the new installation, you must either change the location of the default template or the location of the template folders in order to retrieve some of your original settings. I assume the reason that these things were moved was so that it was less likely that you would erase your custom settings if you uninstalled a version of WP (*their* uninstall program does **not** remove custom settings, e.g., keyboards, templates and macros), but if you went back and wiped out the WP folders, then they would be gone. These things are now placed in the Windows directory, so they are less likely to be removed by accident. I have worked with SP 4 long enough to determine that it is relatively stable, although, after 4–8 hours of computer use (and using several different programs), I often have to reboot. At home, on a system which is not networked, I have to reboot about every other day, and it appears to be related just as much to the use of Winfax and my connection to the Internet as with WP.

At home, I had lost my QP toolbars in my original installation of Corel Office 2000. I had them for awhile and then they disappeared. Now, they continued to appeared under the *Settings* but I could not get them to actually become a part of the interface (I may have been the only person with this problem). When I uninstalled Suite 9 and reinstalled it with SP 4, the toolbars returned and behaved. There was one bug in WP Office Suite which seems to have been solved. When I used to hit home+home+up, I would go to the top of the document, but, often, the document would appear to have disappeared (it had not; it was simply a *blank-looking* screen). I have not had that problem with SP 4. However, I have experienced a plethora of other problems with SP 4 in WordPerfect. When I opened this document to work on, for instance, the margins were all out of whack (actually, all of the text was doubly indented from both sides, with the dotted lines for the margins further out). I guessed perhaps the document style was off. That was not the problem. To solve the problem, I opened this document in WP 8, selected all of it, and then pasted it into a blank WP 9 document. Everything was fine. I have not had similar problems with smaller documents however. Some of the relative sizes of the WP characters have been out of proportion on one particular computer (a Gateway, if memory serves; but this was not true of two other Gateways that I was aware of in the same network). I have opened some documents at school with square root signs which should extend two lines and they are shorter. I open the same document in WP 8, and they open fine. This has only been the case with several characters which are larger than one line high. Obviuosly, this is irritating, and I have no idea why it occurs on one computer but not on a computer which is (supposedly) identically configured. Another problem I have experienced is with certain macros. When I go to run my first macro, I get a dialogue box which advises me to *abort, retry* or *ignore;* clicking on *abort* generally allows the macro to complete its cycle and to function correctly (although, not always). Then, all of my macros will continue to work throughout that session; however, when I close WP 9 and then fire it up again, again, the very same macro will act up again upon first use. What I have done is the first line of most of my macros reference a particular language version of WP, which name apparently changed slightly for the SP 4 version of WP 9. I placed two forward slashes on that first line of those macros and now my first macro, under SP 4, asks me if I want to *abort, retry or ignore;* I choose *abort,* and usually, everything is fine after that. My guess is that if I rewrote all my macros in WP 9, that would eliminate that problem; however, who wants to rewrite 350 macros? WP 10 runs all of my macros without incident (however, I have had several instances in WP 10 when opening three macros caused WP 10 to shut down—and this was on a computer with a reasonable amount of speed and memory).