

File Folders

It's a good idea to make sure that this *Wayfinder* stack and ***Hypercard 2.0*** are in the same folder. If they are not, exit *Wayfinder* now and correct the situation.

SemNet[™] Documentation

Next, review the SemNet documentation on creating paths, flagging relations, and exporting instances and paths to a text file. (*Wayfinder* only works on text files with “.path” and “.instances” file extensions.)

***SemNet* Export Settings**

When you use SemNet's “Export to Textfile” function, be sure that:

- The *Numbering* box **is** checked;
- The *Prefix Notation* box is **not** checked;
- The *Text* box located under “with attached items...” is **not** checked.

The Importance of File Names

SemNet automatically constructs a file name for exported text files by appending a “.path” or an “.instances” extension to the current file name. If you change the default name, be sure to include the “.path” or the “.instances” extension. (If you do change the file name, *SemNet* will not automatically add the file extension for you. *Wayfinder* will only recognize text files with valid extensions.

The total length of a text file name (including the extension) **must not** exceed 31 characters. Therefore, keep net names short (preferably 21 characters or less) so that *SemNet* will have room for the default extension.

Using *SemNet* from within *Wayfinder*

If you have not already exported a text file for conversion by *Wayfinder*, you can do so now by clicking on the *SemNet* button above. You may “export” all instances (the entire net), a subset of

instances (based on flagged relations), or recorded “path.” Experiment first with converting small nets.

Limitations on Use of Special Characters

Hypercard interprets certain characters in ways that may interfere with conversion of SemNet text files.

- Avoid using positive or negative whole numbers (1, 2, 3, -9, -20, etc.) as concept labels in *SemNet*. It’s okay to use (with caution) numbers that contain a period, comma, or slash. Examples of “legal” concept labels:

1.25

7,232

1 / 3

If you must use a whole number, bracket it with parentheses or single quote marks ('). Another technique is to precede the number with a special symbol such as “#” or “\$”. Do not use a caret “^” for this purpose as it has a special meaning to be described later. Examples of legal concept labels:

(-10) rather than -10

#567 rather than 567

'1763' rather than 1763

- Avoid using double quotes (") in concept labels. It’s okay to use single quote marks ('). Never use colons in a concept label.
- Never use slashes (/) in relation labels.

Advanced Feature

Wayfinder automatically creates links between “concept cards.” These links are represented by “relation buttons.” Clicking on a relation button advances the stack to the linked concept card.

There may be circumstances in which you do not want *Wayfinder* to create a concept card for a concept label. However, you do want that concept label to appear as part of the relation button.

For example: your SemNet file is used to map a multimedia presentation and includes an instance such as:

bicycle---video--->Picture of bicycle

Normally, *Wayfinder* would create concept cards for <bicycle> and <Picture of bicycle> and a relation button for <video>. The relation button would be placed on the <bicycle> card and scripted to link to the <Picture of bicycle> card. But you don't want *Wayfinder* to create a concept card for <Picture of bicycle> because you're planning to use a VCR to run a video of a bicycle.

Here's what to do. When constructing your *SemNet*, use a caret “^” as the first character of a concept label. For the above example, this would be:

bicycle---video--->^Picture of bicycle

The advantage of using this feature is that you won't need to go back and cut unnecessary cards from the stack. When *Wayfinder* builds the stack, it reads the caret as an instruction to omit creating a concept card (Picture of bicycle) for that concept label. The relation button is created and placed on the other paired concept card (bicycle) but remains unlinked and unscripted. Instead of containing only the relation label (video), the relation button will contain both the relation label and the unlinked concept label. For the bicycle example the relation button would contain the label:

video--->^Picture of Bicycle

You may want to rename the button later when you script it.