The KBlocks Handbook

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Abstract

KBlocks is the KDE version of the classic falling blocks game.
Chapter 1

Introduction

**GAME TYPE:**
Logic, Arcade

**NUMBER OF POSSIBLE PLAYERS:**
One

KBlocks is the classic falling blocks game. The idea is stack the falling blocks in a way that lines are completely filled. When a line is completed it is removed, and more space is available in the play area. When there is not enough space for blocks to fall, the game is over.
OBJECTIVE:
Rotate the falling blocks, and fit them together to complete lines and clear the playfield.

By default, falling blocks can be moved left or right using the Left or Right arrow keys. The Down arrow key makes the block drop faster, and the Up arrow key is used to rotate the block. The keys used for each game action can be configured in the Settings → Configure Shortcuts... menu item.
Chapter 3

Game Rules, Strategies and Tips

3.1 Rules

- The rules are simple: just keep space for the blocks to fall!
- When a new block cannot fall, the game is over.

3.2 Strategies and Tips

- Do not forget to check the preview area: it shows the next piece that will be released.
- For additional points, try to remove several lines at once.
Chapter 4

Commands/Keyboard Shortcuts

The following sections briefly describes each menubar option.

4.1 Menu Items

- **Game → Single Game (Ctrl+N)**
  Starts a new single player game.

- **Game → Human vs AI**
  Compare your skills with the AI and play against the computer using the same sequence of falling blocks, where you have the first turn.

- **Game → Pause (P)**
  Pauses the game.

- **Game → Show High Scores (Ctrl+H)**
  This shows you the high score (the maximum number of points) for each difficulty level.

- **Game → Quit (Ctrl+Q)**
  Quits KBlocks.

- **Settings → Difficulty**
  Lets you set the difficulty level from a sub-menu.
  There are three default levels of difficulty: **Easy** (game starts at level 0), **Medium** (starts at level 5), and **Hard** (starts at level 10).

Additionally KBlocks has the common KDE **Settings** and **Help** menu items, for more information read the sections about the **Settings Menu** and **Help Menu** of the KDE Fundamentals.

4.2 Default Keyboard Shortcuts

The following table shows you the default keyboard shortcuts.
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key Combo</th>
<th>Action</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ctrl+N</td>
<td>Single Game</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ctrl+Q</td>
<td>Quit KBlocks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F1</td>
<td>KBlocks Handbook</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shift+F1</td>
<td>What’s This? help</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ctrl+H</td>
<td>Show High Scores</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P</td>
<td>Pause the game</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Right arrow</td>
<td>Move the block right</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Left arrow</td>
<td>Move the block left</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Down arrow</td>
<td>Move the block down</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Z</td>
<td>Rotate the block clockwise</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Up arrow</td>
<td>Rotate the block counter clockwise</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Space</td>
<td>Drop the block</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 4.1: Keyboard Shortcuts

These shortcuts can be changed by selecting **Settings → Configure Shortcuts...** from the menubar.
Chapter 5

Frequently Asked Questions

1. *Can I change the way the game looks?*
   
   Yes, click on the **Settings → Configure KBlocks...** menu item.
Chapter 6

Game Settings

The game settings can be configured by selecting Settings → Configure KBlocks... from the menubar. A dialog will appear.

To select a new theme simply choose the theme from the selection list. Each item in the list shows a small preview left to the theme name. A selection is immediately applied.

Once you are satisfied with the theme you have selected you can click the Close button, located at the bottom part of this dialog.
Chapter 7

Credits and License

KBlocks Copyright 2007-2008

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