

sharew.hlp
Ben Blumenberg
Reality Software
P.O. Box 105
Waldoboro, ME 04572
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Decompressing and Enjoying Your Archived Shareware Package (For IBM PC's and clones with hard drives)

1. These instructions assume a familiarity with basic DOS commands and procedures. If you do not have that knowledge, open a good DOS book and practice the tutorial or find a friend who can help.
2. Create a new directory on your hard drive (drive C) with an appropriate title that is easy to remember.
3. Copy your shareware package, .zip or .arc file etc., to the new directory. Don't delete the original compressed file in case something should adversely effect the copy. Check to make certain the copy process went OK.
4. Put a copy of the decompressing tool in the new directory. In the case of zipped files, this would be PKUNZIP.EXE.
5. At the DOS prompt of the new directory, or from within an archiving shell, use the appropriate commands and decompress the archived file. At the DOS prompt, enter PKUNZIP filename.zip c:\. The archived file will then decompress ('explode', 'uncrunch', etc.), i.e. separate into its separate components - the individual files that were compressed together. These files will remain in the new directory. If you have acquired shareware that was compressed by the arc process, your decompressing tool is ARCE.COM not pkunzip.exe, and the command at the dos prompt has a similar syntax: arc filename.arc c:\. An archiving utility, such as Archiver or Shez, will not require you to be at the DOS prompt of the new directory in order to decompress your shareware.
6. Some shareware comes in the form of self extracting files which do not need a decompressing tool to separate. Their filenames are usually flagged by an underline slash before the extension which is often .exe or .com. In any case, the information from the BBS or shareware company will identify such files. Merely run them as you would any executive file and they will decompress.
7. Keep a backup copy of your original shareware file on a floppy. Print out a copy of the file list that emerged from decompressing and note files such as readme. and those with extensions such as .txt or .doc. These are text files which are meant to be read before you begin to do anything. They will be

introductory documents, manuals and instructions, etc. that are essential to getting started. A file such as doc.bat is a batch file that will allow you to view and often printout documents, either to the screen or printer or both

8.ENJOY!

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