

TIP for AppBar Ver 1.51, rel.2

In short

TIP for AppBar is "another wastebasket for Windows". The differences between TIP and other wastebaskets are:

TIP for AppBar will only work properly when tied to AppBar (by NEVER *never* Software); this gives the advantage that TIP will only occupy memory when it is actually in use.

TIP for AppBar will (optionally, of course) save both "deleted" files, filenames and directory position. This means you can restore a file *to its original directory* by selecting **Recover**, one of the buttons in the main (dialogue) window, or you can decide which directory a file can be restored to by using the **Set Dir** button.

TIP for AppBar and AppBar co-operates, and AppBar will update the icon for TIP, according to the mode of operation, and the number of recoverable files at any moment.

How to use TIP for AppBar

When you first start TIP for Appbar, you will be asked to select a directory TIP can use for storing the recoverable files. You are automatically sent to the Options dialogue (below) to do this; TIP for AppBar now simply refuses to operate unless the setup has been completed (new to version 1.4). There is online help (also new to version 1.4).

There is not much to say about deleting files - to delete you drag them from File Manager to the TIP button on AppBar (once you have it installed). You cannot delete directories. You can recover files by clicking the TIP button and be presented with a list of recoverable files. Here you can also set the various options.

To recover a file, either:

- select the file with accompanying directory (or several files) using the mouse on the file list, then press the **Recover** button, or
- double-click on a filename on the file list.

To change a file's directory, select one or several files (up to 512 simultaneously) and click the **Set Dir** button. This presents you with a new window, from which you can select an existing directory. Note that the suggested directory will be that of the last file on the list, unless this directory has been deleted. In that case, the suggested directory will be the root on the same drive (all this means you cannot **Set Dir** to a non-existent directory). Clicking OK here will update the file list (the files are not recovered until you ask for it).

The options you can set are:

Directory: This is where your recoverably "deleted" files are stored. The first time you start TIP, you are forced to set a directory.

Delete Options: Select whether TIP should just delete the files you drop, or if they should indeed be saved.

Warn - Delete: If you try to delete a file, and a recoverable file with the same name (not necessarily the same path) exists in the TIP directory, you can choose to get a warning about this.

Warn - Recover: This is for file restore. If you try to restore a file that for some reason already exists, you can opt to be warned before the restore is carried through.

Warn - Empty: If you find it just too easy to press the Empty TIP button and regret later, this is for you.

Empty TIP does exactly that - the files are lost.

The files you need to run the program (in addition to AppBar, that is), is:

TIP.EXE (or TIP_B.EXE, see below)
TIP.HLP
BWCC.DLL (if you use TIP_B.EXE)

I would recommend you keep this (.WRI) file as well. TIP will create and update its own .INI file in your Windows directory - this is where the options and directory information is stored.

TIP vs. TIP_B

The two executables use standard Windows, and Borland dialogue boxes, respectively. If you choose to use the Borland version, you need a copy of the file BWCC.DLL in your Windows SYSTEM directory (this file should be available from the same place you got TIP). *For TIP and AppBar to cooperate properly, the TIP program **must** be called **TIP.EXE**.* If you decide to use TIP_B, you can delete the original TIP.EXE you won't use, and rename the other to TIP.EXE. As of version 1.5, separate Borland Dialogue boxes are designed for standard VGA and 1024x768 screen resolutions, with automatic detection. This is a bit clumsy, but there is unfortunately no direct provision for the high resolution screens (as far as I know, anyway) from Borland, and the dialogues do not always look quite right across the different screen modes. SuperVGA (800x600) is OK with the VGA boxes. TIP_B does *not* support EGA resolution.

AppBar

AppBar is a NeXT-inspired application launcher written by Geert van Kempen. Without this, TIP would never have existed. Thanks to Geert for writing AppBar.

Error Situations

There are certain situations where TIP for AppBar cannot operate. You can for example delete a file (to TIP for AppBar), remove the original directory and then try to recover the file. TIP for AppBar will then warn you that it cannot recover the file. In this case you should use the Set Dir option to find a new directory for your file before you restore it. You can also try to recover a file to a full disk, in which case you will have an aborted restore operation. In this case TIP for AppBar will delete the partially restored file, but will leave the backup untouched. (A similar situation occurs if your TIP directory is on a near-full disk, and you try to drop something into TIP.) You can also delete TIP.INI in your Windows directory; this will cause TIP to lose the directory information (not the recoverable files). Finally, if you delete or rename the TIP directory, TIP for AppBar will ask you to specify a new directory it can use.

Programming Notes

To speed up the delete / recover process, whenever possible the program uses the DOS RENAME function (INT 21H, function 56H). I don't think there are any problems calling this interrupt from within Windows, and it certainly makes the file moves swift. The quick delete / recover will now (as of ver 1.5) happily "see through" SUBST'ed or JOIN'ed directories (for those who insist on using this).

For security reasons, you should not be able to select the root directory of your boot drive as the TIP directory. In most cases, this is indeed also ensured. This is NOT true, however, if

you run Windows from another drive than the one you boot from. The DOS function (3305H, valid from DOS 4) returning the boot drive ceases to work under Windows, and Windows can only specify the drive it itself was started from. Bad luck.

Bugs

Well, there is also a little quirk with the program: if you try to **Set Dir**, or **Recover** more than 512 files, only the first 512 files on the list will be handled; the rest will be ignored. If you think this can be a problem, let me know - I can certainly fix it... Also, when you handle that many files (either deleting or recovering), nothing seems to happen for a while (at least if you have SmartDrive installed). Don't worry - things *will* happen, albeit slowly.

Development

The wishlist for future development is as follows:

- Add a possibility to delete (sub)directories;
- ?? (Any ideas?)

Freeware

This program is copyright me, but it is free for anyone to use. I don't want any money. But I would appreciate hearing from anyone who finds use for the program, bug reports, hints, ideas etc. And if you give it to someone, please keep this file with it. It contains information that is not given anywhere else.

Version History

- V1.0** - Jul 1992; *delete only. The program was about one pageful.*
- V1.1** - Aug 1992; *added recover directory.*
- V1.2** - Aug 1992; *added icon juggling, saving the directory name, recover operation within the program.*
- V1.3** - Sep 1992; *added DOS rename interrupt, directory change for files. Agreed upon messages to AppBar. This version is supplied with AppBar 3.30.*
- V1.3a** - Sep 1992; *maintenance - improver keyboard interface and added gray buttons for disabled options.*
- V1.3b** - Oct 1992; *added Borland dialogue Boxes (needs BWCC.DLL).*
- V1.4a** - Nov 1992; *removed danger of deleting root directory files (automatic setup). Restructured boxes a bit. Added Windows Help. New icon 6=setup needed.*
- V1.5** - Nov 1992; *separate VGA / 1024x768 Borland dialogue boxes. Added more security. Now only one version number - .EXE files named TIP_A and TIP_B. Added hourglass cursor; correct JOIN and SUBST handling. Added provision for working with Dropper.*
- V1.51** - Jan 1993; *fixed a bug with double-click file recovery. Added proper handling of Hidden/System/ReadOnly files.*
- V1.51 rel.2** - Jan 1993; *removed BWCC.LIB that was inadvertently linked into TIP_A. Renamed TIP_A to TIP, and updated documentation for proper installation.*

Author

My current address is in Australia, but this will not be valid after February 1993. I will move to Norway, and when a new address is available, I will update this file.

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