

Power BBS Config for Windows

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OverView of Config for PowerBBS

The Configuration program for PowerBBS (Config) is what you will use to change the various options and settings for your BBS. The installation program created an icon in your PowerBBS program group to start this program and automatically load POWRBBS.DAT. This file is already set up with defaults, most of which should work just fine for you. This chapter will explain what each setting does and possibly refer you to another section of this manual for more information.

Every node of PowerBBS that you run requires a separate POWRBBS.DAT file. The most common way to name these DAT files is POWRBBS1.DAT, POWRBBS2.DAT where the number is the number of the node. You will use these DAT files to start up a separate instance of PowerBBS one instance of PowerBBS per DAT file. In simple terms this means that you will have a separate icon to start PowerBBS for each node you run on your system. If you are running two nodes of PowerBBS then you will start PowerBBS twice once for each DAT file.

***Power Tip:** If you intend to run more than one node of PowerBBS, configure the one node first and make sure everything is running to your satisfaction. Adding a second node will be as simple as copying the first node's DAT file, then making a few changes to items that must be different on each node.*

Multiple nodes

There is another chapter in this manual that discusses in greater detail running multiple nodes of PowerBBS. Please read that chapter if you intend to run multiple nodes. One important note to remember while reading this chapter or working in Config is that each item marked with an asterisk (*) **must** be different for each node on your BBS.

Note: Failure to ensure that items marked with an asterisk are different for each node will cause strange and annoying problems with PowerBBS. Do not start a second node of PowerBBS until you have double-checked to see if each and every one of these entries is different for each node.

Working with Config

Config operates like a standard Windows program. There is an icon for each set of entries in Config. Click once on an icon to see and edit the options associated with that icon. You may also choose to get to these options from the Options menu in Config. Either method works and is acceptable.

Read through this entire chapter before attempting to work with Config. Sprinkled liberally are Power Tips and Notes that will make working with Config as painless as possible.

File Menu

Open will allow you to pick a file and open it for editing in Config. By default Config lists those files ending with the extension .DAT. There are other files on your system with this same extension, but they are not the actual DAT files for use with Config. You have to close the current DAT file before you can open another.

Close will close the currently open DAT file, and all associated files that have been edited. If there is no file open then this item will be gray and inaccessible.

Save will save the currently open DAT file, and all associated files that have been edited.

Save As will let you save the currently open DAT file with another name.

***Power Tip:** If you are planning to make a lot of changes in Config, use File, Save As and name the file with the extension BAK to save a backup. Then use File, Open to open the original DAT file and make your changes. If you mess up, you can always open the BAK file and try again!*

Exit exits the program!

Options Menu

General Options a list of all the information screens.

Forums Setup will open the Forums configuration screen, allowing instant access to one of the most important parts of a BBS.

Files Setup will startup the PBBS Files Manager program.

Menus Setup starts the Menu Editing portion of Config.

Language Setup starts the Language editor.

Navigating the Configuration Program

Whenever there is a check box for an option, *checked* indicates that the option is selected or ON. If you leave the box blank, that option is not selected or OFF. The term *clear* means to uncheck a check box. We use the term clear because that's what Microsoft uses. Besides that, uncheck sounds a little silly!

***Power Tip:** As in any Windows program you can use Tab to move from one field to another in Config. Tab moves you to the next field, Shift-Tab moves you to the previous field. When you use Tab to move to a field, the text in that field is highlighted. If you type anything while that text is highlighted, Windows will delete that text. If you hit Home, your cursor will move to the first character in that field. If you hit End, your cursor will move to the end of that field!*

When using Tab to navigate the fields, your cursor will also stop on check boxes. Windows shows you are at this field by displaying a small gray outline around that field. You can use the Spacebar to check or clear that check box.

Starting Config for Power BBS

This is a New and greatly improved configuration program for Power BBS. Replace the config.exe program in your Power BBS main directory with the new one. Modify your Config Icon in the Power BBS group by using ALT+ENTER you should make it look like:

NAME:	Config
COMMAND LINE:	CONFIG.EXE
STARTUP DIR:	C:\POWRBBS

Chose OK. You may start the Config program now, by clicking on the icon.

Select File Open and choose the POWRBBS.DAT file.

Go through each screen in the configuration you will see a greatly enhanced configuration program!!

Sysop Information

The Sysop Information Screen holds four basic pieces of information.

Note: If you are a registered PowerBBS Sysop, be very sure to enter the Sysop Name and 'Registration Number exactly as they are printed in the front of your manual. You cannot vary the spelling one bit from what you supplied to PowerBBS when you registered the software.

Name of BBS

This is the name of your BBS. It will be displayed to your callers immediately after they connect to your BBS.

First Name

This is your first name.

Last Name

This is your last name

Note: When supplying this name to us for registration, be sure to use the name that you intend to use on your BBS. Your given name may be William Smith, but you may prefer to use Bill Smith. When requesting your registration number, be sure to give us the name you intend to use on your BBS.

Registration

This is the exact registration number as given to you by PowerBBS.

Power Tip: If you want to use a handle as your Sysop name for PowerBBS, supply this handle to PowerBBS when you register the software. Make it clear to us that you want to use a name other than your real name for registration purposes.

Modem Information

Setting up your modem is the most complicated thing you will have to do for PowerBBS. We have devoted an entire chapter to configuring your modem. You **must** read that chapter before attempting to have folks calling in to your BBS. The following is a brief overview of the settings found here.

*Node Number

Choose a number for this node. You may choose any number from 0 through 99. If you are going to use this configuration file as a Local Only node, you may leave the number at 0. If you do start numbering your nodes at 0, you will not be able to use the teleconference features.

***Power Tip:** If you want to run a two node system, consider numbering the nodes 1 and 2. This way you can log on locally while a caller is on your BBS and join him in teleconference.*

Comm Port

Select the communications port you would like this node of your PowerBBS to receive information through. Local Only nodes should leave this set to 0 which means no communications port is used.

Modem Command (1)

This will be the first initialization string that is sent to the modem as PowerBBS prepares to accept calls. This string should be used to reset your modem. For most modems this is ATZ.

Modem Command (2)

This is the second initialization string that is sent to your modem as PowerBBS prepares to accept calls. Read the chapter on modems for more details. However, at the very least this string should contain AT&C1&D0H0.

Modem Off-hook

This string will place the phone line off the hook, much like picking up the receiver of your telephone. PowerBBS will use this string whenever it needs to prevent callers from logging on to your BBS. Such times include local log-ons by the Sysop, events, and taking a node off-line. This string is usually ATH1.

Drop Carrier String

This string will force the modem to disconnect the line. This will be used to hang-up on impolite callers that can tie up the lines. It is usually ATH0.

Baud Rate

PowerBBS provides serial I/O support for speeds up to 57,600 baud. Choose the highest baud your modem will support. Do not select a baud that is higher than what your modem supports. The results may be unpredictable. All this is discussed in more detail in the section on modems.

Note: If you are using the fax options of PowerBBS, you must set this entry no higher than 19200.

Minimum Baud Rate

Select the lowest baud rate you will allow callers to use on your system.

Lock Baud at MAX?

If you check this box, PowerBBS will always send all data to the modem at the highest selected speed. This is discussed in more detail in the section on modems.

Answer by TRUE Ring Detect?

PowerBBS can receive calls in one of two ways. First, it can wait for your modem to send the word RING when a call is detected. PowerBBS will then send the modem answer command (ATA) and answer the call. This is the preferred method for PowerBBS. Check this box to use this option. Make sure that your Modem Command (2) setting has ATS0=0. This tells your modem not to automatically answer calls.

The second method to answer an incoming call is to let the modem do it automatically. To use this option, clear this check box. Then modify your Modem Command (2) setting to tell your modem how many rings it must detect before answering. This is usually done with ATS0=1 (answer after one ring).

Use Fax Option

If you have a Class 2 Fax Modem that is capable of Adaptive Answering you *may* be able to automatically receive fax and data calls on your BBS. See the section of faxes later in this manual for more information. Check this box to use the fax options of PowerBBS.

Note: If you check this box, you must also check Answer by True Ring Detect and set your Max Baud Rate to 19200.

General Options 1

Allow One Word Names?

If want to allow your callers to log on with simply a one word name (Tuirc, Babydoll) instead of forcing them to enter two names, check this option. This option has no bearing on the use of anonymous names (handles).

Run as Chinese Compatible?

Checking this box will allow callers to enter any name they want . Any character is allowed. If it is left blank the name **must** begin with a letter.

Track User's Birthday?

Check this box if you want to ask for a caller's birth date. You will then be able to track that person's birthdays and age. Furthermore, PowerBBS will display a happy birthday screen to that caller when he logs-in to your BBS on his birthday.

Allow Multi-Language Support?

If you only want to run an English Language system clear this box. If you wish to offer your callers options of different languages, check this box. You must provide different language files for your callers. See the section of this manual on languages.

Restrict All Uploads?

Check this box, if you want PowerBBS to keep new uploads off-line until you manually place them on-line. If this box is checked, all uploads are sent to the \RESTRICTED directory, and are listed in the Restricted Files Listing. If you leave this option clear, your callers will be able to download the uploads to your system..

Use Caller ID Option

If you have a Caller ID compatible modem and have subscribed to Caller ID with your phone company, check this option. PowerBBS will write to the activity log the phone number of the incoming call. See the section later in this manual for more information.

Run Events for This Node

If you have an Event Data File for this node and want it to run the events, be sure to check this option. Events are discussed later in this manual.

Display Who's On-Line at Intro

If you want PowerBBS to automatically display to the caller who else is on-line when they log-on, check this option. PowerBBS will then display the WHO-ON MACRO as the last screen before the Main menu.

Delete Uploads on Carrier Drop

If you want to delete incomplete uploads to your system (such as when a caller drops carrier during an upload), check this box.

Show Stats Screen at Intro

If you want PowerBBS to automatically display the Stats screen to your callers when they log on, check this option. This will be the next to last screen that a caller sees before the Main menu. This setting has no effect on Menu Command 11, View Statistics.

Track Gender (sex) of Users

If you want PowerBBS to ask your callers their gender, check this option. They will have the choice of male, female or anonymous.

Internet Connection

If you intend to connect your BBS to Internet for exchanging mail, you must check this option. If you don't, your Internet portions of your BBS will not operate properly. See the chapter on Internet for more information.

Call Back Verifier Activated

If you have the Professional version of PowerBBS, you must check this option for the CBV to operate. If you do not have the professional version, this option is not used. See the section on CBV for more information.

Show Bulletin Menu at Log On

If you want your callers to be notified of new bulletins when they log on, check this option. If you don't check this option, your callers will have to check the bulletin menus themselves to look for new bulletins.

PowerBase Code

If you have registered PowerBase, you were given a serial number. Enter that number here. If you don't, PowerBase will only allow you to have up to five entries in a database.

Halt Uploads when drive has

Put the number of Kilobytes you want to have on your hard drive before you stop uploads. Examples are: 200 = 204,800 bytes. 5000 =5,120,000 bytes (5 Megabytes).

Compressed Filename Extension

Enter the default extension for the type of compression you are using on your system. ZIP, ZOO, and ARJ are just a few examples. PowerBBS has built in support for ZIP files. It is suggested that you use ZIP as the default extension. This setting has no bearing on what files you will allow on your BBS. See the setting on the Upload Security File for more information.

Command to Test Compressed Files

This line is the DOS style command line to be used for testing compressed files. You must have the proper compression software on your system for this to work properly. This command line is used with Menu Command 28, Test a File. It allows your callers to test a file before downloading.

Command to View Compressed Files

This line is the DOS style command line to be used to view which files are inside of a compressed file. If you are using ZIP as the default file extension, PowerBBS will use its internal ZIP support to display a list of the files inside of a ZIP. This setting works with Menu Command 30, View Inside a Compressed File. If you are using a different compression type, you will need another program to display the contents of this file. PowerBBS has built in support for Aviewcom, a shareware program to view compressed files.

Most Idle Minutes Logoff

The number, in **minutes** a caller can be idle before the BBS logs them off automatically. If this is set to 0, the caller can be idle indefinitely (not recommended).

Character Displayed when Echo Off

For security, PowerBBS will display this character when a caller enters a password.

Normal Default Color

Enter the ANSI color code of the color you want displayed as the caller types. This will only work if the caller has a color monitor. Valid entries are 31-Red, 32-Green, 33-Yellow, 34-Blue, 35-Magenta, 36-Cyan, 37-White.

General Options 2

Are you running a Closed BBS?

Most BBSs allow callers to sign on as new users when they call the first time. Some companies run what is called a closed BBS where no callers are allowed on-line until the Sysop has added them to the user database. If this is the type of BBS you need, check this option.

Path\File Name to Closed Script File

If you are running a Closed BBS, callers will have to answer this script file questionnaire when they call the first time. It is up to you to add them to the user database to give them access to your BBS.

Path\File Name to Closed Answer File

The answers to the Closed script file above are stored here.

Test New Files after Upload?

Check this box if you want PowerBBS to check each file that your caller's upload to your BBS. You must have a batch file and upload checking software to test upload. See the chapter on files for more information.

**Path\File Name to Test Batch File*

This is the full path and filename for the batch file used to test uploaded files. You must have a different batch file for each node of your BBS.

**Path\File Name to Temp. Error file*

This is the full path and filename for the error file created by your test error batch file. PowerBBS will look for this file automatically. If it exists, PowerBBS will let you know an error occurred. This entry must be different for each node.

Are you running FrontDoor or other Mailer?

Check this box if you are running FrontDoor or another front end mail software that will answer the phone before PowerBBS. If checked, PowerBBS will run the EVENT.BAT file listed below instead of waiting for callers. For more information on FrontDoor and other mailers, see the section on FrontDoor.

Path\File Name to Mailer Batch File

This is the **full** path and file name to the batch file used to start FrontDoor or other mailer.

Temp File to read Baud from

This file will be generated by FrontDoor or other software. You have to tell PowerBBS where to look for it. For more information on this topic see the FrontDoor section.

General Options 3

*Directory to use for QWK Mail

This will be the work directory for the compression and decompression of the .QWK/.REP packets. It must be different for each node. If you don't create a different directory for each node to handle QWK Mail, you run the risk of mixing QWK and REP packets and messing up your message files.

Name for QWK Mail Packet

QWK mail requires an eight character file name to use with QWK and REP packets that identifies your BBS. PowerBBS and QWK mail programs will automatically enter the QWK or REP extension to the name you give here. This entry must be eight characters long using letters only. Do not place an extension on this file name. Make sure that this entry is the same for each node.

MAX Messages per Mail file

This is the maximum number of messages that can be included in a QWK mail packet.

MAX Lines per message

Enter a number between 50 and 250. A setting of 200 lines is used in many places. This restricts the number of lines that can be entered in a message.

Date Format

Chose from DD-MM-YY or MM-DD-YY format for dates on your system. This allows changing from American to European style dates.

Permit Color in Messages?

Some mail networks allow ANSI color codes to be sent in messages. For the systems that aren't setup for it, this can cause problems. If you are going to allow this type of message, check this box.

Permit High ASCII Characters in Messages

If you are planning on having echoed mail conferences on your system, you should find out if the extended ASCII graphical characters are allowed in messages. If they are not, you should clear this option.

Tag-Line for PowerNet

If you are going to be using the .QWK network capabilities, this line will be automatically added to any messages that are exported to callers with QWK-Net status. For more information on this subject see the section on PowerNet.

Note: These next three numbers are given as ratios in the form 1/X where X is a number you enter. If you enter 2, the ratio will be 50% (1/2). If you enter 5, the ratio will be 20% (1/5). For the following entries, remember that one credit equals one minute.

Number of Bytes Given for Uploads

If you want to reward your callers for uploading files to your system, enter a number here. If you want the uploader to earn one upload byte per minute per upload, enter a 1 here. If you want the uploader to earn one half upload byte per minute per upload, enter a 2 here (1/2).

Number of Bytes Given to Uploader When Files is Downloaded

If you want to reward your callers when other callers download a file they uploaded, enter a number here. If you want the uploader to earn one upload byte per minute per download whenever someone downloads

his file, enter a one here. If you want the uploader to be rewarded with one-half upload byte per minute per download, enter a two here (1/2). Refer to the section of the manual on customizing your system for more information.

Run Credit System

Check this option if you want to use a credit system. See the section on credit systems for more information.

Credits Given to Uploader when File is Downloaded

If you want to reward your callers for uploading files (you should), enter a number here. If you want callers to earn one credit per minute the upload takes, enter a one here. If you want your callers to earn one-half credit per minute the upload takes, enter 2 here (1/2).

DataFile Locations

The files listed in this section all contain information that can be further configured by you. With the exception of the Users file and Forum file, all the options can be edited directly from this part of Config. To edit these files, click the Edit button and select the appropriate file. The Forum file is edited under the Forums section of Config. The Users file is edited by logging on locally to your BBS.

When editing these files, you may see the following options:

Insert Insert a line above the cursor
Delete Delete the line the cursor is on

Bulletin Data File

Bulletins may be ASCII, ANSI or RIP Script text files. They can provide explanatory information, rules listings, announcements or just about anything you like. Use this file to tell PowerBBS where your bulletins are. See the section on Bulletins for more information.

DownLoad Security File

This file allows you to restrict callers to downloading certain files and types of files by security level. Be sure to put the most restrictive entries first and the least restrictive entries last. When a caller attempts to download a file, PowerBBS looks in this file to see if that file meets one of the entries you have listed. If it does, PowerBBS checks the security level. If your caller has a security level high enough to download this file, he is permitted to do so. PowerBBS will stop looking when a file matches one of these entries it won't look for any other matches. See the chapter on files for more information on this file.

*Path\Filename to Event Data File

PowerBBS will look in this event file when PowerBBS loads and will keep track of when an event is scheduled to run. When the appointed time arrives, PowerBBS will again look in this file to find out what program it is supposed to run and then run that event. Events are usually batch files that you run on a nightly basis, such as packing your message files.

You must have a different event data file for each node. Please note that you can edit the event file from this part of Config or from the Events icon on the Main Screen of Config. Events are described in more detail later in this manual.

Forum Data File

Contains the information on all of the forums on your BBS. When you click on the Forums icon from the main screen of Config you will be able to edit this file. You should use the same file name for all nodes of your BBS. See the chapters on the Message System and File System for more details.

Forum Network Data File

This file contains a list of all of the forums on your system. By entering a series of network names you can organize your forums into easily manageable sets for your callers when they use Menu Command 19, Update Forum Information. See the chapter on Messages for more details.

Junk Users Names

If you want to prevent your callers from using certain names, place those names in this file. When a new caller logs on, PowerBBS checks this file for the name he gives. If that name is found, PowerBBS will force him to choose a different name.

Language Data File

If you want to allow your callers to choose between different languages, you must first check that option in Config under Options #1. You must then create different language files. Finally, list those language files

in this file. See the section on languages for more details.

* Live Programs Data File

If you intend to offer doors for your callers to play, you must place the batch files to start these doors in this file. You must use a different file name for each node on your system. See the chapter on doors for more information.

No Charge Data File

When a caller downloads a file from your system, his download byte count and download files count is increased. If you have certain files or directories that you wish to offer for "free," list them here. PowerBBS will not charge the files listed here against the caller's download ratios.

Protocol Data File

This file holds all the command lines for your various transfer protocols. If you are using the internal file transfer protocols for PowerBBS, you do not need to make any entries to this file. See the chapter on files for more information.

Questionnaire Data File

This file holds all of the information about the questionnaires on your BBS. See the section on questionnaires for more details.

Security Data File

This file contains the information about the various security levels on your BBS. This file should be the same for all nodes on your BBS. The only exception is if you have a node with a slower modem. You may want to use a different set of security information so you can give callers to this node more time on-line. See the chapter on security for more details.

Upload Security File

Holds the information on what directories, file types and individual files you want your callers to access during uploads. This way you can restrict uploads in certain areas, just like with the downloads. See the chapter on files form more information

Users Data File

This file holds the information about your callers. It **must** be the same for every node on your system.

Sysop Paging Data File

This file contains the information to have PowerBBS automatically turn your page bell on and off at predetermined times. See the section on Sysop paging for more details.

File Locations 1

The entries in this section contain either directories or files that PowerBBS uses while your BBS is running. These files are not editable from within Config. All directories indicated on this screen must exist on your disk. If you are using the defaults, PowerBBS will have created these directories and/or Files upon installation.

Directory containing .MNU/.POW files

This is commonly referred to as your *source* directory. This entry must end with a \. Most sysops use the same directory for all nodes, however there are times you may want to use different source directories for different nodes. This directory contains all of your menu files (*.MNU) and PowerLang files.

Directory containing Index Files

This is the path of the directory which will contain your index files. The index files are used by PowerBBS to quickly find a user when she logs on. This entry must end with a stroke (\).

Ram Disk Directory with Index Files

If you have over 8M of RAM on your system, you may consider creating a RAM disk on your system in AUTOEXEC.BAT. Then place a command in your AUTOEXEC.BAT that copies the indexes from the above directory to this RAM disk. If you are not using a RAM disk, leave this entry blank.

Path to Dir Containing Security Screens

This commonly referred to as your *security* directory. This is where display screens involving security levels are stored. See the chapter on screens for more details. This entry must end with a \.

Path to Script for New Users

When a new caller logs on to your system, PowerBBS will force them to answer the questionnaire listed here. See the section on questionnaires for more details.

Power Tip: Don't include this questionnaire in your *Questionnaire Data File*. Otherwise, your callers may answer the same questionnaire twice: Once when they call the first time and later by accident!

Path/file Containing Answers

This file will contain the answers to the questionnaire listed above.

Path/File to Listing for Restricted Files

This is the file that will contain a listing of restricted uploads to your system (see the next entry). It will not list files enclosed within messages.

Path to Restricted Files Directory

When a caller uploads a file, it is usually placed in the Uploads Directory for that forum (see the chapter on files). If you have checked Restrict All Uploads in Config under Options #1, all uploads will be placed in this directory. Furthermore, if a caller enters a description for an upload that begins with an asterisk (*), PowerBBS will place the upload in this directory. Finally, all files enclosed within messages are placed in this directory.

*Path to Transfer Directory

This is the directory used by PowerBBS as a temporary directory during file transfers. It will hold uploaded files until they are moved around. It will also hold the list of files that the caller is downloading. This

directory should be different on all nodes. If it does not exist, the configuration program will create it at logoff.

Path to Uploaders Data File

This file will contain a list of all the uploads to your system. It will tell you who uploaded the file, the date of the upload and the protocol and speed of the transfer. This file is used by PowerBBS to give credit to uploaders when another caller downloads a file they uploaded. See Options #1 for more details. This entry must be the same for each node.

Path/File for Activity Log

PowerBBS keeps track of what your caller does in the activity log. You will need a separate activity log for each node on your system. **Use the same file name for each of your nodes!** PowerBBS will append the node number to end of this file name automatically. Do not make this file name more than seven characters if your nodes are numbered anywhere from 0-9. Don't make this file name more than six characters if any of your nodes are numbered 10 or higher.

**Path/File for Display Output*

This file is used by PowerBBS whenever a user downloads a file, when testing/viewing a zip file, or when running a DOS command from the Sysop menu. The contents of this file, if any, will be displayed to the caller when the BBS resumes normal operation. This entry must be different for each node.

**Path/File for DSZ listing*

The DSZ listing file is used by external protocols when a user is downloading. It contains all of the necessary paths and file names for the transfer. It should be different for each node.

Path/File for PowerInfo file

This file contains the cumulative history of your BBS such as the number of calls to the system. It should be the same for every node. Do not place this file on a RAM disk.

**Path/File for batch created for LPT*

This is a batch file created by PowerBBS when the BBS shells to DOS to run live programs (doors, events, etc.), and transfers (if using external file transfer protocols). This file should be different for each node. Examples: LIVE1.BAT LIVE2.BAT. **You will never have any need to put anything in this file!**

PowerBBS creates it automatically whenever it needs to by adding a few PowerBBS specific commands and then copying into this file the contents of the batch file you are running. Failure to use a unique name for each node will result in erratic and possibly disastrous results. Furthermore, you should avoid naming any other batch files on your system with the name you are using here.

File Locations 2

**Path\File to Current Callers Info File*

This is used by PowerBBS and associated programs to provide information to all sorts of things. Conversion programs will use this as a source file for current caller information supplied to *live* (door) programs. This file must be different for each node.

Path\File to Whose Talking Temp File

This is a temporary file where all the text from chat is written. The other nodes will pick up new information and display it during chat. When a new chat is started, this file is deleted, then restarted. This file must be the same for every node.

Want to see what your callers were talking about? Open this file in a text editor when no callers are on-line and take a look at it!

Path\File to Whose Chatting File

This file contains information about who is chatting. This file must be the same for every node.

Path\File to ASCII/ANSI Editor

This entry is only used by the configuration program. Place the full path and file name of the program you are using to edit your ASCII and ANSI screens. While in Config under Screen Locations 1 and 2, you can click Edit and edit your files.

Path\File to RIP Editor

This entry is only used by the configuration program. Place the full path and file name of the program you are using to edit your RIP screens. While in Config under Screen Locations 1 and 2, you can click Edit and edit your files.

**Path\File to Error File*

This file is used by PowerBBS to track errors on your system. This entry must be different for each node on your system.

Path\File to Node Status Data File

This file contains the information used to display who is on-line. It is also used by teleconference. This entry must be the same for every node.

**Path\File to DOOR.SYS Drop File*

This is the location of your DOOR.SYS drop file. This file is used by doors. This entry must be different for every node. See the chapter on Doors for more details.

Security Level Defaults

These settings are explained in full detail in the chapter on security.

Level Given to New Users

This is the default security level given to all new callers.

Forum Area Change

This is the minimum security level your callers will need to change forums (areas) on your BBS.

Abort Intro Screens

This is the minimum security level needed to bypass old Intro screens.

Delete a Message

This is the minimum security level needed to delete a message. A caller can only delete messages to or from himself. Most sysops set this number to zero.

Reply to a Message

This is the minimum security level needed to reply to a message. Replying to a message is an option from the Read Mail sub-menu.

Search Files Intro

This setting is the minimum security level required to be able to search for new files when a caller logs on.

Minimum Security Level Needed to Enter an Internet Message

If you have Internet forums on your BBS, you may want to let your callers read those messages, but not be able to write messages until they pay a fee. Use this setting to restrict which callers can enter Internet messages. This security level overrides the security level given to the Enter a Message menu command or the Reply command setting (see above).

Note: The next six options apply to the Sysop menu command. You should place this menu command on your Main menu with a high security level to access this command. These six options will allow you to further refine what a sysop can do on your system. You might make a special security level of 140 for sub-sysops. Set this as the security level to access the Sysop menu command. Then set higher levels in the next six options for those commands you don't want your sub-sysops to be able to access.

Activity Log

This is the minimum security level needed to view the activity log.

Drop to DOS

This is the minimum security level needed to drop to DOS using REMOTE.BAT. Be very careful in allowing sub-sysops to access this command. In a short time they can destroy your entire BBS! See the chapter on getting started for more information on REMOTE.BAT.

Message Pack

This is the minimum security level needed to pack the message bases. This setting has no bearing on your events.

DOS Function

This is the minimum security level needed to perform a DOS function. This is similar to dropping to DOS except the caller can only perform one command at a time. Again, be very careful about giving someone access to this command.

List Users

This is the minimum security level needed to list users from the Sysop menu. There is a standard menu command that performs the exact same function. This setting has no bearing on that menu command. This setting comes into play if you choose not to place the List Callers command on your BBS, and you want only Sysops to perform this command.

Update Users

This is the minimum security level needed to update your users file. Again, be very careful about giving someone access to this command.

Level Needed to Read, Kill Any Message

Anyone with this security level will be able to read and delete any message on your system. Sysops use this feature to monitor the message files and remove obscene or obnoxious messages. Be sure you trust a person thoroughly before giving them this security level.

Note: The next three options are ratios as explained earlier in this chapter. They only come into play when there are no ratios given for a security level. The fourth option is the minimum security level needed to bypass these ratios altogether.

Download/Upload Bytes Ratio

This is the ratio of upload bytes to download bytes. 100 means a caller must upload at least the same number of bytes that he downloads (100%). 25 means a caller must at least upload 25% of the bytes he has downloaded. This is a more fair method of comparing uploads to downloads.

Messages/Calls Ratio

This number is really more of a percentage than a ratio. 100 means the caller must leave a message 100% of the time (every time she calls). 50 means the caller must leave one message for every two calls. 25 means she must leave one message for every 4 calls.

Download/Upload Files Ratio

This is the ratio of uploads to downloads. 100 means a caller must upload one file for each file he downloads. 25 means a caller must upload one file for every four he downloads.

Minimum Security Level Needed to Bypass Ratios

The above three ratios are defaults. This setting is the minimum security level needed to bypass these ratios altogether. You can use the above set of ratios or the ratio settings set per security level. The choice is yours.

Screen Locations 1

The following two screens list the different display screens available on your BBS. Read the chapter on screens for more details on creating these screens. File names listed here must **not** have extensions. You can have three different types of display files for each item listed here: ASCII, ANSI (color), and RIP. The three types of files are denoted by the last character of the filename. In this screen you should enter the name of the ASCII file, which is simply the name of the file. Later, when you create color and RIP versions of these files, you must add an C or an R to the file name when you save it. The result will be that you have three versions of the same display file.

For example, you may have three versions of the Begin Download screen. The default name for this file is DLOAD.

If you choose to have ASCII, ANSI and RIP versions of this file, they will be named as follows:

DLOAD - ASCII (notice this is the same names as entered in Config)

DLOADC - ANSI

DLOADR - RIP

Anon-Name

No longer in use.

Bad Ratios Screen

This file is displayed to callers when they try download a file, but are not permitted to do so because they have not met the ratios you have specified for their security level.

Begin Download Screen

This file is displayed to the caller before a beginning a download using Menu Command 22, Download files.

Begin Upload Screen

This file is displayed to the caller before beginning an upload to your BBS using Menu Command 29, Upload a file.

Birthday Screen

This screen is displayed to a caller if she logs-on on her birthday and Track Users' Birthday is check in Config under Options #1.

Bulletin Sub Menu

This screen is displayed to callers when they choose Menu Command 2, Read Bulletins. It is also displayed to the caller if you have checked Display Bulletins at Intro in Options #1, and there are new bulletins for the caller to see. It contains a list of the bulletins on your system. Be sure to number the bulletins to match the bulletin numbers indicated in the Bulletin Data File in Config under Data File Locations.

Chat Help

This file is displayed to callers when they enter teleconference.

Clock Screen

This screen is displayed to callers when they choose Menu Command 3, Clock Display. This file contains MACROS which will display various time information.

Create Script Screen

Displayed to callers that enter Script mode. For more information on Script Mode, see the section on Scripts.

Used-up Credits Screen

This screen is displayed to callers when they run out of credits. You should include information on this screen on how your callers can purchase more credits.

End/Save Script Screen

This file is displayed to callers when they complete a script.

Enter Chat Screen

This files is displayed to the caller when he enters sysop chat mode.

Exit Chat Screen

This files is displayed to the caller when he exits sysop chat mode.

Expired Screen

If you are setting a security level expiration dates for your callers, this screen is displayed the first time they log on after the expiration date has passed. It should include information about how to increase their security level.

File Ratios Screen

This file is shown to the user after she has either completed a file transfer or selects Menu Command 32,

Screen Locations 2

All of these screens must include the full path and file name. Most of these screens should be placed in the \POWRBBS\SCREEN\ directory.

Forum Screen

This screen will show the caller the forums that are available for her to join when she selects Menu Command 1, Area Change or chooses to change areas while reading messages. It should contain a list of the forums (areas) on your BBS with the appropriate forum numbers.

Hello Screen

You may have up to nine HELLO screens with file names HELLO1 to HELLO9. These screens are displayed after the Stats screen (see the chapter on screens for exact order in which the intro screens are displayed) .The sequence of HELLO screens must be consecutive. If a filename is not found, the hello stops. In other words, you cannot have just HELLO1 and HELLO3. PowerBBS will stop after the first one. You would need to either rename HELLO3 to HELLO2 or create a HELLO2 screen.

Live Programs Sub Menu

If you are running doors on your BBS via the Live Programs Data File (see the chapter on doors), this screen will display the names of the doors and the numbers you specified in the Live Programs Data File. You must manually edit this display file whenever you add or remove a door. This screen is displayed when the caller chooses Menu Command 6, Live Programs, Doors.

Logoff Screen

This screen is displayed when your callers choose Menu Command 4, Good-bye and choose Yes to log off.

Low Baud Rate

This file is displayed to a caller who connects to your system with a lower baud rate than you have specified in Config under Modem Setup.

Monitor Help File

This file is displayed when a caller is selecting her monitor type either as a new caller or when using Menu Command 10, Update Settings.

New User Screen

This screen is displayed to a new user at logon, right before asking the caller if she would like to sign on as a new user. This file should contain a brief description of your BBS.

No Chat Screen

This file is displayed when a caller chooses Menu Command 8, Page the Sysop and either the sysop pager bell is off or you do not respond to the page. The caller is asked if he wants to leave a messages to the sysop after seeing this screen.

Opening Screen

This screen is shown at logon, before the caller is asked to enter his name. This file is usually a screen displaying your BBS name and logo.

Questionnaire Menu

This screen displays the names and numbers of the questionnaires you have entered in the Bulletin Data File in Config under Data File Locations. You must manually update this file whenever you add or delete a questionnaire. This file is displayed when the caller chooses Menu Command 9, Questionnaires.

Read Help File

This file is displayed to the caller when he selects ? from the Read Messages menu.

Read Menu

This file is displayed to the caller when he chooses Menu Command 17, Read Messages. It should display the list of commands available in the Read Mail Sub-Menu. The screen that comes with PowerBBS contains a complete list of these files. You may choose not to display some of these commands to your callers if you think it may be too confusing for them. However, these commands will still be available.

Statistics Screen

This screens displays the caller's current statistics and standings. This file is displayed automatically to the caller if Display Stats at Intro is checked in Config under Options #1. This file is also displayed if the caller chooses Menu Command 11, View Statistics. This file usually contains a lot of MACROs. You may need to save the ANSI version of this file several times with various Maximum Line Lengths to get it to display properly. See the chapter on screens for more details.

Sysop Menu

This file is displayed when the caller chooses Menu Command 33, Sysops menu. Usually this option is only displayed to callers with a security level of 150. This screen should describe the options available to the Sysop. Sysop Menu Screen options are described more fully in the section on menus.

Update User Info

This file displays the caller's account information such as address, phone number, etc. This screen is displayed to new callers to confirm the information they have entered. It is also displayed when the caller chooses Menu Command 10, Update settings. This screen contains several MACROs to show the caller the current settings he has entered.

30 day expiration

This screen is displayed to callers whenever they log on within 30 days of the date you have set for their expiration date to expire. This file should include information on how to extend this date on your BBS.

Color Codes:

31 - Red 32 - Green 33 - Yellow 34 - Blue 35 - Magenta 36 - Cyan 37 - White

See the documentation for PowerBBS File Manager

The Config program was written by Bill Ebina, If you need to contact me the easiest way is to leave a message on the PowerBBS Support BBS or write to me at: 43422 West Oaks Dr., #205 Novi MI 48377

Bulletin Data

A Bulletin is any ANSI/ASCII/RIP file that you create for the entertainment and edification of your users.

File names should be as such:

Blt1 Ascii file for a Bulletin file called Blt1

Blt1c Ansi file for the same bulletin

Blt1r Rip file for the same bulletin

<u>Button</u>	<u>Action</u>
Insert	Inserts a new line just above cursor last position
Delete	Deletes the Line of the cursors last position
FileList	Brings up drag -n- drop selection list and allows you to drag files into selection(s).
Edit	Gives you a selection menu to select which Editor you wish to use

Download Security Data

This holds the information for what file types, directories and individual files you want to let users have access to. In this way you can restrict access to directories by minimum access security level, or password. The same applies to file types and to individual files. MAKE SURE you put things in order of important. PowerBBS will search this file from top to bottom. Another words if you have *.ZIP as the first entry, and C:\POWRBBS*.ZIP as the second, the second entry does not even need to be there.

Complete Drive\Path	Sec	Password
PBBS25*.*	20	YouOnly!
*.GIF	20	
D:\Files*.zip	10	

Button

[Insert](#)

[Delete](#)

Action

Inserts a new line just above cursor last position

Deletes the Line of the cursors last position

Junk Users Data

This stores information about users names that you do not want on your board. There are many prelisted words already here, and you may add to them at your option.

Examples of bad user names might be any keywords that you don't want used, foul language, control codes or just specific user names.

+++

-PC

ABUSER

CC

DARTHVADER

<u>Button</u>	<u>Action</u>
Add	Adds Name in Edit window to the Junk User List
Delete	Deletes the Selected Name from the Junk User List

Live Programs Data

This holds information about any external programs you want your users to have access to. Some other BBS programs call these "doors". This file should have a different name and be separate for each node of your BBS.

Complete Path\FileName	Sec	Password
D:\Cyber\Cyber	20	
D:\USDR\USBBS	20	Highfive

Setting up either DOS or Windows Doors

The first entry in this file notifies PowerBBS to either load a Windows or DOS live program. When PowerBBS reads a .EXE in PATH\FILE NAME, it assumes a Windows program is to load. If no .EXE is found, it assumes a DOS live program is to be run. Also note, that Windows programs require the path to the data file on the command line.

DOS Entry for BlackJack: C:\POWRBBS\DBLACK

Windows Entry for BlackJack: C:\POWRBBS\BLACKJK.EXE C:\POWRBBS\POWRBBS.DAT

The MINIMUM SECURITY level for access to this door and any PASSWORD required for access are entry 2 and three. An example of a batch file to run a live program would be;

```
@echo off
convdoor d:\powrbbs\use1info.bbs d:\powrbbs\data\users d:\powrbbs\cyber\door.sys
cd cyber
qkdoor GAP WWIV
cyber chain.txt
del door.sys
del chain.txt
cd \powrbbs
```

For more information on running Live Doors in PowerBBS turn to section 17 in the PowerBBS Manual, Installing and Running Doors.

<u>Button</u>	<u>Action</u>
Insert	Inserts a new line just above cursor last position
Delete	Deletes the Line of the cursors last position
FileList	Brings up drag -n- drop selection list and allows you to drag files into selection(s).

No Charge (Files) Data

This is a text listing of directories, files, file types and specific files that will not be charged for download.

PATH\FILENAME\WILDCARD OF NOCHARGE FILES

Master.ZIP

*.GIF

D:\PBBSFILE*.*

Any caller downloading Master.zip, any .GIF file or any file from the D:\PBBSFILE directory will not be charged time or bytes for these files.

<u>Button</u>	<u>Action</u>
Insert	Inserts a new line just above cursor last position
Delete	Deletes the Line of the cursors last position

Protocol Data

This is the command line setups for whatever protocols you have for your users to transfer files. There is a protocol driver included with the PowerBBS distribution. It is written specifically for PowerBBS and will work fine. Examples of other, 'EXTERNAL' protocols are:

DSZ Does not work with FOSSIL installed.
HSLINK
PUMA
BI-Modem
and the list goes on...

For more information on setting up other protocols with PowerBBS, see section 13 of the PowerBBS Manual; Protocol Setup for File Transfer.

On each page of this section is room for 3 protocol entries. Each entry has 6 options areas.

LETTER: Z MAX DLs: 40 MAX ULs: 40 NoScroll: Y Copy: N

Description: Zmodem

(D) C:\POWRBBS\PBBS\PROT.exe |PBBS\DAT| sz

(U) C:\POWRBBS\PBBS\PROT.exe |PBBS\DAT| rz

- LETTER:** The letter user presses to select this protocol.
- MAX DLs:** Maximum number of files to Download at one time.
- MAX ULs:** Maximum number of files to Upload at one time.
- NoScroll:** Should be Y for all entries. It is no longer available in the Windows version.
- Copy:** If set to Y, PowerBBS will copy over the files to be transferred to the Hard Drive. Usually set this to N.
- Description:** A short description that will be displayed to users.
- (D):** Protocol Command Line to SEND a file. (The USER will be DOWNLOADING!)
- (U):** Protocol Command Line to RECEIVE a file.

NOTE: This line must contain .EXE or .COM files, not .BAT files. If you want to include a .BAT file, place CALL MYPROT.BAT for the command. CALL is a DOS function to be able to CALL another batch inside of a batch.

PowerBBS provides the following macros for use in your command lines. The macros are replaced with their correct values at runtime. Be sure to have the pipe character (|) at the beginning and end, and the word in CAPS.

|BAUD| This is the current baud rate of the caller

COM	This is the current com port # on this node
FILES	This is the filename which contains the file list
PBBSDAT	This is the path/filename to your POWRBBS.DAT (for the current node)

<u>Button</u>	<u>Action</u>
Insert	Inserts a new line just above cursor last position
Delete	Deletes the Line of the cursors last position

Questionnaire Data

This is a menu of questionnaires available to the user. It also lists the name of the answer files for each questionnaire. Questionnaires are text files with particular macros added to them. The user will see the individual lines of the questionnaire, one at a time and be presented with certain possibilities for an acceptable answer. I use a questionnaire to update my new users to a registered security level. A line of this data file will look like...

Path\File to Questionnaire	Path\File to Answer File
C:\Powrbbs\work\quest1	C:\Powrbbs\work\answer1

After the user answers the questionnaire the answers are recorded in the ANSWER file. This is another text file that can be manipulated by you or by another program. For more information on creation and editing of Questionnaire files, see section 25 of your PowerBBS User Manual, Questionnaires.

<u>Button</u>	<u>Action</u>
Insert	Inserts a new line just above cursor last position
Delete	Deletes the Line of the cursors last position
FileList	Brings up drag -n- drop selection list and allows you to drag files into selection(s).
Edit	Starts NotePad Editor for questionnaire file of last cursor position.

Delete

Deletes the Line of the cursors last position

Upload Security Data

This holds the information for what file types, directory paths and individual files you want to let users upload to your board. In this way you can restrict access to directories by minimum access security level, or password. The same applies to file types and to individual files.

Complete Drive\Path	Sec	Password
PBBS25*.*	20	YouOnly!
E:*.*	130	Sysops
D:*.GIF	20	
D:\Files*.ZIP	10	

Button

[Insert](#)

[Delete](#)

Action

Inserts a new line just above cursor last position

Deletes the Line of the cursors last position

Language Info

This is used by PowerBBS to enable multi-language support. You can have multiple languages or you can also do slang or any derivative.

Num	Ext	Text	Phone
1		English	(###) ### #####
2	SP	Spanish	NO
3	FR	French	## ## ##-##
4	GR	German	## ##-#####

#: The number a user would press to select this language option

EXTENSION: Added to the end of language specific files to differentiate it from the default screens. For example, if you put FR here, the file HELLO1.FR will be displayed to a user selecting the language (if HELLO1.FR isn't found then the normal screens are displayed). Also note that the color screen is still HELLO1C.FR. This extension is optional, but if used should relate to language specified.

TEXT: Descriptive text displayed to the caller.

PHONE: Phone number formatting. The letters NO in this spot will allow free-form phone numbers. Like the ones used in Europe. If all your calls are from the US you should use the (###) formatting codes to force correct data entry. You can use whatever format you like, but you're limited to 14 characters.

To edit the actual language files use Config section (Languages Setup.)

Button	Action
Insert	Inserts a new line just above cursor last position
Delete	Deletes the Line of the cursors last position

Forum Setup

The settings in this file are explained fully in the chapters on the message system and file system. When you choose this option in Config, you will see a list of the forums you have created already. To edit one of these forums, click on that forum and then click Edit. To delete a forum, click on that forum and then click Delete.

To create a new forum, click on the New button. Enter a name for this forum, then click OK. Remember, if you are creating the forum for private Internet mail, call this forum INTERNET. If you are creating a forum for Internet newsgroups, call this forum INTNN <NAME> such as INTNN BBS or INTNN Feminism.

You can edit the File Listings Data File and Download Directories Data File from within Config by clicking on the Files Data and DL DIR buttons.

The following are brief descriptions of each setting.

Forum Name

This is the name of this forum that will be displayed to your callers.

Forum Sub-Sysop

This is the name of the sub-sysop for this forum that will be displayed to your callers when they enter this forum. You must still manually update this person's security level if you want him to have sysop access on your BBS.

Public Access Forum

If you want all of your callers to be able to access a forum, check this box. Use the next option to set a minimum security level to join this forum. If you clear this option, you must either manually update individual callers to give them access to that forum or set up your Security Level Data File to give them access. See the chapter on Security for more information. **Forum 0 must always be a public access forum!**

Minimum Security Level to Join

If you have checked Public Access Forum for a forum, you can use this setting to determine the minimum security level needed to join this forum.

Path\File to Message Base

This file stores the actual messages for that forum. This file name must be unique for each forum. The default name given when you add a new forum is based on the name of the forum. You may want to change this default name to FORUM## where ## is the forum number (FORUM00, FORUM01, etc.). This will make it easier to keep track of your message files later.

Path\File of News

This file is displayed to the caller when he joins that forum. This file should contain an explanation of the types of messages you expect in that forum. This file should be different for each forum. Consider naming these files in the same manner in which you name the message base: NEWS00, NEWS01, etc.

Files Listing Sub-Menu

This display file is shown to your callers when they choose Menu Command 23, List Files. It should contain the name and number of each file listing you have in the File Listings Data File for that forum. This file may or may not be different for different forums. If you are using a different File Listings Data File for a forum, you should also have a different File Listing Sub-Menu and Download Dirs Data File. See the chapter on the file system for more details.

Listing Data File

This file is used by the File List Manager to create the file lists. It has no bearing on what files your callers will be able to download that information is contained in the Download Dirs Data File. This file will contain three entries per file list: The description (name) of the file list, the file name of the actual file list, and the directory where the File List Manager will use to create the file lists.

Download Dirs DataFile

This file contains the list of file directories and files from which your callers will be able to download while in that forum. You must include the directories listed in the File Listings Data File in this file. If you don't, your callers will not be able to download the files they see in your file lists! You must also include the directory for your uploads as listed in the Path to Uploads Dir.

Path to Uploads Directory

If you do not have Restrict All Uploads checked in Config under Options #1, any files uploaded by a caller while in this forum will be placed here. Again, you may or may not use different directories here for different forums. See the chapter on files for more details.

Upload Listings Dir

This is the file that will contain the names and descriptions of files uploaded by your callers. The number of this file list (remember, each file list in a forum has a number) will always be one higher than the number of entries you have listed in the File Listings Data File. The File List Manager uses this entry here to allow you to edit the uploads file list.

Make All Messages Public

Check this option if you want to force all messages in this forum to be public. If you check this option and a caller tries to enter a private message, it will be moved to forum 0. Internet newsgroup forums must have this option checked. You should clear this option for the forum you will use for personal Internet mail. **This option can never be checked for forum 0.**

Allow Anonymous Names

If you check this option, PowerBBS will ask your callers for an anonymous name when they log on the first time. Anonymous names are also called handles. If you want your callers to be able to use their handle in a given forum, check this option. You must check this option if you want to allow your callers to use handles!

<u>Button</u>	<u>Action</u>
FileList	Brings up drag -n- drop selection list and allows you to drag files into selection(s).
DL Dir	Edits the Download Directory List
Files Data	Edits the Listing Data File

Download Directories Data File

This Data file contains a list of directories that you want your users to access. When you select D from the PowerBBS file menu to download a file **ONLY THESE DIRECTORIES** are checked.

<u>Button</u>	<u>Action</u>
Insert	Inserts a new line just above cursor last position
Delete	Deletes the Line of the cursors last position
FileList	Brings up drag -n- drop selection list and allows you to drag files into selection(s).
EditAscii	Starts ANSI/ASCII Editor for file of last cursor position in ASCII mode
EditAnsi	Starts ANSI/ASCII Editor for file of last cursor position in ANSI mode

Files Listing Data

Each screen can hold 4 entries (use PgDn to get another set of 4). You may have up to 250 file listings entry in each forum.

Description	Place a description of the files in this area.
File Listing Path/File	Place the full path/filename to the file containing the actual lists of files. (File Manager might limit the size of this file)
Dir Containing Files	Place the path to the directory with the actual files.

<u>Button</u>	<u>Action</u>
Insert	Inserts a new line just above cursor last position
Delete	Deletes the Line of the cursors last position
FileList	Brings up drag -n- drop selection list and allows you to drag files into selection(s).

Menu Setup

This button starts the Menu Editor. Editing menus is fully explained in the chapter on customizing your system in the section about menus. When you click on this button you will see a list of the menus you have already created for your BBS. To edit a menu, click on that menu and then click the OK button. To delete a menu file, you must use another program and delete the MNU file from your hard disk. Each menu is numbered. Valid file names are 1.MNU, 2.MNU, etc.

Note: You must have a 1.MNU file. This is the first menu that is displayed to your callers.

Other

menus can have whatever numbers you choose. However, it is best to number them consecutively:

1, 2, 3, 4. etc.

To create a new menu, type in the menu number and click OK. Config will then create a new empty menu. Use the scroll bars or PgUp and PgDn to move up and down the list. Use the Insert and Delete buttons to add and remove menu items. Use Tab and Shift-Tab to move among the different fields. The following is a brief description of each option on this screen.

EXT

This is the letter your callers must press to choose this menu option. You can use any single letter or digit.

CGM

This tells PowerBBS whether you are adding an option to run a Menu Command (C), a PowerLang file (G), another menu (M), or a PowerBase database (B). You must include one of these codes in this field.

Code

This entry is always a number between 1 and 255 inclusive. It is either the number of the Menu Command, the number of a PowerLang file or the number of a PowerBase Database.

Sec

This is the minimum security level your caller will need to access this menu option.

Time

This entry determines how PowerBBS will charge time when a caller is using this menu option. An entry of 1 means that PowerBBS will charge one minute per minute used in this option. -1 will grant the caller one minute per minute spent in this command. 0 will disable tracking of time on-line while in this option. If you are running a credit system, this number is used to determine how credits are charged (at one credit per minute). If you are running a credit system, be sure to make Good-bye charge 0 credits or your callers will not be allowed to log off when they run out of credits. You should also make the Comment to Sysop command use 0 minutes so that callers who run out of credits and leave you a message to request or purchase more credits.

Intr

If you are using Interactive menus (be sure to check Allow Interaction on this screen), this is the order in which PowerBBS will highlight menu options. Start number each menu option beginning at one. Be sure to avoid having duplicate numbers in this column.

X and Y

These two options determine the row and column coordinates of that menu option in your menu screen file where X is the column number and Y is the row number where that menu item begins. You only need these numbers if you are using interactive menus.

Description

This is simply a description of the menu command for your own use.

Name

This is the name of the menu that is displayed to your callers at the bottom of the screen.

Menu File

This is the actual file that is displayed to the caller which shows the menu. If you update your menus from here, be sure to update this display file. Also remember to create ASCII, ANSI and RIP versions of this file. Name the file here MENU. Save the ASCII version as MENU, ANSI (color) as MENCUC, and RIP as MENUR.

Help File

This is a text file displayed to your callers when they select ? from this menu. It should explain the options available on that menu.

Move Forum and Forum to

These two options are related. If you want PowerBBS to automatically change to a certain forum when the caller enters this menu, check this option and enter a forum number in the Forum to section.

Norm Back and Color

This is the normal background and foreground colors of a menu item when using interactive menus.

Intr Back and Color

This is the background and foreground colors of a menu item when it is highlighted using interactive menus.

Allow Interaction

If you want your menus to be interactive, you must check this option.

Color Codes

The following is the list of valid background color codes as defined by the ANSI standard.

Black	40
Red	41
Green	42
Yellow	43
Blue	44
Magenta	45
Cyan	46
White	47

The following is a list of the valid foreground colors as defined by the ANSI standard

Black	30
Red	31
Green	32
Yellow	33
Magenta	35
Cyan	36
White	37

Menu Codes

- 1) Area Change: Used to jump to a different forum. Forums usually deal with a certain topic, and include their own message base.
- 2) Read Bulletins: This option will display a listing of bulletins, which can be displayed. The user has the option to read one or more bulletins by selecting the bulletin number, re-listing the bulletins that are available for display, or returning you to the MAIN menu.
- 3) Clock Display: This option will display the time you called up, the current time and date, the amount of time used on this call, and the amount of time left for your call.
- 4) Goodbye, Logoff: Terminates the current connection and disconnects. You will be asked if you are sure you want to logoff. If Yes, you will be disconnected after the logoff screen is shown. If No is entered, you will be returned to the MAIN menu.
- 5) Initial Welcome: This will display the opening screens, which were displayed to you as you logged on today. This lets you look at the screens, without having to logoff and then call again.
- 6) Live Programs, Doors: This feature permits you to run an outside program, and leave the main BBS temporarily. Live programs can be almost anything from a database to a game. You will be displayed a list of programs, and you must type in the program # to run, or return to come back to the MAIN menu.
- 7) News Display: This menu choice displays the contents of the current Forum you are in.
- 8) Page the SysOp: This selection allows you to page the system operator. If the sysop's Pager is turned on, the computer will try and call the SysOp by beeping. If the SysOp is there, he will go into CHAT mode. You must first give a reason for calling him.
- 9) Questionnaire: You are presented with a menu screen containing numbered listings of questionnaires available to be answered. Select the number you wish to answer. You will then be followed by questions, which are defined by the SysOp, to answer.
- 10) Update Settings: This gives you the ability to make changes to certain information in your User database. You may change the entries in some area, while others are not accessible. This gives you the ability to set up color, hotkeys, etc.
- 11) View Statistics: This displays information from your User Database record. It will display your file information, settings, etc.
- 12) Who is on, Node Chat: If you are running multinodes, users will be able to see who else is online, and chat with other nodes.
- 13) Expert Toggle: You have the option of two levels of menus: Expert And Novice. In Novice mode full menu support is shown, while in Expert mode the screens are by-passed.
- 14) Comment to SysOp: This permits the user to enter a message to the SysOp. The message is saved in the current forum as a private message (if forum does not permit private messages, then it is copied into forum #0).
- 15) Enter a Message: This message entry command has a number of features. First you must select whom to address the message to. If return is selected, it will be addressed to ALL. You are then asked for the Topic of the message. The final prompt prior to message entry is whether to make the message private. Private mail is seen only by the sender, recipient, Sysops, and Sub-SysOp.

If your computer permits Ascii codes, a full screen editor will be used, with numerous features.

- 16) Lastread Update: Allows you to reset your last message read pointers (for the forums). Used for Downloading of Mail, and for reading messages.
- 17) Read Messages: Reading messages involves selection of the messages to be read from a sub- menu. The choices within the READ command are fully explained in a help file within that area.
- 18) Scan Messages: Scanning messages is different from reading messages. Only the header information is shown. It is used in cases where a quick view of the messages is needed.
- 19) Update Forum Info: This permits the user to change the forums he wants to scan. The scanning is used for when Reading Messages, and when downloading mail.
- 20) View Forum Info: This prompt displays all the forums which you have access to and all the forums which are set for scanning.
- 21) Your Mail: This will search messages for mail written to YOU.
- 22) Download files: This option allows transferring files from the BBS system to your computer. If your ratio does not comply with the system rules, you will be notified and returned to the FILE menu. You can fix this by Uploading files, and/or by leaving messages. To see what you have to do, use the Y function to view your statistics. If you have a set protocol, you will be prompted for the name(s) of the files to download. If you do not have a set protocol, you will have to enter a protocol. You can transfer up to 50 Files using Batch mode. When the BBS indicates 'ready to send' you should begin your own local transfer procedures, using the same protocol as you selected.
- 23) List Files: This option views the available files for download from the BBS. It presents a sub-prompt asking for which file area to be displayed.
- 24) New Files: Displays a sub-prompt asking for the date to use as a basis for the search. The default date is the last time you used this option. The files which are that date are newer will be displayed.
- 25) Protocol Option: This gives you the ability to change the default protocol, which is used for transfers.
- 26) Read a Text File: A sub-prompt asks for the name of any ASCII file listed in the file database. The selected text file is displayed with appropriate screen pauses. Only files with .TXT are permitted.
- 27) Search File List: This option gives you the ability to search the files listing for any series of characters. If the series is found in the filename, or description, the file will be shown.
- 28) Test a File: This will test an ARCHIVE to see if it is a valid ARCHIVE.
- 29) Upload a File: This option allows transferring of files from your computer to the BBS. If no default protocol is set, you must choice the file. You will then be prompted for the files, and enter a description. If enter is hit alone, you can upload the files and be asked for the descriptions later.
- 30) View inside a ZIP: This selection is designed to allow viewing compressed files, such as .ARC, .ZIP, .PAK, .ZOO, etc.
- 31) Write MARKED files: This permits you to update the information in the MARKED files listing. This listing of files, is set to be downloaded, when the D FILE MENU option is used.

- 32) Your Stats [Ratio]: This will display your current download/upload information, your ratio, the lowest ratio available for download, and if you have access to download. If you have a bad ratio in either Downloading/Uploading or Messages Per Call, you will be notified.
- 33) Sysops System: This function will load the SysOps Menu, PowrSYS.exe.
- 35) Ascii Upload: Allows for Ascii Uploads
- 37) Command to permit User to Download Mail
- 38) Command to permit User to Upload Mail

Language File

This is the Language Editor for PowerBBS. Even if you are not using multiple languages, you can still edit the language file for your BBS. You can change nearly all of the prompts that PowerBBS displays to the caller. We have done our best to make these entries as clear as possible.

To edit a language, click on the language number and click OK.

To create a new language file, there are two methods. The first is to enter a new language number and click OK. The Language Editor will create a new language file with all of the items empty. The second method is to copy the 1.LAN file in your \POWRBBS\SOURCE\ directory to a new file such as 2.LAN. Then edit this file and make changes as needed.

Once you are editing a file, you can use the scroll bars or PgUp and PgDn to move up and down the list. When you see an item that you wish to change, type the information in the appropriate text box. The defaults for each phrase you can edit are listed in gray. To return a phrase to its default, click in that field and click the Default button.

In all the text editing, you may use MACROS, and also the following color macros:

@1@ - Blue @2@ - Green @3@ - Cyan @4@ - Red @5@ - Magenta
@6@ - Gray @7@ - Yellow @8@ - Brown @9@ - White

Example line using macros:

@9@|NAME|@7@, Press [RETURN] NOW!

Remember that |MACROS| must be in CAPS.

To search for a word or phrase within the Language Editor, click on the Find button. Type in the word or words you want to find and click OK. If the program finds that word, that language option will display at the top of your screen. If that information is not found, you will see a dialog box telling you so. The search always starts at the beginning of the language file. To continue searching for the same word, click on the Find Next button.

Macros

Any of the Macros listed below may be included in any display file. PowerBBS has a rich macro language. Reading over this list should give you some ideas for ways to customize your display screens. Don't forget to enter macros in their proper form. |MACRO| must be in |CAPS|

Always test out your screen display files!

<u>Macro</u>	<u>Converts to</u>
CITY	City user is calling from
ADDRESS	User address
ANONYMAME	User anonymous name
BAUD	Baud rate user is using
BBSCALLS	Total number of calls made to BBS (by ALL users)
BIRTHD	User birthday
CLOCK	Current time
COM	Com Port # only (0,1,2,3, or 4)
CREDITS	Number of credits user has left
DATE	Current date
DIRS	Number of files listing in forum
DLBYTE	Total number of download bytes by user
DLFILE	Total number of downloads by user (# files)
DLKA	Maximum number of download bytes (in k) available to user.
EX	User expert mode
EXPDAT	Expiration date for user
EXPLEV	Expiration security level for user
FILES	@ + Full Path/Filename to file transfer list
FIRST	User first name
FIRSTD	First day User called
FORUM	Current forum name
FORUMS	Number of forums on BBS
GOOD_MR	Tells the user about his/her message ratio
GOOD_FR	Tells the user about his/her file ratio
GOOD_BR	Tells the user about his/her byte ratio
HOMEPHONENUM	User home phone number
LASTDT	User last date called
LEVEL	User access or security level

LOG	Full Path/Filename to file that if exists after dropping for a DOS function; will be displayed.
LTI	Time user last called
MDBL	Monthly download byte limit (in k)
MINLEFT	Minutes left for user use
MINON	Total minutes on by user
MBR	Minimum download/upload bytes ratio
MFR	Minimum download/upload files ratio
MMR	Minimum message/calls ratio
MONITOR	Monitor type of user
MSGSL	User number of msgs left
NAME	The current callers name. (Use this in a TO: message to send a message to EVERYONE!)
NAME25	User name as 25 characters
NAMEOFCOMPUTE	User computer type
NIDATE	Day PowerBBS was last loaded
NICALLS	Number of calls since last load of PowerBBS
NIMSGS	Number of msgs left since last load of PowerBBS
NIDL	Number of downloads since last load of PowerBBS
NIUL	Number of uploads since last load of PowerBBS
NODE#	Current node number
PAGELEN	User page length
PBBSDAT	Full Path/Filename to PowrBBS.Dat File
PROTO	User protocol
SAFE	Time available in the safe
SS	In = Pager on, Out = Page off [Sysop in/out]
STATE	User state
SYSOP	Sysops full name
TON	Time user logged on
ULBYTE	Total number of upload bytes by user
UPDIR	Path to the transfer directory (Default: \POWRBBS\TRANS)
ULFILE	Total number of uploads by user (# files)
USRCALLS	Total number of calls made by user
VER	Current version number of PowerBBS
WHO-ON	Displays current users online
YBR	Users download/upload bytes ratio
YMR	Users message/calls ratio
YFR	Users download/upload files ratio

|ZIP|

User zip code

Events

This option will allow you to edit the Event file for that node as entered in Config under Data File Locations. Be sure to have a different Event Data File for each node. In this screen you will enter the days and times of the events that PowerBBS will run. PowerBBS must be running in order to start an event. You can have as many events for a node as you want.

Use the scroll bars or PgUp and PgDn to move up and down the list of events. Config automatically sorts the events in order by the entry in the Time column. To add a new event simply fill in the appropriate information in a blank set of fields. To delete an event, click on that event and then click on the Delete button.

See the section on events for more details. The following is a brief description of the options on this screen.

Time

This is the time that PowerBBS will run the event. Enter this time in military time (00:00 to 23:59). PowerBBS will start this event approximately three minutes before the time entered here on the theory that it is better to be early than late!

SMTWTFS A

These check boxes indicate the days of the week that PowerBBS should run this event. You can check as few or as many of these as you choose. The A represents All days.

Description

This is simply a description of the event for your information. It is not required or used by PowerBBS.

Command Line of Batch File or Program to Run

PowerBBS will use this entry to run another program or batch file. If an event is a DOS program, it must be started from a batch file. If the event is a Windows program, the command line must be an executable (EXE) file. This entry should contain the full path and file name, including the file extension.

Wait for Event

If this option is checked and a caller is on-line at the time an event is scheduled to run, PowerBBS will wait for the caller to log off. If you don't check this option, PowerBBS will limit a caller's time on-line to ensure that they log off before the time an event is scheduled to run.

Internet Connection After Event

You should only check this option if the event is an Internet mail run (INTEXP.BAT). See the chapter on Internet for more details. Checking this event will tell PowerBBS to call the Internet provider to get mail at the proper time during the event. If you do not check this option, PowerBBS will not run your Internet events properly.

Sysop Paging

This option allows you to edit the Sysop Paging Time Data file as entered in Config under Data File Locations. It controls the times that PowerBBS will toggle the Pager Bell. This file may or may not be different for each node. Most of the time you will use the same file for all of your nodes.

When you start PowerBBS with your Pager Bell on, PowerBBS will use this file to determine when to automatically turn the pager off and on for you. If you start PowerBBS with the Pager Bell off, PowerBBS will ignore the settings in this file. You can have as many entries in this file as you choose.

Time From

This is the time that PowerBBS will turn the pager on. Enter the time in military time (00:00 to 23:59).

Time To

This is the time that PowerBBS will turn the pager off after turning it on with the above entry. Enter the time in military time (00:00 to 23:59).

Valid Days

These are the days of the week for which you want PowerBBS to toggle the Pager Bell for you. You can check as many days of the week as you choose. Use A for All days.

.WAV File

If your system is capable of playing WAV files via a sound card or the special Windows sound driver, you may use a WAV file for a custom pager bell. If you specify a valid path and file name to a file here, PowerBBS will use this file to get your attention when a caller pages you. Otherwise it will use the default beep on your computer.

