

Thank you for trying version 3.3 of

Hunter

for Microsoft Windows 3.1

by

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What Is Hunter?

Hunter is a Microsoft Windows utility that allows you to search multiple disk drives for file names that match a given file specification, like '*.doc' (all document files) or multiple file specifications (like '*.doc *.txt *.wri'). You can also search based on the age or size of a file. One way in which Hunter distinguishes itself from other Windows file finding utilities is that it doesn't require you to wait for a search to complete for you to continue with your work. Hunter works in the background while you get your work done.

Hunter Is More Than A File Finder

How useful is a file finder if you can't remember the name of the file? Hunter can search the contents of the files that it finds for a key word or pattern of characters. When you find the name of the file or the text you're looking for, simply double-click on the line you're interested in. Hunter will load the file and the application that created it.

The technology Hunter uses to find text is called *grep*. For those of you not familiar with *grep*, it is a tool borrowed from UNIX that has powerful pattern matching capabilities. For example, if you want to find all references to the word 'color' or 'colour' you could use the *grep* string 'colou-r'. The hyphen indicates that the letter u is optional. To find 'gray' or 'grey' use the *grep* string 'gr[ae]y'. Characters enclosed in brackets form a list of possible matches.

Grep also understands numbers. If you'd like to locate all references to a month and day in no particular year, you could use the *Grep* string '1/4/:d:d'. The :d's indicate that any two digits will be acceptable. Finding the same date in 1991 is only a little more involved, use '1/4/:d*91'. This finds 1/4/91 as well as 1/4/1991. Using '1/4/91' would find only an exact match.

The *Grep* expression can be as simple or complex as you wish. Remember, you may always simply type in the word you wish to find and forget about *grep*'s special characters. For more information on using *grep*, refer to Hunter's on-line help.

Updates/Fixes

Version 3.2

Streamlined Search Initialization. Many users had complained that there were too many steps involved in starting a search. I agree. If you've used Hunter before you'll notice that the file name dialog and the grep dialog are now combined. You'll also notice that this dialog comes up when you start Hunter and every time you select Go! Both of these actions are optional and can be independently enabled/disabled from the menu according to your preferences.

No More File Sharing Errors. Previous versions of Hunter would cause file sharing violations when attempts were made to open files that were in use by other applications. This was irritating and unnecessary. To indicate that the file was locked and could not be searched, Hunter now displays the file name in lower case.

Smaller Size. Hunter is now 30 percent smaller and about 10 percent faster.

Version 3.3 (this version)

Environment Path Error. Version 3.2 incorrectly reported that the DOS environment path (SET PATH=C:\DOS, for example) did not exist. This is now fixed.

Found String Highlight Alignment. Occasionally the colour highlighting of a found text string was not properly aligned.

Disk Drive Icons. Some users reported that Hunter did not display the disk drive icons in the toolbar.

Windows 3.0 and 3.1 Compatibility Note

Because Hunter uses the common dialog support supplied with Windows 3.1, I have included the standard Windows 3.1 file COMMDLG.DLL with Microsoft's permission. This file can reside in the same directory as hunter.exe and hunter.hlp or it may be placed in the Windows system directory (usually c:\windows\system). Users of Windows 3.1 should delete the COMMDLG.DLL file supplied with Hunter. **If you are using Windows 3.1, you do not need to (and you should not) copy COMMDLG.DLL from the installation disk.**

Pricing and Registration

It's not free, but it is inexpensive. I've decided to lower the asking price to \$15 per user. I enjoy updating and improving Hunter, but it takes time and money. My address is:

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In the future I hope to be able to accept credit card charges for Hunter, but as of now the preferred method of payment is by check.

Outside the United States

There are two payment options for customers outside the U.S.

1. A check drawn on a bank in your own country in your own currency at the current exchange rate for \$17. The two extra dollars covers the charge which I incur to cash the check. Please do not send checks drawn on your local bank in US dollars, the service fee is more than the value of the check.

2. A check for \$15 drawn on a US bank.

Checks drawn on Greek or Spanish banks must be marked "convertible", Italian bank checks must not be marked "non-transferable".

I appreciate the extra effort required to register Hunter from outside the US and wish to thank everyone that has gone to the extra effort to do so.

If you've already registered Hunter, thank you very much, this upgrade is free. If you use Hunter in your work and you work at a public school or a non-profit organization, please accept Hunter with my complements and well wishes.

Site Licenses

Site licenses are available, please contact me for pricing.

Upgrades

Because of the low cost of Hunter and the high cost of disks, envelopes and mailing, I prefer to distribute updates through CompuServe or the Internet. If you don't have access to either of these sources, write me at the above address and include a disk (3.5 or 5.25 inch), a reusable mailer, and return postage. Let me know the version of Hunter you're using (it's in this file and in Hunter's About box). If you've got the current version I'll keep your disk until the next one is released, otherwise I'll send you the most current one. If you'd rather I just send you Hunter, I'll provide the disk, mailer and postage for \$5 (US or Foreign).

If you are a CompuServe or Internet user and would like to be notified of bug reports and upgrade announcements, please send me an e-mail stating so.

Bug Reporting

Please, if you find bugs or incompatibilities, notify me. Drop me a line, an e-mail at one of the addresses listed at the beginning of this document, or send me a letter. Include a detailed description of your problem, the version of Hunter, the system you're running on, memory available to Windows, version of Windows, mode it's running in, display information, and any other information you think is relevant.

Comments and Suggestions

I always appreciate hearing comments and criticisms. If you've got an idea that you think would make Hunter a better application, let me know. All of the changes listed in the Updates section above (except the size reduction) were at the request of users.