How to customize
MICROSOFT OFFICE 95 TOOLBAR ICONS

Introduction:

To my knowledge, I have yet to find a resource to customize the primary "Toolbar Icons" of Microsoft Office 95 (ie: "Office" = a yellow file with 4-color puzzle; "Accessories" = a file folder & control panel; "Desktop" = desk with desk lamp; all new toolbars = yellow file folder, etc...).

If a resource (or even a better method) already exists, I apologize for the redundancy. But for those that still desire to see Toolbar Icons other than those drab yellow ones (for any new Toolbar you create), here's a way to accomplish the task:

Step One:

> Run **Regedit**
> Expand **HKey_Current_User**
> Expand **Software**
> Expand **Microsoft**
> Expand **Office Shortcut Bar**
> Expand **Toolbars**

You should now see various yellow folders corresponding to what toolbars you may have kept or created in Office95. Most probably you will see "Office", "Accessories", "Desktop", etc...

Step Two:

To edit "Office" button face, as an example:
> Click on "Office" yellow folder
> You should see in the right panel the following *String Values*:
(default)
Buttons
Face
Path
> Click on the word **Face**
> You should see in the "Data" column, in quotes: **"msoffice.exe,12"**

This simply means that the icon placed on the "Office" Toolbar is found within the 12th icon from within the executable program named "msoffice.exe" (found in the "Office" subdirectory of "Msoffice"). Actually, there are only 7 icons in msoffice.exe, Microsoft simply labeled icon #1 = #10 rather than the traditional #0.

You can view these icons with a shareware program "**Microangelo**", a wonderful icon and Win95 system "tweaker". *Highly recommended*. If you don't have Microangelo, or another icon "sucker", the following is a list of the icons found within msoffice.exe (note: some of the icons are "hidden"):

10 = Large puzzle (without the yellow folder)
11 = A grey filing drawer
12 = The default yellow folder and small puzzle
13 = A yellow folder & blue book
14 = A yellow folder & blue star
15 = MSN logo
16 = Pencil & paper

These logos are 16x16 & 16 color (some view well, and others do not).

For some reason, I have not been able to get Office95 to recognize any other exe, dll, ico, icl file other than:
> msoffice.exe
> msow.exe (also in the "Office" subdirectory)
> shell32.dll (found in the Windows\System directory)

I haven't discovered why this is so. If anyone has any success getting Office95 to recognize other files, I would appreciate a message back.

The icons within **msow.exe** (also 16 x 16):

0 = CD & Book
1 = Purple Help Book
2 = "Open" File folder
3 = Screen saver window
4 = "New Document"
5 = Envelope (send mail)
6 = Check box and mark
7 = same as 0
8 = Clock & Calendar
9 = Card file & face
10 = Finger with "Reminder" string
11 = Clock & schedule book
12 = I can't tell you what this one is...
13 = Hand juggling balls

All the icons in **shell32.dll** are not hidden and are 32 x 32, 16 color (better quality). To view these icons simply right click on any shortcut, click on "Change Icon", browse & select **shell32.dll**, begin numbering as 1, 2, 3, etc...

Now, to go back to editing "Face" in Regedit:
> While **Face** is selected, menu: **E**dit / **M**odify
> Change **msoffice.exe,12** to the icon of your choice (I chose **msoffice,10**) *(note: don't list a full path statement, Msoffice already knows where these three programs are -- I suspect that's why Office95 won't recognize any other file).*

> Close **Regedit**

> *Close* the **Office Shortcut Bar** & *Restart* the Office Shortcut Bar (either by "explorer" or by a shortcut that you might have on your "Start" menu).
> The changes should now be in effect.

> Repeat for any icon you would like to replace.

Result:

Not the best off all choices, but at least it adds a little variey to the toolbar.

If anyone has further question or comments, please post them in the "message" section of this forum, or e-mail me directly: byrnesco@compuserve.com (76360,1003)

Also, a wonderful web site to visit and learn about other customizing tricks for Windows95:
www.creativelement.com.

Regards,

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