

Launcher

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General Instructions

Launcher is a Windows application executive. You can enter a filename and its path in Launcher's command line. The command line is labeled Filename:. Hitting return or the Ok button runs that application. You can enter drive, path, filename as well as wildcard information in the command line.

If you do not remember the file's path you can search for it using the listboxes. The "Directories:" list box contains path and drive information while the "Files:" listbox contains the files for the selected path. Selection can be done with the keyboard or the mouse.

Launcher can be used as a replacement for the Program Manager's File Run dialog box. Because it is a window and not a modal dialog box, it is always available with the addition feature of being able to let you search for files.

Launcher can also be a replacement for Program Manager.

Launcher supports file associations. Entering a file with an extension not equal to EXE causes Launcher to search the [Extensions] section of your WIN.INI file. In this section filename extensions are associated with a certain program. For example, a DOC extension might be associated with a word processor. In this example entering a DOC filename into Launcher will cause your word processor to be executed with the DOC file as a parameter. You can easily examine and or edit your WIN.INI file using the Windows supplied program SysEdit. For more information see your Window's User Guide.

Commands

File Menu Commands

Duplicate Launcher

Runs another instance of Launcher. This is especially useful if you found a program you wish to run again but don't want to lose it.

Exit

Closes Launcher.

Help Commands

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Opens this WinHelp file.

About

Displays the Launcher About Dialog Box

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Registration

Launcher is shareware. If you find Launcher useful a registration of \$10 would be appreciated. Registered users will receive the latest version of Launcher. Please send registrations to the following address.

Lucas Systems
45 Garden Sreet #4
Boston, MA 02114

CompuServe 74130,2453

Questions, suggestions and/or comments are welcome

Distribution

You are free to distribute Launcher as long as you do so in its original unmodified form. The following files are required.

Launcher.exe
Launcher.hlp
Launcher.txt

Program Manager Replacement

To replace the Program Manager with Launcher as your Windows shell. Edit your system.ini file. Search for "SHELL=PROGMAN.EXE". Replace PROGMAN.EXE with LAUNCHER.EXE. Also, make sure Launcher.exe and Launcher.hlp are in your Windows directory. Restart Windows. Launcher will now be your shell.

Launcher will call ExitWindows if it is the shell so all applications running have a chance to shut-down before Launcher exits Windows.

Wildcards

To use wildcards just enter them in the command line as if at a DOS prompt. Launcher will update it's listboxes to reflect your combination.

Searching

Use the listboxes to search for files. The Directories listbox lets you change drives as well as directories. The current Drive/Path is displayed next to the Drive:\Path: label.

The Files listbox lets you search through the files in a directory.

To change the types of files shown in the Files listbox enter a wildcard combination in the command line. For examples *.exe to show only exe files.

Entering Files Directly

You can enter a filename directly if Launcher is currently displaying the path the file exists, if the file is in your Windows directory or it is along your path.