

CLICK / RIGHT

Version 1.1

Description

Although Microsoft Windows offers a number of advantages over DOS, one feature that Windows lacks is an easy way to launch programs or access running tasks. Double clicking on the desktop will invoke the task manager, but I have never understood the logic of this feature, since the desktop is frequently obscured by windows --- especially when you have many programs running. A session with many open windows is precisely the time when a task manager is needed! Accessing the Program Manager or another frequently used tool, the File Manager, is even more difficult since you have to shrink running programs and wade through windows in search of an icon. Although hot-keys can be used to circumvent these problems, mouse-fanatics, like myself, are continually frustrated.

CLICK / RIGHT v 1.1 allows a Windows 3.x user to call the Program Manager, File Manager, or Task Manager by pressing the right mouse button anywhere within the top-most window. Program Manager is automatically minimized after a right-click if it is not the top-most window. This feature is a useful addition to the "Minimize on Use" option of Program Manager because screen clutter is reduced. Additionally, CLICK / RIGHT can be configured to restore Program Manager when only a user-specified number of tasks remain. CLICK / RIGHT was written using Turbo Pascal for Windows, v 1.5, requires Windows 3.x and about 11K of RAM.

Installation

Do not attempt to run CLICK / RIGHT after windows has been loaded.
Unpredictable results may occur!

To install CLICK / RIGHT, place CLRIGHT.EXE in your windows directory. Modify your WIN.INI file so that the LOAD line includes CLRIGHT.EXE as follows:

```
[windows]
spooler=yes
load=clright.exe
run=
...
```

If you have other applications included on the load line that permanently reside in memory during a Windows session, place clright.exe as the LAST entry. This will allow CLICK / RIGHT to keep Program Manager restored when these utilities are loaded. If you do not want this, place clright first. When clright.exe first loads it

looks at the total number of tasks that have been loaded. It keeps Program Manager restored as long as this number of tasks (or fewer) exists. Program Manager will NOT be automatically restored for programs that are loaded after clright.exe. In the following hypothetical example, clright will keep Program Manager restored even if barclock is running.

```
[windows]
spooler=yes
load=barclock,clright,winfile
run=
...
```

Your SYSTEM.INI file should also be edited so that the following line exists in the [boot] section:

```
[boot]
...
taskman.exe=progman.exe
```

CLICK / RIGHT does not look at the TASKMAN.EXE= setting in the SYSTEM.INI file, but the above setting prevents software conflicts.

Any program that you wish to use as a task manager with CLICK / RIGHT should be kept in your windows directory and named TASKMAN.EXE. Currently, the only shell CLICK / RIGHT recognizes is Program Manager.

After the above changes have been made, it will be necessary to restart windows to load CLICK / RIGHT.

Operation

CLICK / RIGHT is very easy to use. To call the task manager, simply click the right mouse button anywhere within the **active, top-most** window. If you are using the default task manager, it will appear in the center of the screen. Other available task managers may appear next to your cursor. Activating Program Manager is similar. Hold the right mouse button down until Program Manager appears. Alternately, if Program Manager is the active window, holding the right mouse button down in its window will shrink Program Manager to an icon. Finally, a double click of the right mouse button in the active window will call the File Manager. Note that a right double-click within the window of a program that already uses the right mouse button sometimes will not activate the File Manager. In this case, the task manager will appear. Clicking on the title bar of a window, however, will always work.

Because other programs may use the right mouse button, CLICK / RIGHT was written so that it can be easily enabled and disabled. Version 1.0 required a right-left click to enable and disable CLICK / RIGHT. Version 1.1 now allows you to click the right mouse in the upper left-hand corner of your screen to disable it. A short beep indicates that CLICK / RIGHT has been disabled. To re-enable the program, click in the upper left-hand corner of the screen again. Another beep indicates that CLICK / RIGHT has been re-enabled.

Mine Sweeper, Microsoft Word, and Microsoft Excel all use the right mouse button. Although CLICK / RIGHT will work with these programs, the right mouse button functions of these programs are inaccessible until a right click in the upper left hand corner of the screen is performed.

I suggest enabling the "Minimize on Use" feature of the Program Manager and File Manager to reduce screen clutter. Both are now easily accessible via mouse clicks.

Caution

Although CLICK / RIGHT will work with most Windows and windowed DOS applications, you should verify that all of your programs, particularly those that already use the right mouse button, are compatible. Any problems can be circumvented by clicking on the title bar of an application.

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Other Information

If you find this program useful, I would greatly appreciate any donation you can afford (\$5 to \$10). If you are a student like me, just send me a note that you use it with any suggestions.

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