Mastering Internet Development: README File

Welcome to Mastering Internet Development. This file contains additional information about Mastering Internet Development not included in online Help.

The World Wide Web is an evolving phenomena, with new ideas and technologies being created daily. The Mastering Series team has taken this into account and extensively tested this title with the latest tools and technologies. However, because of the dynamic nature of the Web, you may experience performance or configuration problems using this title, depending upon your hardware, software, or internet connectivity combinations. For instance, based on your Internet service provider or the type of proxy server you're running, you may not be able to take advantage of the Internet connectivity features of this course. The Mastering Series team will continue to test this product and post the latest information on our Product Web Site.

Please be sure to check out the Mastering Internet Development Product Web page. Choose the Product Web Site command from the Help menu to jump to it. This README information will be updated on the Product Web page.

This README file contains important and helpful information on the following topics:

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To read this file on-screen, use the PAGE DOWN and PAGE UP keys. You can also print the file by choosing the Print command from the File menu in virtually any Windows-based word processing program.

1   Send Us Your Feedback

We welcome your feedback. Let us know how Mastering Internet Development has helped you gain expertise in creating solutions. You can reach us via any of the following:

Internet: devtrain@microsoft.com

Mail: Mastering Series Products
         Microsoft Corporation
         One Microsoft Way
         Redmond, WA 98052-6399

Fax: (206) 936-7329
         Attn: Mastering Internet Development

Please note that we receive a number of suggestions and comments regarding Microsoft products and are unable to respond directly to each one. However, be assured that your recommendations, ideas, and remarks are recorded and will help shape future versions of our Mastering Series products.

2   Setup Issues

The Setup program's default settings will load the Mastering Internet Development title to your C:

drive in the MID folder. You can assign application files to a different drive; however, Setup will copy as much as 8.5 MB of system files to your WINDOWS\SYSTEM subdirectory.

Because Mastering Internet Development installs system files that may be shared with other applications, you must shut down other applications, including Microsoft Office, before running Setup. If you have closed all other open applications and you encounter problems during Setup, make sure your system meets the minimum requirements necessary to install Mastering Internet Development.

Setup will not complete properly if you remove the Mastering Internet Development CD-ROM during Setup, or attempt to start the application before Setup is complete.

Internet Explorer 3.0 Beta 2

To help you get onto the World Wide Web quickly, Mastering Internet Development includes the Beta 2 version of Internet Explorer 3.0. You should install the most recent version of Internet Explorer as soon as possible. Internet Explorer is available to download from the Internet Explorer page on the Microsoft Web site, http://www.microsoft.com/ie.

System Requirements

Mastering Internet Development will run on the following minimal system; however, performance will improve with more RAM or a faster CD-ROM drive.

- Personal computer with a 486DX or higher processor, running Windows 95
- 8 MB of memory (16 MB or more recommended)
- 10 MB of available hard-disk space (40 MB to work with lab files on your hard drive)
- MPC2-compatible CD-ROM drive
- Super VGA or higher-resolution video adapter capable of displaying 256 colors or greater
- Microsoft Mouse or compatible pointing device
- MPC2-compatible audio board

3 Operating System Issues

Microsoft Windows NT 3.51

Mastering Internet Development runs under Microsoft Windows 95. It will not run under Windows NT version 3.51. The reason for this is that Mastering Internet Development is dependent on Microsoft Internet Explorer version 3.0 beta or later, which does not run under Windows NT version 3.51.

Several lab exercises included in this title, however, require you to run Windows NT 3.51 or later, in order to run Microsoft Internet Information Server. If you want to complete lab exercises that require Windows NT, and want to have Mastering Internet Development running simultaneously, we recommend the you have two PCs; one functioning as a client machine, the other functioning as a server:

Client PC
- Windows 95
- Internet Explorer 3.0 beta or later
- Mastering Internet Development

Server PC
- Windows NT 3.51 or later
- Microsoft Internet Information Server 1.0 or later

Microsoft Windows NT 4.0 beta or later

When we released Mastering Internet Development, Microsoft Windows NT version 4.0 was in beta. Because the beta status of Windows NT 4.0 at the time Mastering Internet Development released, we do not offer product support for users attempting to run Mastering Internet Development under Windows NT 4.0.

If you want to run Mastering Internet Development on a PC running Windows NT 4.0 beta or later, we recommend you do so on a test machine, that does not contain any work-critical data or applications.

We will not offer product support to users running Mastering Internet Development under Windows NT 4.0 beta or later.

4 Removing Mastering Internet Development

To remove Mastering Internet Development from your computer, run Setup again and choose Remove All. You can also uninstall Mastering Internet Development by running the Add/Remove Programs application in the Control Panel.

You may also need to do the following:
- **Delete the Mastering Internet Development shortcut.** If you moved the shortcut to a different folder after installing the application, Setup will not be able to detect the new shortcut location or delete it. After running Setup (with Remove All), go to Windows Explorer and delete the shortcut(s).
- **Delete the MID directory.** The MID directory (or the directory you specified as the destination directory during Setup) will not be removed because it may contain files that you modified. If you did a Complete installation, two subdirectories were added: "Lists" and "Labs." If you worked on any of the labs or added topics to the Notebook, that information is saved in those subdirectories. If you still want to remove these directories, you can delete them by going to Windows Explorer, selecting the directory, and pressing DELETE.

Warning
When running Setup with the Uninstall option you may receive a dialog box with a warning about deleting a shared file. This dialog only occurs when Setup prepares to remove a file that another application may use. If you remove the file, be aware that other unregistered applications that use that same file may no longer run correctly.

5 Using the Title's Internet Features

Mastering Internet Development includes the following Internet features:

Launching URLs

This product contains Universal Resource Locators (URLs) that allow you to jump to information on the Internet. URL addresses change over time as Web sites and pages are added, deleted, modified, and moved. To keep the Mastering Internet Development title current, a URL jump table has been implemented in the title. Whenever you click on an URL jump in the title, the table resolves this request to an Internet URL, then launches Internet Explorer to locate that resource.

Product Update

The Product Update feature allows you to modify the title's URL jump table. If a URL link fails, or you suspect it has changed, use the Product Update command from the File menu to update this table from the Internet. Please note that after you use this command, you may need to restart the Mastering Internet Development title to see any changes in the content. If you have questions about using the Product Update feature, consult the Help file.

Product Web Site

Use the Product Web Site command from the Help menu to jump to the Mastering Internet Development Web page. This page will contain any future errata information, and pointers to additional information.

6 Potential Problems Running this Title

This section describes problems you may experience when running Mastering Internet Development.

- **Beta Software:** Some of the material in this course is based on pre-released versions of Microsoft Internet tools and operating systems. There may be discrepancies between

information referenced in the course and the released versions of these products.

- **Lab 4, Exercises 1 and 2:** The Spin32 and MaskedEdit controls may not self-register properly when downloaded by Internet Explorer Beta. This will cause them to work incorrectly. If you have Microsoft Visual Basic or Microsoft Visual C++, installing these products on the Client computer will correctly register the controls.

- **Chapter 5, "Setting and Returning Properties Sample" sample code:** The Slider control may not self-register properly when downloaded by Internet Explorer Beta. This will cause it to work incorrectly. If you have Microsoft Visual Basic or Microsoft Visual C++, installing these products on the Client computer will correctly register the control.

- **Lab 5, Optional Exercise:** This exercise may not work correctly, due to problems with the HTML Select control in the Beta version of Internet Explorer.

- **Lab 9, Lab Solution:** This lab requires installation of Microsoft Exchange in order to install the OLE Messaging library. If you do not have Microsoft Exchange installed on your machine, you will receive the VB error "Can't find project or library" when trying to send e-mail using the lab solution application.

- **User Profiles:** If you change User Profiles in Windows 95 after installing this course, you should continue to log onto your machine with the same username you used when installing the course. Different users who have altered the default User Profiles settings may experience a path error dialog when restarting the course. Using the original username will avoid this problem.

- **Library Articles:** Library articles included in this title are not edited by the Mastering Internet Development team. You may encounter documentation errors, references to page numbers or files, and formatting problems. Addresses, phone numbers, and other contact information appearing in this title may have changed since the time of publication.

- **Topic Titles:** Some of the topic titles in the application will be cut off when running Mastering Internet Development in lower display resolutions.

- **Palette Flash:** Palette flashes can occur when switching between Mastering Internet Development and other running applications, and when starting or stopping animations and demos.

- **Graphics:** This title is designed to run on machines capable of displaying 256 colors or more. Though the title does run on systems displaying 16 colors, there is a noticeable drop in image quality. Some large graphics may display out of the window when running the title at 640 x 480 resolution. It is recommended that you run this application in 800 x 600 mode or greater. The graphic viewer in this application allows you to toggle graphics between large and small views. By clicking on the viewer, you can change the size of the graphic. The viewer will remain the size that you last viewed a graphic. If an image appears distorted or compressed, click in the graphic viewer to make sure you are viewing the entire image. Note that some small graphics do not change size.

- **Navigation and Topic areas:** If using keyboard keys to navigate through the Table of Contents or the Topic area, you may need to manually change the focus of the application, depending on the content you want to affect. You can change the focus by clicking on the area you want to navigate. On some systems, the vertical scroll bar may change size when scrolling through topics and labs, or navigating through the Table of Contents.

- **Printing:** The media represented by icons in the text area (graphics, sample code, tips, and answers) will not print when printing the current screen. To print this information, choose Print when the media is displayed in the active window. If you experience problems printing over a network, consult your network administrator to make sure your printer settings are correct. Solutions for common printing problems are described in Section 8 of this README file, "Printing Problems." If you choose to print the Glossary, the entire Glossary will be printed.

- **Text:** Mastering Internet Development uses your system settings to display some foreground

and background colors. You may want to choose a compatible display combination (such as the Windows Standard color scheme) for best visual results. When displaying glossary popups within the text, the application will sometimes lose focus. To remedy this, click in the Topic area; focus will return to the application.

- **Video:** .AVI files will only run if you've installed the Multimedia options when setting up Windows 95. Setup will look for multimedia options on your system and notify you if they are not installed. If this is the case, you will need to install the appropriate options. Even with appropriate hardware, you may experience long wait times while video files are being loaded, and you may encounter errors in audio/video synchronization during playback.

7   Performance Issues

There are several ways to make Mastering Internet Development run faster. Many of the methods described below are general tips that will improve the performance of any application under Windows. Consult your Windows manual for more details.

Mastering Internet Development uses your computer's random access memory (RAM) to display pictures and play video and audio. If Mastering Internet Development runs slowly or if you get error messages saying you are out of memory, you may not have enough RAM available. Here are some tips to make the best use of your available memory:

- Close all applications that you are not using.

- Add more RAM (memory) to your computer. You can determine how much memory is available by starting MS-DOS, typing **mem** and pressing ENTER. This starts a program that will tell you how much memory you have. You need at least 8 MB of RAM, and 16 MB is recommended.

- If you are using more than 256 colors in your video display, you may want to lower your video colors to 256. For instructions on how to change your Windows display, consult your Windows documentation.

For more details on improving performance, consult your Windows 95 and CD-ROM manuals.

8   Hardware Problems

In rare situations, Mastering Internet Development may encounter display problems when using accelerated video drivers, video drivers with more than 256 colors, or high-resolution video drivers. One example of these problems is a video display with garbled images. Another is a crash occurring when trying to play a video. There are several things you can do if you encounter such problems:

1. Most problems can be fixed by obtaining new drivers from your video card manufacturer. Contact the manufacturer of your video card to determine if newer versions are available. The manufacturer's phone number should be in the manuals that came with your video card or personal computer. Another option for obtaining updated drivers is the Microsoft Download service (MSDL), an electronic bulletin board that can be accessed by modem at (206) 936-MSDL (206-936-6735).

    Drivers provided on MSDL are compressed with the PKWare utilities and are in the form of executable files (.EXE extension). It is best to download the file or files you need into an empty directory on your hard disk or a blank formatted floppy. To decompress these drivers after downloading them, either:

    a)   From Windows 95 Explorer, double-click on the filename that you downloaded.

    -or-

    b)   From the DOS prompt, change to the directory containing the downloaded file, type the filename, and then press ENTER.

2. An alternative to obtaining a new or updated display driver is to change your video mode to a

standard video mode, such as 640 x 480 resolution with 256 colors.

To find out what video driver you are using, open Display from Control Panel. In Windows 95, click on the Settings tab. Then click the Change Display Type button. Your display type will be listed there. For instructions on how to install or change drivers, click the Help button.

9   Printing Problems

Screen resolution and printer resolution are often not the same, so the resulting printout may not match the quality you see on the screen.

If you encounter a general protection fault when you print a topic, check your printer driver. Switch to a more current version of the driver, if one is available. Additionally, ensure that the printer is online and that you can print to it from another application. If the problem persists, click on the Property page for the Printer you are using. Choose the Fonts tab and click on the method of downloading TrueType fonts that works best with your system.

If you are using an HP LaserJet printer, make sure that you have the most current printer driver, or try setting the printer resolution to 300 dpi (graphics may not print properly at 600 dpi).

You should be able to print grayscale images from Mastering Internet Development. If you have a black and white laser printer, you may need to upgrade your printer driver. Call the dealer from whom you bought the printer or call the printer manufacturer.

10   Microsoft Tools Included on CD

The following categories of Microsoft tools have been included on this CD in \MEDIA\TOOLS.

- Internet Assistants
- Viewers
- Development Tools
- Internet Information Server
- ODBC Drivers

Installation instructions for installing these tools directly from the CD are in the Microsoft Tools section of the Library. You should also check the Microsoft Web site, http://www.microsoft.com, to download the most recent versions of some of these tools.

11   Technical Support

For help on setup and product features:
- Check Help.
- Take the Tour, accessible through Help.
- Check the Mastering Internet Development README file on the Product Web Site.

For phone support:
- In the United States, no-charge support is available by making a toll call between 6:00am and 6:00pm Pacific time, Monday through Friday, excluding holidays. Call (206) 635-7033.
- In Canada, support engineers are available by making a toll call between 8:00am and 8:00pm Eastern time, Monday through Friday, excluding holidays. Call (905) 568-3503.
- Outside North America, contact your local Microsoft subsidiary.

12   Generic Multimedia Information

For more information regarding Multimedia PCs (MPCs), MPC titles, and other general multimedia topics of interest, please contact the MPC Marketing Council:

Multimedia PC Marketing Council, Inc.
1703 M Street, Suite 700
Washington DC 20036

(202) 452-1600

For information regarding a specific MPC product, contact the manufacturer of that product.