PicaView version 1.0
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Introduction

Congratulations on obtaining PicaView, the fastest, easiest-to-use File Manager add-on for viewing images.

Current features

*   easily attaches to Windows File Manager with the included installation software
*   supports most BMP, GIF, JPEG, PCX, Photo-CD, PiNG, TGA and TIFF files
*   rapid JPEG decompression
*   view images as they are decompressed
*   full-colour image previews
*   easy, quick image panning, even during decompression
*   supports 256, 32768, 65536 and 16 million colour screen modes
*   always-on-top and full-screen viewing window options
*   shrink image to fit window or screen

How to View Images

To view an image from File Manager

1) Highlight an image in the File Manager file list
2) Select "PicaView | View Full Image" from the File Manager menu.

To preview an image from File Manager

1) Highlight an image in the File Manager file list
2) Select "PicaView | Preview" from the File Manager menu.

To automatically preview images as you select them

Check the "PicaView | Auto-Preview" menu option.

To switch between preview and view modes

Double-click on the preview window.

See also: *Options*

VISA/MasterCard Registration

For your convenience, we have a toll-free number for credit card customers:

1-800-414-ACDS (1-800-414-2237)

The number is available 24 hours, so even if you don't call during normal business hours (8:30 AM - 9:00 PM PST M-F), an operator will take your name and number so that we can contact you.

Where 800 service is unavailable, please call **(604) 475-6701**
You may also FAX your order to **(604) 475-6651**

Options

These options affect how the preview image is displayed.

Fit to window/screen	The image will be shrunk if necessary to fit within the bounds of the window.
Full size	The image will appear in full size.
1/2 size	The image will be shrunk to 1/2 of its normal size.
1/4 size	The image will be shrunk to 1/4 of its normal size.
1/8 size	The image will be shrunk to 1/8 of its normal size.
Auto-size to image	The size of the window will be changed to match the size of the image, within the dimensions of the screen.
Auto-activate	The window will be activated whenever an image is previewed or viewed. This option should be checked when running in 256 colours in order for the palette to be handled correctly.
Always on top	The window will always appear above other windows, even when it is not activated.
Auto-Preview	A preview will be shown automatically whenever an image is selected in the File Manager file list
Auto-Preview Delay	Sets the delay between when an image is selected and when the automatic preview activates.
Gray JPEG preview	Causes previews of JPEG images to be performed in gray-scale, which is significantly faster.

View Options

These options affect how the image is displayed when the "View Full Image" command is used.

Window - Normal	The window appears in its normal size and position.
Window - Auto-size	The size of the window will be changed to match the size of the image, within the dimensions of the screen.
Window - Full-Screen	The window will appear full-screen (maximized, with no title-bar)
Shrink image to fit	The image will be shrunk if necessary to fit within the bounds of the window.

256 Colour Dither Options

These options affect how a truecolor or hicolor image is displayed on a 256-colour video display.

Ordered	Use an ordered dither (fastest)
Floyd-Steinberg	Use a Floyd-Steinberg dither (slower but better appearance)

Registration

PicaView is ShareWare

PicaView is "ShareWare".   This entitles you, the customer, to try out the software for up to 30 days without obligation to pay for it.

Shareware (non-registered) PicaView is a "full" version.   This means that the same capabilities available in the registered software are present in the non-registered software.   In fact, the non-registered software includes a bonus feature - the shareware nag box

If you use PicaView beyond the 30 days, you should register it.   Registration entitles you to free upgrades to the software, which is nice.

How To Register

Before you register, please take a look at the Licensing section of this help file.

You may register by credit card over the phone or FAX, via Compuserve, or by money order.   In any case, the cost of registration is a modest **$US 15**.

If you are part of a business and wish to use several copies of PicaView within your company, greatly reduced site licensing rates are also available.   Please call 1-800-414-ACDS for a quote.

Unlocking the Software

You will receive a notification of registration from ACD Systems which contains your personal registration name and number.

First, bring up the Reigistration Dialog by first invoking About dialog box, then clicking on the Register button.

Enter your registration name in the registration dialog.

Now enter your personal registration number, and select Register   If all is well, PicaView will respond with a message thanking you for your registration.   Otherwise PicaView will complain that your name and number don't match, and you will have to correct the information.

Distribution and Licensing

Distribution

This shareware software may be freely distributed, provided that:

(1) Such distribution includes only the original archive supplied by ACD Systems, Ltd.   You may not alter, delete or add any files in the distribution archive.
(2) The distrubution does not include a registration number.   In particular, you may not distrubute a registered version of PicaView.
(3)   No money is charged to the person receiving the software, beyond reasonable cost of packaging and other overhead.

Licensing

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You can get the latest version of PicaView and other shareware by ACD Sytems via anonymous FTP

FTP   ftp://dataflux.bc.ca/pub/acd

WEB   http://vvv.com/acd

Credits

The colour quantization/dithering features of PicaView were made possible through the use of code produced by the Independent JPEG Group.

The TIFF features of PicaView were made possible through the use of code in Sam Leffler's TIFF library, version 3.4 beta.

History

+ = new feature
o = bug fix or performance enhancment

Version 1.0 - June 7, 1995
- o PicaView's decoding routines are now more robust when dealing with incomplete or corrupted image files

Version 1.0 beta 6 - June 1, 1995
- o The double-click command works somewhat differently
- o Selecting another file with Auto-Preview off now closes the image window
- o Fixed problem where PicaView did not detect when File Manager implicitly changed the currently selected file (e.g., after a file is deleted or moved)

Version 1.0 beta 5 - May 31, 1995
- o It is no longer necessary to use the "Auto-activate" option to get palette handling to work properly on 256-colour displays
- o Always On Top option now works correctly
- o Fixed a little bug with switching from preview to full-screen, full-image (double-click command)

Version 1.0 beta 4 - May 17, 1995 (initial release)
- + Created on-help file
- + Created install/deinstall program
- o Nag box does not appear unless an image was viewed that session

Compuserve Registration

If you are a member of the Compuserve Information Service, you may register via the Shareware Registration Database

To register, log onto CompuServe, enter **GO SWREG**. and follow the on-line instructions.   Use "PicaView" for the search program title.   Your registration information will be electronically mailed to your compuserve ID within a few days.

Money Order Registration

Send your **US funds** money order to:

USA   ACD Systems - Van Texas
2201 North Collins
Suite 230
Arlington, TX 76011

Canada   ACD Systems, Ltd.
P.O. Box 730
Victoria, BC
Canada V8W 2P9

Be sure to include your full name and return address (and internet address, if possible).