

HOUSE - Shareware Version 2.03

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HOUSE
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Price: (US\$) **\$15.95** + \$4.50 S/H

WHAT IS HOUSE?

HOUSE is software for all Windows™ 3.0 and Windows™ 3.1 users. The package includes a seamless **PROGRAM MANAGER, FILEMANAGER, DESKTOP**, and an amazing computer art **PAINT** program--all in one...and all in under 150K bytes! The seamless integration of a powerful menu manager and an impressive file manager creates a productive desktop environment for Windows™ computing--at home or at the office.

HOUSE is an *advanced desktop* yet it can be used easily by people with little or no computer skills! You can use it with any of your Windows programs, pictures, files, documents, sounds, notepads, etc. **HOUSE makes launching things easy**, so you will soon discover new levels of productivity during your day-to-day Windows™ sessions. **HOUSE** keeps track of things too, allowing you to return to 'unfinished business' quickly--without hassles. You can even keep work history logs on disk. The *jumping* directory lists and **50 Directory instant 'Go-Back'** and **100 Program 'Do-Again'** are just a few of the many features **HOUSE** has..allowing you to experience the most productive Windows™ sessions possible!

Combining a file manager and a powerful menu system in an efficient and seamless interface, **HOUSE** allows you rapid access to all your important files and programs quickly and easily. Creating new menu items is so easy and so fast with **HOUSE** that you'll say,

"Is that all there is to it?" **HOUSE** does what no other Windows Desktop software does...it creates a simple *and* powerful desktop environment--with a truly user friendly interface -- all without compromise or resource hogging! **HOUSE** can operate in less than three icons of precious screen-space...leaving you the room you need to do the things you really want to do.

Most importantly, your whole family can use it without reading manuals...and it's great at the office...allowing your staff an unprecedented level of user specific information concerning your Windows™ resources. The thirty-two Windows™ programs that ship with Windows™ 3.1 are described in the default menu! Understanding how each and every Windows™ program works was never so easy!

(FOR QUICK INSTALLATION INFO ---JUMP A FEW PAGES!!)

A Brief Look At Some Features:

THE MENU - (200 PROGRAMS PER MENU)

At the top of each **HOUSE**--on the 'roof' --you will see a thin window that looks a bit like a ruler, and changes color a lot! (*This means it has the focus, as your mouse passes over*). Moving your mouse around in this window will select programs or files from **your current menu**...and display their names. Whether two inches wide, or running across the top of your entire screen, imagine a **magic ruler** with all your programs and files listed on it...*you could select any program just by touching the number on the ruler--nearest to that program*. **HOUSE** is a magic ruler.....you select programs by **sliding your mouse along the ruler**, then **simply click** when the pointer has the program you want displayed. Double click to launch, or click the **RUN** button for the same effect without double clicking. You can also *type letters* when the menu has the focus, for *alphabetical selection* of menu items! Then use your <enter> key to launch your menu item. **The HOUSE ROOF (ruler-style menu) is visible at all times**..even when **HOUSE** is doing something totally different--**for fast launches anytime!**

HOUSE menus can contain *up to 200* files, programs, etc.. for instant launching at anytime. You can make as many menus as you like too! Make them small though, then mix and match them with the powerful **HOUSE** menu **merge** features later. Once you have your special menu in place, just 'sweep' & click across the *roof* of the **HOUSE** at anytime, to select and launch any program, file, picture, macro, sound, etc! (*If you can store it on a hard disk, HOUSE can launch it!*)

HOUSES with under 21 rooms can be launched **ALL AT ONCE!** This makes launching work groups a snap! Just press the **OH** button. (**O**pen **H**OUSE)

HOUSE knows what programs are needed to launch your associated files, and you'll know which hosts it is **proposing** to use, *before you launch them!* Of course, you can set your *own* host profiles too--temporarily--for a session, or as a permanent LINK-HOST profile of associations and file extensions. (See HOUSE.HST)

Why not include a couple *vacation homes* on your menu! Up to **200 HOUSES** can be kept in a single HOUSE! -- (A maximum of *16 can run at at time*) -- using the **OPEN HOUSE** button, with just a couple of single clicks, you could launch 15 additional **HOUSES**. But that's silly....it's just *too much* power for most people! (*That's a 40,000 x 15 = 600,000 program potential access from a single launch...for those that count these things.*) The important thing is that each person in your family, or at the office, can have their own **HOUSE** -- and leave it running too.

GENERAL HOUSE FEATURES

You can change the 255 character descriptions of your menu items ANYTIME !

(Except when protected by PASSWORD MODE). You can even change command lines & directories associated with menu items..at anytime! **Just click the info boxes associated with the menu & edit-away!** (It's a good idea to 'latch' the menu with a single click to the roof before editing. **HOUSE** will do this for you *when* you edit, but you may want to click select a 'latched state' before editing so your menu doesn't 'slip' to a different item on the 'way' to the edit boxes with your mouse....)

MENU ITEM'S HAVE FILENAME/PATH/COMMANDLINE VISIBLE AT ALL TIMES

CREATE NEW MENU ITEMS A SECOND! CREATE A 200 ITEM MENU IN UNDER FIVE MINUTES!!!

SINGLE MENUS CAN BE LOCKED-IN FOR USE BY OTHERS (WITHOUT PASSWORDS)
LET PEOPLE USE **ONLY THE PROGRAMS YOU LEAVE IN YOUR MENU!**
LOCK THE REST OF THE **HOUSE** IN A SINGLE KEYSTROKE!
CHILDPROOF MENU THE KIDS CAN USE!

AUTOMATICALLY FIND ANY MENU ITEM IN ABOUT TWO SECONDS!
YOU CAN ALSO FIND/REMOVE ALL MENU ITEMS THAT ARE
NOT CURRENTLY ON YOUR HARD DISK --IN SECONDS!
(FOR QUICK CLEAN-UP OF MENU GROUPS!
YOUR MENU ITEMS WILL BE 100% AVAILABLE! - GUARANTEED!

MERGE **HOUSE** MENUS TOGETHER EASILY
HOUSE AUTOMATICALLY SCREENS-OUT DUPLICATE
MENU ITEMS WHEN MERGING!! MAKES SENSE! NO DUPLICATES!

MENUS CREATED ON FLOPPY DISK CAN BE USED BY OTHER **HOUSE** USERS TO
GAIN A QUICK UNDERSTANDING OF ANY OR ALL FILES ON A FLOPPY DISK!

SYSTEM (PASSWORD) PROTECTION AS SHELL UNDER WINDOWS 3.1
HOUSE WILL NOT ALLOW ACCESS TO ANYTHING IF YOU SET IT WITH AN EMPTY
(NEW) MENU AND LOCK THE **HOUSE**! OR LEAVE A 'JUST VISITING MENU' IN PLACE
SO OTHERS CAN PLAY GAMES...but that's all!

THE FILE MANAGER

DISPLAYS DRIVES, DIRECTORIES, FILES, EXTENSION AND CUSTOM EXTENSIONS
COPY, DELETE, RENAME, DUPLICATE, CHANGE ATTRIBUTES, CHANGE READ/WRITE
ATTRIBUTES WITH ONE CLICK! VIEW BY SIZE, DATE, TIME, ATTRIBUTE OR NAME.

INSTANT FILES/EXTENSION FILTERING FROM CUSTOMIZED LIST! ALL YOUR
FAVORITE EXTENSION FILTERS ARE A CLICK AWAY!

NON-VOLATILE COPY LIST FOR QUICK RE-COPYING OR LIST BUILDING
-BEFORE EXECUTING--ALL AT ONCE! COPY--SELECT AS MANY FILES
AS YOU WANT BEFORE COPYING THEM. SMART-COPY FUNCTION DELAYS
'FILE EXISTS' MESSAGES UNTIL ALL FILES THAT 'CAN" BE COPIED ARE
DONE...THEN YOU GET THOSE MESSAGES IN A ROW...AND YOU CAN
JUST IGNORE ALL IF YOU WISH...FOR HASSLE FREE COPYING!

PHOTOCOPY YOUR DISK DIRECTORIES -
INFO ONLY --TO DISK FILES! WITH CUSTOM FILE SPECS TOO!
- LISTS FILE NAME, SIZE, DATE, TIME, ARCHIVE STATUS
AND FILES/DIRECTORY TOTAL BYTES - FOR EASY RECORD
KEEPING ON ALL TYPES OF FILES!

50 DIRECTORY GOBACK - POPS YOU INTO PREVIOUS DIRECTORIES!
100 PROGRAM - DO AGAIN CAN LAUNCH ANY OF LAST 100 PROGRAMS RUN.

SMART FILE ASSOCIATION GETS **CORRECT HOST VIRTUALLY EVERY TIME!**
PROPOSED **HOST IS DISPLAYED BEFORE LAUNCH!**

LOAD HOUSE MENUS & UTILITIES DIRECTLY-IN FROM FILE VIEWER!
ADD MENU FILES FROM THE FILE VIEWER INTO CURRENT MENU WITH TWO CLICKS!
Or even a single keystroke!

TRUE ONE CLICK LAUNCHING!

SET PRE-LAUNCH WINDOWSTATES (AS ICON, MAX ETC..WITH OR WITHOUT FOCUS!)

CREATE UP TO 10 FRESH NOTEPADS IN CURRENT DIRECTORY
-- AS FAST AS YOU CAN NAME THEM! DATE & PATH IS STAMPED INSIDE!

COMPLETE LOG **HISTORY RECORDS** ALL FILES LAUNCHED
SAVE LOG TO DISK IF YOU LIKE
GET **TIME OF LAUNCH** INSTANTLY FROM GO-BACK LISTS

JUMP FROM THE TOP TO THE BOTTOM OF A DIRECTORY IN A SINGLE CLICK!

CREATE CUSTOM MULTIPLE FILE EXTENSION FILTERS...**HOUSE** WILL
STORE THEM ON BOARD FOR LATER ONE CLICK ACCESS!

RESIDENT DIRECTORY DISPLAYED FOR MENU ITEMS-- AT LAUNCH!

Utilities: Free RAM, Free GDI/USER, Free Disk
File Identity in list..ie. File 2 of 32 for any clicked file or directory!
Password Protection, Shell Substitution if desired under WIN 3.1.
Moveable Clock Label with Time, Date and 24 hour stopwatch.
HOUSE PAINT - Computer Art Entertainment is on board.
Instant form placement to 9 positions.
Custom on--board form colors with memory & blueprint Save/recall
from disk..for FAST INTERIOR REDECORATION!
Fonts, colors, placement, and Window sizes are all storable!

.....LOT"S MORE!!!! Including The House **Zoom Calculator**, and The HOUSE
Borderless Picture Gallery

HOUSE 2.03 - It's fabulous! And Only \$15.95 + S/H.

Compare HOUSE to the other Desktops, Menu bars, Control Panels, Button Bars, launchers, etc. HOUSE is *clearly superior!*

HOUSE is not a *power disk utility*...but that's not what you want. You want a *user friendly way of getting the job done fast* and having a little fun along the way...with a minium of hassle or headaches! You will find that HOUSE is easy to use, gets the job done fast, and is truly a pleasure to use...it's even educational! The first 32 Windows programs in your 3.1 Windows program suite are already in your first menu...and with descriptions of each one!

At only \$15.95 + S/H, HOUSE is a really good deal! So be sure to send for a copy before your shareware version expires!

ABOUT LAUNCHING AND HOST SELECTION

HOUSE reads your Win.Ini [Extensions] and merges this information with it's own, so that **HOUSE** 'knows' if your file needs a certain 'host' such as paintbrush, write, notepad, etc. **HOUSE** also takes care of the little things other programs don't. For example, when a text file is too big for notepad, **HOUSE** will use WRITE.EXE instead of reminding you to try 'Another' host program. If you have Windows 3.0 and have problems reading extended ascii (WIN3.0 Notepad cannot do that) you can even replace notepad with your own default document handler if you like.

HELP FILES can be launched with WINHELP or using a notepad...YOU decide!
HELP FILES in your WINDOWS directory are *automatically* loaded into WINHELP.

To put a **HOUSE** in a **HOUSE** as a menu item, find the HOUSE.EXE and click **ADD...** *just like any menu item would be added from the file viewer.* Next, find a **HOUSE.HSE** file, otherwise known as a **HOUSE MENU**...then use **PUT** to place it in the COMMANDLINE box. Then the **HOUSE** will run from the menu with it's OWN menu!

ALL PROGRAMS EXCEPT **HOUSE LAUNCHES** can be run from the PASSWORD PROTECTED MENU **visible at the time of password security**. Kids can use the current menu, but can't access NEW **HOUSES** that may be on the default menu for MOM & DAD!

If you want totally secure isolation, (NO access/use) be sure to unload the menu before selecting password secure operation.

Think of **HOUSE** as the place to keep all your Windows™ programs...because that's the best place to keep windows ...in a **HOUSE**! And because we humans keep houses in cities, I've provided you with the tools to make your own cities...or you can let the **HOUSE** Architect make them for you! (Click CITY then "AD AUTODRAW Computer City")

Remember, if you enjoy using **HOUSE** and decide to use it for more than 30 days you are *supposed* to **order** a copy. You will receive the latest edition of **HOUSE**, a handy guide and more! Please *do your part* to support shareware! **Thank you!**

TECHNICAL INFO

HOUSE was written using the Visual Basic™ programming system (1.0 & 2.0) under Windows™ 3.1. It is intended for use with Windows 3.0 or 3.1.

(TO DO A REALLY FAST INSTALL.....)

Assuming you have VBRUN200.DLL in your path, just copy the rest of the files into your favorite (HOUSE) directory and RUN the program HOUSE.EXE!

You **MUST** have the file **VBRUN200.DLL IN YOUR SYSTEM PATH** in order to use **HOUSE**. This file is available on most BBS's-- and it's **FREE!** If you don't have VBRUN200.DLL yet....you should get it! Download it from one of any number of WINDOWS - BBS's in your area, or find a Windows™ user that can make you a copy. VBRUN200.DLL allows you to use the quality programs developed with the Visual BASIC

Professional Development System. VBRUN200.DLL IS SHIPPED WITH ALL REGISTERED

COPIES OF HOUSE. It's a MUST for serious Windows® Users.

THE BEST PLACE TO KEEP VBRUN200.DLL is in your WINDOWS SYSTEM DIRECTORY. IF you copy it there, it will work FIRST TIME! No reboots!

Such as:

COPY VBRUN200.DLL c:\Windows\System

INSTALLING HOUSE

You may keep **HOUSE** in any directory, such as **C:\HOUSE**.

Just be sure all the initial **HOUSE** files are in the SAME directory:

COPY or UNZIP them into your **HOUSE** directory:

(See more in README.TXT for EASY BATCH INSTALL INFO)

***The files noted below are essential for proper operation:**

HOUSE.EXE - The main **HOUSE** executable program - The one to 'ADD' to your program manager icon groups if you wish. You could also type this in a RUN menu to start the program, from program or file managers. (Select RUN then type:) **C:\HOUSE\HOUSE.EXE**

HOUSE.HSE - The default **HOUSE** MENU. **HOUSE** can run without it...but...**you should keep a back-up of your ORIGINAL**. The first time you save this file it will be very different than the original...even if you didn't change it! Your Original **HOUSE.HSE** menu file contains special keywords that are not saved the same way as they exist on your first menu!

HOUSE.HST - The extensions/hosts file. Ditto...keep a back up of this file! Add extensions to it if you like, using notepad.exe to edit. Double click your HOST LIST to activate an editing session. (? HST + dbl click). New extensions will show up in your quick file-extensions list!

HOUSEHLP.TXT- Optional, but you really should have it., it's a HELP file! (You can create or change your **own** HOUSEHLP.TXT for more personal/customized HELP!)

SETUPKIT.DLL & VBRUN200.DLL - These are Link Libraries. If you have VB-PRO

Programs running now, you might already have these files in your x:\Windows\System directory and won't need additional copies elsewhere...otherwise...you will need both of these.

Copy *.dll c:\WINDOWS\SYSTEM from your floppy, or **HOUSE** unzip source dir.

STARTING YOUR FIRST HOUSE

Assuming your .DLL's are in place and the program is on disk:

You can start HOUSE.EXE in the usual manner, double-clicking it from FILE MANAGER, or by 'picking up' the program HOUSE.EXE with the NEW-PROGRAM function using your PROGRAM MANAGER. Select New-Program Item-Browse..and find HOUSE.EXE! - Choose OK. Next, simply double click the new ICON to launch **HOUSE**.

HOUSE will load the **HOUSE.HSE** default menu and **HOUSE.HST**, the default HOST profile...while you watch the opening banner. Then **HOUSE** will appear..in tiny mode...ready to roll!

YOU CAN RUN MULTIPLE INSTANCES OF HOUSE. However, your system limit of 16 Timers will restrict this. **HOUSE** uses ONE timer, so **you can run 16 HOUSES at once!** (That would require as much as 145,000 x 16 BYTES of RAM though!)

HOUSE will NOT alter ANY of your system.ini settings in any way. HOUSE will NOT create ANY files in your Windows or root directory...unless you ask it to of course!

Hopefully, it's a no-hassles program with a 'hands-off' attitude.

Remember...you can make copies of this **HOUSE** shareware version for friends who might like it. If you distribute copies of **HOUSE**, please please read the legal disclaimer and information at the end of this document and BE sure to include the VBRUN200.DLL & SETUPKIT.DLL whenever possible. And... **Thank You for supporting shareware!!!**

IMPORTANT LEGAL INFORMATION AND DISCLAIMER:

This program is offered, as is, for your evaluation. The author of this program makes no implied or expressed warranties concerning it. No promises of fitness for use, fitness for merchantability, or otherwise, are made. In no case shall the author of this program be held liable for damages of any kind, derived directly or indirectly as a result of , but not limited to, the use or mis-use of this program. Some states do not allow the exclusion of certain limitations and/or warranties, so certain aspects of this disclaimer may not apply to you. This program may be freely duplicated for electronic distribution as shareware. Reasonable media fees are permitted, but you may **NOT** include **HOUSE** software where **media charges in excess of \$12.00 per diskette or \$200.00 per CD-ROM are charged to the (end-user) customers** without *expressed written permission from the author*. Any duplication of **HOUSE** software **MUST** include the complete and unaltered software package. **This program includes a time lock feature which will make use after NOVEMBER 1, 1993 impossible without modifications to your Windows system configuration. Prices may change without notice.**

If you use **HOUSE** for a period in excess of 30 days, you **must** purchase a registered copy, by sending a check or money order for US\$ 15.95 + S/H by mail to:

HOUSE
8231-5th Street S.W.
Calgary, AB, T2V 1C7
Canada

(POSTAGE/HANDLING: In the USA: \$4.50, In Canada \$3.50, International \$8.00)

. (An order form is available on your menu, with this software package. See HOUSEBUY.WRI)

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