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Startup Folder

The Startup Folder is a special folder in Windows 95, which is responsible for loading the Application Programs during the booting processes of Windows 95, whose shortcuts exist in the Startup Folder.

The Startup Folder is located in the Windows 95 Start Menu under the Windows directory and most often the location tends to be C:\Windows\Start Menu\Programs\Startup.

When you normally create a shortcut to a Windows based application in order to access it , the default extension of the shortcut is LNK, whereas for MS-DOS based programs the extension is PIF.

If you wish to launch a program on booting to Windows 95 via the Startup Folder, then StartEd takes care of the details for you. It generates a shortcut to the selected program in the Startup Folder with the extension LNK automatically.

What's new in 3.0 ?

•

- New, resizable GUI
- Backup and Restore of Startup Information (including file type registration) have been added
- Added an Install and Uninstall Program
- Icons are now displayed in the List View
- Startup Method can now be changed
- New Registry Sections:
 - Current User Run
 - Current User Run Once
 - Local Machine Run Once
 - Local Machine Run Services Once
 - Startup Folder support has been added
- Supports the Win ini file
- File Launch has been implemented
- File Properties can be viewed
- Several Warning/Info Dialogs have been incorporated
- List View sorting has been implemented
- Exception Handlers have been added

Registry Startup Processes

Windows scans the registry sections in the following order:

Local Machine Run Once Services Local Machines Run Services

 \downarrow

Local Machine Run Once Local Machine Run

 \downarrow

Current User Run Once Current User Run

Sections Description:

• Local Machine Run Once Services

This section is used primarily for Install Scripts. The specified files are executed before the Desktop and the Windows 95 Taskbar appear. The term "Run Once" implies that the entries will be removed after the boot process has finished.

• Local Machines Run Services

This section is used in particular by Application Programs such as Installation Monitors, AntiVirus Scanners including Server Software are launched from this section of the Registry. The files referenced here are executed before the desktop and the Windows 95 Taskbar appear.

• Local Machine Run Once

This section is used by the Install Scripts that require Windows Explorer to be active. The term "Run Once" implies that these entries will be removed once the boot processes have been completed.

• Local Machine Run

Most applications should be loaded from this segment of the Registry. It's purpose is the same as that of the Startup Folder, however you do not require to create any Shortcut Files.

• Current User Run Once

The purpose of this segment is in every way similar to that of Current User Run, except that the entries will be removed after the boot processes have finished.

• Current User Run

This section has significance only for Multi-user Systems. The files referenced here will be loaded only if the user that has created the entries logs in.

Win.ini

The term INI file refers to an Initialization File, which is responsible for storing the settings and preferences and other pertinent data of an Application to the Disk.

This method of storing data and preferences to the disk in a textual format was supported in Windows 3.1. The WIN.INI file [and the Startup Group] was responsible for loading the applications, when Windows 3.1 was launched from the DOS command-line.

Now, the <u>StartUp Folder</u> and the <u>Registry</u> have taken the place of the WIN.INI file in Windows 95.

StartEd supports WIN. INI file for backward compatibility and other issues. It is not recommended to launch programs during the boot-up of Windows 95 via this method, as WIN.INI supports only two files, each in the **Run**, and the **Load** line respectively.

This file is located in the Windows directory on your hard drive [most often found under C:\Windows].

Add New Entry to the startup process

Step 1. : Enter the File information.

You need to fill in the name and the command line edit fields.

Alternatively you could drag & drop the file you wish to add from Windows Explorer onto the StartEd window.

You may also use the Select button next to the Name edit field and navigate through the directory structure and locate and select the file.

<u>N</u> ame:	Showmem	1	<u>C</u> lear
Command <u>l</u> ine:	D:\D\Work\Showmem\Showmem.exe		

Step 2. : Select a Start Method

Use the compo-box to select the start method you want.

Start <u>m</u>ethod: Local Machine Run

You have the option to choose between six different registry sections, the Startup Folder and the Win.ini file.

Step 3. : Add the File to the List View

Once you are done selecting the File and the Start Methods, click once on the add button to complete the process.



The File appears at the end of the List View.

Name	Command line	Start method	Valid
🐒 System Tray	SysTray.Exe	Local Machine Run	yes
EM_EXEC	c:\dev\mouse\system\em_exec.exe	Local Machine Run	yes
🛅 Set Ultra	C:\DEV'W/inSound\SetUltra.exe	Local Machine Run	yes
RecoRtvReco	D:\Utils\Hack\Reco\RtvReco.exe -nix	Local Machine Run	yes
🕵 babylon	D:\Programme\Edu\Babylon\babylon.exe	Local Machine Run	yes
🥔 QLogo	C:\DEV\qemm97\QLogo.exe	Local Machine Run	yes
🧱 Taskbar Display Controls	RunDLL deskcp16.dll,QUICKRES_RUNDLLENTRY	Current User Run	yes
🎻 startup.brs	C:\//VIN\Start Menu\Programs\StartUp\startup.brs	Startup Folder	yes
Showmern	D:\D\Work\Showmem\Showmem.exe	Local Machine Run	yes

Backup your Startup Configuration

Wouldn't it be a great advantage, if you could save the state of your Startup configuration before you edit it ?

Well, **StartEd** allows you to create **backups** of your Startup Information.

This feature is very useful if you wish to try out several startup configurations to suit you best. You could test the new configurations and restore them at the click of a button. The **backup** file(s) may also be helpful if you wish to re-install Windows 95 on your System.

To create a **backup** use the <u>Quick Backup</u> or <u>Create Backup As</u> command.

To restore your Startup information use the <u>Quick Restore</u> or the <u>Restore Backup from</u> command.

The **backup** feature is only available in the <u>registered</u> version of **StartEd** !

Main Menu

The main menu consist of 5 menus.

<u>File Settings Backup Restore Help</u>

File

<u>Clear All</u>

<u>Rescan</u> <u>Save</u> Save & Exit

Terminate

 $\frac{\text{Settings}}{\text{Display Dialogs}} \rightarrow$

Save confirmation Dialogs Save changes on exit Dialog Restore info Dialogs Run Once warning Dialogs non shortcut in Startup Folder Dialogs

Add new Files immediately Alphasort List View

Backup Quick Backup Create Backup as ...

Register StartEd Backup file type

Restore Quick Restore Restore Backup from ...

Context Menus

StartEd features two unique context menus which allow you to access most of StartEd's often-used menu items.

The first Context menu can be accessed in the list view. You only need to right click in the List view area and the following menu pops up.

<u>C</u> ut <u>P</u> aste
<u>A</u> dd <u>R</u> eplace
Launch File
<u>F</u> ile Properties

Cut Paste Add Replace Launch File File Properties

The second Context menu shown below can be activated by simply right-clicking outside the List View.

<u>Save & Exit</u>

Exit without save

Save & Exit

Terminate

Introduction

Welcome to StartEd.

Have you often wondered as to why certain programs always load up whenever you start Windows 95 even though there is no shortcut to these programs in the <u>Startup Folder</u>? These quirks are courtesy of the Windows 95 Registry or the <u>Win.ini</u> File. If you need total and direct control over the programs loaded during the booting processes, then **StartEd** is THE Answer.

StartEd allows you to take a peek at what's currently going on during the boot operations, and places the power to Edit, Delete and Add to the existing entries at your fingertips.

It even allows you to <u>Backup</u> the Startup Configuration.

Change an Existing Entry

Step 1. : Select the item

Double click the line with the item that you wish to change.

📕 Taskbar Display Controls	RunDLL deskcp16.dll,QUICKRES_RUNDLLENTRY	Current User Run	yes
🎻 startup.brs	C:\\/VIN\Start Menu\Programs\StartUp\startup.brs	Startup Folder	yes
Showmern	D:/D/Work/Showmem/Showmem.exe	Current User Run	yes

On doing so, the name and the command line appear the in edit fields.

<u>N</u> ame:	Showmem	2	<u>C</u> lear
Command <u>l</u> ine:	D:\D\Work\Showmem\Showmem.exe		

Step 2. : Enter new File information

Change the entries in the edit fields to your satisfaction.

<u>N</u> ame:	Showmem	2	<u>C</u> lear
Command <u>l</u> ine:	D:\D\Work\Showmem\Showmem.exe 4000		

At this time you may also select a new Start Method.

Start <u>m</u> ethod:	Startup Folder	•
	, ·	

Step 3. : Replace the item

Click once on the replace button



and the changes are thereby reflected in the List View.

🧱 Taskbar Display Controls	RunDLL deskcp16.dll,QUICKRES_RUNDLLENTRY	Current User Run	yes
🎻 startup.brs	C:\\/VIN\Start Menu\Programs\StartUp\startup.brs	Startup Folder	yes
Showmem.Ink	D:\D\Work\Showmem\Showmem.exe 4000	Startup Folder	yes

Overview

The Registry is a central database that is created by Windows 95 during installation. The entries in that database consist of the hardware, software, users, and preferences data for a single PC, or any PC on a network. Whenever the user makes changes to the Control Panel settings, File Associations, System Policies, or installed software, the changes are reflected in the Registry.

These Registry settings can be viewed with the Registry Editor (REGEDIT.EXE), which is installed into the Windows\System folder when Windows 95 is installed from CD-ROM. The floppy disk version of Windows 95 will NOT install this editor.

By default, REGEDIT.EXE will NOT appear on any of the system's menus, or the Start button. So you will have to add your own shortcut, or you can click on the START button, select RUN and in the OPEN: command line type REGEDIT and press ENTER. If the Registry Editor is installed on your system, it will appear on your Desktop, ready to use.

The Registry replaces the dreaded .INI files from Windows 3.1, and because the information is presented in hierarchical form, the Registry supports nested folders, which .INI files do not support. One of the many benefits of this is that in a network environment, users can log onto any PC in the network, just as it were the very same PC on their desk ! In addition, several users can store configuration data on a single machine.

Registry Editor displays the contents of the Registry in six subtrees called Keys. Keys can contain data strings, as well as SubKeys. Each of these six Keys begins with Hkey_ which indicates that it can be used by a program to access resources.

When you first look at the Registry Editor, this structure looks extremely complicated. Think of the Registry Editor as another type of Windows Explorer, only this explorer ventures into the uncharted waters of your systems' configuration !

Registry Backups

In Windows 95, data is written to the Registry only when a flush occurs–that is, when something happens after changed data has aged more than a few seconds or when an application intentionally flushes the data to the hard disk.

Each time Windows 95 successfully starts, the operating system backs up the Registry by copying the current SYSTEM.DAT and USER.DAT files to SYSTEM.DA0 and USER.DA0, respectively.

If Windows 95 fails to start, the backed-up Registry from the last successful startup can be copied over the current Registry

This method recovers the last successful settings after a system failure.

Registry Keys

The six Hkey_ handles

• Hkey_Local_Machine

Contains computer specific information about the type of hardware, software, and other preferences on a given PC. This information is used for all users who log onto this computer.

SubKeys of the six Hkey Handles Hkey_Local_Machine may contain the following Entries

Config

A collection of configurations for the local computer

Enum

Info on the system's installed hardware devices

Hardware

Info on the ports and modems used with HyperTerminal

Network Info created when a user logs on to a networked PC

Security Info on network security and remote administration

Software

Info about software and it's configuration on system

System

The database that controls system start-up, device driver loading, Windows 95 Services and OS behavior

• Hkey_Local_Machine\Config

The Hkey_Local_Machine\Config subtree contains information about alternate hardware configurations for the computer. For example, it can contain information about multiple configurations to be used when the computer is connected to a network, when it is undocked from a docking station, and so on. Each alternate configuration is assigned a unique identifier, and this configuration ID has a subkey under the Config key.

Each configuration appears in the list of hardware profiles in the System option in Control Panel. When Windows 95 checks the hardware configuration at system startup, one of three things occurs: In most situations, the configuration ID is mapped to a unique configuration and Windows 95 selects the appropriate one automatically, and the settings for the related Config subkey are used for system configuration. If the user is starting the computer for the first time with new hardware components, Windows 95 creates a new configuration for the new configuration ID, and a new Config subkey is added to the Registry. If the configuration ID is mapped to more than one configuration (for example, because Windows 95 cannot distinguish between two configurations), the user is prompted to choose which configuration to use.

• Hkey_Local_Machine\Enum

Windows 95 bus enumerators are responsible for building the hardware tree. This includes assigning an identification code to each device on its bus and retrieving the device's configuration information, either directly from the device or from the Registry..

Bus enumeration information is stored in the Hkey_Local_Machine\Enum subtree. For all types of devices, subkeys contain information such as device type, assigned drive letter, hardware ID, and device manufacturer, plus driver-related information for network components.

The following table shows which devices are enumerated in typical subkeys.

ESDI Fixed disk devices

FLOP Floppy disk devices

ISAPNP Plug and Play devices on an ISA bus

Monitor Monitor devices

Network Protocol, server, and bindings

Root Legacy devices

• Hkey_Local_Machine\Hardware

Information about serial ports and modems used with the HyperTerminal program.

• Hkey_Local_Machine\Network

Network information created when a user logs on to a networked computer, including the user name, primary network provider, whether the logon was validated by a server, and information about the system policies processor.

• Hkey_Local_Machine\Security

Information about the network security provider and remote administration capabilities.

• Hkey_Local_Machine\Software

The Hkey_Local_Machine\Software subtree contains configuration information

about all installed software that can write information in the Registry. The entries in this key apply for anyone using this particular computer, and include definitions for file associations and OLE information. The software subkey contains, for example, the information you add when registering an application to use a specific filename extension and information added during installation of Windows-based applications.

The Hkey_Local_Machine\Software subtree contains several subkeys, including the Classes subkey, plus description subkeys for all installed software that can write to the Registry, as described in the following sections.

• Hkey_Local_Machine\System

The data in Hkey_Local_Machine\System is organized into control sets that contain a complete set of parameters for device drivers and services that can be loaded with Windows 95. All data that controls startup is described in the CurrentControlSet subtree under Hkey_Local_Machine\System. This control set has two parts:

The Control key contains information used to control system startup, including the computer's network name and the subsystems to start.

The Services key contains information to control the loading and configuration of drivers, file systems, and so on. The data in the Services key also controls how these services call each other.

• Hkey_Current_Config

This Key points to a branch of the Key Hkey_Local_Machine \Config that contains information about the current hardware configuration.

• Hkey_Dyn_Data

This Key points to a branch of Hkey_Local_Machine that contains various bits of information regarding the System's Plug and Play configuration. This information is DYNAMIC, meaning that it may change as devices are added to or removed from the computer.

• Hkey_Classes_Root

This Key points to a branch of Hkey_Local_Machine that describes certain software settings. This Key contains essential information about OLE and drag and drop operations, shortcuts, and core aspects of the Windows 95 GUI.

• Hkey_Users

This Key contains information about the users that log onto the computer. Both generic and user-specific information is used, and each user who uses the system has their own Subkey.

• Hkey_Current_User

This Key points to a branch of Hkey_Users for the user who is currently logged onto the system.

The **Terminate** command is used to exit the program immediately without saving any changes made to the Registry, the Startup Folder or the WIN.INI files.

The **Clear All** menu item when selected clears the Contents of the List View by deleting the Registry entries temporarily. If you wish to change your mind and recover the cleared entries, then on clicking the <u>Rescan</u> Button or Rescan on the File Menu restores the entries in the List View.

Please exercise caution while using this command, because if the changes to the Registry are saved after clearing the entries, the only way to recover them is to restore them from backup [if you had created a backup before clearing the Entries] or manually add them through **StartEd**.

The List View

The List View displays the Name of the files, the Command-line parameters, the Startup method and also whether the file is valid or not in a tabular format.

The size of each column can be changed with the mouse. Just position your mouse cursor over the border separating two fields and the mouse cursor changes to show that the border can now be dragged. Click and hold down the left mouse button and move the cursor to adjust the width accordingly.

Wherever there is more text to be seen in a row, an ellipsis (...) appears.

A vertical scrollbar appear when the number of entries exceeds the vertical size of the List View .A horizontal scrollbar also appears if the list view is too wide to be shown properly.

To edit a List View row - double-click it.

Support

Any feedback , bug reports , problems , constructive criticism email to:

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Credits

Program:

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Docs:

Thomas Reimann , Abhijeet Premkumar

Beta testing:

Henry Ziemba, Ben Jarrett, Abhijeet Premkumar, Jakob Lindstrom, Bryan Bellis, Charles W. Billow, Don Penlington, Brad Nickel, Tom O'Reilly The **Rescan** command is used to "refresh" the List View, when an entry has been Cut or Added.

On executing this command the changes made are not committed and the List view is "refreshed".

Clear All removes all the entries from the List View.

If you wish to restore the previous entries, then execute this command by clicking on the Rescan Button or alternatively through the Rescan menu-item in the File Menu.

Note:

This feature will work only if you have made any changes to the list and do not save it. Once you save the List View, the settings become persistent and you will have to restore them manually or running the <u>Restore</u> process in **StartEd**.

The **Save** command is used, whenever you have made changes to the Startup Information and wish to make these settings permanent.

Note:

If you have set the Save Confirmation menu item to ON, then you will be asked to confirm the save operation. The **Save & Exit** command functions just like the Save command with a minor difference.

StartEd will save the List View items and then exit.

When **Save Confirmation** item is checked, a dialog box pops up asking for confirmation, if the changes to the Startup configuration are to be saved or not.

When this menu item is checked, then a dialog box pops up asking, if you wish to commit the changes made to the Startup Information on Exiting the Program. If this menu item is checked, a dialog box appears asking if you are sure that you wish to restore the Startup information from the backup file specified in the dialog box. A warning dialog box appears asking for your confirmation, whether **StartEd** should add the entry, since the file will be executed only once and them removed from the Startup list.

If checked, an information dialog box appears when a non Shortcut file is found in your Startup Folder during the scan process. With this option turned on, you can add a new file to the List View without clicking on the Add button.

You will need to select the Start method before you add the file.

This menu-item when checked specifies that the Name entries are to sorted in **Alphabetical** order, whenever the list is refreshed.

The **Quick Backup** command saves you precious keystrokes when you want to take a lightning-fast Backup and do not wish to bother yourself with trivial details like File name and description etc.

You just need to click on the Quick Backup menu item in the Backup menu. The default file name will be taken as QuickBackup.SBK and the file is saved in the Folder where StartEd is installed.

The default description of this file is Quick Backup.

The **backup** feature is only available in the <u>registered</u> version of **StartEd** !

On executing the **Create Backup As** command you are asked to enter a description for the backup that you are about to make.

The description could be anything meaningful to you like "Backup before adding WINTOP.EXE to Local Machine Run" or anything else.

Once you have done so, press the Return key and you will be then asked to specify the File name to which the backup is to be saved. Enter a file name and click on the Save button to complete the Backup process.

In addition to the backup information, this process also saves several attributes such as shortcut's of the .LNK files, the description that you have entered earlier and the date on which the backup was performed.

The **backup** feature is only available in the <u>registered</u> version of **StartEd** !

This command in the Backup menu modifies the Registry such that files with the SBK extension are associated with **StartEd** as StartEd Startup Backup Files.

Thereafter **StartEd** Backup can be launched from the Windows Explorer by simply double-clicking on a file with the SBK extension. If you think that something went wrong, while editing your Startup entries and want to revert back to the state when you began, then simply click on the QuickRestore menu-item in the Restore menu (if a <u>Quick Backup</u> was created).

Note:

By default, Quick Restore reads the file created by Quick backup.

The restore feature is only available in the <u>registered</u> version of **StartEd** !

On executing the **Restore Backup From** command from the Restore menu, you are prompted to select the file from which you wish to restore the Startup Information.

If the backup file exists in some other directory then simply navigate through the directory structure, locate and select the file and click Open.

If you have the <u>Restore Info Warning</u> turned on then you will be asked to confirm, whether you wish to proceed with the restore process. If you wish to, then click yes and the Startup information will be read into the List View.

Note:

You require to save the changes by clicking on the Save button to make these settings permanent.

The **restore** feature is only available in the <u>registered</u> version of **StartEd** !

The **Cut** command is used to delete the selected entry from the List View.

The entry that was previously <u>cut</u> from the List View can be **pasted** back by clicking on this command button.

If you wish to verify that the specified program files are loaded without going through the painful process of restarting Windows 95, then simply right click the file that you wish to launch and select **Launch File**. The selected file is loaded. On executing this Context Menu command, a dialog box pops up displaying the information about the selected file such as its Name, Location (Path), Startup method, Size and Date.

In case of shortcuts with the extension LNK, the Icon Location and folder in which the application looks for its configuration files namely the Start-in Folder are also displayed. The menu items in this Popup menu allow you to customize **StartEd** to suit you best.

The Button Bar

Click on one of the Buttons for an explanation.

₽+	ľ	¥	Ê	Ū.		
<u>A</u> dd	<u>R</u> eplace	<u>C</u> ut	<u>P</u> aste	<u>R</u> escan	<u>S</u> ave	

Registration

StartEd is a 'try before you buy' shareware program that relies on your support for continued development, the registration fee is only \$15.

The program is not nagged and does not expire, but the **backup** and restore capability is disabled in the **unregistered** version ! When you register **StartEd**, you will receive the registered executable by email and become eligible for priority support.

You will also get free updates of all 3.x versions !

Send me together with your name and email address:

- cash: US\$ 15 or DM 25
- an international money order in the amount of DM 25.-
- a check in German Mark drawn on a German bank (DM 25.- + 5.-).
- a transfer of DM 25 to: Vereinigte Coburger Sparkassen, BLZ: 78350000 Account-Nr: 9450677

a registration web service will be created soon

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