HOUSE - Version 1.05, Written by C.R. Roach, Copyright © 1992 8231-5th Street S.W. Calgary, Alberta Canada T2V 1C7

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WHAT IS HOUSE?

HOUSE is a powerful program for use with Windows $\ensuremath{\$}$ 3.0, 3.1 and MS-DOS $\ensuremath{\$}$ programs.

More than a file launcher, or a menu---based launcher, HOUSE delivers the performance

of both, with many more features...the features you want in a navigator/launcher.

HOUSE might revolutionize the way you use Windows. Concepts like DO-AGAIN and GO-BACK make HOUSE superior to most other designs. KEY and MOUSE based menu selection, extensive control over fonts, on-board colors, and much--more make HOUSE one of the most 'full-featured' navigators available. And to add that 'finishing touch', HOUSE has an exciting PAINT feature built -in! You can make your own colorful cities, or let HOUSE draw them for you while you watch! It's great fun! No art skills required!

HOUSE is very intuitive, too. Even providing help -instantly- as you encounter new objects for the first time.

You can create any number of custom HOUSE menus (up to 200 items each!), and you can get them with ease. Everyone in your HOUSE can have their OWN menu.

And....as many as they want! And MENU-ONLY operation with PASSWORD protection is available too!

You can jump around smart file directories at unprecedented speeds. Get a system resources measurement (Free RAM, GDI /USER), check a file date, change fonts, colors, or get the time...The most needed features are delivered --just when you need them.

Your first House menu comes ready to deliver 32 of the most common Windows (3.1) programs -- in a heartbeat. You will never fumble again, searching for distant icons. Just double click and you're running!

Since HOUSE reads the Win.Ini [Extensions] and merges this information with it's own, HOUSE 'knows' if your file needs a certain 'host' such as paintbrush, write, notepad, etc. HOUSE also takes care of the little things some programs don't. For example, when a text file is too big for notepad, HOUSE will use

WRITE.EXE instead. You can even replace notepad with your own default document handler if you like. And, HELP FILES can be launched with WINHELP or notepad...YOU decide! HELP in your WINDOWS directory is automatically loaded into WINHELP.

House goes beyond ordinary 'navigators' --keeping a TIME LOG of your program launches. Keep records of your daily activities if you like! House knows what time it was when you jumped on the Modem or played Flight Simulator® . And, doing

things AGAIN is easy with HOUSE....you can re-launch any one of your last 100 programs with a few clicks!

Did you forget which directory you were just in? No problem. House is two clicks away from your last 50 directory changes too! "Hansel & Gretel WERE here!" but there's no need to follow bread crumbs home anymore. Let House take you there! Maybe you just launched a program and suddenly wonder what files might be in the same directory? With House, you are always IN the directory associated with your menu items--instantly when you run them. And...clicking FIND will locate the current menu-program file!

Even though House is not a substitute for file manager, it does provide rapid copy, delete, rename, & other file functions. I like to think House does for files what file manager doesn't! You can make a huge list to copy to floppy disk, then let them fly will you 'do lunch.'

Or maybe you need a list of just your .bmp files? Maybe ICONS too? House can copy any directory listing (filenames, sizes, & dates) to a file on disk. Using the very flexible file.pattern features, you get the records & lists you want--fast!

Think of HOUSE as a place to keep your Windows... because that's the best place to keep Windows...in a HOUSE! And since we humans keep Houses in cities, I've provided you with the tools to make your own cities too...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 a month, you must order a copy. You will receive the latest edition of HOUSE, a handy guide and more! Please do your part to support the shareware concept! HOUSEwas over 14 months in the making.....

TECHNICAL INFO

House was written using the Visual Basic programming system under Windows 3.1.

You must have the file VBRUN100.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 VBRUN100.DLL yet....you should get it! Download it from one of any number of WINDOWS - BBS's in your area. VB100.DLL allows you to use the many quality programs developed using the Visual BASIC development system. (THIS FILE IS SHIPPED WITH ALL COPIES OF HOUSE.) It's a MUST for serious Windows users.

THE BEST PLACE TO KEEP VBRUN100.DLL is in your WINDOWS DIRECTORY. IF you copy it there, it will work FIRST TIME! No reboots!

INSTALLING HOUSE

You may keep House in any directory. Just be sure the following files are in the SAME directory: COPY or UNZIP the following files into your HOUSE directory.

HOUSE.EXE - The main HOUSE program,. HOUSE.HSE - The default program menu. HOUSE.HST - The extensions/hosts file.

HOUSEHLP.TXT- Optional, but you really should have it., it's a HELP file!

(It's a good idea to keep fresh copies of HOUSE.HSE & HOUSE.HST files for back-up and/or later use.)

You can start HOUSE.EXE in the usual manner, double-clicking 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..then find HOUSE!

YOU CAN RUN MULTIPLE INSTANCES OF HOUSE. However, your system limit of 16 Timers will restrict this. House utilizes ONE timer, so you COULD run 16 copies! (That would require more than 4mB of RAM though!)

Using LOAD =(Your Directory\ HOUSE.EXE) in your Windows.INI file should launch HOUSE each time you start Windows, if you like, and -- If-- you have Windows 3.1, you may be able to use HOUSE as a substitute (shell) for Program or File manager. This shell substitution will not work from Windows 3.0. But you CAN use HOUSE with Windows 3.0 like any other VBASIC programs. (VBRUN100.DLL in path...).

HOUSE has been used with OS2. 2.0, (Windows-emulation), but is reported to be slow.

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.

Assuming you have VBRUN100.DLL in your path, just copy the files into your favorite directory and RUN the program!

Remember...you can make as many copies of HOUSE as you like! Please, do not charge for distribution though, except the minimal media fee of a few dollars..please!

BE sure to give 'em a copy of VBRUN100.DLL too.

Thank YOU for supporting shareware!

HOUSE 1.05

\$19.95 (CDN\$), until June 1, 1993.

In the U.S.A. include \$4.50 for shipping & handling. In Canada include \$3.50 for shipping & handling. All others, include \$8.00 for shipping & handling.

[Canadian residents: House price includes G.S.T]

Please send your check or money order to:

HOUSE c/o Christopher R. Roach 8231-5th Street S.W. Calgary, AB T2V 1C7

Canada

Please make checks payable to C.R. Roach. "Thank You" for purchasing HOUSE!!! Your comments and suggestions are welcome and are deeply appreciated! YOUR participation can assure HOUSE continues to be one of the best programs available!

IMPORTANT LEGAL INFORMATION AND DISCLAIMER:

Every effort was made to make this program bug free, and at this time, no known bugs exist! (Honest!)

However, the author of this program makes no implied or expressed warranties concerning it-- whatsoever.

This program is offerred, as is, for your evaluation. If you use it for a period in excess of 30 days,

you must purchase a registered copy. 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.

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