

File Magician
V2.0
Copyright 1993-1994
by Terry Bullard
for Windows 3.1

Welcome to File Magician version 2.0!! For those of you who viewed v1.0 will see there has been tons of additions added to the program, 90K of.exe worth! File Magician is a type of program with unlimited growth potential. As I stated before, my main goal in this and all programs is to make them as user friendly and fast as possible. I've added a new goal for File Magician, to put it bluntly, File Magician will (if it hasn't already) totally waste all current File Management and Archive Management programs available for the PC. This program will not stop here as many programs do, it will continue to be an on going part of my life and yours.

There is a couple of questions I have received which probably should be discussed, first..

Is Trust Mail for Real?

You bet! I'm from a small town where most people trust each other, so why shouldn't I trust you! I'm sure I'll get burnt but perhaps they need it more then I do. I have received some bad comments on it from other groups in starting something new, but I do have confidence it will work!

Can I make Payments?

Yes! Forty dollars at times is a lot of money to come up with! For the last four years I have gone through seven doctors and have literally ran up tens of thousands of dollars worth of uninsured medical bills that I'm still trying to pay on and at times ten dollars is hard to find! The funny part is that it finally became established a few weeks ago that my problem is an over active mind. Anyone have a valium? grin. So I can relate to making payments. When you call to order, tell us what you can handle at that time and you need not supply a reason as to why.

I should also get this out of the way too. There are a few things you can do that would help tremendously.

Success of any good program depends upon distribution! We need you to help do that. Please give a copy of this evaluation program to any one you know, or upload it to any BBS you call.

Register Now! - Not only will this allow me to devote more time to the program but will also help me catch up on some past due items!

If you don't like the program.. Call me and tell me why. At my age I have learned only fools never listen to what other people have to say.

NOW I have gotten that off my chest its time to talk about File Magician!

What I'm going to do is to insert a lot of the old docs and COMMENT: the different changes that have been made. After that a NEW ADDITIONS: section. Also bare with me on this, documentation is a definite short coming for me!

Description (old)

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Well, enough said on that subject! Now to tell a little about File Magician. File Magician has a similar interface like Disk Master v1.4 for the amiga, if you own an amiga and don't have Disk Master, get it , it is a must have. File Magician has two view windows, one is always the 'Source Window' and one is always the 'Destination' window. Source and Destination can be swapped by clicking the LMB in the window or in the path bar above the window. The clicked area will then become the 'Source' window. The 'Source' window will have a red box around it plus the little toggle bar between the windows at the top of the screen will also point to it. In the center of the screen between the two windows will be a column of push buttons. The first six buttons are for your drive configurations. The program will automatically configure to your current devices. The following buttons will perform the different functions as is explained below. Let me add at this point that File Magician is a shareware program and that it is for evaluation only. Somewhere there had to be a stopping point with File Magician as an evaluation program. File Magician can only grow from this point. I have over 50 planned functions that File Magician will have as time goes on, not counting new ideas that will be generated by time and user input. Basically File Magician has unlimited growth potential! User registration increases that potential many times over.

Comment: 50 planned additions might very well be an understatement now. I'm starting to see many more than a mere 50, not counting what I've already added.

### So Just What Is File Magician?

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File Magician is a program that EVERY PC owner must have. If you own a computer, sometime during your computer lifetime you will Have To make some type of file or directory adjustment to your hard drive or floppy disks. File Magician is designed to be as simplistic as possible in allowing you to manage your files and directories. File Magician is for all levels of users, beginning to advanced.

Requirements

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- A computer
- Windows 3.1
- Be Registered

### How To Register

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There are a couple of ways to register 'File Magician'. First you can send a check or money order for \$40.00 US Funds to:

Terry Bullard
Bullard Software
3291 Mt. View Rd.
Ferndale, Wa. 98248

OR
by Trust Mail.

Trust Mail

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Trust Mail is a term that I invented. Most places insist you send money first and then they will send you your requested items. You trust them to do this after you have parted with your money. With trust mail, we will send you our software first and when you receive it, we will trust that you will send us back a check or money order for it. All you need do is to pick up your phone and dial the number supplied below and then register. Don't be surprised if you get just a "Hello" instead of "Hello this is Bullard Software". I have a really hard time being so formal! After you register we will within 24 hours have 'File Magician' on its way to you, first class and postage paid by us. As our company grows with your support we will add additional lines for ordering and support. For now you can order between 4:00 P.M. and 9:00 P.M. Pacific Standard Time. Keep in mind that there is three hours difference between here and the east coast.

Also I must keep Trust Mail limited to the USA and Canada. Don't get me wrong for those that don't live there, I must see how this works out first. I do hope you understand.

CALL NOW: 1-(206)-384-6740

Now I also have a BBS that you can register through. A local fellow has agreed to open a special conference just for this. He also has Amiga and IBM files online. The BBS is a free bbs but does have ratios. It supports baud rates from 1200 to 19200 and open 24 hours. The Number is 1-(206)-384-2591. You can get online help there or leave any bug reports.

#### What You Get

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Once you register, we will send you 'File Magician' without the dialog boxes that appear when any item is first clicked. The program will be the latest update of File Magician. The first manual will be soft bound. With the planned growth of File Magician it is not feasible to have any other type of manual. The cost of re-printing such would be terribly expensive and it would be unfair to pass this unnecessary cost on to you.. You will be placed on our mailing list and will be notified immediately by mail of future updates of File Magician and any new products we develop. The software package will be sent postage paid by Bullard Software.

Comment: Also registered owners who have paid in full will receive the first update free, postage paid. If you are on a payment plan, before you receive a free update you must be paid in full.

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NEW:

First and Most important before running File Magician!

For Best results..

1. Double Click on Window's pif editor.
2. Select 'Open' from the File Menu.
3. Select _default.pif from the selection box, then press 'OK'.
4. Locate 'Windowed' button and select to ON. This is a radio button and if a dot appears in the middle of the circle it is then on.
5. Locate 'Close Window On Exit' button and select to ON. This is an X type button and an 'X' in the square is on.
6. Now from the File Menu select 'Save As'.
7. The filename and path "C:\Windows_default.pif" should be hi-lited in the file name box, if so, press 'OK', if not enter in your windows path adding the _default.pif filename and click 'OK'
8. A Dialog box will appear and inform you the file already exists and ask you if you wish to 'Replace existing file?'. Select 'Yes'

Doing this is the only windows adjustment that you must make. You may then decide where you wish place File Magician and what icon you may want it to have.

NEXT Important thing.. File Magician's Configuration..

Nothing to it really but it might seem a bit complicated at first. V1.0 had a seperate configuration program, it was scrapped in favor of using multiple dialog boxes and just to avoid confusion.

The configuration is done within the program during runtime. When the configuration is saved, a file called Magic.dat is created which contains your configuration in binary form. This can be changed at anytime and resaved. Included in the archive should be a sample of the configuration that I use, examine it if you wish and change it to suit your needs. When the program first boots up it will search for the Magic.dat file, once finding it, it will then load the settings. If the file is not available a requester will inform you of such and switch automatically to a default settings mode.

Next click on the 'Config' button, a rather large dialog box should appear. The three boxes to the left of the dialog contain configurations for Pkzip, Pkzip, Lharc, and Arj. To use these compression programs you must have the compression programs located in your path stream, such as c:\dos etc. change the default settings you must first have a working knowledge of these fine programs or accept my usage of them. No attempt to explain their usage is located within the program. By clicking on the button with the programs name it will open another dialog box where you may change the current settings you desire. The Dlbck button in each box tells File Magician to decompress a file when it is double clicked. (see below on double clicking)

The next box to the right labeled 'Warn' tells the program to warn you if you are about to 'Copy', 'Delete', or 'Move' Files, if these boxes are not checked then the operation will commence without giving you the choice of backing out.

The Next box to the right called 'Paths' is, for this release, a temporary working directory for the program. Here File Magician will sometimes write

necessary files for its operation when handling dos assignments. The program will clean up after itself with the exception of two files it re-uses at times. This directory will not grow, nor is there a real need to worry about it. BUT it must be there for the program to function properly!!!

The final box for this release is called 'Names'. The top 4 entries are for Pkzip, Pkunzip, Lha, and Arj. If by some chance you call these programs by a different name you may enter your name to the right of the original programs name. The next choice down is 'Read'. There are many fine file reading programs available and the one I supply hasn't had enough time to be developed to a full potential, so if you wish to supply a different file reading program, enter in the programs name in the right box. The other program must be in the path stream or located in the same directory as File Magician. The following five boxes are left blank. For now these boxes can be used as CMDs and follow the same rules for Cmds, a bit further down will explain Cmds.

Attributes - Pressing this button will display a configuration box that will allow you to chose what files with what attributes you would like File Magician to display for your use. The 'Help' button will give you a very brief description of what each attribute is. 'OK' will allow the changes to be saved in the configuration save option.

CMDS

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CMDS - Short for Commands. File Magician allows you to run other programs, either dos or windows, ones that operate on files or are stand alone. There are 10 Command Button Cmds and 10 Menu Command Cmds. After you press the 'Cmd' button you will see 4 columns of string boxes. The first two columns are for buttons on the command screen and the second two columns are for the menus. The first row for either set, labeled 'Prg. Name' is the name of the program you wish to use and it will be the name that will appear in the button box or menu box. The .exe extension is not necessary. The second column in either section labeled 'Argument' is the Path of the program, if it isn't in the path stream or the program argument that is needed to make the program run. Most argument type programs work on files and/or have optional settings, needed to run the program. So in the second column you supply the needed settings/arguments and if part of those setting require a file name you would add '%s' without the quotes. This tells File Magician to substitute the %s with the file that has been selected in the active window.

Again: %s = File selected in active window.

Example Pkunzip (1st col.) -d -\$ %s a:\ (2nd col.)

You would click on a .zip and then click the Pkunzip (example name). Pkunzip would then decompress the selected .zip file to drive a:

Now for a program you like that isn't located in your path stream.

We'll use WFinder.exe as a example

WFinder (1st col.) Path c:\utils\ (2nd col.)

Path tells the program that it is a path file not a argument file.

You may run nearly any type of program using cmds. The power this configuration set gives you can be pretty awesome indeed!!

Clicking the default button will preset everything back to my orginal settings. Clicking save will save all the adjustments that you have made to Magic.dat which will reside in the same directory as where you placed File Magician, so if you move File Magician, be sure to move the Magic.dat file

as well.

FINALLY...

Now that you have configured File Magician you can put it to work. The program has all the Copy, Move, and Delete functions of multiple files and directories (explained below) as a lot of the rest of the management programs but also has some other goodies.

I should insert here about selecting file(s). File Magician has the ability to select (tag) any amount of files at one time. You need not select all or only one as I've seen a lot of programs do. For those that wonder, I do NOT use the Windows List Box procedure. It is a good idea and everyone uses it but I find it too limiting and to tell the truth a bit ugly. So everything is handled internally with a big glob of extra coding by me. Yes I know that list boxes can select multiple files but like I said I just don't like it.

Compression:

There are several ways to decompress .zip, .lha, arj files.

1. The File menu. First click on the file to decompress then go to the menu method and choose 'Extract'. If you only have a source window active the program will assume you wish to extract to the same directory as the source window indicates. A dialog box will appear asking you to 'Enter destination path', if you wish to extract there choose 'OK'. If you wish to extract to a different directory or drive, enter that path and choose ok. Or you may cancel the operation if you wish. Now if you have a destination window operational the program will assume that you wish to extract to that directory. If not you may follow the same procedure above.
2. Double clicking. Provided that you have set your configuration section to double clicking you can use this method. Double clicking does not give you a choice to cancel, it is for fast and dirty work. If you do not have a destination window operational the program will extract to the source window. If the destination window is visible the program will automatically extract to destination window.  
This method works for all .zip, .arj, .lha files! File Magician can determine what type of file it is dealing with by binary means, extensions mean absolutely nothing and when a program deals with extensions, in my opinion, is a pretty stupid program.  
For .exe compression files, the file will only decompress in the source window area for now. This will be explored later.  
See double clicking below for additional abilities.
3. The Archive Commander... see below..

Archive Commander!

For now the commander deals with .zip files only, later releases will

have additional functions and possibly other compression types. With the commander you can select up to 30 .zip file for enhanced handling. The program will do the counting for you so don't worry about being exact. Select the files you wish to work on and then either from the menu select 'Archive Commander' or click the push button 'Command'. You will then be presented with a whole new screen. The two view windows, one called 'Archived Files', which is the big one on the left, and the other called 'Selected Archives', which is the smaller one in the center, to the right there will be nine buttons. In the Selected Archives window there will appear the .zip files you have previously selected, you may work on only one at a time for now (what I have planned is totally awesome but damned if I want to give the idea to someone else right now!). Select a file and click the 'Process' button or just double click the .zip, same thing, things will hum for a bit and the files that are within the archive will be displayed in the left view window. Here you may extract, read, delete any of the files by first selecting them and then choosing the operation button. If you wish to read or run a archive file just double click on it, the program determines the type through a binary method and works accordingly.

To extract a file(s) first pay attention to the 'Destination' button. This button indicates below the button column as to where the extracted files will be sent. The options are ..

- 'Destination Window' - The destination path of the main command screen.
- 'Source Window' - The Source path of the main command screen.
- 'Your Specification' - Here a Dialog box will appear and allow you to type in the path of where you wish the extracted file to be sent to.

Now Select the File(s) and push the extract button. The selected files will be sent to where you have set the Destination to be.

The Commanders buttons:

- Process - Displays the selected .zip file's contents to the left window. same as double clicking the .zip file
- Extract - Explained above. Extract one or more of the contents of an archive.
- Delete - Deletes one or more of the archives contents. Just select which files you wish to delete and push this button.
- Run - Select a file to run in the left window then push this button. If the file is a stand alone program it should function correctly. Double clicking the file will also run it or read it, if it is a .exe or any type of text file. Extensions DO NOT apply.
- Test - This Calls Pkunzip to test the archive and the File Magician's 'Reporter' displays the results.
- All - Selects all the files in the 'Archive Files' Section.
- Clear - De-selects any selected file in the 'Archive Files' Section.
- Destination - Changes the extraction destination path to either the previously set 'Source Path', or 'Destination Path' from the main command screen. OR Allows you to specify a different path where extracted files should be sent.

Double-Clicking

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File Magician does NOT use the extension method to determine filetypes. The program will read a binary header from the file and determine what type of file it is dealing with. Currently File Magician understands .exe, .lha, .zip, .arj and text files. Much time WILL be spent in expanding the different filetypes for future updates. This will be one of the many major strengths File magician will have. Currently you can double click a text file to read it, an .exe file to launch it and de-compress archived files, as explained above.

Path Bars

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The path bar, which is located above each view window, shows the complete directory/device path to the current directory the view window is displaying. With version 2.00 you can revalidate the file listing for that window just by clicking somewhere in the path bar. This is a lot better then hitting f2 or f3, which btw are still active for this function.

### Split

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The Split function will split any selected file into two equal parts without harming the original file. Split will use the first four letters of the filename (or less if the file has less) and create two equal halves with the _D1 _D2 tacked on. If the file is a odd byte size the second half will be 1 byte larger then the first. Files may be text to binary format.

Duplicate

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The Duplicate functions will duplicate a file in the same directory as the selected file. It too will take the first four letter and tack on a \_Dup to the end. The file can then be renamed to something else. This command works on files only. I have thought about duplicating entire directories and files but before I do that I would like to hear some feed back on it if there is a need.

### Menus

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Menus are new in this version of File Magician. In my opinion menus are nice only when you run out of room for push buttons! grin. With 38 push buttons on the main command screen and a ton more stuff to add, menus became necessary.

*** Compression Menu ***

```
  _ Create Archive
 /_ Extract Archive
Pkzip--/_ Pkzip  Settings
 \_ PkUnzip Settings
```

Create Archive - Select the files in a source window you wish to compress as one archive. Select this option from

the menu. You will then be asked to supply an archive name and supply a path for the archive to be created in if you do not like the default path. The default path will be the destination window if it is operational or the source if it isn't. You may specify whatever path to whatever device you wish. Selecting 'OK' will start the process.

Extract Archive - Select the file to decompress and then select this option. A Dialog box will appear and ask you to enter the destination path. Default paths are the same as above.

Pkzip Settings - If you wish to alter the current configuration settings for Pkzip you may select this option to do so. Altering the settings at the menu DOES NOT save to the configuration file. The settings will be active for the current session only.

PkUnzip Settings - The same rules apply here as for Pkzip

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__ Creat Archive
Arj-/_ Extract Archive
 \_ Arj Settings
```

```
__ Creat Archive
Lha-/_ Extract Archive
 \_ Lha Settings
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For Arj and Lha, the same procedure applies to them as it does Pkzip

*** CMD's ***

See CMDs and The Configuration Section. Once the Cmd configuration for the menu section is setup and the configuration file is saved, File Magician will automatically rename the menu items to your specification.

*** Extras ***

Drive status - will access the device that are current to both the Source and Destination window and display in the Title bar of the main screen the number of bytes that the disk has free. This function use to be automatic, using a timer function but the timer it seems would always go off at the wrong time and access the drives, therefore slowing down whatever I was trying to accomplish at the time. So the function was stuck in a menu called extras. Extras will fill up as time and demand goes on. Now the only time a byte free function is called is when it is currently accessing the drive for some given reason.

Command Buttons

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All of the command buttons on the main view screen are pretty much described below, not counting the CMD buttons. Also there are seven buttons that are unaccounted for, so to speak. The first one is in the last position of the first column of buttons. Currently it has no function attached to it with this release. The other six are located in the right column starting with the fourth button from the top. The First of the six is also blank with nothing attached to it. The next five down have been temporary assigned as CMDs as explained above. The reason for this is future expansion and screen layout. The last five buttons that are assigned as CMDs will be assigned to something else unless public feedback demands that they stay as they are. If so I'll figure something to attach the assignments too.

With version 1.0 there was only 1 column of buttons with the first 6 buttons assigned to drive specifications. Now the drive specifications are assigned to the first 3 buttons of each column.

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## Now the Grit (old)

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Now if you haven't already loaded File Magician you are one of a few. Who reads the docs anyhow? (g) I'll try and keep it as brief as possible, but please read below on "what you can do for us".

View Windows

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File Magician has two view windows. One is the 'Source' and one is the 'Destination'. The source window will always be the one with the red box around it. The Source and the Destination window can be swapped. To activate a 'Source' window, click in the window itself or click in the path bar above the window. Once a 'Source' window is established the opposite window automatically defaults to the 'Destination' window. Often a directory will have more file and directory listings than the view window can display. Use the scroll gadget to the right of the window to view the additional listings. The bottom scroll gadget is inactive with this release but it is there for future compatability.

## Selection

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The left mouse button (LMB) is used to select a file or directory. Clicking once will select the listing and the listing will be highlighted. Double clicking a directory will instruct the program to enter and display to the view window that directory listing. Double clicking a file listing causes No Action with this release of File Magician. The next release of File Magician will contain a smart mode file selection. Smart Mode will be one of the main arteries of File Magician!

When a file or directory is selected it means that the next command action will be taken on all files and directories selected. Changing to a different

directory will de-select automatically all of the previous selections.

No action will be taken on any file or directory that has Not been selected.

Title Bar

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The title bar is used as an action display. There the program will show you the current action that is taking place such as, copying, deleting, or moving listings, bytes free on destination and source windows, files selected and total bytes of selected files. Currently there is a 5 second timer after a title information display before it defaults back to a byte free display. This may change to something else, what I'm not sure yet.

#### Keyboard:

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F1 - F1 activates "help mode". When you active help mode you may then click with the LMB on any item that you need help on. A brief help message will appear in the left view window. Help mode will then deactivate itself. If you require more help you must press F1 again. To reset the left view window back to the file listings press F2. This method of help is designed for a 800x600 display.

Comment: Help messages are now displayed in Dialog boxes. It was more efficient this way to span all display modes.

F2 - F2 will re-display the file and directory listings on the left view window. This sometimes becomes necessary when de-compressing files or using the help mode feature.

F3 - F3 will re-display the file and directory listings on the right view window.

ESC - Will exit the program.

Buttons:

Drive Buttons:

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The first six buttons from the top of the screen are reserved for your drive devices. The program will automatically configure to the first six drive names in the list. Clicking the LMB on one of these will display the root contents to the window that is active. The view window will display yellow text as directories and white text as file. To enter a directory double click the name of the directory.

COMMENT: Reassignment of the top six buttons is now the top three buttons of both columns.

#### Parent:

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The 'Parent' button will direct the program to reassign the current directory back one directory. For instance, when you double click a directory name the program will display the contents of that directory to the view

window, when you click the parent window, the program will re-display the previous directory. This command is completely harmless. The parent button only works on the 'Source' window.

All:

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The 'All' command will select all the files and all the directories that are in the current directory of the 'Source' view window. If a directory has more files and directories than the view can be displayed, those files and directories will also be selected.

Clear:

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'Clear' will de-select any file or directory that has been previously selected. All files and directories outside of the view window will also be de-selected.

Copy:

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To use the copy function, first select a view window you wish to become the Destination point. Next go to the opposite window and select the files or directories you wish to copy. Press the 'Copy' button. That's it.

Copy, will copy all files or directories that have been selected to the Destination device (view window). If a directory has been tagged, the program will create and copy all files and directories within the selected directory to the Destination point. This release Does Not have an option to check first to see if there is enough room in the destination area. The next registered release will. You may use the 'Byte Req' button on the Source directory before copying.

Rename:

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To rename a file or directory first select the item then press the 'Rename' button. A dialog box will appear. Enter in the new name excluding the full path, the program keeps track of the location of the listings internally so just the new name will be enough. Select OK.

Move:

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The move function will move all files and directories that have been selected to the location of the destination area. Moving a selected listing means that basically the file is copied to destination area and then deleted from the source area. So once a listing is moved it will no longer reside in the source area! If a directory is selected, all files and directories that are buried within that selected directory will also be moved.

Delete:

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The 'Delete' button will delete all selected files and directories that have been selected from the 'Source' window. All files and directories that are buried within a selected directory will Also be deleted. With this version of File Magician, when the 'Delete' is first invoked, a dialog box will appear giving you the option of aborting. A later version of the program will allow you to discontinue this option.

Read:

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The 'Read' function is a separate program File Magician calls to read a text file. The reason I have done this is for future expandability! I can think of a zillion different things a read program should do and I'm sure you can too. So for ease of development I'm doing it this way. Currently the read function is set to read text files only. It will read anything, but only text files will display properly. The file size of the text file is not important, there is not a byte limitation. There are three button controls 'PageUp', 'PageDown', and 'Quit', also several keyboard controls are present.

- F1 = a brief help screen
- PageUp = up a screen page
- U = same
- PageDown = down a screen page
- Space = same
- Enter = same
- D = same
- ESC = exit read function
- Q = same

For best results read only one file at a time. Multiple selections are possible but uses a lot of extra memory and it starts multiple instances of the read program. Possibly in future versions I might be able to make Windows be a bit more behaved.

Comment: Read the configuration setting above for a alternate reader.

## Byte Req.:

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This function will total the bytes of all selected listings. If a directory is selected, all the bytes of all the files buried within that selected directory will be totaled and displayed on the title bar at the top of the screen. This function is very handy to use before moving or copying files to another device and just to know how large a directory might be.

MakeDir:

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'MakeDir' will create a directory in the location that the 'Source' window is displaying. Push the 'MakeDir' button, a dialog box will appear. Enter in the name of the new directory you wish to create. Press 'OK'

## Run:

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The 'Run' function will attempt to start any program that has been selected. 'Run' works on: .pif, .bat, .exe (dos or windows), .com (dos or windows), files. A little care must be used when using this command, it is not harmful but currently it has no way of checking to see how much memory an external application will use. Good judgement and a knowledge of how much memory your computer has and how fast your computer is makes a big difference with the results of this function. Personally I haven't had too much trouble using a 486(25) with 4 megs of memory and I was actually surprised on just what it would handle.

Jeez I hope I didn't miss anything (probably did but it should be easy to figure out, after all that is the idea!)

Current source size is 645,878 bytes. So I'm sure I forgot something.
GRIN

Note:

If you have read down this far be damn sure to call now and order!!!!

Terry Bullard
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Ferndale, wa. 98248
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