Design-A-Room
Shareware Version 2.3

for Windows 3.1

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INTRODUCTION

This is a fully functional Shareware version. It is not "crippled" in any way. The registered version includes several enhancements to this program.

Design-A-Room was designed to take full advantage of the benefits of Microsoft Windows. Practically everything that you do in *Design-A-Room* you do with a click of a mouse - no typing in commands - no trying to remember strange key commands in order to do everything. About the only time you will need the keyboard is to type in the name of your room!

Design-A-Room lets you draw a room, put all the furniture in it, in exactly the right dimensions, and then move the pieces around to your heart's content-- without ever getting up from your chair!

Put walls wherever you want-- move them, resize them, make any shape and size room up to 40 x 25 feet. Put several rooms together on the same page - or put the same room on twice to see what different arrangements look like.

Design-A-Room comes loaded with 17 different wall, doors, fixtures, etc., plus 31 different furniture pieces. Couches, pianos, tables, even a pool table and fireplace.! All professionally drawn so that you know exactly what you are looking at when you view the room. You can re-size each piece to the nearest inch, so you can design your room to your exact dimentions.

The "Snap-to-Grid" option lets you quickly put your furniture and fixtures in the room. Then turn off "Snap-to-Grid" to let you arrange the pieces precisely where you want them. "Snap-to-Grid" also makes putting walls up a "snap."

The "Custom Toolbar" option lets you add up to 18 of your own icons. You can create these icons through the program.

The "Add Text" option lets you add text anywhere on the screen - even on top of other icons. Text can be added in any size using any font you have installed. Effects such as bold, italics, underline, strikethru can be used. In addition, text can be placed in any color.

The screen size has been enlarged in the registered version of **Design-A-Room** to let you increase you room sizes - this is limited only by your screen resolution.

The dotted grid and the scales can now be turned off if desired.

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Design-A-Room shows you the exact sizes of your furniture pieces, and also the exact location of each piece in the room to the nearest inch. No guessing necessary!

When you are finished with your room, you can save it to disk and print it out on any Windows 3.1 supported printer.

With *Design-A-Room* you know what your room will look like BEFORE you spend all your time and energy moving heavy pieces of furniture around!

Design-A-Room's intuitive interface makes rearranging furniture almost a pleasure!

Design-A-Room comes with the following files:

> SETUP.EXE - Installation program
> DARSETUP.EXE - Design-A-Room Setup
> DESIGN.EXE - Main program
> DESIGN.INI - Configuration file
> DESIGN.HLP - Help file
> DESIGN.WRI - This file
> DEMO.ROM - Sample room
> README.TXT - Getting started information
> REGISTER.TXT - Registration form
> VBRUN300.DLL - Visual Basic DLL
> COMMDLG.DLL - Visual Basic DLL
> CMDIALOG.VBX - Visual Basic file
> *.BMP - Furniture and Fixture Icons (49 files)

Installation

To install **Design-A-Room**, open *Windows Program Manager*, and select "Run" from the "File" menu. When prompted for the file name, type the name of the drive and directory the files are in and SETUP (example: A:\SETUP).

Setup will uncompress and copy the files to the proper directory and create a *Program Manager* Group and icon.

To start a room:

Measure the actual walls and furniture pieces of the room you want to design. This is the most critical step. The more accurate your dimensions are, the more accurate you final room will be.

When measuring, measure the length and the width, looking down from the top. When measuring odd-sized pieces, such as a grand piano, or a round table, measure the longest dimensions each way.

Start with the top wall. Click the left mouse button on the left/right wall icon to put it in the room. This will put the icon in the bottom right-hand corner of the room. Drag the wall icon close to the left-hand-side of the room. Let go of the mouse button. Then, by clicking the left mouse button just to the right of the icon, and holding the mouse mouse button down, drag the end on the wall icon to the right, watching the botton of the screen until you get to the correct length and let go of the mouse button. Then use the mouse to drag the piece exactly into place. The numbers at the bottom of the screen will show the exact position of the mouse cursor.

Repeat the above steps to add other walls, doors, windows, and other fixtures.

To place furniture in the room:

After you have the fixtures place, add all of your furniture following the same procedure as above. After a piece is in place, it can be easily moved to another location by dragging it, or re-sized by dragging just outside the icon.

To move a piece of furniture or fixture:

Simply drag it to the new location with the mouse.

To re-size a piece of furniture or fixture:

Move the cursor over the desired item. Then, placing the mouse cursor just outside the furniture box, and holding the left button down, move until desired size is achieved.

To duplicate a piece of furniture or fixture:

Click on the piece of furniture with the **RIGHT** mouse button to select it. Go to the "Edit" menu and choose "Copy." Then choose "Paste." A duplicate of the piece of furniture will appear at the top corner of the room. Click on this piece of furniture and then move or resize it as necessary.

To cut out a piece of furniture or fixture:

Click on the piece of furniture with the **RIGHT** mouse button to select. Go to the "Edit" menu and choose "Cut." Then the piece can be pasted in a new location with the "Paste" command.

To delete a piece of furniture or fixture:

Click on the piece with the **RIGHT** mouse button, then go to the "Edit" menu, and choose "Delete".

To turn "Snap-to-Grid" on or off:

Go to the "Options" menu, and click on "Snap to Grid." This will turn "Snap-to-Grid" off. Clicking

on it again turns it on. With "Snap-to-Grid" on, furniture and fixtures automatically "snap" to the nearest grid line as they are moved or resized. These lines are six inches apart. With "Snap-to-Grid" off, pieces can be moved to the nearest inch.

To show pieces without outlines:

Go to the "Options" menu, and click on "Show Outlines." Use "Show Outlines" to easily set up your room then turn them off to view the finished product. *It is much easier to set up your room with "Show Outlines" turned on.*

To save a finished room:

Go to "File" menu and choose "Save" or "Save As." "Save" will save the current room with the current filename. "Save As" will let you save the file under a different name.

Design-A-Room automatically adds the extension "ROM" to all saved room files.

To load a previously made room:

Click on the "File" menu. Choose "Open." Click on the the desired file, and then click on "OK."

Note: This version of Design-A-Room introduces a new, enhanced file format. It will read files from all previous versions and, when they are saved, they will be saved in the new format.

To start a new room:

Click on the "File menu. Choose "New."

To print the room:

From the "File" menu, choose "Print."

To exit the program:

From the "File" menu, choose "Exit."

REGISTRATION

When you register this program, you will receive the newest version of **Design-A-Room** without the Shareware Screen, registered in your name, and a 1 month free membership on the Epsilon Computing Board (513) 563-6475. *Registered users also are eligible to purchase future updates and future products at half price!*

The registered version of **Design-A-Room** supports room sizes limited only by your screen resolution (62 X 45 feet in 1024x768 resolution). It includes a third, user-customizable toolbar for your own icons which can easily be created and edited without leaving the program. Also, text can be placed anywhere on the screen for titles, labels, notes, and more. In addition, the background grid and scales can be turned on and off.

To register, either call (513) 563-4871 with your Visa or MasterCard handy, or print out

REGISTER.TXT and mail it along with $19.95 (+ 5.5% tax if in the state of Ohio) to:

Epsilon Computing
1668 Trillium Court
Cincinnati, OH 45215

You can also register online by calling The Epsilon Computing Board at (513) 563-6475 (2400-38400 BPS/HST/V.32bis) anytime with you Visa or Mastercard number handy.

We can be reached for questions, comments, etc.
at the above address or-
by calling (513) 563-4871
by calling The Epsilon Computing Board at (513) 563-6475 (our BBS)
by Netmail to Scott Mace or Bob Mace at Net/Node 006/042 on the GT Power Network
on CompuServe (user ID: 72712,2320) or
on Internet (macers@ctrvax.vanderbilt.edu).

Call The Epsilon Computing Board to download the latest version.

Thank you for trying Design-A-Room !