

Minimum System Requirements

386DX-25 or better IBM PC or Compatible, with 8 megs RAM
Windows 3.1 or later
CD-ROM Drive
256 color monitor
Sound Card

The Limited Edition Babylon 5 Entertainment Utility

Customize your PC with these utilities!

1. **Personal Desktop** - a Windows utility that lets you assign sounds to various Windows events. Personal Desktop comes with 50 QSound stereo AudioClips.
2. **Babylon 5 Carousel** - A special edition of Image Carousel, the acclaimed screen saver that features images with sound, and video clips. Babylon 5 Carousel comes with over 100 image files.
3. **Randomizer** - Assigns new wallpaper to your Windows desktop - a new one each time you start! Comes 30 spectacular wallpaper images.
4. **Chooser** - Provides easy access to your screen saver settings.

Installation

To install the Personal Desktop application and associated data files:

1. From Windows Program Manager, select File, Run and type **D:\INSTALL.EXE**. Click OK.

(Note: If your install drive is not your D: drive, substitute the appropriate drive letter.)

Install will prompt you for the installation directory. It will create the directory on your specified hard drive and copy the program and selected data files. It will also create a new program group containing the Babylon 5 utility files. It will create some icons in your StartUp program group, if you have one. If you do not, it will create one. This installation program will also copy audioclip and videoclip files into your hard drive.

2. In the Windows Control Panel (in the Main Program Group), open the Sound icon and set all Windows events to [NONE]. Single-click each event in the left column, then in the right column, scroll up to the top of the file list where the [NONE] option appears. Click it to select it. Then move on to the next event. When all events have been set to none, be sure to click OK to save your settings before exiting from the Sound Control panel.

This will turn off the default Windows sounds to avoid conflicts with Personal Desktop.

3. Windows Setup

Only a selection of images and sounds will be installed initially, the CD contains many more sounds and screen saver images which can be installed any time you desire. The CD-ROM is used as a storage medium only, and is not needed for the actual operation of the screen saver modules.

Installing Video for Windows Run-time Software

Before Personal Desktop can play your video files, you will need to have Video for Windows version 1.1 installed, if you have not done so already.

The installer will automatically place a Video for Windows installer icon in your BABYLON5 program group. If you do NOT have Video for Windows installed, just double click the Video for Windows install icon. You can disregard or delete the icon if you already have Video for Windows on your system.

(Win 95 note: Windows 95 has Video for Windows "built in." If you are running Windows 95, it will not be necessary to install Video for Windows.)

You will need to re-start your computer for Video for Windows to become activated.

Setting up the Babylon 5 edition of Image Carousel

1. In the Main program group, open up the Control Panel.
2. Open the Desktop Icon.
3. Select the module you want to run under the Screen Saver option. You can use the Test button to audition modules.
4. Click the Setup button to customize user-selectable options.
5. Set the desired delay time for the screen saver to become active.

Alternatively, you can use the Launch utility installed by setup. Use the setup button to set the path of your screensaver to **PDESK\IMAGES**

About Babylon 5 Carousel

Settings Panel

This screen saver is the .SCR module which manages and displays the Babylon 5 image (.BAF) files. These files are stored in a format containing both graphics and audio data, and can only be played through the Babylon 5 Carousel. It has several customizable user setup options.

1. Privacy Protection - This allows a user to set a password which must then be entered to quit a screen saver. The computer will prompt you for the password if you try to exit the screen saver module. If an incorrect password (or no password) is entered, the screen saver module will resume operation, disallowing access to the Windows Desktop. This provides security and privacy for your computer when you are away from the desk. Passwords are global, so whatever password you set for any module becomes the password for all modules with the Password Protected option box checked.

Use Password - Privacy will only work if this is checked (or X'd). If it is not checked, the "Password..." button will become inactive and this option will be deactivated.

2. Sound Options - Sounds are a lot of fun, and really enhance the impact of a screen saver module, but they can sometimes become intrusive. The "Full Sound" option gives you all sounds continuously, throughout the operation of the screen saver. The "Limited Sound" option plays the sounds for a couple of iterations (a minute or two) for the module, then goes silent for the rest of the operation. The "No Sound" option mutes the module entirely.

3. Display Options (Delay Between Images) - This sets the length of time each still image is displayed on the screen.

4. Transition - This option selects one of the several transition effects between images. Choices include Random, Block Fade, Horizontal Blind, Vertical Blind, Horizontal Wipe, Vertical Wipe, Circular Wipe and Pixel Fade. The Random selection will cycle a different "fade style" for each image.

5. Image Directory - This allows you to change the directory from which Image Carousel reads image files. Normally you will not want to change this, but if you purchase additional products using Image Carousel, and need to store different image files in separate directories, this option allows a quick, easy way to reconfigure.

6. Photo Archive Options

Show Entire Archive - This checkbox, if checked (or X'd), will automatically "select" all images in the Image directory to be displayed. If not checked, the "Choose Images" option will be active.

Choose Images - This selection allows you to do several things, functioning as a mini file management utility.

Add - This is how you select image files to be displayed. Select the desired .img file under the "Available" column by clicking on it to highlight it. If you want to view the file before selecting it, click "Preview..." for a thumbnail view of the file. Click "Add" to select the file. It will appear under the "Selected" column.

Remove - Highlight the files under the "Selected" column that you wish to de-select. Click the "Remove" button, and the files will disappear from the "Selected" column. Please note that this function does not actually delete an image file (unlike the "Delete File" function,) but de-selects it only.

Delete File - This function operates on files listed in either the "Selected" or "Available" columns, and will physically delete selected image files from the drive. If single or multiple files are selected by highlighting, just click the "Delete File" button. A dialog box will pop up to ask if you are sure you want to delete the selected files.

Install... - This option, like the "Delete File" option, is primarily for moving .IMG files back and forth from the CD-ROM drive to the Hard Drive. (On the floppy drive version, all available files are automatically installed to the hard drive.) To move additional image files from the CD-ROM, click "Install." Select the CD-ROM **IMAGES** directory. The installable files will appear on the left, under the "Files:" column. Highlight the files you want to select and click the "Install" button. The files will be copied from the CD-ROM drive to the images directory on your hard drive.

After completing any configuration operations in "Select Images," click the "OK" button to save your settings and return to the main options window.

7. Tech Data Access Options - This section allows you to configure the data categories about Babylon 5 and its crew. Each category contains particular files (some containing full-motion video) to the title of the category checked (or X'd). If you don't install all of these files at setup time, you can use the Browser (see following section) to transfer additional modules. Just select any of the AVI files (from Browser) in one of the data category directories on the CD. "Transferring" with Browser will automatically move them to the appropriate directory on the hard drive.

Personnel Data - This category contains information on all of your favorite B5 characters.

Ship Data (+ video) - Here you can increase your knowledge of many common spacecraft seen flying around B5. Full-motion video is contained in this category.

Battle Data (+ video) - See exciting space battles here! Full-motion video is contained in this category.

Galactic Data (+ video) - Catch up on a little trivia about "Grid Epsilon" and other surrounding planets. Full-motion video is contained in this category.

BROWZER

The "Browser" (yes, it's spelled with a "Z" on purpose) is a multimedia CD-ROM browse utility which simplifies the process of auditioning and transferring audio and videoclips quickly and easily. Use the Drive, Directory, and File list boxes to find a file, then click it to select it. Press the "Audition" button to see or hear the clip. If you find one you like, you can transfer it to your Hard Drive by clicking the "Transfer" button. AVI files will automatically go into the PDESK\IMAGES directory, and audioclips will automatically be transferred to the PDESK\B5 directory. Browser is on the CD-ROM, so you'll need to make sure it's in the drive before running Browser.

CHOOSE

This utility simplifies screensaver setup. Instead of going to the Control Panel, you can run Chooser to modify any of your Babylon 5 carousel settings.

Installing additional Audio files from the CD for Personal Desktop

The installation copies about 8 megs of .WAV and .AVI files to your hard drive. This enables you to run Personal Desktop and Image Carousel without having the CD-ROM in the drive. However, there are lots of additional files on the CD which you can use. For most people, these files would take up an unacceptable amount of hard drive space, so the initial installation copies over just a small set of these. Another important consideration is that if you actually assign sounds or videos directly on the CD, then you will have to have the Babylon5 CD installed every time you turn on your computer. This is probably not a desirable state of affairs for most computer users. For this reason, you should copy desired CD audio and video files to the hard drive before assigning them in Personal Desktop.

Note: Auditioning files directly from the CD-ROM should yield satisfactory performance on 2X speed CD-ROM drives. Older, single speed CD-ROM drives may cause degraded performance. If you have a single speed drive, you may want to copy files to your hard drive before auditioning them.

The files on the CD are organized in subdirectories by file types, episode, characters and scenes. This allows you to easily search among the large number of files for specific clips. You can copy files from the CD-ROM drive to the hard drive PDESK subdirectories (PDESK\BAB5 or PDESK\IMAGES) by using Windows file manager to browse what you like (just double click on a file to audition it.) and just dragging it from the CD-ROM source folder to the appropriate PDESK subdirectory. If you wish, you can even copy an entire directory into PDESK.

Once files are copied to your hard drive, you can use the ADD function in Personal Desktop to add the new sounds to the PDESK.

(*PDESK is the name of the hard drive directory where Personal Desktop is installed.)

Please refer to the section in this manual entitled "**Adding Media Files**" for additional information on using the Personal Desktop "ADD" function, or refer to the Personal Desktop on-line help.

(Note: a simple utility called "Browser" has been placed on the CD-ROM to help audition, select and transfer files from CD-ROM to HD. This utility will automatically copy files to the appropriate PDESK subdirectory, but will prompt for a destination path if you have installed to a different path than the setup defaults. Please note that while Browser works with Win'95, it does not support long file or path names.)

What are AudioClips[®]?

Sound can be recorded digitally in a process called sampling, then stored and reproduced later by reversing this process and converting this "sample" data back to sound. If you enjoy the clean, high fidelity sound of CDs, then you have already encountered digitized audio. This data can be stored to a computer disk as a file. If your computer is equipped with Windows 3.1, you can actually play back these files directly from your computer or, for even better fidelity, via a sound card like SoundBlaster.

AudioClips are the actual audio data, stored as files, that the PC reads and converts into sound. The sounds in this package were recorded from original soundtrack masters and converted into 8 and 16 bit samples, which were then saved as data files for playback on a sound card. These digital samples can be used with any program which reads Windows 3.1 .WAV files. Within the Windows 3.1 environment, these sounds can even be set to play as you work! Digitized audio data can use a lot of memory, so our AudioClips are created in short segments of varying lengths. These are perfect for use in entertainment and presentation applications -- a fun way to spice up those boring memos!

About QSOUND

QSound is widely termed as "virtual reality for the ears." This new audio imaging technique goes beyond stereo to create an evocative atmosphere in which sound seems to travel not just laterally, but above, below, and even through the listener's body.

Surprisingly, QSound requires only a standard two-speaker system to achieve its sophisticated imaging effects. Even miniature speakers deliver a realistic punch, which is why Sound Source has integrated QSound into their development process.

What is Personal Desktop?

Personal Desktop is a unique "personal multimedia" program that plays sounds and Video for Windows videos in response to system events.

Personal Desktop can play video and sound files at the following times:

- Instead of the normal system beep
- At Windows startup and exit
- Whenever you move, resize, minimize or maximize Windows
- At :00, :15, :30, and :45 past each hour
- Whenever you enter or exit an application
- When a selected key combination is hit
- When certain dialogs are opened

Personal Desktop is a fun way to customize your computer and enter the world of multimedia as well.

Opening Personal Desktop

You can run Personal Desktop by selecting Run from the Program Manager's File menu and typing **C: \PDESK\PDESK** in the dialog.

If Personal Desktop is already running but is minimized, you can double-click on the minimized program icon to open the PDESK screen for editing the settings and assignments.

Overview

Personal Desktop displays all of its media files in a single list. If a file has an 'X' in the adjacent checkbox, that file will play when the selected event occurs.

The controls in the Personal Desktop window allow you to enable and disable the program, add and remove media files from its list, check or uncheck media files for a particular event or application, play media files, and select various playback options.

Enabling Personal Desktop

You can turn Personal Desktop on and off by clicking Personal Desktop On. This controls a convenient way to temporarily disable Personal Desktop.

Adding Media Files

To add sound and video files to the list, click on the Add... button above the media file list. You will see the normal Windows file/directory selection windows. You can choose a directory or subdirectory in the directory window on the right, and select files from the file window on the right. Note that you can add multiple files at once by holding the CNTRL key while clicking on the file you desire to select. After completing your selections, click the Add button again. This will return you back to the normal Personal desktop Window

When do the media files play?

Personal Desktop allows you to select particular sounds for each type of event. A "Windows Startup" sound, for example, might be completely inappropriate during an "Application Exit" event.

The current event type is shown in the pop up menu. To see or change what media files will be played at different events, choose the event type from the pop up menu.

The media files that will play when the current event occurs have a next to their name. You can add and remove these check marks by clicking to the left of the media file icon.

Only one media file will play at any given event--the next file in the list will play the next time this event occurs. If Random Order is checked, Personal Desktop will randomly choose a single file from all of the checked ones for the current event type.

Removing media files

To remove a media file from the list, click on the file and then on Remove.

Playing files

Once a media file has been added to Personal Desktop's list, you can double-click on it to play it. You can also play the file from the setup dialog as described below.

The setup dialog

You can set options for individual media files by using the setup dialog. To open the setup dialog, click once on a media file to select it and then choose Setup.

The setup dialog lets you:

- 1) Enter a descriptive name for a media file.
- 2) Choose the screen location for video files
- 3) Choose whether to reload the file (videos only). Reloading makes the file play quicker, at the expense of some memory.

Customizing for individual applications

Personal Desktop allows you to customize its settings on an application-by-application basis.

To add an application to the list, click the **Add...** button above the application list. To remove an application, select that application in the popup and click the **Remove** button.

To play a particular media file for an application, select that application and then place a checkmark next to the media file. Be sure to return the application popup to Windows if you want settings to apply to all applications.

Clip Cancel

You can assign any key on your keyboard as the "cancel" key - the key that stops a sound or video from playing.

Saving Settings

If the **Auto Save** checkbox is selected, Personal Desktop will automatically save its settings. If you prefer you can unselect this option and use the **Save** button to save your changes.

Setting up your Sound Driver

The Sound Driver is the module where Windows is configured for a specific sound card or device. If you are already using such a device with Windows 3.1 and later, you have probably already installed the appropriate driver. If not, you must do so. Windows 3.1 provides a list of drivers for the most frequently used Sound Devices. If a driver is not included for your sound card, you may need to contact the manufacturer and obtain one. **If you already have the correct driver installed, you do not need to re-install to use your AudioClips^(R).**

To install a particular driver, you need to open the Control Panel, then open the Drivers icon. Select Add. If you are using a SoundBlaster card, you will see the SoundBlaster driver as one of the selections. Select the appropriate driver and install. The installation process may prompt you to insert one of your original Windows disks, so its a good idea to keep them handy.

Using a sound card

With the explosion of interest in multimedia applications for the PC, many add-on cards which feature enhanced sound capabilities have made their way to the market, and enjoyed considerable popularity. These cards allow you to enjoy high quality audio for games, educational programs, music composition, computer-generated speech and annotation, and multimedia presentations.

The most popular is the SoundBlaster card, which currently enjoys the status of a de facto hardware standard, but a number of new cards with rapidly increasing capabilities and sound quality are being introduced.

Usually, when you purchase a sound card, you will be provided with a Windows 3.1 driver for that card. If you are already using your sound card with Windows, then you probably already have the correct driver installed. If you did not receive a driver for the card, or you did not install one, you will need to do so in order to use your sound card with Windows 3.1. For more information, see "**Setting Up Your Sound Driver.**"

Using additional CD-ROM videos and files

You can set Personal Desktop video and and sound assignments to any files or

directories on your Babylon 5 CD-ROM, but you **must** have the CD-ROM in place. If you assign any CD-ROM videos or sounds, then later remove the CD-ROM they are on, Personal Desktop will not be able to find them, and will give you an error message. You should copy any sound files directly from the CD-ROM into the **PDESK\BAB5** and copy Image Carousel image files directly from the CD-ROM into the **PDESK\IMAGES** directory on your hard drive. That way you can always be assured that the selected sounds will always be available to Personal Desktop. Files copied from the CD-ROM will have the Read Only attribute set, so if you want to modify them, you'll need to open a Properties box for the files, once they are copied to hard drive, and de-select the Read Only attribute.

Troubleshooting

For additional information, please consult the online manual or the Personal Desktop help file. If you are having problems with the Babylon 5 desktop utilities, feel free to contact Sound Source Unlimited at (805) 494-9996. Please try to have your software and computer within reach when you call.

No sound is heard

- 1.** Make sure that ALL events in the Windows control panel are set to [NONE]. If Windows default events are on, they may cut off or preempt Personal Desktop events and sounds.
- 2.** Check your Control Panel Driver settings to make sure you have installed the appropriate driver. If you have a sound card, you must have the appropriate Windows driver installed.
- 3.** Windows 3.1 does not allow two devices to play .WAV files at the same time. If two programs try to play a .WAV file at the same time, one may override the other, or you may get a message: This device is being used by another application. Either interrupt this application or wait until the device is free and then try again. In this case, you may need to close Personal Desktop or de-select the Enable box in the Personal Desktop window while the other device is playing sounds.
- 4.** Personal Desktop must be running in order to play sounds. A common mistake when re-assigning sounds is to close Personal Desktop upon completion of the assignments, instead of minimizing it.

**Note to Nortons Desktop users: The Babylon 5 setup program will automatically install Personal Desktop onto the Startup Program group, but Norton's Desktop may be configured to designate an alternative "autostart" group. If you have any program group designated as the autostart group, you will need to manually place the Personal Desktop icon into the that program group.*

- 5.** Make sure that the Enable box in the upper left hand corner of Personal Desktop has an 'X' in it.

Video playback looks very "jerky"

The faster your computer is, the better the videos will look. Other factors are the speed of your hard drive, and the graphics mode you are running Windows in. Generally, you should copy any video files from the CD-ROM to your hard drive. (Otherwise you would have to keep the CD in the drive every time you wanted to play a clip.) If you are playing the video clips from the CD, they will probably play less efficiently than from the hard drive, due to the slower CD-ROM access time.

Videos/Sounds cut off.

This most frequently occurs on overlay driven programs like Ami Pro or Word Perfect for Windows. As various overlay modules are swapped in and out, Personal Desktop responds to each as if it were an autonomous program, thus triggering multiple

generic events and their corresponding sounds. The easiest way to remedy this is to use the Application feature in Personal Desktop to mute any executable programs other than the main overlay manager of the offending program. Do this by selecting the programs under Application, then de-selecting the sounds and videos for each event.

Additional info

Please read any Read.Me files for additional information or updates not included in the manual.

Note: if you are having problems making these .AVI and .WAV files work with applications other than Personal Desktop, please contact the respective manufacturer. We cannot offer technical support for programs other than Personal Desktop. If you need further assistance with our product, call (805) 494-9996. We cannot guarantee the performance of Personal Desktop or its compatibility with other applications, but we will be glad to help in any way we can.

Technical Support

How do I get technical support?

You can call Sound Source Interactive at (805) 494-9996 and ask for technical support between the hours of 10AM to 5PM Pacific. If possible, try to situate yourself by the computer, and have your original installation disks available.

If you have a modem, you can obtain updates of Image Carousel by calling the Rhode Island Software Systems (RISS) BBS, at (401) 767-3931. On CompuServe, just **GO RISS**, and check Library 5.

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