

Phone Dialer v1

Phone Dialer v1 © 1996, by Christopher M. Wells

Introduction

This handy, simple phone dialer has the ability to dial calls, save phone numbers in a database, time the phone calls and calculate an expense for the calls. Also, there is the ability to print the database of phone records.

Menus & Configuration

File:

Print all Phone Records: Prints all phone records to the default printer.

Exit: Exits the program.

Records: These options work like the 'Add', 'Delete', 'Change' buttons.

Sort names: Sort all records alphabetically by name or, if there are repeats name and number.

Configure:

Change Communications Port Setting:

This function is made available by choosing 'Change Communications Port Setting' from the 'Configure' Menu. This changes the program's communications port to the one on which your modem is located. The usual values are 1, 2, 3, or 4. The program defaults to Comm Port 1. If the phone won't dial with this program, then use this to change the Comm Port. After clicking the menu item, an input box will appear asking for the correct number. The present number will be listed in the box. Put in the new value and you will be notified of the change.

Tone/Pulse Dialing:

This function is made available by choosing 'Tone/Pulse Dialing' from the 'Configure' Menu. This changes the dialing method of the modem. The program defaults to Tone dialing. Click the appropriate menu item (either Tone or Pulse) to select the appropriate dialing method for your phone line.

Operations: These are menu versions of the dialing and timer functions.

Help: Registering, About, Help options. Accesses simple help for the Phone Dialer form. In 32 bit versions, 'Help' displays the help file, 'Basic Help' displays simple help.

Troubleshooting:

Program won't dial: Make sure the Comm port is set to the correct value for your system. See the Menu, Configure topic for more on this. If this does not work, make sure that the program has the correct setting for tone or pulse dialing. Again, check configure for more on this. If the program still won't dial, check to make sure that the modem is attached and setup correctly.

Modem refuses to hang up: Click HangUp, or Cancel. If this does not work, reset the modem.

Program does not recognize busy signal: Possible goal for Phone Dialer v2. Register and indicate a desire for this.

Product support

Only with the registered version, if you have questions or comments, you can Email me (Chris Wells) at **103132.1363@COMPUSERVE.COM**

Disclaimer:

Due to the complexity of PC Hardware and the operating systems therein, I cannot guarantee that this software will run in each environment, on every compatible machine, or together with any other application, without producing errors. Any liability for damages of any sort is hereby rejected. In any case, the liability is limited to the registration fee.

Registration!

: To access other help topics push '**Contents**' from the help screen.

Registering provides many conveniences and advantages. First, you will receive a registered copy of the newest version of the program. Second registered users are entitled to support, and a phone number will be provided. Also, you will be supporting the shareware concept. Finally, using an illegal, unregistered program sets a bad example for employees or coworkers. If you use someone else's property, you have to pay for it.

How to Register: Use the '**How to Register**' menu option of the '**Help**' menu or the 'Register' smiley face button. I guarantee that the smiley face will be duplicated on this end. Anyway, once the form is displayed click with the mouse, or use the tab button, to make each entry box available, and then enter the appropriate information. When you are finished, push the print button and the completed form will be printed (if the printer is on and set up). Then send the form and \$10 to my address on the form. If you like this program, please feel free to contact me through Email, etc., concerning improvements or updates. If you have good ideas, I may include them in future versions, or a customization arrangement may be made. Thank you for your support and cooperation! If you decide to not register then remove the program with the uninstall program (through **Add/Remove Programs** found in the **Control Panel** of **My Computer** on the **Desktop**).

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Overview

With the dialer you can dial a phone number with your computer. There is also the ability to time the call. Note that only numbers (0-9), hyphens(-), spaces and parenthesis are recognized. To dial the number in the boxes, push the **'Dial'** button, do not pick up your phone yet. After the dialing you will be prompted to pick up the phone when the dialer has finished. If you wish to stop the dialing process, push the **'HangUp'** button or **'Cancel'** menu item and the process will cease. If the phone will not dial, then either your modem is not hooked up (or does not exist), or the program is trying to use an incorrect communications port. To change the communications port, click the 'Change Communications Port Setting' from the 'Configure' menu and enter the correct setting. There is also the potential that your phone line does not accept the dialing method used by the program. I.e. the program is trying to use tone dialing on a pulse only line. Change this setting through the 'Tone/Pulse Dialing' from the 'Configure' menu. The present value will be checked. Click the new choice and follow the directions.

Controls

The phone records that presently exist on file will be displayed in the grid which takes up the majority of the space on the program. The "selected" record is the one that is darkened. A record can be selected by clicking on it. When a record is selected, the boxes at the bottom of the form will update with the information for that record. The boxes can also be changed by putting different information in them. This information will not change the record, to do that, click **'Change'**. This allows a user to enter a different number or an "unlisted" number for "speed dialing" which is not found on a record.

Add: Push this to add a phone record to the lists. You will be prompted for a new name and then a new number, then asked whether the rate should be calculated by the minute or hour and finally for the cost per minute or hour. The final two are required to enable the rate calculator to operate. Note that only numbers (0-9), hyphens(-), spaces and parenthesis are recognized for the phone number, letters will be rejected.

Delete: Push this to remove a selected (click on a name or number in the box to select it) record from the lists. It will also be removed from the permanent storage file. If no record is selected in the grid, no delete will occur.

Change: Push this to Change the record selected in the grid. You will be prompted for a new name, number, rate period, and rate. Push cancel to do nothing.

Dial: Push this to dial the phone number displayed in the **'Number to Dial Box'**. Pick up your phone when prompted to do so. The timer and rate calculator will automatically start after the number is dialed.

HangUp: Push this to cancel the **'Dial'**. This only disconnects your modem, not your phone. Note that your modem will automatically hang up so this option is only necessary to stop the dialing, or if the phone is busy.

Start: Push this start the timer and rate calculator. This will also restart these if they are already running.

Stop: This stops the timer and rate calculator. You will be given the option of resetting these to 0.

Register: Click this to display the registration form for this program and enable the use of more than 10 records. This program is not free, and unfortunately I can not afford to give it away. See "Registration!" for more preaching on this topic.

Quit: Exit the program.

The boxes at the bottom of the screen update according to the information in the displayed record. For the sake of simplicity and more user control, the boxes do not update the records in the grid, to do this, click '**Change**' when the record in question is selected. This allows the user to merely enter a number in the '**Number to Dial**' box and then push dial to dial it.

Number to Dial: The dialer will dial the number displayed here. It will update to match the selected record in the grid, or a different number can be inserted.

Call Duration: This displays the length of time since the last call was dialed (Push **Stop** to stop this).

Call Expense: The expense of the call according to the amount in '**Call Rate**' and whether this amount is per minute or hour.

Call Rate: Updates according to the current record, or you can enter an independent value (click it to do this).

Rate Period: Updates according to the current record, or you can enter an independent value (click the appropriate value to do this).

Minute: Specifies that the amount from '**Call Rate**' is the cost for one minute.

Hour: Specifies that the amount from '**Call Rate**' is the cost for one hour.

Future Plans for this program

I hope you enjoy this program, if you have suggestions for improvement, email them to me. My address can be found in the **Help** menu **About**. If these ideas are feasible, I may include them in future versions. I do plan to include more sophisticated list capabilities specifically the use of multiple list, such as a 'Parents' list, a 'Child' list, 'Business', 'Personal' or whatever the user desires. Perhaps I will also add address options, but I want to retain the easy to use nature that the program now has.

