OSFrame ™ - Demo Version 1.1

Does 3.0 leave you feeling flat ?™

The 3-D buttons in **Windows 3.0** give it a great new look, but why didn't they go all the way? Aren't control menus animated also? Even if applications use nice 3-D effects, you're still stuck with the 2-D title bars and borders. **OSFrame** takes you the rest of the way.

This is a demo version that will let you get a feel for what the real product does. It lets you see for yourself how good Windows can look. You must have a color or grayscale monitor to use **OSFrame**. If you are using a grayscale monitor and you don't have 3-D minimize and maximize buttons, check your configuration.

Special Offer

We now have our own section on CompuServe and we're celebrating. To get to our section, type GO WINAPA at any ! prompt, and you'll find us in Section 17.

Another reason for this special offer is the wasteful minded resellers of the world. OSFrame has very complete online help and a small manual that is essentially the license agreement and installation instructions. We designed a little package that consists of a 6" by 6" Stayflat with a fold-over cover that has the product information on it. Only the fold-over cover and the shrinkwrap gets thrown away. The Stayflat can be reused to mail diskettes back to us, or whoever. Certain retailers refuse to carry the small package because of its small size and shoplifters. The audio CD "long box" is an utter waste of cardboard, and we feel that a bigger package for our software is a waste also. However, we have bowed to the pressure and are readying a larger box package and still have a lot of the small packages to get rid of.

The retail price of OSFrame is $28.95. If you're in the USA and you buy OSFrame from us by **5/1/91**, you can get it for $15 plus $5 for shipping and handling. Orders can prepaid via check using the form in CHECK.WRI or you can order via MasterCard/VISA using the form in CCARD.WRI. If you're not in the USA or if you order after 5/1/91, you need to use the form in ORDER.WRI. We now have a toll free number for our order desk. In the USA and Canada call 1-800-800-0944 for placing orders ONLY. If you have questions about the product, or the status of an order, please call us directly at (704) 536-3093. You can also FAX this order form directly to our order desk at (704) 333-9028. Send non-order faxes to (704) 536-8720. Please allow up to two weeks for delivery after we receive your order. Orders are normally shipped US Mail, but Federal Express shipping is available by calling us at (704) 536-3093.

We have run several specials on OSFrame. This is the last one unless something changes with our dealers and distributors. Please redistribute this demo to all of the BBS's you access and replace any old demo versions so that your friends and associates can have the same opportunity.

What OSFrame can do

The full version of OSFrame comes with a configuration program that gives you full control over the parameters that are used to create the new visual effects. Each screen element can have its color changed, and the depth of the effect can be controlled independently for different screen elements. OSFrame can add 3D effects to your title bars in five different ways. Three levels of 3D are available, as well as two special effects that put stripes on the title bar similar to the title bars on another GUI based computer. Three levels of 3D effect are available for borders, ranging from a light effect to an obvious 3D effect. The control menus in both application and document windows can have a 3D effect added so that they

match the minimize and maximize buttons. You can also control the color of inactive title bar text. This allows you to use colors for inactive windows that would otherwise leave your inactive titles in the dark.

Running the Demo

Before you run the demo or do anything else with this program, please read the **License Agreement** section.

You can run OSFDEMO as many times as you like, but you must exit Windows and start it up again each time.

This demo contains four different configurations that show you some of what OSFrame is capable of. The four configurations are described briefly below, so let's get started.

Run the OSFDEMO.EXE program from the Program Manager **File** menu. You will get a message box with credits, the current version, and you will be asked if you have read and accepted the license agreement in the next section. If you answer **No**, OSFrame will not install itself, but you must restart Windows in order to try to run the demo again. When you answer **Yes**, you will get an information (product plug) box. You will then be asked which configuration you want to try.

Do not use the Control Panel to change the colors until you have restarted Windows, or your original colors will be lost (unless you have saved the scheme and restore it).

Depending on the configuration you choose, you may be advised to change your border width. Use the Control Panel's Desktop dialog to change your wallpaper and border width, if necessary.

The first configuration is the most conservative contained in the demo. It uses subtle 3D effects to give a little more feeling of depth. This is how Demo Version 1.01 was configured. This configuration looks better without wallpaper and a border width of at least 4, but you may want to try 5 since the border depth is set to medium. At 5 you should see some additional shading on the right and bottom each window.

The second configuration uses the basic colors from the Designer scheme that is initially available via the Control Panel Color dialog. The inactive title bars and borders are set for a heavy 3D effect. You should set the border width to at least 5 to see the full effect. This one looks good without wallpaper, but if you have some wallpaper that you think would look good with it, by all means try it.

The third configuration demonstates the striped title bar effect. Both active and inactive title bars can have the stripes, but this example only uses them on active title bars. You should try a border width of 1, and also a border width greater than or equal to 4. We are working on some additional details to make this scheme look even more like the real thing.

The final configuration was designed to show how much more wacky and tacky you can be with OSFrame. It uses all black title bars and borders accented with neon green. Use the wildest, most flourescent wallpaper you can find for this one. You'll also want your borders on at least 4.

License Agreement

This software is owned by Playroom Software and is protected by United States copyright laws and international treaty provisions. You may not modify, reverse engineer, decompile, or disassemble the software.

You may freely distribute the demostration version of this software, but you may not charge for it. The computer archive file, diskette, or other media that contains the software must contain this document and any others originally distributed with the software in unaltered form.

In no event shall Playroom Software or its suppliers be liable for any damages whatsoever (including, without limitation, damages for loss of business profits, business interruption, loss of business information, or other pecuniary loss) arising out of the use or inability to use this Playroom Software product, even if Playroom Software has been advised of the possibility of such damages.

If you do not agree to the terms of this agreement, destroy all of your copies of the software. This is your sole remedy.

About Playroom Software

We are a developer of Windows MIDI software. MIDI is an acronym for Musical Intrument Digital Interface. In the same way the computer industry has been changed by PC compatibility, so has the music industry been changed by MIDI. The key here again is compatibilty. All MIDI equiped intruments can be connected together because MIDI is simply a 31250 baud serial interface with a detailed communication protocol. When a key is pressed on a MIDI equiped musical keyboard, three characters are sent out that identify the key number, the force the key was struck, and a channel number. When a key is released, a similar message is generated. Using an appropriate interface on a computer allows software to timestamp incoming messages so that they can be played back exactly as they were received. After these events have been recorded, they can be manipulated in much the same way as a word processor does text. MIDI has sixteen channels so that up to sixteen different sounds can be controlled at once. You can record a piano part, then record an organ part while listening to the piano part. If you decide the piano part would sound better as a trumpet, you don't have to re-record the part, you just change the sound the instrument (typically a synthesizer) will play. Many TV and movie scores are being produced with MIDI and computers, and MIDI will be an important part of the Multimedia wave that is coming. Many computer musician hobbyists dedicate at least a portion of a room to their MIDI equipment, and since they often refer to the equipment as 'toys', we are software for **The Playroom**™. While our name may be a little whimsical, our software is not.

Incompatibilities

OSFrame will not install itself if you are running the debugging version of Windows. You will get a message advising you of this. OSFrame is designed for Windows 3.0, and may not be compatible with future versions of Windows.

Trademarks

OSFrame, **Does 3.0 leave you feeling flat?**, and **The Playroom** are trademarks of Playroom Software. **Microsoft** is a registered trademark and **Windows** is trademark of Microsoft Corporation.