

How to use **DOS TSR** pop-up menus in **Windows 3.0** environment?

This is the question that one confronts with shortly after the installation of the new MS Windows 3.0. Such programs include Sidekick or e.g. a Fax software that turns on TSR background receive. This latter is especially annoying because it can turn a portion of your screen into randomly scattered horizontal lines, covering a windowed application you are currently working with.

Running two TSR's in non-Windows environment is fairly easy to accomplish. In Windows however, it needs a minor trick. In the following I shall explain how to run a background Fax receive program called FAX-96 in Windows without any problem. (NOTE: FAX-96 is a Group-3 compatible full-feature fax board and software, sold by FREMONT Communications under \$200.00, highly recommended.)

The FAX-96 manual says: "...if you are running another TSR program ...you may need to load the FAX-96 TSR before the other or vice versa". Unfortunately, this does not work in case of Windows. If FAX-96 is loaded before Windows, when you receive a fax the TSR pop-up window will not appear but, instead, you will get randomly scattered horizontal lines across your screen and the computer will become paralyzed until the fax transmission is over.

If you run the main fax software from Windows (by creating an appropriate PIF) you will find that when you close the window, the TSR will be removed from memory, disabling the fax background receiving.

FREMONT does not know any cure for this problem. Microsoft Windows technical support promised to "research" the problem but they have not called me back for three weeks.

The solution is, however, very easy: create a separate PIF for the background TSR program and one for the main fax program. Launch the TSR from Windows in windowed mode then shrink it to an icon (**NOTE:** Windows will give you a message about its pop-up support and will invite you to press CTRL-C. Resist the offer!). This way the background receive mode is fully operational and will not bother you.

When you want to send a fax, invoke the TSR window, press CTRL-C *NOW* (remove the TSR from memory) and launch the main fax program. When you finished sending the fax, close the window and launch the TSR again.

The above procedure may seem a little tedious. Those who have fast machines (> 20 MHz) and enough memory, can forget about the TSR and create only one PIF for the main fax program, launch that and shrink that to an icon. This will give you a full fax machine running in the background, although it will also take up a lot of memory space.

This text is accompanied by two PIF's, one for each, the background TSR and the main fax program. They are Shareware, can be distributed

freely. No money is solicited what so ever, however, donations are accepted.

Good luck!

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