

DinkClass is a small Think C5.0 (we've gotten it to compile under MPW C++ with only minor modifications to the included files) application frame work for system 7. It was developed in part to help define a process model and associated documentation standard for the way object oriented software is developed. The process model and documentation standard are from the maintenance programmer's point of view. The process model turns out to be a model of the manner in which features are added to an existing body of code. The documentation standard is geared toward the the maintenance of the feature set of a body of code, and not the code itself.

Because the process model and documentation standard where developed as the class library was maturing only the key features are documented in accordance with the standard. It is also clear that the documentation was developed after the feature has been implemented. However, you will find that this documentation is refreshing in that it explains the concepts and implementation behind the features with in DicKClass.

DinkClass is fully supported. Its documentation set will evolve with the class library itself, and DinkClass has 2 scheduled up-grade releases.

We developed DinkClass because the other available class libraries either lacked inspiration or where complex without good enough documentation for mere mortals to comprehend and use. How many months of evening effort have you put into understanding ThinkClass or MacApp enough to develop an application with them? It wasn't until I landed a full time job developing an MacApp/C++ commercial application developer that I got the idea behind these class libraries. I hope that DinkClass will help others to make the leap into OOP and using these more sophisticated class libraries possible for more programmers and hobbyists.

The entire DinkClass package includes :

- Think C 5.0 projects with well-documented source code.
- Off-line documentation of the key features implemented in the class library, all conforming to the Feature Oriented Documentation standard developed. Features documented in this way include:

Scribble and Text Edit applications, Scrolling Windows, Event parsing, File and I/O handling, Clipboard support, Menu Handling, and more.

- Dink Class comes with 2 simple demo applications, both documented and explained.
- Free telephone support (on your nickel) to registered owners.
- No royalties for distribution of applications built from it
- My documentation standard and process model.
- DinkClass comes with 2 scheduled free mailings of updates (December 92, and July 93) each will include updated documentation, documentation standards, process model, the class library itself, and more demo applications.

Pricing is on a scheduled basis.

The above package is \$40 until October 22, 1992, after which the price goes up. How much depends on value added and the opinions of the DinkClass installed base when that time.

Make checks to:

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The reason for the schedule is that a big part of the package is the support and the scheduled up-grades. We hope that you will find that this package is worth the \$40 we are asking for it. Applied Technical Software welcomes user input and needs support for further development efforts.

To install the package place the DinkClass folder in the folder where the THINKC application is, and place the demo folders wherever you like to place your development code.

A note on the debugging tricks built into the base class:

We've attempted to provide useful debugging tools in the root class. The only requirement is that you have a debugger installed on your machine to use it effectively. It was developed assuming that MacsBug has been installed. If that causes problems get a copy and install it.

Some good references for MacsBug usage are "How to Write Macintosh Software" third edition by Scott Knaster, and "MacsBug Reference and Debugging Guide" by Apple computer.