

WinDir Help

WinDir is one of the best utilities for Windows that is available. You can do many things in this program that requires multiple programs to do usually. Remember to register WinDir with [Shortdog Inc.](#) if you find that you really like it and would like to keep on using it.

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Registering WinDir

If you like WinDir and plan on using it beyond the 10 day evaluation period then you are required to send the \$5.00 registration fee for WinDir. Once you send the registration fee you will get a registration number from Shortdog Inc. that will register WinDir and all the future versions of WinDir. Sending an extra \$3.00 will get you a disk with the next version of WinDir and some more programs included. See the file REGISTER.TXT or REGISTER.WRI for a registration form.

Running Files From WinDir

To run a program from the WinDir file-list just simply double click on the filename or highlight the filename and click the button labeled Run File. This function will run the program as it would normally be run from Windows Program Manager or File Manager. The only files that you can run from this function are .EXE, .BAT and .PIF (.PIF's are run only if they are specified to in the config menu).

Deleting Files From WinDir

To delete a program using WinDir, just click the button labeled Delete and then you will be presented with a file-list alongside of a list box that will show the names you have selected to delete. You will also notice that below the file-list is a file specification box just like in the main file list of WinDir, for info on using this control see the section labeled Changing File List Specification in this file. To put a file in the list box for deleting you double-click the filename in the file-list and it will be put in the list box. To remove a file from the delete list box you just double-click on it and it will be removed. Once you have selected all the files you wish deleted you then click on the button labeled Delete and you will then be asked to confirm the delete operation for each file selected, this is good if you select alot of files and want to make sure which ones you have selected for deleting. There is another button labeled Delete All that will ask you to confirm the operation and then it will delete every file you have selected without asking you to confirm each one, it will only ask you when you first click on it. If you wish no further actions to be taken from this delete box then click on the button labeled Cancel.

Copying Or Moving Files From WinDir

To copy or move a file in WinDir you must go to the directory where the files are located you want to copy or move and then click on the button that is labeled Copy Or Move Files. You will then be presented with a dialog box that shows another file-list for you to select the files for copying or for Moving. To put a file in the list box for copying or for moving you double-click the filename in the file-list and it will be put in the list box. To remove a file from the list box you just double-click on it and it will be removed. Once you have selected all the files you want to move or copy and then you can use the drive and directory selection box to select the drive and the directory you want the file(s) copied or moved to and then click the command you want processed, either copy or move. If you select to copy or move the file(s) into the same directory it is in then you will be presented with an error box and then returned to the file copy dialog box. If you wish no action to be taken from this box then simply click the command button that is labeled Cancel. You will also notice that below the file-list is a file specification box just like in the main file list of WinDir, for info on using this control see the section labeled Changing File List Specifications later in this help file.

Renaming Files In WinDir

To rename a file in WinDir you just click on the file you wish to rename in the file-list and then click on the button labeled Rename. You will then be asked to enter the new filename. Entering a bad file name will get an error and you will be asked to enter it again. Click Cancel to abort.

Playing .WAV Sound Files

If you have Windows 3.10 and a sound card installed you can play .WAV sound files in WinDir or have them loaded into your favorite .WAV editor, specified in the config menu, by double-clicking on the file you want to hear and it will be played or loaded in, whichever you have configured WinDir for. This feature is only for Windows 3.1 users only.

Viewing Graphics

Double clicking a .BMP, .RLE, .WMF or .ICO file will allow you to view it in WinDir. While viewing the picture, you can click the right mouse button and the picture will be copied into the Windows Clipboard for later use in another program. To get rid of the graphics window just click on it with the left mouse button as usual, also when you are viewing a .WMF file you can size the window to whatever you like and the picture will resize to fit it. For .BMP, .PCX and .ICO files you can specify that they be loaded into another program by configuring them to do so in the configuration menu.

File Specifications

When you click on the combo box at the bottom of the file-list it presents you with a list of file specifications that appears in the above list. For example, if you click on the text *.exe then only files with the extension of .EXE will be shown in the file-list, if you click on one like *.bmp;*.ico then only files with the extensions .bmp and .ico will be listed. You can change the specs to your own personal ones by clicking on the text portion of the combo box and entering your own specifications as follows, *.exe will show only .exe files, but *.exe;*.com will show files with both .exe and .com extensions. You can enter as many file specs at once as you want.

Loading Text Files

When you double-click on a file that has the extension of .INI, .TXT, or .DOC then it will be loaded into the program you specified in the configuration menu. The default program they are loaded into is the Windows Notepad. If you double-click on a file with the .WRI extension then it will be loaded into Windows Write.

Configuring WinDir

In order for WinDir to work better for you, I have added the ability to customize some commands to do what you want them to and then save them in an .INI file for use the next time you load in WinDir. To get to the config menu just click the command button labeled Configure. Once you are in this dialog box you can change quite a few things, first thing is whether you want WinDir to view .BMP files or to load them into another program that is specified by you in the text box next to this option. The next option is whether to view .ICO files or load them into the program you specify like you did the .BMP option. The next option has the ability to specify whether you want text files to be loaded into WinDir for viewing (limited to files under 59K) or to be loaded into your favorite word processor. You also can specify which program you want .INI, .DOC and .TXT files loaded into if you select to have them loaded into another word processor, the default is the Windows Notepad. This next config option has the ability to specify what to do when you click on a .PIF file, you can either load it into Windows PIF Editor or run the file just like you do .EXE files. The next option will tell WinDir whether to reduce it to the small command button that you start WinDir with or to leave it full size when you run file associations and files from WinDir. The next option specifies which program is loaded when you click on a .PCX graphics file, WINGIF is a good one, the default program is Windows PaintBrush, listed as PBRUSH.EXE. The next option tells WinDir whether to play .WAV files or to load them into your favorite .WAV player. Enter the name of the .WAV player if you want the files loaded into one, those who don't use Windows 3.1 will not see these options because they will be grayed out. The next option is whether to keep the WinDir command button on top of all other Windows programs running, clicking Always on top to keep WinDir on top all of the time or click Not Always on top to keep WinDir running like it normally does, see the section called Making WinDir Stay On Top for more information on this subject. The next option allows you to specify what .MAK files should be loaded into, like Visual Basic. To save these options you should click on the button labeled Save and the options will be placed in an .INI file located in your Windows directory for later user. If you want the options returned to their default values then click on the button Defaults. To exit this menu just click on the command button labeled Exit.

Changing The Command Button

You can change the WinDir command button so that it takes up less desktop space if you need some room. To remove the clock from the command button you just click the right mouse button on the WinDir command button instead of the usual left-click and the clock will be removed and the new button will be in its place. You can change back to the old button by clicking with the right button again. When the button no longer has a clock on it then you cannot move this button until you turn the clock back on. Whichever way you have the command button when you exit WinDir will be the way it starts out next time you run WinDir. You can also resize the command button like you normally do a window using the border controls and whatever size you leave it will be the size it is next time you run WinDir.

Making WinDir Stay On Top

To keep the WinDir command button on top of all other Windows programs, which is sometimes called floating windows, you can go to the configuration menu and click on the option labeled Always On Top and from then on the WinDir command button will be on top of all other Windows.

Changing Windows Wallpaper

You can change the Windows wallpaper that is currently used by selecting the new file you want in the file-list and then click the button labeled Change BMP and then the background will be changed. This feature comes in very handy for a lot of people since it gets tiresome to keep going to the control panel to change it. This is tested only in Win 3.1 but it should still work with Windows 3.0.

What Is WinDir?

The basic premise of WinDir is that you can pop-up a file-list from any of your directories by simply clicking a button located on your screen. From this list of files you can change around your directories, run .EXE, .PIF and .BAT files by double-clicking on the filename and even copying, moving, deleting and renaming files. You can also view your .ICO, .BMP, .RLE and .WMF files you double-click on in the WinDir file-list. You can copy the graphics file into the Windows clipboard for quick pasting into another application. You can copy or move multiple files at once. You can delete multiple files at once. You can rename your files also. You can even play your .WAV sound files if you are running Windows 3.1. There is much more that can be done with WinDir.

Changing Your WIN.INI Settings

Sometimes you may want to change the LOAD= and RUN= settings in your WIN.INI file to load or run your favorite programs when Windows starts up. Using this command you can fix Windows so that WinDir or some other program starts when you first start Windows. When you first click on this button a new dialog box appears with the current settings, clicking on the button labeled Save Settings will save the new settings and Cancel will abort.

Changing Your System Sounds

If you have Windows 3.10 and a sound card installed then you can use the button labeled Change Sounds to change the sounds that Windows uses for its errors and beeps. This is similar to the Control Panel's way of doing it, for more help on what this does see your Windows manual or the control panel's help file. To change the sounds associated with the events listed in the list box you simply double click on the filename listed in the file list and the current .WAV file will change to the new one. To see what the current .WAV file sounds like you click the button labeled Test Sound. Once you have made the modifications you want then click the button labeled Save Settings and your new sounds will be ready for use. Clicking the button labeled Cancel will cancel the operations.

Viewing Text Files

In the configuration menu you can specify whether to have .INI,.TXT or .DOC files viewed in WinDir or loaded into your favorite word processor. If you selected to have them loaded into a word processor then when you click on one of the above named files it will be loaded into the word processor. If you have elected to view the text file in WinDir then clicking on one of the above named files will load it into the WinDir text viewer for viewing. Once you are in the dialog box you can use the scroll bars to scroll up, down, left and right through the text files. Clicking on the menu selection Close will close this menu and go back to WinDir. Clicking on the Open File menu selection will allow you to load another text file into the viewer, you can load any file you want as long as it is under 59K. You can also come to this menu by clicking the command button labeled View Text without having to double-click on a .TXT, .INI or .DOC file.

