

The MultiMedia Swiss Army Knife version 2.0

by
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Introduction:

The *MultiMedia Swiss Army Knife 2.0* is a fully functional shareware program that supports viewing and playback of the following file types;

Compuserve Graphics Interchange Format	*.GIF
Windows BitMaps	*.BMP
Windows Device Independenct BitMaps	*.DIB
ZSoft Graphic Format	*.PCX
Tagged Image Format (TIFF)	*.TIF
Targa Graphic Format	*.TGA
Windows Audio Video Interleave	*.AVI
Windows Wave Audio	*.WAV
MIDI Music Files	*.MID, *.RMI

Viewing and playback may be performed one file at a time or in a multiple file, *Slideshow* form.

Requirements:

This application requires Microsoft Windows or Windows for Workgroups versions 3.1 or greater in order to make use of the MCI device drivers contained in these versions of the Operating System. The MultiMedia Swiss Army Knife will also work with Windows 3.0 with MultiMedia Extensions if you have them.

To hear Wave Audio (*.WAV) file, MIDI Music (*.MID) files and RMI Sound Sample (*.RMI) files you will need either a sound card installed in your PC (i.e. Sound Blaster, Adlib, Microsoft Sound System, Turtle Beach, etc.) or have installed one of the PC speaker drivers available in the public domain, on BBS's and CompuServe. This is a limitation of the PC and Windows.

To view Microsoft Audio Video Interleave (*.AVI) files you must first install the Microsoft Video for Windows® Runtime program. The runtime is available via CompuServe or Microsoft. You can view AVI files without a sound card or driver, the sound will just be turned off.

No additional files are required to view BitMaps (GIF, BMP, PCX, TIF, TGA, DIB, etc.). The MultiMedia Swiss Army Knife supports 16, 256 (8 Bit) and up to 16.4 million (24 Bit) colors and 256 shades of gray (whatever your video adapter puts out). BitMaps are best viewed in full screen mode with resolutions of 800x600 or 1024x768 but it will work under 640x480. BitMaps may appear strangely "pixelated" or "dithered" when viewing 8 or 24 bit images using a 16 color adapter. Let me know if your system only supports 16 colors and I'll cut a "special" version of the application that will improve this for you.

Installation:

The MultiMedia Swiss Army Knife comes complete with a Windows "standard" SETUP program. To start the SETUP program select FILE and RUN from the Program Manager and type A:\SETUP then press <ENTER> or click the <OK> button.

The system will provide a default startup directory of C:\MMSWAK which you can override if you so desire. A Program Group and Icon will be created for the application.

Files:

The following files should be included on the MultiMedia Swiss Army Knife diskette (or *.ZIP file if downloaded from CompuServe). Should any files be missing please contact me for a new diskette;

File Name:	File Description:
IMK.DL_	Graphic Object Dynamic Link Library (Compressed)
KNIFE.VB_	Graphic Object Custom Control (Compressed)
MCI_2.VB_	MultiMedia Control Interface Custom Control (Compressed)
MMSWAK.EX_	MultiMedia Swiss Army Knife 2.0 Executable (Compressed)
MMSWAK.HL_	MultiMedia Swiss Army Knife 2.0 Help File (Compressed)
README.WR_	Read Me File (You're in it)
READ_1ST.TX_	Text File - Important Installation Notes, etc.
SETUP.EXE	Microsoft Windows SETUP Executable
SETUP.LST	SETUP File Listing and Preference Dialog
SETUP1.EX_	MultiMedia Swiss Army Knife Supplemental SETUP Executable (Compressed)
SETUPKIT.DL_	Microsoft Windows SETUP Dynamic Link Library
THREED.DL_	3-D Visual Basic Form Custom Control (Compressed)
VBRUN300.DL_*	Microsoft Visual Basic 3.0 Runtime Dynamic Link Library (Compressed)
MMSWAK.ZIP*	Distribution Copy of MMSWAK, Give this one to Friends/BBS's etc.

These files will be copied from the diskette to your hard drive to the following locations. Only older versions of the same file name will be overwritten;

File Name:	To Location:	File Description:
MCI_2.VBX	C:\WINDOWS\SYSTEM	MultiMedia Control Interface Custom Control
MMSWAK.EXE	C:\MMSWAK**	MultiMedia Swiss Army Knife 2.0 Executable
MMSWAK.HLP	C:\MMSWAK**	MultiMedia Swiss Army Knife 2.0 Help File
README.WRI	C:\MMSWAK**	Read Me File (You're in it now)
READ_1ST.TXT	C:\MMSWAK**	Some Important Late Breaking News
IMK.DLL	C:\WINDOWS\SYSTEM	Graphic Object Dynamic Link Library
KNIFE.VBX	C:\WINDOWS\SYSTEM	Graphic Object Custom Control
THREED.VBX	C:\WINDOWS\SYSTEM	3-D Visual Basic Form Custom Control
VBRUN300.DL_*	C:\WINDOWS\SYSTEM	Microsoft Visual Basic 3.0 Runtime Dynamic Link Library This File is Required for any Visual Basic 3.0 Application

* This file is not included in the version found on CompuServe to reduce download time and connect charges.

** Unless you have specified a different application directory.

Upgrading from Previous Versions:

If you are replacing an older version of The MultiMedia Swiss Army Knife the only file that will be replaced during the installation will be MMSWAK.EXE. Some files, which are no longer needed will be left behind in your application directory. These are only small *.BMP files that take little space. They have been made unnecessary to prevent the "File Not Found" that has been reported when users move the executable from the installation directory after the install.

"Where can I find files (to play and view)?"

File Type	Can be found here	Use this GO Command
VBRUN300.DLL	Microsoft Forums	GO MICROSOFT
Graphics	Graphics Forums	GO GRAPHICS
Wave Audio	MultiMedia Forum, Windows Fun Forum	GO WINFUN
MIDI Music	MIDI Forum	GO MIDI
AVI Movies	Multimedia Forum, Windows Fun Forum	GO MULTIMEDIA, GO WINFUN

Distribution:

MultiMedia Swiss Army Knife 2.0: Distributing the Application to Others

Please feel free to distribute this version of MMSWAK to all your friends, associates and any BBS where you think it might be found useful. PLEASE distribute copies of the original ZIP file only - No modifications, additions or deletions, please. This will ensure that the program will work the same way for others as it works for you. Remember, this application and all it's associated files remain the property of Recreational Engineering Associates.

If you obtained this ZIP file from CompuServe, you will need to contact me for the version that contains the VBRUN300.DLL and the proper modifications to the SETUP.EXE program or you will have to provide the VBRUN300.DLL to each individual to whom you distribute the application.

Sysops, feel free to offer the MultiMedia Swiss Army Knife to your members/subscribers with my blessings -- and with the following conditions;

- No charge can be made for distribution or use of this software except from the author.
- This application can not be modified, renamed, reversed engineered, or misrepresented in any without violation of copyright.
- No additions or alterations can be made to the ZIP file or it's contents without the express written consent of the author (or the commissioner of baseball, if hes available).
- You must inform me of your intention to distribute the application via written letter or CompuServe or the Internet. Please include your name, the name and number of your BBS and an E-Mail address so I can notify you of updates and future product releases.

Author's Note:

I am very pleased that you liked the idea of The MultiMedia Swiss Army Knife enough to download it. I hope you find it unique and useful.

I want to take this time to **Thank you in Advance** for evaluating my application! I have invested a lot of time and effort in designing and supporting this application and the ultimate complement would be that you might value it enough that you would register and pay for it.

I am always available for technical support via CompuServe (whether you have registered or not) at account number 70474,2741. If you have problems with the application or just wish to make suggestions, please feel free to send me an E-Mail.

Look for these enhancements coming soon ... (if I don't starve that is...)

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| 1.) Slideshow Mode for multiple file select and looping playback. | <i>Implemented!</i> |
| 2.) Launching of a full size display of BitMaps with a double-click. | <i>Implemented!</i> |
| 3.) Fully compiled and integrated Help Function | <i>Implemented!</i> |
| 4.) BitMap re-sizing and editing. | |
| 5.) Support for displaying JPEG compressed images. | |
| 6.) Variable Zoom and Playback Speeds for AVI files. | <i>Implemented!</i> |
| 7.) "Panic Button" to hide display when the Boss/Kids walk in. | |

I am always open to suggestions. If you have an idea you think will improve MMSWAK, please let me know. I'll give you credit in the application and send you the latest version on diskette.

Registration:

This application is continually under development. If you use the application for more than 30 days, please support the shareware concept by taking the time to register. Send a check or money order for **\$5.00 (that's right, only \$5)** to the address below. If you would like a copy of the latest version on diskette then please send \$10 and your return address.

Make checks payable to;

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Enjoy the MultiMedia Swiss Army Knife!