GrabIt
Help Index

This help file is designed as a quick reference to the material covered in the documentation. If you have a question not covered here please check the readme.1st file, and the documentation. If you are new to Windows you can press F1 to get help on Windows Help.

Using GrabIt To Enhance A Graphics Program
GrabIt Procedures
Registration Information
Technical Support Information

Using GrabIt To Enhance A Graphics Program

Using GrabIt in conjunction with the Windows graphics program of your choice will allow you to save large amounts of disk space. In addition programmers will find it invaluable when creating bitmaps for inclusion in their programs.

When you have create and save a bitmap with your favorite graphics program, Paintbrush for example, you will notice that the resulting file may be more than 300KB in size!   It doesn't take very many of these bitmaps to eat up a large quantity of hard disk space. By using GrabIt to capture only that portion of the screen that contains your bitmap you will get a file that is 30 to 40KB in size.

By cutting and pasting images to and from the clipboard you can easily create a drawing, capture it, create a mirror image , and then paste the mirror image back into your graphics program to create some very unusual special effects. The variations on this theme are limited only by your imagination. These examples show how much more than just s screen capture tool GrabIt really is.

GrabIt Procedures

Capturing An Entire Windows Screen

To capture an entire Windows screen follow these steps:
1.) Minimize Grabit by pressing the minimize button on the title bar.
2.) Press the Print Screen Button on your keyboard. This key is located at the top of your keyboard, next to the scroll lock key.
3.) Restore Grabit and Press the SHIFT + P   Keys to paste the image from the clipboard into GrabIt's client area. You can now Save The Image To Disk, Print The Image, or Edit and Clean Up The Captured Image.

Capturing A Screen Area

To capture a portion of the screen follow the steps outlined below:
1.) Click on the Mark menu selection or press Alt M.
2.) The GrabIt window will disappear and the cursor will change into a crosshair.
3). Move the cursor to the UPPER LEFT HAND CORNER of the screen you wish to capture.
4.) Press and hold down the LEFT mouse button.
5.) As you move the mouse you will see that the area you are marking will be changed to inverse video.
6.) When you have marked the area you wish to capture release the mouse button.
7.) The Image will now be displayed in the GrabIt Client Window.
The image attributes in pixel size will be displayed in the title bar . In addition it will show you whether it is an 8 plane 256 color, 4 plane 16 color, or a 2 plane Monochrome bitmap.

You have successfully captured your screen. See <u>Saving An Image Disk,</u>
<u>Cleaning Up A Captured Image,</u> or <u>Special Effects</u> for additional information on capturing an area of the screen.

Saving A Captured Image To Disk

Once you are satisfied with the image that has been captured you can save it to disk by selecting Save from the File menu, or press CTRL + S.

A dialog box will be displayed prompting you for the file name you want to use. Optionally you can enter a drive and path name in addition to the file name if you so desire. You can use the directory list box to change to the directory into which you wish to save the file instead of entering it manually.

Copying An Image To The Clipboard

When you capture a screen, a copy of the image is automatically copied to the clipboard. If you want to use this image in another graphics program, or insert it into a document such as a Pagemaker publication you can do so by simply switching to, or starting your application, and then pressing the SHIFT + INSERT keys.

To copy the image that is currently in GrabIt's client area to the clipboard, you can choose clipboard from the menu, and select Copy. Or press the SHIFT + C keys to copy the image. You can also load a bitmap from disk and then press SHIFT + C to copy it to the clipboard.

Pasting An Image From The Clipboard

To Paste an image from the clipboard into GrabIt's client area you can choose clipboard from the menu, and select Paste. Or press the SHIFT + P keys to paste the image. You can then Save The Bitmap to disk, or Print The Screen Or Bitmap.

Printing A Screen Or Bitmap

Laser Printers
With Grabit you can print a screen or portion of a screen immediately after you have captured it. In addition you can load from disk and print any Windows bitmap. GrabIt will render to shades of gray all of the colors it can to give you an accurate representation of your captured screen. This grey scale dithering applies to Postscript and PCL printers.

Image Scaling

GrabIt will size the image currently in its client area to the size of the current page defined in your printer setup. This means that very small bitmaps will be enlarged to 8 1/2 x 11" if that is the current page definition. This is done so that on full screen captures and images loaded from disk you will get a 1:1 aspect ratio printout. If you wish to print images in a smaller format, simply change your printer setup to reflect a smaller page size.

Dot Matrix Printers
GrabIt does not support Dot Matrix printers,due to ditherings poor performance on Dot Matrix Printers. If you wish to print a screen on your Dot Matrix printer follow the directions below.
1.) After you have captured a screen with GrabIt, a copy of the image has also been copied to the clipboard.
2.) Start your favorite graphics program or Paint Brush, and then press SHIFT + INSERT to copy your image into the program. You can now print the image you just captured on your Dot Matrix printer provided that your graphics program supports the printer you have installed.

Loading A Bitmap From Disk

To load a bitmap from disk select File from the main menu and choose Open, or press CTRL + O.
You can select a bitmap from the listbox, enter the drive and path to the bitmap you wish to load, or use the directory listbox to change to the directory where your bitmap is located and then select it from the listbox. To open the bitmap either select it from the listbox and click on Ok or press Enter. Alternately you can just double click on it to load the image.

Special Effects

GrabIt enables you to create special effects screen cuts that may be used in conjunction with your graphics program or saved as is.

Creating A Mirror Image
1.) Click on the Mark menu selection or press Alt M.
2.) The GrabIt window will disappear and the cursor will change into a crosshair.
3). Move the cursor to the UPPER RIGHT HAND CORNER of the screen area you wish to capture.
4.) Press and hold down the **LEFT** mouse button.
5.) As you move the mouse you will see that the area you are marking will be changed to inverse video.
6.) When you have marked the area you wish to capture release the mouse button.
7.) A mirror image of your capture will now be displayed in the GrabIt Client Window.

Creating An Inverted Image
1.) Follow the steps outlined above, except begin your mark in the LOWER LEFT HAND CORNER

Creating An Inverted Mirror Image
1.) Follow the steps outlined above, except begin your mark in the LOWER RIGHT HAND CORNER

You may want to refer to Capturing A Screen Area for additional details.

Registration Information

To register you copy of **Grabit,** please use the file called REGISTER.FRM that is supplied with the program.

If you wish, you can phone in your order using your Visa or Master Card Monday - Friday 8:00 am - 4:00 pm MST. The order phone number is 602-375-9502
The registration fee is $29.95

Any correspondence should be addressed to:
Moon Valley Software Inc.
107 East Paradise Lane
Phoenix, AZ   85022 USA

Technical Support

We will provide technical support to un-registered users on their first phone call only if you are calling with the intention of registering your copy of the program once your questions have been answered.

Please call us at 602-375-9502 Monday - Friday from 8:00 am - 4:00 pm Mountain Standard Time. Arizona does not go on daylight savings time. (Who wants it to stay light later when its 110 degrees outside!)

You can also call our BBS at 602-375-0531 12, 2400, and 9600 baud, N81 and leave us a message in the Moon Valley Shareware Forum. There is lots of other good Windows shareware on the BBS so feel free to browse around while your on-line.

Cleaning Up A Screen Capture

GrabIt allows you to re-cut an image that is in its client area. This is very useful if for example your original capture included an area you didn't intend to capture. To clean up and or edit a capture follow the steps below.

1.) Move the arrow cursor to the Upper Right Hand point where you wish to begin your edit.
2.) Press and hold down the left mouse button.
3.) The area you are marking will appear in inverse video.
4.) When finished with your edit, release the mouse button and your new image will be displayed in Grabit's client area. In addition a copy of the image will also be copied to the clipboard. You can also perform any of the <u>Special Effects</u> noted in that section on your edits as well.