

SuperBar Contents

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Getting Started

The SuperBar program is a Windows program for creating and editing user configurable tool bars called SuperBars. A SuperBar consists of a gray area containing several buttons, each assigned to an application menu command. A SuperBar can be added to any Windows application that is compatible with the SuperBar program.

The following steps demonstrate how to add a SuperBar to the Windows Program Manager.

- 1) Run the SuperBar program.
- 2) Select **Program Manager** from the Application list.
- 3) Select **SuperBar** from the **Application** menu to add a new SuperBar to the application.
- 4) Select **SuperBar** from the **Application** menu to add a blank SuperBar.
- 5) Select **Edit...** from the **Application** menu. The SuperBar Properties dialog will be displayed.
- 6) Select the **Show Bar** option to cause the SuperBar to be created every time the application is executed.
- 7) Click the **Layout...** button. The SuperBar Layout dialog will be displayed.
- 8) Select **File|Exit Windows...** from the Available Menu Commands list.
- 9) Click the **Add** button. The menu command will be placed in the Current SuperBar Layout list. A stop sign icon and 'Exit' caption will automatically be selected.
- 10) Click the **Ok** button. The SuperBar Layout dialog will close.
- 11) Click the **Ok** button. The SuperBar Properties dialog will close.
- 12) Select **Program Manager** from the application list.
- 13) Select **Switch** from the **Application** button. This will switch to the Windows Program Manager. The application will have a SuperBar along the top of the window with a single **Exit** button.

You can now use this button to exit Windows. To edit the SuperBar, double-click on the gray area to the right of the button to display the SuperBar Properties dialog. Click the **Help** button on this dialog for further information on editing the SuperBar.

Using the SuperBar Program

The SuperBar program main window consists of an application list and several action buttons. These options allow complete control over adding, removing and editing SuperBars.

Application List

The application list shows all Windows applications which are currently executing. You must run the desired application before it will be displayed in the application list and before you can add or modify its SuperBar. Each entry in the list contains the following two flags and the application name.

H indicates that the application is currently hidden.
S indicates that the application currently has an active SuperBar.

To edit the application's properties or SuperBar layout, select the application and use the **Edit** command of the **Application** menu.

Double-clicking on an application in the list can perform one of four actions. The actions include Switch, Edit, Close and Hide. Use the Preferences dialog box to set the desired double-click action.

Using a SuperBar on an Application

Once a SuperBar has been added to an application, using it is very straight forward.

Invoking a Menu Command

To invoke a menu command, simply click on the assigned button. After the button is clicked, the menu command will be sent to the application.

Editing a SuperBar

To edit a SuperBar directly from its application, double-click on the gray background of the SuperBar. This will open the SuperBar Properties dialog box to edit the SuperBar.

Running SuperBar when Windows Starts Up

The SuperBar program works best when it is loaded as part of Windows start up. To automatically load SuperBar, perform the following steps depending on which version of Windows is used.

Note: The following steps assume that Windows is located in the `C:\WINDOWS` directory and SuperBar is located in the `C:\SUPERBAR` directory. If they are located elsewhere, change the steps accordingly.

Windows 3.0

To automatically load SuperBar, the Windows `WIN.INI` file must be modified. The following steps show how to make this change.

- 1) Run the Windows Notepad editor and open the file `C:\WINDOWS\WIN.INI`
- 2) Near the top of the file will be the following line:

```
Load=
```

If other programs are being automatically loaded, the line may be similar to the following:

```
Load=C:\DIR\PRG.EXE
```

This line consists of a list of Windows applications to be loaded each time Windows is started. Each application in the list is separated by a **space**.

- 3) The SuperBar program must be added to the beginning of this line. Change this line to resemble the following:

```
Load=C:\SUPERBAR\SUPERBAR.EXE
```

or

```
Load=C:\SUPERBAR\SUPERBAR.EXE C:\DIR\PRG.EXE
```

- 4) Exit and restart Windows.

Windows 3.1

To automatically load SuperBar, perform the following steps:

- 1) Open the **StartUp** group in the Program Manager.
- 2) Select the **New...** command from the **File** menu.
- 3) Select **Program Item** and click the **Ok** button.
- 4) Enter **SuperBar** in the **Description** edit box and `c:\superbar\superbar.exe` in the **Command Line** edit box. Click the **Ok** button.

See the *Windows User's Guide* for more information on using the **StartUp** group.

All Versions

After completing these steps, the SuperBar program will automatically be loaded each time Windows is executed. The SuperBar program will appear as an icon near the bottom of the desktop (you may need to resize the Program Manager to see this icon). After the SuperBar program is loaded, any applications with the Show Bar option of the SuperBar Properties dialog box will display a SuperBar whenever they are executed.

File Menu

The File menu includes commands for setting SuperBar preferences, running the SuperBar Icon Manager and exiting SuperBar or Windows.

For more information, select one of the following menu commands.

| | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| <u>P</u> references... | Opens the <u>P</u> references dialog box. |
| <u>R</u> un Icon Manager... | Runs the SuperBar Icon Manager for creating user-defined icons. |
| <u>E</u> xit Windows... | Exits Windows. |
| <u>E</u> xit | Exits the SuperBar program. |

Application Menu

The Application menu includes commands that allow adding, editing and removing of SuperBars.

For more information, select one of the following menu commands.

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| <u>SuperBar</u> | Adds or removes a SuperBar from the selected <u>application</u> . |
| <u>Hide</u> | Hides or restores an application window. |
| <u>Switch to</u> | Switches to the selected application. |
| <u>Close</u> | Closes the selected application. |
| <u>Edit</u> | Edits the SuperBar of the selected application. |
| <u>Add all</u> | Adds a SuperBar to all applications. |
| <u>Remove all</u> | Removes SuperBars from all applications. |

Desktop Menu

The Desktop menu includes commands that affect all windows on the desktop.

For more information, select one of the following menu commands.

Cascade

Rearranges the windows so that they overlap with each title bar visible.

Tile

Rearranges the windows to smaller sizes to fit on the desktop without overlapping.

Arrange Icons

Rearranges all icons evenly across the bottom of the desktop.

Minimize All

Shrinks all windows to icons.

Initial Positions

Rearranges all windows to their initial positions as defined in the SuperBar Properties dialog.

Help Menu

The Help menu includes commands for accessing on-line help.

For more information, select one of the following menu commands.

Index

Displays the index to the on-line help.

About

Displays information on this version of SuperBar.

Preferences command (File menu)

This command opens the Preferences dialog box. It allows selection of different options for operating SuperBar. It includes options for hiding the SuperBar icon and displaying different information in the application list.

Run Icon Manager command (File menu)

This command runs the **SuperBar Icon Manager**. This program allow creating, editing and deleting user-defined icons. For further help on this program, select this menu command to execute it and press **F1** for complete on-line help.

Exit Windows command (File menu)

This command exits Windows. If the **Quick Exit Windows** option in the Preferences dialog box is selected, Windows will immediately terminate. If the option is not selected, a dialog box prompt will first be displayed.

Exit command (File menu)

This command terminates the SuperBar program. Any active SuperBars will be removed from currently executing application. Before exiting, close any SuperBar Properties or SuperBar Layout dialog boxes.

SuperBar command (Application menu)

This command adds or removes a SuperBar from the selected application. If no SuperBar has been previously defined, an empty SuperBar will be created. This menu option is only enabled for applications that have menus.

Hide command (Application menu)

This command hides or restores an application's window. A hidden application is an application which is running but is not displayed on the desktop. Hiding an application helps to free space on the desktop. Selecting this menu command a second time restore the application and displays it on the desktop again.

Switch To command (Application menu)

This command switches to the selected application.

Close command (Application menu)

This command closes an application. A close window command is sent to the application requesting the application to terminate. This command can be used to exit an application without needing to find it on the desktop.

Edit command (Application menu)

This command opens the SuperBar Properties dialog box to begin editing of the selected application's SuperBar.

Add All command (Application menu)

This command adds SuperBars to **all applications** which currently do not have a SuperBar. Any applications which do not have previously defined SuperBars will have empty SuperBars created.

Remove All command (Application menu)

This command removes SuperBars from all applications which currently have them.

Cascade command (Desktop menu)

This command rearranges all windows on the desktop so that they overlap with each title bar visible.

Tile command (Desktop menu)

This command rearranges all windows on the desktop to smaller sizes to fit on the desktop without overlapping.

Arrange Icons command (Desktop menu)

This command rearranges all icons evenly across the bottom of the desktop. Only windows shrunk to icons are affected.

Minimize All command (Desktop menu)

This command shrinks all windows to icons. Only windows with Minimize buttons are affected.

Initial Positions (Desktop menu)

This command rearranges all windows to their initial positions on the desktop as defined in the SuperBar Properties dialog box. Only windows with the **Position** option checked are affected.

Contents command (Help menu)

This command displays the index of the SuperBar on-line help. From the index, you can jump to information on General Topics, Menu Commands or Defined Terms.

About SuperBar command (Help menu)

This command displays the About dialog box.

About Dialog

This dialog box displays information on this version of SuperBar. It displays the version number of the program. In addition, if the program is registered, a customer number will be displayed.

Dialog Options

Register

Opens the Register dialog box. for entering the Registration Code.

Ok

Closes the dialog box.

Register Dialog

This dialog box is used to enter the Registration Code. When the program is registered, the About SuperBar dialog box will no longer be displayed when the program is executed.

Dialog Options

Registration Code

Enter the Registration Code in this box.

Ok

Validates the Registration Code. If the code is valid, the dialog box will close and a Customer Number will be displayed on the About dialog box. A message will be displayed if the code is invalid. Close the message box to enter the Registration Code again.

Cancel

Close the dialog box. The SuperBar program will remain unregistered.

SuperBar Properties Dialog

This dialog box is used to set the properties of a SuperBar. It allows setting the contents, style, location and options of the SuperBar.

Dialog Box Options

Style

Selects one of three button styles. They include Icon Only, Caption Only and Icon with Caption. The caption styles can be used to become familiar with the icons.

Bar Location

Selects the location of the SuperBar. The SuperBar can be located along the Top, Bottom, Left or Right edge of the application's window.

Options

| | |
|----------|---|
| Show Bar | This option causes a SuperBar to appear on the selected <u>application</u> whenever it is executed. See also <u>Running SuperBar when Windows Starts Up</u> . |
| Position | This option causes the selected application to always be executed at the same location on the desktop. See Window Initial Position below for instructions on setting the initial position. |

Window Initial Position

| | |
|--------|---|
| Normal | Execute the application where it was located the last time the Current Pos button was clicked. |
| Max | Execute the application maximized (full screen). |
| Icon | Execute the application as an icon. |
| Hidden | Execute the application as a hidden window. The program will run but will not occupy any desktop space. |

Ok

Save all changes and close the dialog box.

Layout...

Edits the SuperBar Clicking this button opens the SuperBar Layout dialog box.

Help

Displays this help information.

SuperBar Layout Dialog

This dialog is used to edit the layout of a SuperBar. It allows setting the menu command, icon and caption for each button.

Dialog Box Options

Available Menu Commands

Lists all menu commands available to the application. It only lists the menu commands **currently** assigned to the menu. Many applications frequently change the layout of the menu. To select a menu command it must be available on the menu **before** opening this dialog box. The list also consists of the following special purpose buttons:

- <Space> A blank space the size of a button. This can be used to group related buttons together on the SuperBar.
- <HalfSpace> A blank space half the size of a button.
- <Wrap> Forces the next button to occur be placed in a new row/column.
- <System> Commands beginning with <System> represent menu commands from the System menu.

Current SuperBar Layout

Lists the menu commands currently attached to buttons on the SuperBar. Select an entry from this list to allow editing, inserting or removing buttons on the SuperBar. The list only contains the names of menu commands **currently** assigned to the menu. If a button is assigned to a menu command not currently available, it will be displayed in the form: **[Unknown - ###]** where ### is a unique identifier assigned to each menu command.

Icon

Selects the icon to be displayed on the button. Several general and special purpose icons are available. Large character icons are also available if a predefined icon cannot be found.

Caption

Selects the caption to be displayed on the button. The caption must fit in this box to fit on the button.

Add

Adds the selected menu command to the end of the SuperBar.

Insert

Inserts the selected menu command **before** the selected SuperBar button.

Change

Changes the selected SuperBar button to the selected menu command.

Remove

Removes the selected SuperBar button.

Ok

Accepts all changes and closes the dialog box.

Help

Displays this help information.

Preferences Dialog

This dialog box is used to select options for the SuperBar program. It includes several options for customizing the SuperBar program.

Dialog Box Options

Hide Icon

| | |
|------------------|-----------------------------|
| Never | Never hide icon. |
| After 10 Seconds | Hide icon after 10 seconds. |
| Always | Always hide icon. |

Options

View File Names Show executable (.EXE) file name and window class name in the application list. This information forms the unique identification used to distinguish different application windows.

Quick Exit Windows If this option is selected, the **Exit Windows...** command from the **File** menu will immediately exit Windows without any prompting.

Cache

Size Defines the size of the SuperBar button cache. To improve drawing SuperBars, the images of recently used button icons are stored in memory. This option sets the number of icons to store. The value following this entry indicates the size of the cache in kilobytes. The **Hit** and **Miss** values indicate the number of icons read from memory and read from disk respectively. These counts are reset whenever the cache size is changed. If Windows is running low on memory, this value can be lowered. If the **Miss** count is large, this value can be raised to improve SuperBar drawing speed.

Double Click

| | |
|--------|--|
| Switch | Switches to the selected application when double clicking on the Application List . |
| Edit | Opens the <u>SuperBar Properties</u> dialog box for the selected application when double clicking on the Application List . |
| Close | Terminates the selected application when double clicking on the Application List . |
| Hide | Hides the selected application when double clicking on the Application List . |

Ok

Accepts all changes and closes the dialog box.

Cancel

Ignores all changes and closes the dialog box.

Help

Displays this help information.

New Version Dialog

This dialog box is automatically displayed the first time SuperBar version 1.1 or higher is executed if a version 1.0 initialization file is found. It explains how to update from version 1.0 to the new version.

This update procedure is necessary because the version 1.0 initialization file has some incompatibilities which cannot be updated until each application is executed.

Dialog Box Options

Ok

Closes the dialog box.

Help

Displays this help information.

Update Dialog

This dialog box is automatically displayed the first time a SuperBar is edited under version 1.1 or higher if a version 1.0 layout is found. It presents the options for updating the version 1.0 layout to the new format.

Dialog Box Options

Update

Converts the version 1.0 layout to the new format and closes the dialog box.

Delete

Deletes the version 1.0 layout, creates an empty layout and closes the dialog box.

Help

Displays this help information.

Exit Windows Dialog Box

This dialog box is displayed whenever the Exit Windows command is selected and the **Quick Exit Windows** option is not selected in the Preferences dialog box.

Dialog Box Options

Ok

Exits Windows.

Cancel

Closes dialog box and returns to Windows.

Definitions

-A-

application

-B-

button

-C-

caption

-D-

desktop

-I-

icon

-M-

menu command

-R-

Registration Code

-S-

SuperBar

Menu Command

The term *menu command* refers to any item of an application's menu that sends a command to the application. Any menu command can be assigned to a button.

Registration Code

The term *Registration Code* refers to the code which will be sent to registered users after sending in the registration fee. The code must be typed into the Registration dialog box. The code can be typed in either upper or lower case. Refer to the About dialog box or the other documentation included with this program for information on registering this program.

Application

The term *application* refers to a Microsoft Windows application which is compatible with SuperBar. To be compatible with SuperBar, the application must have a standard Windows Menu Bar.

Button

The term *button* refers to a single button on a SuperBar. Each SuperBar can contain up to 50 buttons. Each button corresponds to an application's menu command. Clicking on a button sends the corresponding menu command to the application.

Caption

The term *caption* refers to the caption text displayed on a button. The caption is user configurable. The caption is only displayed on certain button styles.

Desktop

The term *desktop* refers to the screen background for Windows. Each Windows application executes in a window on top of the desktop.

Icon

The term *icon* refers to the graphical picture displayed on a button. The icon is selected from a list of predefined graphic and character icons. The icon is only displayed on certain button styles.

SuperBar

The term *SuperBar* refers either to the SuperBar program itself, or the actual bar located on the application. A SuperBar is a gray bar containing several buttons, each assigned to an application menu command. Clicking on a button invokes the corresponding command. Double-clicking on the gray background of the bar allows editing of the SuperBar.