

WebWhacker

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WebWhacker is the newest addition to ForeFront's family of Internet products. It is a tool designed to reduce the user's dependency on an Internet connection. WebWhacker downloads ("whacks") single Web pages, groups of pages, or entire Web sites, including text (HTML) and images, and stores them on the local desktop. The downloaded pages and images are relinked locally for later browsing without an Internet connection - right from the local desktop!

"Whacked" information can be viewed and navigated locally with any World Wide Web browser and is a mirror image of the same information on the World Wide Web.

Getting Started

Using WebWhacker is easy. Simply create a new WebWhacker group or open an existing group, add a URL, set the number of levels to be whacked (optional), and start whacking! The progress bar lets you monitor WebWhacker activity and after whacking is completed, use any World Wide Web browser to view the local pages off-line.

For additional information and help on using WebWhacker:

*** WebWhacker Tips**

You can review the included WebWhacker Tips file, for a summary of the major features.

*** WebWhacker Help Guide**

From WebWhacker, you can access the extensive WebWhacker Help Guide by selecting Contents from the Help menu.

System Requirements for Windows 3.1

- * Windows 3.1 running in Enhanced Mode.
- * 4 MB RAM. Additional memory will make WebWhacker run faster.
- * 10 MB disk space or more. Since WebWhacker stores HTML files and images from the Web, the disk space required is determined by the number and size of the images and files you Whack.
- * Active connection to the Internet with a Winsock-compliant network product.
- * Any Web browser that supports the SpyGlass SDI standard (includes Internet Explorer, Netscape Navigator and Enhanced Mosaic 2.0) can be used to view local files from WebWhacker. These browsers also enable retrieval of current page information when "grabbing" URLs to Whack. Since WebWhacker makes independent network connections to desired pages (sites), a Web browser is not necessary for WebWhacker "whacking", but is only needed for viewing the resulting groups of local files.

WebWhacker V1.0 Features:

- * Whack Levels

- * Group Properties
- * Download Error Reporting
- * Welcome Screen
- * Quick Start Steps
- * Sample Group
- * Sort Group by Label, URL, As Added

Evaluation software

The evaluation copy of WebWhacker available for download from ForeFront's Web site expires 30 days from installation. WebWhacker Groups more than 30 days old cannot be accessed with the evaluation software. The evaluation software also stamps all downloaded pages with a header and footer notifying the user that an evaluation copy of the product is being used. Permanent purchased copies of WebWhacker will not stamp downloaded pages with the evaluation header and footer

FYI

Normal limitations of the World Wide Web apply to Whacking pages. WebWhacker, like your Web browser, will occasionally be unable to obtain a page from its site. This is can be due to the server being down, the server being too busy, the URL is no longer valid, etc. WebWhacker reports download error information through the Properties dialog (see Quick Tips).

Current Limitations

- * Image maps, or images that contain "hot spots" to link to several other pages, are not supported. This restriction does not apply to (in-line) images which link to a specific Web page. The image itself will be downloaded and viewable, but the links it contained on the Web will not be active. These links are dynamically passed from a program on the server.
- * Some servers return an HTML document and an OK status when an invalid URL is presented to the server. For instance, if a document references an image that does not exist, the server sends an HTML document with information instead of the image. WebWhacker cannot tell the difference and currently assumes that the image was downloaded properly. This could cause problems when displaying the document that references the image.
- * Only HTTP protocol is supported (no ftp, gopher, nntp, news, mail, etc.)
- * HTTP protocol POST method is not supported.
- * No Authentication support. Cannot whack sites that require a user name and password.

Upgrading from previous versions

If you would like to use WebWhacker with existing "whacked" data, you may do so. Simply install WebWhacker into any directory and navigate to the location of an existing Group using the Open Group dialog. Note that the evaluation copy of WebWhacker expires 30 days from installation and will be unable to open Groups greater than 30 days

old.

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