

Windows 95 Registry

Tricks, Secrets, Tweaks, Hacks, Speedups, Workarounds, Fixes...

Intro

The Windows 95 Registry is a unified database for storing the system and application configuration data in a hierarchical form. Its role is to replace the .INI files used by older Windows 3.xx versions. All data from the system initialization files: SYSTEM.INI, WIN.INI, CONTROL.INI etc., is now contained into the Registry, together with most of the other system settings. All Windows 95 specific programs (32bit applications) now store their initialization data into the Registry instead of into .INI files. The actual Registry files are: SYSTEM.DAT and USER.DAT (and their automatically created backups from the last successful Windows 95 startup: SYSTEM.DA0 and USER.DA0), located in the Windows 95 folder (default is C:\Windows). For write-protection purposes, all these 4 files have the following attributes: hidden, read-only and system.

Registry Tree Structure

When you run the Registry Editor (Regedit.exe) located in your Windows folder), you'll see the following Registry expandable subtrees, each marked with a plus (+) sign, under the "My Computer" heading:

- MY COMPUTER

```
|
|+ HKEY_CLASSES_ROOT: Contains software settings about drag-and-drop
|
|   operations, handles shortcut information, and other user interface
|   information. There is a subkey here for every file association that
|   has been defined.
|
|+ HKEY_CURRENT_USER: Contains information regarding the currently
|
|   logged-on user (see also HKEY_USERS below). Subkeys:
|
|   +-+ AppEvents: Settings for assigned sounds to play for system and
|   applications sound events.
|
|   +-+ Control Panel: Control Panel settings, similar to those defined
|   in System.ini, Win.ini and Control.ini in Windows 3.xx.
|
|   +-+ InstallLocationsMRU: Contains the paths for the Startup folder
|   programs.
|
|   +-+ Keyboard layout: Specifies current keyboard layout.
|
|   +-+ Network: Network connection information.
|
|   +-+ RemoteAccess: Current log-on location information, if using
|   Dial-Up Networking.
|
|   *+-+ Software: Software configuration settings for the currently
|   logged-on user.
|
|+ HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE: Contains information about the hardware and
|
|   software settings that are generic to all users of this particular
|   computer. Subkeys:
|
```

```

|      |--+ Config: Configuration information/settings.
|      |--+ Enum: Hardware device information/settings.
|      |--+ Hardware: Serial communication port(s) information/settings.
|      |--+ Network: Information about network(s) the user is currently logged
|              on to.
|      |--+ Security: Network security settings.
|      |--+ Software: Software specific information/settings.
|      *--+ System: System startup and device driver information and operating
|              system settings.
|
|--+ HKEY_USERS: Contains information about desktop and user settings for
|
|   each user that logs onto the same Windows 95 system. Each user will
|   have a subkey under this heading. If there is only one user, the subkey
|   is ".default".
|
|--+ HKEY_CURRENT_CONFIG: Contains information about the current hardware | configuration, pointing to
HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE.
|
*--+ HKEY_DYN_DATA: Contains dynamic information about the plug-and-play
|
|   devices installed on the system. The data here changes if devices are added or removed on-the-fly.

```

Registry Editing Rules

To modify the Registry, you need to run the Registry Editor, a program called Regedit.exe, located in your Windows 95 folder (default is C:\Windows). If you are not familiar/comfortable with “messing around” with your Win95 Registry file structure/settings, do NOT attempt to make ANY changes!

WARNING: FIRST BACKUP YOUR ENTIRE SYSTEM TO A SAFE LOCATION BEFORE ATTEMPTING TO MAKE ANY CHANGES !!!

BEWARE: When you add/delete/modify a Registry item/value/key/string/dword

by running Regedit, YOU WILL NOT BE PROMPTED FOR CONFIRMATION UPON SAVING CHANGES OR BEFORE CLOSING THE REGISTRY EDITOR!

To learn more about how to modify/add/delete any items/values/keys/strings into the Win95 Registry, run Regedit.exe, and click on Help. Read carefully all related topics!

To learn more about Win95’s Registry Structure, double-click on WIN95RK.HLP found on your Win95 install CD-ROM, in the \ADMIN\RESKIT\HELPPFILE folder, and READ CAREFULLY ALL the REGISTRY related TOPICS (especially about the Registry Hierarchy)!

NOTICE: These tips have been tried by Win95 users (and most by me), but with no guarantee they will also work on your system! So take EXTREME CAUTION when MODIFYING ANY Registry settings! Faulty Registry entries may result in Windows 95 system crashes, lockups, data loss, or it might even lead to YOU having to REINSTALL Windows 95 from scratch!

ALWAYS HAVE YOUR MOST RECENT BACKUP READY!

In the following Registry editing tips, the pathways (in the Registry Editor left-hand pane screen) point to a specific item, key, string, binary value or dword, located in the right-hand pane, into the Registry tree structure, with explanations of what they do, and how/why you may want to modify them to customize/speedup/fix your Windows 95

System. As far as I'm aware, this is the most comprehensive online database of Win95 Registry tricks. I'll keep adding more, mainly thanks to all of you who were so kind to send me your own Registry tricks, addons, corrections, etc. Proper credit is given to all authors and contributors. If you have any Registry tips/hacks of your own, I'd be glad to add them to this database, if you'd like to send them to me (and I'll post your name or email address as author/contributor). Also, if you have any comments, ideas, questions, please "wire" me a line at:

AXCEL216@aol.com

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DELETE DESKTOP ICONS

Have you ever wanted to delete some of those annoying icons (you never use anyway) from your Desktop? If your answer is yes, read on...

There are two ways of doing this:

1. The more complicated (but elegant) procedure is to install the System Policy Editor, and delete/disable the unwanted items. 2. The easy way is to make a few Registry changes (which you should BACKUP FIRST!). Run Regedit, and go to:

HKEY_CURRENT_USER\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Policies\Explorer In the following example I'll use the "Network Neighborhood" icon:

With the above key highlighted, right click anywhere in the Registry field, select New, and click DWORD, to create a new entry. Name it "NoNetHood" (don't type the quotes). When you set its value to 1 and then reboot, the Network Neighborhood desktop icon will be gone! To reinstate this icon on your desktop, change its value to 0.

And the beauty of this trick is that you can apply it to ALL your Desktop system icons.

To make changes to any other "hardwired" (read "unwanted") icon, go to:

HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\explorer\Desktop\NameSpace\{xxxxx-xxx-xxxx-xxxx-xxxxxxxxxxxx}

Within this key, each system icon has its own CLSID key (Class ID), a 16 byte value which identifies an individual object) that points to a corresponding key in the Registry:

HKEY_CLASSES_ROOT\CLSID\{xxxxxxxx-xxxx-xxxx-xxxx-xxxxxxxxxxxx} To delete an icon, remove the 16 byte CLSID value within "NameSpace".

To change an icon name, change the value of its "sister" CLSID key:

HKEY_CLASSES_ROOT\CLSID\{xxxxxxxx-xxxx-xxxx-xxxx-xxxxxxxxxxxx}\DefaultIcon Therefore, the "Network Neighborhood" correspondent keys would be:

HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\explorer\Desktop\NameSpace\{208D2C60-3AEA-1069-A2D7-08002B30309D}

and respectively:HKEY_CLASSES_ROOT\CLSID\{208D2C60-3AEA-1069-A2D7-08002B30309D}

Here are the "CLSID" keys for all Windows 95 system icons:

- Briefcase {85BBD920-42A0-1069-A2E4-08002B30309D}
- Desktop {00021400-0000-0000-C000-000000000046}
- Control Panel {21EC2020-3AEA-1069-A2DD-08002B30309D}
- Dial-Up Networking {992CFFA0-F557-101A-88EC-00DD010CCC48}
- Fonts {BD84B380-8CA2-1069-AB1D-08000948F534}
- Inbox {00020D76-0000-0000-C000-000000000046}
- The Internet {FBF23B42-E3F0-101B-8488-00AA003E56F8}
- My Computer {20D04FE0-3AEA-1069-A2D8-08002B30309D}
- Network Neighborhood {208D2C60-3AEA-1069-A2D7-08002B30309D}
- Printers {2227A280-3AEA-1069-A2DE-08002B30309D}
- Recycle Bin {645FF040-5081-101B-9F08-00AA002F954E}
- The Microsoft Network {00028B00-0000-0000-C000-000000000046}
- Url History Folder {FF393560-C2A7-11CF-BFF4-444553540000} You can use the method above for any system icon you want to modify/delete. Go to the CLSID key you want to modify and change its "DefaultIcon" subkey. Recycle Bin makes an exception, its "Default" value lists the full pathname of the file that contains the corresponding icon. Recycle Bin has three entries under "DefaultIcon": Default, Empty and Full, each represented by a different icon for the: default, empty and full Recycle Bin respectively. I know my "nightmare" is to see that pesky "Recycle Bin" icon on my desktop every day. Just go to its "NameSpace" key:

HKLM\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\explorer\Desktop\NameSpace\{645FF040-5081-101B-9F08-00AA002F954E}

and delete it. From now on when you start Win95, bye-bye Recycle Bin! You can also rename the Recycle Bin's "NameSpace" key, by scrolling to the corresponding CLSID key:

HKEY_CLASSES_ROOT\CLSID\{645FF040-5081-101B-9F08-00AA002F954E}\DefaultIcon and modifying its "default" value.

You can always create new versions of the icons listed above, which will have the Move, Copy and Delete properties enabled.

The Control Panel icon for example, is represented by this CLSID key:

HKEY_CLASSES_ROOT\CLSID\{21EC2020-3AEA-1069-A2DD-08002B30309D}

To create a new icon called, let's say "Control Center", delete the key below:

HKLM\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\explorer\Desktop\NameSpace\{21EC2020-3AEA-1069-A2DD-08002B30309D}

and then create a new folder called:Control Center.{21EC2020-3AEA-1069-A2DD-08002B30309D}

A folder with this extension file retains the properties of the original Control Panel, but it can also be deleted or moved.

To change the "My Computer" icon, go to:

HKEY_CLASSES_ROOT\CLSID\{20D04FE0-3AEA-1069-A2D8-08002B30309D}\DefaultIcon and change its icon file name in the "default" entry.

NOTICE: You can also use TweakUI v1.1 (64 KB), part of the famous, unsupported Microsoft Power Toys set, to eliminate the Win95 system icons of your choice from your desktop (and much more), available for free at:

<http://www.microsoft.com/windows/download/tweakui.exe> MS Power Toys set(204 KB)

web page: <http://www.microsoft.com/windows95/info/powertoys.htm>

... But that is taking the fun out of messing with the Registry :-)

NEW TCP/IP SETTINGS

This trick applies to the Windows 95 users who log on to the Internet using the TCP/IP protocol, a modem and an ISP (Internet Service Provider). You can add new TCP/IP parameters to the Property sheet. When you start Control Panel, double-click on Network, and then open "TCP/IP -> Dial-Up Adapter", you'll see the Advanced tab. Normally there is not much you can tweak here. Maybe the "Use IPX header compression" and/or "Record to a log file" settings.

But you can add a couple of extra parameters to the TCP/IP Advanced tab, by merging NEWTCP.REG into the Registry (a Registration file included in this archive), to increase your Internet connection performance. **BACKUP YOUR REGISTRY FILES BEFORE MAKING ANY CHANGES!**

DO NOT MERGE NEWTCP.REG INTO THE REGISTRY THE WAY IT IS!

YOU NEED TO MODIFY IT FIRST!

To do this properly, follow these steps EXACTLY:

1. Open Regedit to find where your TCP/IP resides under the following key:

HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\System\CurrentControlSet\Services\Class\NetTrans There you will find one or more four-digit subkey(s). Example: 0000, 0001, 0002, 0003... etc.

2. Open NEWTCP.REG in Notepad and change ALL 000# occurrences found in NEWTCP.REG to match ALL your "NetTrans" subkey(s), and ADD new lines if you have more than one of each! Example of NEWTCP.REG original line that you NEED TO MODIFY:

```
[HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\System\CurrentControlSet\Services\Class\NetTrans\000#\Ndi\params\
DefaultRcvWindow]
```

"location"="System\\CurrentControlSet\\Services\\Vxd\\MSTCP" Example of new (MODIFIED) lines:

[HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\System\CurrentControlSet\Services\Class\NetTrans\0000\Ndi\params\
DefaultRcvWindow]

“location”=”System\\CurrentControlSet\\Services\\Vxd\\MSTCP”

[HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\System\CurrentControlSet\Services\Class\NetTrans\0001\Ndi\params\
DefaultRcvWindow]

“location”=”System\\CurrentControlSet\\Services\\Vxd\\MSTCP”

[HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\System\CurrentControlSet\Services\Class\NetTrans\0002\Ndi\params\
DefaultRcvWindow]

“location”=”System\\CurrentControlSet\\Services\\Vxd\\MSTCP” ... etc. You get the idea.

3. Now merge (register) NEWTCP.REG into the Registry:

I. Run this command:REGEDIT NEWTCP.REG

or:

II. Double-click on NEWTCP.REG in Explorer or in File Manager. 4. Two new parameters are now available in the
“TCP/IP -> Dial-Up Adapter” Advanced tab:

- “Default Receive Window” = recommended values: 2144 or 4288; and
- “Maximum Connection Retries” = recommended values: 2 - 8.

NOTICE: The “Default Receive Window” TCP/IP parameter is also discussed in

the “HOW FAST CAN YOU GO? - Part 1” topic below. The “Maximum Connection Retries” TCP/IP parameter is
also discussed in the “HOW FAST CAN YOU GO? - Parts 2 and 3” topics, also present in this text file, further
below.

Happy tweaking!

ACTIVE CORNERS

There is a Registry trick that allows you to activate and/or deactivate your screen saver by placing your mouse in
different screen (desktop) corners (hot spots).

Run Regedit and go to:

HKEY_CURRENT_USER\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Screen Savers Under Screen Savers, add a
new string value and name it Mouse Corners. Edit this new value to show “-Y-N” (no quotes).

Close Regedit and restart Win95.

From now on when you position your mouse cursor in the upper right hand corner of your screen, the screen saver will
immediately activate. Likewise, if you position the mouse in the lower left hand corner of your screen, the screen saver
will not activate, even after it has been inactive for longer than the time specified.

This trick is useful to keep your screen saver from activating when you’re in the middle of a task that cannot be
interrupted, like defragmenting your hard disk(s).

WALLPAPER POSITION

In Windows 95 with the MS Plus! Pack installed you have the following options for displaying a background
wallpaper: “Tiled” or “Centered” and “Stretch to fit the desktop” (this last one is available only to Plus! Pack users).
By editing the Registry you can add a third option - to position the wallpaper anywhere on your screen by specifying
values for the X and Y coordinates.

Open Regedit and go to:

HKEY_CURRENT_USER/Control Panel/Desktop

Create two new Strings and call them "WallpaperOriginX" and respectively "WallpaperOriginY" (don't type the quotes). Give these subkeys the desired values to position your bitmap off the center on your desktop.

NOTE: The repositioned wallpaper must be smaller than your desktop size (duh...).

SAVE SETTINGS

This one is really annoying. Whenever I open an Explorer or Control Panel window a second time (or again after a while), it doesn't have the same "look" as it used to, especially if I initially customized that particular window (enabled the Toolbar, display items as a plain List or with full Details, moved or/and resized that window, etc). But there is a(nother) way to have your Explorer/Control Panel window keep its settings for good.

Start Regedit and go to:

HKEY_CURRENT_USER\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Policies\Explorer In the right hand pane you'll find the "NoSaveSettings" key. No matter what value is given to this Registry key, the desktop/Explorer/Control Panel settings will still be modified by Windows 95 again after opening 29 of those windows (that's the max number of window settings "stored" in Windows 95's Registry "memory").

Now go ahead and delete this key. Close the Registry editor and press F5 after clicking your mouse somewhere on the desktop, to refresh it. From now on all your window "looks" will stay the way you told them to. BTW: Have you made a backup copy of your Registry beforehand? I was hoping you'd answer yes to this one. For your own sake.

DEFAULT BROWSER

You can have a browser other than MS Internet Explorer (default) launch when you double-click The Internet icon on your Win95 Desktop. May it be Netscape Navigator, Communicator or whatever your favorite browser would be, this can be done by editing the Registry.

Start Regedit and go to:

HKEY_CLASSES_ROOT\CLSID\{FBF23B42-E3F0-101B-8488-00AA003E56F8}\Shell\Open\Command

Double-click the Default key in the right-hand pane, and change the value line that points to Internet Explorer to let's say Netscape Communicator default path and filename (modify it to match the location of your browser executable is different on your system):

C:\Progra~1\Netscape\Program\Netscape.exe

Click Ok when ready, close Regedit and press F5 to refresh the Registry. Just in case you want to revert back to your default Win95 startup browser (Internet Explorer), keep a backup copy of your Registry files, or write down IE's path.

Voila.

NEW START ITEMS

To add new items when you right-click on the Start Button, launch Regedit and go to:

HKEY_CLASSES_ROOT\Directory\Shell

Right-click on Shell and select New/Key. Type in the name of the program you'd like to see listed under Start Menu, and press Enter. In the Default name that shows in the right hand panel, you can add an "&" character to the title (don't type the quotes), in front of the first letter of your shortcut, to use that letter on the keyboard as the shortcut key to open your new Start Menu item.

Right-click on the Registry key you just created and create another key under it called command. For the command value enter the full path and program executable you want. Now when you'll right click on the Start Button, a new program will show up. No need to reboot.

Example: If you'd like to add ScanDisk to the Start menu you need to add its name as the first key. The default in the right hand panel would be &ScanDisk, so when you'll right click on the Start Button, the letter S would be underlined and you could just press it to run your program from now on.

The appropriate ScanDisk command would be:

C:\WINDOWS\SCANDSKW.EXE

NOTICE: You have to assign DIFFERENT letters as hot keys to your shortcuts

listed in the same folder! Duplicates are not allowed.

IE FONT FANCY

To change the default font in Win95 Internet Explorer to any font installed on your system, launch Regedit and go to:

HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\Software\Microsoft\InternetExplorer\Styles All possible combinations are listed there. You need to highlight the "Style Name" key on the left hand pane, followed by its value on the right hand pane. Double click on the Style Name and change its font, font size and/or font weight. Repeat this operation for all the fonts available for the style you'd like to customize. There are 13 settings all together you can modify.

When you're done, you need to change another Registry key in:

HKEY_CURRENT_USER\Software\Microsoft\InternetExplorer\Styles Modify the Default_Style_Sheet to be identical with the one you just edited! Now close the Registry Editor and restart Internet Explorer to see if you like your new font/style/weight.

PASSWORD CACHE... NOT!

When you're logging on to a WinNT Domain, it is preferable to disable password caching. This allows for the single NT Domain login and eliminates the secondary Windows logon screen. It also eliminates the possibility of the respective passwords to get out of sync.

To disable password caching on the workstation, a one-line addition to the Registry needs to be made (this trick is also valid for machines running the Workstation version of WinNT 4.0).

First, create an ASCII text file called DISABLE.REG with the following lines (use a plain text editor like Notepad):

REGEDIT4

[HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Policies\Network]

"DisablePwdCaching"=dword:00000001

Save the file. Then open Explorer or File Manager, highlight and double click on DISABLE.REG.

If you need to reenale password caching, create another plain text file called REENABLE.REG, with the following lines:

REGEDIT4

[HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Policies\Network]

"DisablePwdCaching"=dword:00000000

Save it. Then run Explorer or File Manager and double-click on REENABLE.REG to revert back to caching your password when logging into an NT domain (default).

TRASH THE BIN

The Recycle Bin can be deleted or renamed from its own Context Menu, but you have to disable its read-only, system attributes.

To do this, run the Registry Editor and go to:

HKEY_CLASSES_ROOT\CLSID\{645FF040-5081-101B-9F08-00AA002F954E}\ShellFolder In the right-hand pane, double-click on Attributes and change the value from:

“40 01 00 20”

to read:

“70 01 00 20”.

Do not type the quotes.

HOW FAST CAN YOU GO? - Part 3 [UPDATED 7/30/97]

I just received the email message quoted below, from this concerned Win95 user, who kindly took the time to further tweak MAXSPEED.REG and DEFSPEED.REG (new files are included here), to make them more compatible with most of the Win95 systems out there.

Many thanks Herman for your great work (no need to apologize, your English is very good)!

For details, please contact the author at:

hermanw@pro.via-rs.com.br

===== *

Hello,

First of all, I apologize for my English. I'm Brazilian & I'm not used to write in English.

I enjoyed (& enjoy) your great, very great work. It's a luck to meet such source of knowledge & to have the opportunity to apply it directly & almost instantly.

I tried Maxspeed.reg & it did not work. So, I searched the cause of the malfunctioning & succeeded by changing the file, which is attached to this message. I also changed Defspeed.reg (but I didn't try it), in the same direction as the changes in Maxspeed.reg.

The nature of the changes:

- 1) To place the keyword REGEDIT4 at the beginning of the file;
- 2) Instead of “...System\Current\CurrentControlSet\Services...”, I changed to “...System\CurrentControlSet\Services...”.

It's worth studying the difference in the Registry in different places. My version of Win95 is the Brazilian version.

It's good to know there are differences, to help people to cope with the problem, when the tip doesn't work.

I'm glad to cooperate with a little piece to this vast mosaic.

After the changes in Maxspeed.reg it seemed to me the result was positive.

Thank you for your commitment to this activity.

Sincerely,

Herman Weksler

hermanw@pro.via-rs.com.br

REGEDIT4

; DEFSPEED.REG from W95-11D.ZIP

; Changed: 7/11/1997

[HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\System\CurrentControlSet\Services\VxD\NETBEUI]

“ncbs”=“12”

“sessions”=“10”

[HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\System\CurrentControlSet\Services\VxD\NETBEUI\Ndi\params\ncbs]

“default”=”12”
“max”=”255”
“min”=”7”

[HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\System\CurrentControlSet\Services\VxD\NETBEUI\Ndi\params\sessions]

“default”=”10”
“max”=”117”
“min”=”3”

[HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\System\CurrentControlSet\Services\VxD\NWLink\Ndi\params\maxconnect]

“max”=”128”
“min”=”1”

[HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\System\CurrentControlSet\Services\VxD\NWLink\Ndi\params\maxsockets]

“max”=”255”
“min”=”2”

REGEDIT4

; MAXSPEED.REG from W95-11D.ZIP
; Changed: 7/11/1997

HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\System\CurrentControlSet\Services\VxD\NETBEUI

“ncbs”=”16”
“sessions”=”10”

HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\System\CurrentControlSet\Services\VxD\NETBEUI\Ndi\params\ncbs

“default”=”16”
“max”=”255”
“min”=”8”

HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\System\CurrentControlSet\Services\VxD\NETBEUI\Ndi\params\sessions

“default”=”16”
“max”=”117”
“min”=”4”

HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\System\CurrentControlSet\Services\VxD\NWLink\Ndi\params\maxconnect

“max”=”128”
“min”=”2”

HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\System\CurrentControlSet\Services\VxD\NWLink\Ndi\params\maxsockets

“max”=”1020”
“min”=”8”

=====
===== *

NOTE: I have modified MAXSPEED.REG and DEFSPEED.REG (included with these files) to include the above Registry keys settings, courtesy of:

hermanw@pro.via-rs.com.br

WARNING: BACKUP YOUR WIN95 SYSTEM FILES BEFORE MAKING ANY CHANGES TO THE REGISTRY!

HOW FAST CAN YOU GO? - Part 2 (My own trick) [UPDATED 7/30/97]

I was only tinkering (... yeah, yeah) with the Win95 Registry (using good ol' RegEdit), when I stumbled into a few Registry keys/strings, and I thought it might improve my PPP slip protocol (Win95 TCP/IP internet modem) connection, by modifying them. Even if I have a 33.6 kbps modem, I still have to wait a long time to access some web sites (especially those loaded with huge graphics/GIFs/JPGs), or to download huge files from the Internet. Here are the Registry keys I'm talking about (modified to improve my modem Internet access speed):

```
HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\System\CurrentControlSet\Services\VxD\NETBEUI
```

```
"ncbs"="16"  
"sessions"="10"
```

```
HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\System\CurrentControlSet\Services\VxD\NETBEUI\Ndi\params\ncbs
```

```
"default"="16"  
"max"="255"  
"min"="8"
```

```
HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\System\CurrentControlSet\Services\VxD\NETBEUI\Ndi\params\sessions
```

```
"default"="16"  
"max"="117"  
"min"="4"
```

```
HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\System\CurrentControlSet\Services\VxD\NWLlink\Ndi\params\maxconnect
```

```
"max"="128"  
"min"="2"
```

```
HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\System\CurrentControlSet\Services\VxD\NWLlink\Ndi\params\maxsockets
```

```
"max"="1020"  
"min"="8"
```

Of course you will need to start RegEdit to access all these Registry keys/strings, and happily modify them yourself manually ('cuz it's only a trial-and-error game, and you need to fiddle with these settings yourself until you find the optimal values to match your own System needs, depending in part on your modem, ISP connection and CPU speed). After applying the new changes, I restarted Win95, and poof!, my web browser started to boldly soar through web pages like never before! I've also seen some noticeable speed improvement with my AOL 32bit version 3.0 software, configured to connect through TCP/IP protocol (AT&T WorldNet is my current ISP).

For your enjoyment (and to avoid messing with the Registry manually), I created a Registration file called MAXSPEED.REG (also included with these files), you can double-click in Explorer (or in File Manager) to implement the changes listed above in no time.

To restore all the Win95 Registry keys above to their default values, just in case you get errors using the new ones, just open Explorer (or File Manager) and double-click on DEFSPEED.REG (also included), contains the Win95 default values for all the keys/strings listed above. You can also open the two REG files mentioned above with Notepad, to see all the Registry keys/strings described in this topic, or/and maybe you want to modify the values in MAXSPEED.REG yourself to better match your Win95 modem TCP/IP connection. Happy tinkering!

WARNING: ALWAYS BACKUP YOUR REGISTRY BEFORE MAKING ANY CHANGES!

HOW FAST CAN YOU GO? - Part 1 [UPDATED 7/30/97]

This topic details a workaround that applies especially to owners of 28,800 baud (or faster) modems, to enable the fastest Internet connection supported by these modems, connecting through the TCP/IP protocol (you need an Internet Service Provider to connect to the Internet) in Windows 95. There are two ways of doing this (but NOT BEFORE BACKING UP YOUR REGISTRY FILES!):

1. Run Regedit.exe and go to:

```
HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\System\CurrentControlSet\Services\Class\NetTrans\000nn where "nn" can be anything  
from 0 up to 50 (depending on your custom system settings). The "nn" value is your particular network adapter  
binding. In the right hand pane, look for the "MaxMTU" entry (string).
```

Right-click on it, click Modify and change the number to read "576".

NOTE: Do NOT type the quotes!

Make the same change in all similar Registry keys. Examples:

HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\System\CurrentControlSet\Services\Class\NetTrans\0000

"MaxMTU"="576"

"MaxMSS"="536"

HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\System\CurrentControlSet\Services\Class\NetTrans\0001

"MaxMTU"="576"

"MaxMSS"="536"

HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\System\CurrentControlSet\Services\Class\NetTrans\0002

"MaxMTU"="576"

"MaxMSS"="536"

.

.

.

HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\System\CurrentControlSet\Services\Class\NetTrans\000n

"MaxMTU"="576"

"MaxMSS"="536"

depending on how many "n" MaxMTU entries you have in your Registry (substitute "n" with the last NetTrans entry number on your machine). Close Regedit and restart Windows 95.

Default Win95 values: MaxMTU = 1500, and MaxMSS = 1460. 2. If you want to do this the easy way, open Explorer (or File Manager), and run (double-click) the file MODEM.REG, included here (you may need to modify the "n" values to match your particular Win95 system). There is yet another Registry setting you can mess with to speedup your modem TCP/IP connection. The same two methods of doing this are described below:

1. Start RegEdit and go to:

HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\System\CurrentControlSet\Services\VxD\MSTCP\DefaultRcvWindows In the right hand pane, look for (or create it if it's not present) this string:

"DefaultRcvWindow"="2144"

The number you should have is 2144 (Win95 default value is 8192). The principle behind this setting is to calculate the optimal value for the DefaultRcvWindow string with this formula:

DefaultRcvWindow = (MaxMTU value - 40) x n

or:

DefaultRcvWindow = (MaxMSS value) x n

Where "n" is anything between 2 and 8 (fiddle with it and find out the best value for your machine, depending on your modem speed and your custom ISP settings). I used MaxMTU = 576 in this example:

DefaultRcvWindow = (576 - 40) x 4 = 2144

respectively:

DefaultRcvWindow = (536) x 4 = 2144

Right-click on the above string, click Modify, and change the number to read "2144", which will default to the recommended calculated value. Yet another Registry setting you might consider changing is MaxMSS. This one can be found in the same Registry key as the MaxMTU string (start Regedit and go to the key below):

HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\System\CurrentControlSet\Services\Class\NetTrans\000nn You may need to create a new string and name it MaxMSS if it's not present. Then give it a recommended value of 536 (MaxMSS = MaxMTU - 40).

Exit Regedit and restart Win95 when you're done. If you find out (after connecting with your modem to your ISP, using the TCP/IP protocol, and downloading a few large files from FTP/WWW sites) that a value of DefaultRcvWindow of 4288 or 3216 work better on your system, please make the necessary modifications to your Registry (but BACK IT UP FIRST!).

Under:

HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\System\CurrentControlSet\Services\VxD\MSTCP there is another string you might consider tweaking:

"DefaultTTL"="128"

Create the "DefaultTTL" string if it's not already present, and assign it the value of "128" (Win95 default is 32).

NOTE: Again, do NOT type the quotes!

Close the Registry Editor, and restart Windows 95. 2. In Explorer (or in File Manager) run (double-click) the registration file MODEM.REG, included here, to apply all the above modifications (examples) the easy way (AGAIN: YOU SHOULD BACKUP YOUR FILES FIRST!). You need to restart Win95 for the changes to take effect! These three settings mentioned above should speed up your Internet or/and your online service noticeably. They should also work with AOL, bringing up your modem to its intended full speed.

BUT I didn't test it with AOL, because I connect to AOL using the TCP/IP protocol, connecting to my ISP first.

NOTICE: You might also see modem speed improvements by upgrading to the newer version of Unimodem Win95 drivers from Microsoft (provided freely, and ONLY valid for Windows 95 OSR1, versions: 4.00.950 and 4.00.950a, since Win95 OSR2 (4.00.950B) and later come with this upgrade built-in) at:

<http://www.microsoft.com/kb/softlib/mslfiles/UNIMODV.EXE>

Other two Microsoft Win95 communications updates you might want to consider installing (strongly recommended):
1. MS Windows Sockets 32bit (updates WINSOCK.DLL and WSOCK32.DLL) v1.4 Upgrade (for ALL Win95 versions prior to OSR 2.5):

<http://www.microsoft.com/communications/PPTPdownWinsock.htm> MS WINSOCK Update 1.4 direct download:

<http://www.microsoft.com/communications/exes/wssockupd.exe> AND ONLY AFTER INSTALLING IT, DOWNLOAD AND INSTALL:

2. MS PPP/PPTP/TCP/IP DialUp Networking (DUN) and ISDN Modem Upgrade v1.2b (for ALL Win95 versions prior to OSR 2.5): <http://www.microsoft.com/communications/PPTPdown1.htm> MS DUN 1.2b Update direct download:

<http://www.microsoft.com/communications/exes/msdun12.exe>

NOTICE: For details on the MaxMTU/DefaultRcvWindow/TTL topics, also check out the "Win95 MaxMTU Fix" page at: <http://www.sns-access.com/%7Eenetpro/maxmtu.htm> Download Rob Vonk's EasyMTU v1.03 (freeware), a MUST HAVE:

<http://members.tripod.com/~EasyMTU/easymtu103.zip> Also READ this Microsoft TCP/IP Knowledge Base Article:

<http://support.microsoft.com/support/kb/articles/Q158/4/74.asp>

REFRESH NOW!

Win95 doesn't refresh your view of files and/or folders as often as you might like. To make it refresh them constantly, run Regedit and go to:

HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\System\CurrentControlSet\Control\Update

In the right-hand pane right-click on the UpdateMode key (or Update on some machines) and select Modify.

Select 01 and change it to 0. It will show actually as 00, because this is a dword (double-word) key. Exit the Registry Editor and restart Win95.

KILL DA BIN!

If you don't use the Recycle Bin to store deleted files (that you may want to recover some day though...), you can get rid of its desktop icon all together.

Run Regedit and go to:

HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\explorer\Desktop\NameSpace

Click on each of the strings of characters in this folder until you see "Recycle Bin" in the right-hand pane. Press the Delete key, and say good-bye to the Recycle Bin!

KEEP IT SHORT/LONG

There is a way to allow long file name format parameters (switches) to work when specified on a command line that starts a Win95 program. By default any parameter (supported by a particular program) can be typed in from a Run command line box. This translates into a Registry entry for that particular program, that looks something like this:

HKEY_CLASSES_ROOT\.doc\shell\open\command\ (default)="C:\Word\Winword.exe %1" Notice the quotes before and after the command line. In the above case, only short parameter names can be used with that program. To allow long parameter names to work with your program, all you need to do is start Regedit, and search for your program key (this is just an example):

```
HKEY_CLASSES_ROOT\.doc\shell\open\command\  
(default)="C:\MS Apps\Excel.exe %1"
```

and change the line to read:

```
HKEY_CLASSES_ROOT\.doc\shell\open\command\  
(default)="""C:\MS Apps\Excel.exe" %1"
```

Notice that you need to add two more quotes, one before the program's name and the other at the end of the name of your application executable.

Another example is: change the line below:

```
HKEY_CLASSES_ROOT\.bmp\shell\open\command\  
(default)="C:\Program Files\Accessories\Mspaint.exe %1" to read (adding the above mentioned extra quotes):
```

```
HKEY_CLASSES_ROOT\.bmp\shell\open\command\  
(default)="""C:\Program Files\Accessories\Mspaint.exe" %1" Close the Registry Editor, and you're done.
```

This workaround can also be achieved this way: open Explorer, click View, click Options, then select the File Types tab, and scroll down to the line that contains your program executable. Double-click on the highlighted line, or click Edit, then double-click the Open line (or click on Edit), and now change the command line the same way as described above. Save your settings and close all open windows.

CLEAR DOCS & MORE...

The following are the revamped versions of some older tips in this file, and some new hacks. They've been all sent to me by Dave Burch (showillgo@sprintmail.com), who took the time to write/modify these REG files: DOS_HERE.REG, NOTEPAD.REG, SCAN.REG, SERVER.REG, and CLEAR.REG, and this batch file: CLEAR.BAT (all featured files are included in this archive).

Credit is also given to the Windows 95 Annoyances web site:

<http://www.creativelement.com/win95ann/> for CLEAR.BAT and CLEAR.REG, and to Windows Magazine web site:

<http://www.winmag.com/>

for NOTEPAD.REG.

Many thanks Dave for this collection of cool Win95 hacks!

Files included:

- DOS_HERE.REG creates a new right-click item for a DOS prompt window that opens in the current folder (similar to MS Power Toys's DOS Here).
- NOTEPAD.REG adds a right-click item for opening Notepad.
- SCAN.REG adds a right-click item for scanning your drives with Norton Anti-Virus 2.0 software (you can replace the path and filename to match your installed Win95 Virus Scanner).
- SERVER.REG takes care of properly setting the Win95 32bit File system cache to "Network Server" (or to "Mobile Desktop") for better disk performance (detailed in the "NETWORK SERVER" topic, later on in this file).
- CLEAR.BAT deletes all recently opened files (docs, links, zips, etc) from the C:\Recent folder, upon Win95 startup.

NOTE: You need to create a new folder called:

C:\Program Files\ClearDocs and place CLEAR.BAT in this newly created folder for this tip to work:

- CLEAR.REG registers CLEAR.BAT to run every time you start Win95.

Subj: Hack for clearing the Document window
From: showillgo@sprintmail.com (DaveB)
To: AXCEL216@aol.com

I have modified a small app I downloaded from Win95 Annoyances, and added it to my Registry as follows:

REGEDIT4

[HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Run]

"Clear"="C:\\Program Files\\ClearDocs\\CLEAR.bat"

I have attached CLEAR.BAT for your convenience. I modified some of your work into .REG files. I couldn't get any of them to work as originally written. I understand that some of them don't work on all machines, but possibly you could use them as a counter-point to the originals. I also have written a .REG file that allows you to scan a file or folder from the right-click menu, using Norton Anti-Virus 2.0, and one that I got from Windows Magazine that places Notepad on the Right-click menu. Please keep in mind that I got the Notepad tip from Windows Magazine, and CLEAR.BAT came from Windows95 Annoyances:

<http://www.creativelement.com/win95ann/>

This is one of the best sites on the web.

Dave Burch

showillgo@sprintmail.com

NOTICE: To use any of these REG files (included), just open Explorer (or File

Manager), and double-click on the REG file you want to install (register) in Win95's Registry database. But first, you NEED to open them in Notepad to modify the folders (paths) names to match your own system configuration!

IMPORTANT: You need to alter the Registry to get a correct "Network Server"

setting by running SERVER.REG, ONLY if you have Win95 the original release: 4.00.950(a), also called OSR1!
This bug is fixed in Win95 OSR2 (4.00.950B) and later.

WARNING: Don't forget to BACKUP your Win95 System files BEFORE making ANY changes!

Please address your questions about the hacks described above to Dave Burch:

showillgo@sprintmail.com

RUN! (My own trick)

I figured out I don't need to run (or load) programs from Win.ini's load= and/or run= lines anymore. The same job can be done by adding any or all of your programs to the Run menu into Win95's Registry Database. All you need to do is remark, or delete completely the load= and/or run= lines in Win.ini's [windows] section, if you decide to keep these changes permanent (to remark in Windows means adding a semicolon [;] in front of the file you want to disable from running/loading). Edit Win.ini with Notepad, look for the load= (and/or run=) line in the [windows] section, and apply these changes to your own programs:

load=

; c:\path\myprogr.exe

run=

; c:\path\myapp.exe

instead of the original lines (that start your programs from Win.ini):

load=c:\path\myprogr.exe

run=c:\path\myapp.exe

Then run Regedit (located in C:\Windows) and go to:

HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Run Here, look for the programs listed in the right hand pane. Highlight something in the right-hand pane and left-click on an empty spot. Choose New, String Value, and name it whatever you want. Now right-click on the new String you just created, and left-click Modify. In the Value Data box, type the full drive letter, path (directory or folder name) and file name of the program you want to load/run every time Windows 95 starts.

Example of String name (of course you need to add your own programs):

AfterDark Quick Access

And the corresponding Value Data box:

“c:\ad95\After Dark.exe” /taskbar

When you’re done, close RegEdit and restart Windows 95. That’s it.

NOTICE: You can also replace by this method the programs that load from the Startup folder (and then you can delete all the files with the .LNK extension found in C:\Windows\Start Menu\Programs\Startup, to save disk space and time upon Windows startup).

PERSONALITY CHANGE [UPDATED]

The tip detailed below comes to you courtesy of Van Panyanouvong.

Please forward all questions related to this tip to:

ArtTate@aol.com

=====*

Subj: New Win95 User
From: ArtTate@aol.com
To: AXCEL216@aol.com

George,

One of my computer friends found how you can change “This Product is Licensed

to: ... “ without re-installing Windows 95.

Run Regedit.exe from the Windows directory. Once the screen opens, you have two options:

1. You can “Find” the “Registered Owner” entry. If you double click on “Registered Owner”, it opens a dialog box, in which you can change the name parameter. Just type in your name and that’s it! Your Win95 info should say now “Licensed to: Your Name Here”. 2. The other option is to open the directories in the Regedit window, until you get to:

HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion Once there, you can change any of these values: “RegisteredOrganization”, “RegisteredOwner”, and/or “ProductId” to whatever your heart desire.

Hope you find this useful.

Art Tate

=====*

Many thanks Art for sending me your friend’s cool tip!

BEWARE, TROJANS!

The following message contains Eric Rondem’s (meowow@juno.com)

“Trojan virus Registry hack”.

Thanks a bunch Eric for the “Trojan” trick! Cool...

=====*

=====*

Thanks a lot Eric for sharing this valuable DUN fix with us all!

NOTICE: DUNCE v2.52 TCP/IP DialUp Networking Enhancement Tool (freeware) for

Windows 95/98 can be found at:

<http://www.vecdev.com/dunce.html>

PERMANENT SETTINGS

To make all the Desktop settings permanent in a window (window size, position, display the toolbar, etc), run RegEdit and go to:

HKEY_CURRENT_USER\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Policies\Explorer Right-click in the right pane, click New, and select DWORD Value. Name the new value "NoSaveSettings", and press Enter. Then right-click on the new NoSaveSettings, choose Modify, and type "1" in the Value data box. Click OK and exit the Registry Editor (don't type the quotes). All windows settings are now those you specified before creating the new "NoSaveSettings" value into the Registry.

All your windows settings can be changed only temporarily from now on. Next time you open that same window, its settings will revert back to the ones you started with.

To reenable permanent settings changes again, run RegEdit again, and go to the same Registry key, right-click on NoSaveSettings, choose Modify, and change the Value data to "0". Close RegEdit, make the desired changes to your windows settings, then go back and make them permanent again by resetting that Registry value to "1".

You can delete the NoSaveSettings value by right-clicking on it, then choose Delete, and click Yes.

NOTICE: TweakUI, one of the Microsoft Power Toys also lets you save your

windows settings: <http://www.microsoft.com/windows/download/tweakui.exe> Open Control Panel, double-click the TweakUI icon (after properly installing it), choose the Explorer tab, select Save Settings, and click OK to close TweakUI.

All changes made to a window's settings will be saved from now on.

BLINK... NOT! (My own trick)

To change the cursor blinking rate to NON-BLINKING in any text editor, word processor or command line in any Win95 dialog box, open Regedit and go to:

HKEY_CURRENT_USER\Control Panel\desktop\CursorBlinkRate

Highlight CursorBlinkRate in the right-hand pane, right-click on it, click Modify, change the numeric value to -1 and click OK. Close Regedit and restart Win95.

If the "CursorBlinkRate" string value is not present, create it by right clicking on "desktop" (in the left-hand pane), choose New, then String, and name the new string value "CursorBlinkRate" (no quotes). Then right-click on it (in the right-hand pane) and assign it the value of "-1" (no quotes). NOTE: This setting doesn't apply to the MS-DOS mode box cursor.

MENUSHOWDELAY

Open Regedit and create a new string (key) under:

HKEY_CURRENT_USER\Control Panel\desktop and name it "MenuShowDelay" (don't type the quotes). Give it a value from 0 (fastest: no delay) to 10 (slowest: maximum delay). These values are the time in milliseconds all popup menus wait before showing. Select "MenuShowDelay=0" and restart Win95 to see the popup menu open instantaneously (permitted: 0 - 10).

RENAME RECYCLE BIN

To change the name of the Recycle Bin icon, open Regedit and go to:

HKEY_CLASSES_ROOT\CLSID\{645FF040-5081-101B-9F08-00AA002F954E}

and change the name "Recycle Bin" to whatever tickles your fantasy.

SHOW BMP ICONS

I found two ways to have the icons of all your BMP-s show as a small picture of the actual bitmap:

1. Open Regedit, find Paint.Picture (or whichever program BMP-s are registered to). Add a new key under Paint.Picture named DefaultIcon. In the right pane, change the default value (by double clicking it) to %1. %1 tells Win95 that the default icon for this file type is in the file itself, and since there is no icon in a BMP file, Windows 95 makes a small preview image of the BMP for the icon. Sorting/viewing BMP-s is now easy. This will allow you to use the BMP files as icons and they will also show up in Explorer.

2. Open Regedit and go to:

HKEY_CLASSES_ROOT\Paint.Picture\DefaultIcon

In the right-hand pane, double-click on the Default value, and change it from "C:\WINDOWS\SYSTEM\COOL.DLL,41" to "%1".

NAMENUMERICTAIL [+ WARNING!]

WARNING: Extreme caution when using this so-called fix. There are reports

that Win95's Long File Names information could be permanently lost due to enabling this undocumented feature!

If you don't have a problem with reading truncated long file names in an operating system that doesn't support LFNs, please resist the temptation of doing this!

To have a directory named "New Documents" in Win95, but have the short file name be "DOCUMENT" instead of the truncated "NEWDOC~1" do the following:

The only time short filenames are relevant is in a mixed computing environment (Windows 3.1x AND Win95 or WinNT), to share files with systems that don't support LFN-s:

1. Start LFN-s with the short version: rename the above folder DOCUMENTS-NEW, which would resolve to Docume~1. 2. Get rid of the tildes: add the value:

NameNumericTail=0

in the following Registry binary key:

HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\System\CurrentControlSet\Control\FileSystem and the above example (assuming there wasn't already a \DOCUMENT folder) would resolve to the correct eight-character name.

MIDDLE BUTTON

To use a Logitech (or compatible) middle Mouse button as a double-click, open the Registry Editor and go to:

HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Logitech\MouseWare\CurrentVersion\SerialV\0000 In the right-hand pane, modify "DoubleClick"="000" to read:"DoubleClick"="001"

Or maybe you have this other version:

HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\Logitech\Mouseware\CurrentVersion\Serial\0000 In the right hand pane, double-click the "Double Click" key and change the value from "000" to "001" (no quotes).

OPEN NEW WINDOW

If you're browsing through folder windows, it's usually nice to have Win95 set to use a single window that changes when you open a new folder. However, if you want to copy or move files around, you should be able to quickly open a separate window or a folder.

This can be done by holding "CTRL" as you double-click, but it would be nice to have this option on the right-click menu, next to "Open" and "Explore".

To add this to the menu, open Regedit and go to:

HKEY_CLASSES_ROOT\Directory\Default Icon\shell\shellex. Under "shell", add a new key called "opennew". Modify its (Default) value to say "Open New &Window". Then, add another key under "opennew". Call this one "command", and set its (Default) value to "explorer %1". A side effect is that "Open New Window" now also appears when you right-click on the Start Button, which is completely pointless because it does that anyway.

NEW MENU

To add file types to the New menu item on the mouse menu, edit the Registry. Find the extension of the data file for the program in question (i.e. .DOC for Word) under HKEY_CLASSES_ROOT. Below the files extension you need to add a new key with the value "ShellNew".

Once that key is in place you have 2 options: 1 is to start with a null file (one with no preset styles, etc), the other is to start from a template file. For a null file, in the ShellNew key insert a new string value named "NullFile" and leave the value blank. To use a template file, insert a new string value named "FileName" and set the value equal to the path of the template document.

The default is in the hidden ShellNew subdirectory beneath your Win95 directory.

When you use the New feature of the button menu, Win95 either copies the template file or creates a null file.

DITCH THOSE ARROWS!

To get rid of ALL shortcut desktop arrows: open Regedit and go to:

HKEY_CLASSES_ROOT\lnk open it and delete the "IsShortcut" key. Then find:

HKEY_CLASSES_ROOT\pif open it and delete the "IsShortcut" key as well. Restart Win95.

CHANGE ARROWS

To change the shortcut arrows on your shortcut icons, open Regedit and go to:

HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\Current Version\Explorer\Shell Icons

Change the value labeled 29 (could be different on your system) to the icon file of your choice.

DOS MODE OPTIONS

To change the options Win95 gives you when making a shortcut to an MS-DOS program/game that requires its own AUTOEXEC.BAT, open Regedit and go to:

HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\Current Version\MS-DOSOptions Create a new key called AUTOEXEC.BAT in any of the directories found in this key and give it a value. Now you'll be able to use this command in your existing AUTOEXEC.BAT, to load whatever program the directory that you are in corresponds to.

ADD NEW TIPS

To edit the Win95 Startup Tips and add your own to the Welcome to Windows 95 Tips Dialog Box that appears at startup, open RegEdit and go to:

HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\explorer\Tips Go to the end of the list of existing Tips (Win95 comes with 48 Tips). To add a new String Value, right click at the end of the list. Select NEW.

Type the next highest number from what's listed directly next to "ab". Press ENTER. Right click again on the number value you created. Select MODIFY. In the box marked VALUE DATA, type your new User Tip. Select OK. Close RegEdit and restart Win95. You will see your new tip the next time the Welcome to Windows 95 Tip dialog box appears.

At the beginning of the VALUE DATA, you might want to begin the new tip with a text string like "My Own Win95 Tips:". This way you'll remember which are the tips you added.

MINANIMATE

To turn off Window Animation (eliminate exploding windows):

Shut off the exploding windows displayed when you minimize/maximize windows. This makes navigating Win95 a lot faster especially for those who don't have super fast video cards. Open Regedit and go to:

HKEY_CURRENT_USER\Control Panel\Desktop\WindowMetrics

Right-click an empty space in the right pane. Select new/string value. Name the new value MinAnimate. Double-click on the new string value (MinAnimate) and click on Modify. Enter 0 for Off or 1 for On and hit OK. Close Regedit and restart Win95.

MOVE STARTUP FOLDER

This Registry editing tip will move the \Startup folder from the \Start Menu\Programs folder to a different location, let's say \Windows (default Win95 files folder). The programs located in the \Startup folder will still run, but the \Startup folder will be in a different directory (\Windows in this case).

This helps if you don't have anything in the Startup folder, getting it out of your way. The folder is just relocated, not deleted!

To do this, open Regedit and go to:

HKEY_CURRENT_USER\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Explorer\Shell Folders

The right-hand window contains the path to the current location of the Startup folder (the default is: \Windows\Start Menu\Programs\Startup). Change this value to \Windows to make \Startup disappear for ever! This is valid for all Win95's default folders (you can change their location to anything you want). Example: change Win95's fonts location from \Windows\Fonts to \Fonts.

DOCUMENTS OFF!

The Documents Menu is a clever idea - it displays a list of the last dozen-or-so programs and files opened from the Explorer. You can clear the menu temporarily; the only problem is that there's no way to turn it off permanently. This can be seen as a lapse in security, and the lack of a way to turn it off is confusing. There is a way around this:

1. To clear the menu temporarily, right-click on an empty portion of the taskbar. Select Properties from the menu that appears, and click on the Start Menu Programs tab. Click Clear to clean out the menu. Note this is only temporary until you launch another file.

2. To make the documents menu always empty, right-click on the Recycle Bin on the Desktop, and select Properties from the menu. Under the Global Tab, select Use one setting for all drives. Turn on the option labeled Do not move files to the recycle bin. Open Regedit and go to:

HKEY_CURRENT_USER\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\explorer\Shell Folders

In the right pane there should be a list containing one or more of your “special” folders. If an entry named Recent doesn’t already exist, select New from the Edit menu, and then select String Value. Rename the new item to “Recent.” Next, double-click on Recent, and under Value Data, type C:\Recycled, press OK and close the Registry. Click on the desktop, and press F5 to refresh the desktop, so the change takes effect.

ADD NEW SOUNDS

To add sounds to any Win95 application/program: open Regedit and go to:

HKEY_CURRENT_USER\AppData\Local\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Explorer\Shell Folders

There are two subfolders here: .Default and Explorer. Open the Apps folder, click New, and then Key from the menu. Type in your application’s filename, without extension (for example Winfile, which is the executable WITHOUT the EXE extension for File Manager), and click New and Key from the menu again, in the new Winfile subfolder. Name this new key Open. Then create a new key with the Winfile subfolder selected and name it Close. Close the Registry and click on Start, Settings, Control Panel and then double-click on Sounds. Assign sounds to Winfile’s Open and Close functions. From now on, when you open/close Winfile.exe, the sounds will play.

For each application on your system, you can add sounds to these events:

AppGPFault
Close
Default
Maximize
MenuCommand
MenuPopup
Minimize
Open
RestoreDown
RestoreUp
SystemAsterisk
SystemExclamation
SystemHand
SystemQuestion

Other events may be possible (depending on your application, not all programs support all these sound events; it depends on the events your particular application generates). Some of these sound-events can be assigned only to Windows 95 specific applications (32 bit).

On a 486 or on a slow Pentium (60 or 75MHz) assigning sounds to most of these events may slow down your system a bit, especially if you choose large and/or hi-fi quality (stereo, 22K frequency or above) sound files.

REMOVE NETWORK NEIGHBORHOOD

To remove the Network Neighborhood Icon from your Desktop: open Regedit and go to:

HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\explorer\Desktop\NameSpace

Click the particular icon you want to remove and choose Delete.

VIDEO REFRESH RATE

To set the video refresh rate: open Regedit and go to:

HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\System\CurrentControlSet\Services\Class\Display\0000\Default

RefreshRate=-1

- 1 is the value for automatic refresh rate, any other value corresponds to the Hz rate. Also if you have loaded more than one video driver you may have more values under Display (eg: 0001,0002, etc.)

HARD DRIVE THRASHING [UPDATED 2/9/98]

To modify/reduce the hard drive thrashing: open Regedit and go to:

HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\explorer Look in the right hand pane for a "MaxCachedIcons" entry.

The default value is:

MaxCachedIcons=4000

You can increase/decrease it and then restart Windows to see if it makes any difference. Also consider running a benchmark utility like Wintune 97, to see your disk drive(s) performance.

Wintune 97 (free) is available at the Windows Magazine web site:

<http://www.winmag.com/software/wt97.htm>

It is also recommended to edit your SYSTEM.INI file's [vcache] section to read (SYSTEM.INI is located in your Windows folder):

```
[vcache]
MinFileCache=4096
MaxFileCache=4096
```

The above is useful on systems with at least 16MB of RAM installed. On systems with 8MB or less, try these conservative System.ini [vcache] settings:

```
[vcache]
MinFileCache=2048
MaxFileCache=2048
```

On machines with more than 32MB, you may want to increase the [vcache] values to 1/6 - 1/4 of your installed RAM.

Some trial and error might be necessary, depending on your particular system memory amount.

Create a new [vcache] section if it is not already present in your System.ini file.

Restart Windows for the changes to take effect.

MODEM INITIALIZATION STRING

To change the Modem Initialization String: open Regedit and go to:

HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\System\currentControlSet\Services\Class\Modem\0000\init and change setting to the new values.

MODEM TIMEOUT

To increase/decrease the Modem Timeout, open Regedit and go to:

HEKY_LOCAL_MACHINE\System\CurrentControlSet\Services\Class\Modem\XXXX\Settings Where XXXX is the number of your modem (example: 0001):

Inactivity Timeout=30

Default Inactivity Timeout is set to 30 minutes.

REMOVE PROGRAMS

To remove Programs Listed in Control Panel Add/Remove Programs Section:

Even though you can remove programs this way it doesn't always remove all traces from the Registry. Open Regedit and go to:

HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Uninstall and delete the remnants of the program you want to remove.

RUN COMMAND HISTORY

To edit the Recent History of RUN commands: open Regedit and go to:

HKEY_CURRENT_USER\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Explorer\RunMRU and add/remove the commands you want.

NEW COMMANDS

NOTICE: This tip doesn't work on some system configurations!

I urge you to BACKUP your Registry files BEFORE trying this tip! READ the next topic: "DAVID SPENCER'S NEW RIGHT-CLICK COMMANDS MENU" for more info on right-click assigned new commands!

Create a new text file with the lines below, name it NEW.REG, and then double-click on it:

REGEDIT4

; Add the "Open DOS Box" option for files and folders:

[HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Classes\Folder\Shell\Open_DOS_Box]

@="Open DOS &Box"

[HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Classes\Folder\Shell\Open_DOS_Box\command]

@="COMMAND.COM /K CD %1"

[HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Classes*\Shell\Open_DOS_Box]

@="Open DOS &Box"

[HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Classes*\Shell\Open_DOS_Box\command]

@="COMMAND.COM"

; Add the "Edit with Notepad" option for unknown files:

[HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Classes*\Shell>Edit_with_Notepad]

@="Edit &with Notepad"

[HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Classes*\Shell>Edit_with_Notepad\command]

@="notepad.exe %1"

[HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Classes*\Shell]

@="Edit_with_Notepad"

Running this registration file, adds one command to the shortcut menu when you click folders or folder shortcuts:

- Open DOS Box: opens an MS-DOS box set to the directory/folder you click on.

It also adds two commands to the shortcut menu when you click a file:

- Edit with Notepad: it opens the highlighted file in Notepad;
- Open DOS Box: opens an MS-DOS box set to the directory/folder the file is in.

"Edit with Notepad" is also set as the default option viewer for all unknown extensions. From now on, when you double-click on a file with an unknown extension (not associated in the Registry with a specific application), it will open in Notepad.

DAVID SPENCER'S NEW RIGHT-CLICK COMMANDS MENU

This detailed and very well documented Registry hack has been sent to me (after being improved several times) by the author, David Spencer. Many thanks David for all your efforts, and for allowing me to distribute this valuable Registry trick freely into this text file! For further info/comments/questions on this topic, please contact the author at: dspencer@minyos.its.rmit.EDU.AU David's .INF script guide is also included:

===== *

"SAMPLE.INF FILE FOR ADDING A PROGRAM TO THE RIGHT HAND CLICK MENU IN EXPLORER

by David Spencer

+-----+

| INDEX |

+-----+

.inf file - the right hand click menu command file

Instructions - install and un-install instructions

Registry Information - details of how the Registry is modified

customizing the .inf - how to customize the .inf file

+-----+

| .inf file |

+-----+

; Right Hand Click Menu Command .inf file

; by David Spencer

;

; - Adds a command to the right hand click menu in Explorer

;

[version]

signature="\$SCHICAGOS"

; Following is the Install information / scripts [DefaultInstall]

; add to registry

AddReg = R_Click_Comm.AddReg

; copy .inf file to \inf directory under the Windows 95 directory

CopyFiles = R_Click_Comm.CopyFiles.Inf

[R_Click_CommInstall]

AddReg = R_Click_Comm.AddReg

CopyFiles = R_Click_Comm.CopyFiles.Inf

; Following is the UnInstall information / scripts [DefaultUninstall]

```
; remove from registry
DelReg = R_Click_Comm.AddReg
; delete file from \inf directory under the Windows 95 directory
DelFiles = R_Click_Comm.CopyFiles.Inf
```

```
[R_Click_Comm_Remove]
DelReg = R_Click_Comm.AddReg
DelFiles = R_Click_Comm.CopyFiles.Inf
```

```
; Script to Modify Registry
[R_Click_Comm.AddReg]
; add the command to the registry
HKCR,*\Shell\R_Click_Comm,,,"%PROGRAM_DESC%"
HKCR,*\Shell\R_Click_Comm\command,,,"%PROGRAM_TO_RUN%"
; add uninstall information to the registry
HKLM,Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Uninstall\R_Click_Comm,DisplayName,,"%PROGRAM_REMOVE_DESC%"
HKLM,Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Uninstall\R_Click_Comm,UninstallString,"RunDll
setupx.dll,InstallHinfSection R_Click_Comm_Remove 4 RCComm.inf"
```

```
; Name of .inf file to copy
; !!!!MUST be the SAME as the .inf file run!!!
[R_Click_Comm.CopyFiles.Inf]
RCComm.Inf
```

```
; Source Disk information (stops annoying request for source disk)
[SourceDisksNames]
55="R_Click_Comm",",",1
[SourceDisksFiles]
RCComm.Inf=55
```

```
[DestinationDirs]
R_Click_Comm.CopyFiles.Inf = 17
```

;!!! THIS IS THE ONLY SECTION YOU SHOULD HAVE TO MODIFY !!!

```
; Strings: display text + program information
[Strings]
```

```
; program to run - ie drive:\path\program.exe PROGRAM_TO_RUN = "notepad.exe %1" ; text displayed within the
right click menu (& signifies shortcut key)
```

```
PROGRAM_DESC = "Edit &with Notepad"
```

```
; text displayed within Add/Remove Programs utility PROGRAM_REMOVE_DESC = "Edit with Notepad (Remove
only)"
```

```
+-----+
| Install Instructions |
```

```
+-----+
```

1. Using Explorer, right hand click on the .inf file (RCComm.inf) and select

'Install'

2. Let the Program run...

```
+-----+
| Uninstall Instructions |
```

```
+-----+
```

1. Open Control Panel.

2. Run Add/Remove Programs applet.

3. Select 'Edit with Notepad (Remove Only)' (or other valid text if you have modified it).
4. Click Add/Remove.
5. Click OK. That's it, you're done.

```
+-----+
| Registry Information |
```

The .inf file modifies the registry by changing two basic items:

- the software settings for file associations
- the uninstaller information (this allows the uninstall feature!)

The key concepts behind these two changes are as follows:

1. Changing the file associations (found in HKEY_CLASSES_ROOT) for the key

'*' (this means that the command is available for all files, and is default for unassociated files) so that the association has a new feature. The new feature is a command specified by the 'R_Click_Comm' subkey. The default value defines the text displayed ie (Default) "Edit &with Notepad". The subkey 'command' defines the actual command that is executed (ie when the option is selected from the right click menu). The default value defines the program / command to perform ie (Default) "notepad.exe %1". The '%1' specifies that the program will accept a command line parameter, this is feed via explorer, ie when you right hand click and select "Edit with Notepad" it sends the currently selected file to notepad as a command line parameter. The .inf sets up the following registry structure:

```
[HKEY_CLASSES_ROOT]          (Default) (value not set)
|
+--[*]                        (Default) (value not set)
|
N   +--[shell]                (Default) (value not set)
|
N   ++[R_Click_Comm]         (Default) "Edit &with Notepad"
|
N   ++[command]              (Default) "notepad.exe %1"
```

NOTE: Lines starting with 'N' are new lines added by the .inf file.

2. New uninstall information is added in to allow the command to be uninstalled. To achieve this a new key is added in with the information regarding the text to display in the Add/Remove Programs applet and the program to run. Thus the .inf file sets up the following registry structure:

```
[HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE]
|
+--[SOFTWARE]
|
+--[Microsoft]
|
+--[Windows]
|
+--[CurrentVersion]
|
+--[Uninstall]
|
N   ++[R_Click_Comm]         (Default) (value not set)
                                DisplayName      "Edit with Notepad
                                (Remove only)"
                                UninstallString
```

"RunDll setupx.dll,InstallHinfSection R_Click_Comm_Remove 4 RCComm.inf" NOTE: Lines starting with 'N' are new lines added by the .inf file.

+-----+
| Customizing the .inf |

+-----+

The .inf file may be customized easily to allow you to setup you own command which can be accessed via a right hand click in explorer. The customizing can be performed on two levels Basic and Involved. The Basic customizing requires no knowledge of the registry while the involved customizing requires a reasonable understanding of the basic registry structure. The two methods are described below:

1. BASIC:

All customizing here revolves around the [Strings] section (at the bottom) of the .inf file. Here the three strings: PROGRAM_TO_RUN, PROGRAM_DESC and PROGRAM_REMOVE_DESC control the basic look, feel and operation of the .inf right click command to be added.

The PROGRAM_TO_RUN defines the program which will be invoked upon selection of the new menu item. The form is "drive:\path\program.exe [parameters]" eg "notepad.exe %1" invokes notepad and passes it the selected file. The PROGRAM_DESC defines the text to be displayed in the menu. The '&' character can be used to define a shortcut key to invoke the command once the menu is displayed. The character following the '&' is the shortcut key. A little care should be used here, by preference it should proceed a previously unused character (go to explorer and right click on a file, note the characters underlined, these are already used). If a previously used character is used then pressing the key when the menu is displayed will simply move between the items with the same key, pressing enter when the desired one is selected activates it.

The PROGRAM_REMOVE_DESC defines the text to be displayed in the Add/Remove Programs applet (found in Control Panel). The text "(Remove only)" is appended to indicate that the selection may only be uninstalled and has no other options.

That's all there is to it. Note, however, that you may only have one command by using the .inf file in this manner, see the Involved section of customizing for details on how to have multiple .inf files and hence commands. NOTE: do NOT change the name of the .inf file, leave it as RCComm.inf! By changing the name alone you will make it unable to work correctly!!! 2. EVOLVED:

This is not really that hard just that it helps to have an understanding of the basic structure of the Registry before you begin. For simplicity's sake I have only detailed how to setup multiple .inf files thus allowing multiple commands to be accessed via the right hand click menu. Note also that this .inf file could be customized to setup new associations automatically for programs with little modifications (ie set the key to something other than '*' and also setup a sub key called 'DefalutIcon' with its defalut value set to the desired icon, see other associations on how to set this up) however, it is probably easier to use Explorer and goto the 'View' menu, choose 'Options' and then 'File types'.

Setting up Multiple .inf files:

- 1) Think of a good name for your command ie Edit_with_UltraEdit.
- 2) Perform a search on the text 'R_Click_Comm' and replace with your new name from 1).
- 3) Think of an appropriate name for the .inf file ie Uedit (only the part preceeding the .inf extension since you still need the .inf part).
- 4) Perform a search on the text 'RCComm' and replace with your new .inf name from 3).
- 5) Modify the [Strings] section (as per the BASIC customizing section).
- 6) Save the file as the name in 3) with a .inf extension (NOTE it is important that the names in 4) and 5) are the same or it won't work correctly. Now cross your fingers and install it.

That is really all there is to it. You can of course modify all the parameters but that is a little too complex for now."

====*

Wow! Complex indeed... But very useful too.

NUMLOCK

To have the NumLock key turned ON or OFF upon Win95 startup, open Regedit and go to:

HKEY_CURRENT_USER\ControlPanel\Microsoft\Input Devices

Double-click on Input Devices, then click New, then Key. Name the new key Keyboard. Highlight Keyboard, right-click on it, then click New and choose String Value. Type in NumLock and click OK. Then right-click on NumLock and click Modify. Type in ON to turn the NumLock key on (or OFF to turn it off).

Now close Regedit and then press F5, after left-clicking your mouse on an empty area on the Desktop, so the change can take effect.

NOTICE: If you are using a Config.sys file to boot up, you can also choose

to turn your NumLock key OFF by adding this line to your Config.sys (and then reboot):

NUMLOCK=OFF

Read CONFIG.TXT located in your Windows 95 folder for more details.

CLEAR DESKTOP ICONS

To clear your desktop of the Inbox or Recycle Bin icons, open Regedit and go to the:

HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\explorer\Desktop\NameSpace
folder as if you were navigating Explorer.

NameSpace contains within it two folders that correspond to the icons for the Inbox and the Recycle Bin. The folder names are ridiculously long and made up mostly of numbers. But when you select one of the folders, an object in the right-hand pane tells you if the folder is for the Inbox or the Recycle Bin. You can then delete the folder corresponding to the icon that you don't want displayed on your desktop anymore. You can always get to the Inbox from Start/Programs/Microsoft Exchange and use the Del key to delete a selected file. If you need to get into the Recycle Bin or restore files, just go the Recycle Bin folder found on your primary hard drive's root folder.

NO AGENT LOG (My own trick)

For those of you who installed Microsoft Plus! for Win95, there is a way to disable the System Agent log update. Run Regedit.exe and go to:

HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Plus!\System Agent

In the right hand pane, highlight "No Log". Right-click on No Log, click Modify, and change the numeric value from 1 to 0. Close Regedit and then restart Win95.

You can now safely delete the file SAGELOG.TXT (or whatever you called it) located in your \Program Files\Plus! folder, if you don't want your System Agent to keep a record (LOG) of its actions anymore.

NOTEPAD FONT

To change the font displayed in Notepad, open Regedit and go to:

HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\config\0001\display\settings

Modify fixedfon.fon (the default is vgafix.fon) with the font you want to see in Notepad documents (and in all other display screens that use this font). You can try to use any other .FON extension font for that matter.

NOTE: I haven't tried, but it may also work with a .TTF (true type font). It's very useful if you work with Windows 95's multilanguage support installed and the chosen font is bilingual. There is one limitation though: you can only switch from English to any other language only ONCE per session.

NOTICE: You may also want to try a third party replacement for Notepad, that

lets you change the display font from within the program (there are now lots of freely distributed 32bit Notepad replacements on most popular web software sites).

Have fun.

NETWORK SERVER

This is a performance tip for standalone Windows 95 Desktop Machines:

Open My Computer/Performance/File System, and set your Machine to "Network Server". This allocates about 40 KB of RAM to cache the last accessed 64 directory paths and the last 2729 accessed files. The "Desktop" setting caches the last 32 folders accessed and the last 677 accessed files, and takes around 16KB of memory. The extra RAM is well worth the file system boost. BUT before this could help, you need to do a Registry hack, to make this really happen (on some systems anyway).

Microsoft says that these settings get written incorrectly to the Registry for the "Network Server" and "Mobile Docking" profiles on most Windows 95 OSR1 (original release) machines (Win95 OSR2 doesn't exhibit this bug!).

The settings that need to be changed are found in the Registry under:

HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\FS Templates To edit the Registry, run Regedit, and go to the key shown above. Click on Server, and in the right-hand pane you'll see two entries called NameCache and PathCache. Here are the values that you need to enter/modify for each one of them:

1. For NameCache modify the numeric values to read: a9 0a 00 00 2. For PathCache modify the numeric values to read:

40 00 00 00

These values are written to the wrong entries by default and you have to manually fix them to get the performance boost when setting your machine to "Network Server". Because these values are written in wrong many people see no difference in performance when changing to "Network Server". But this Registry hack fixes it, and when you're done making these changes, go set your system to "Network Server" and see if you notice any improvement (you'll need to restart Win95 first for the changes to take effect). If you would like to choose the "Server" cache setting, without messing with the Registry, open Explorer (or File Manager) and double-click the SERVER.REG registration file (also included here).

Microsoft Knowledge Base details this Registry bug/fix at:

<http://support.microsoft.com/support/kb/articles/Q138/0/12.asp>