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Introduction

EZinst is an easy, painless way to install Windows software. The installation program itself is small (about 60k) and includes such features as source and destination directory entry, a percent completed status bar, and a very easy, customizable [install.ini](#) file format. All the programmer, consultant, or other user has to do is make a very simple [install.ini](#) file with his/her favorite text editor.

The install.ini file

The install.ini file tells the EZinst installation program exactly how to install the program(s). The file format is simple and easy to use.

File format:

- Line #1 - The title displayed in large letters in the installation program.
- Line #2 - The background two colors. The first will begin at the top and blend into the second at the bottom. The colors can be: BLACK, DARKBLUE, DARKGREEN, DARKCYAN, DARKRED, DARKMAGENTA, DARKYELLOW, DARKGRAY, GRAY, BLUE, GREEN, CYAN, RED, MAGENTA, YELLOW, WHITE.
- Line #3 - The default source drive/directory. This can be the current directory.
- Line #4 - The default destination drive/directory. If it already exists, the EZinst will prompt if it is still to be used.
- Line #5 - The number of files to install. Make sure this number corresponds to the number of lines following it, not including any lines with @@DISK@@..
- Line #6-#? - The files to install. They may be compressed by using Microsoft's compress.exe. The @@DISK@@ macro may be put on a line and will prompt the user to insert a new disk into the drive.
- Line #7 - The program group. If it doesn't already exist, it will be created.
- Line #8 - The number of program item to be created in the program group. Make sure this number corresponds to the number of lines following it.
- Line #9-#? - The program items to install. The first part of an entry is the program to be run followed by command-line parameters. The second part of an entry is the titled, and is separated by a comma. The macro @@DIR@@ will be substituted by the default directory. The macro @@WIN@@ will be substituted by the Windows directory. The macro @@SYS@@ will be substituted by the Windows system directory.

Example:

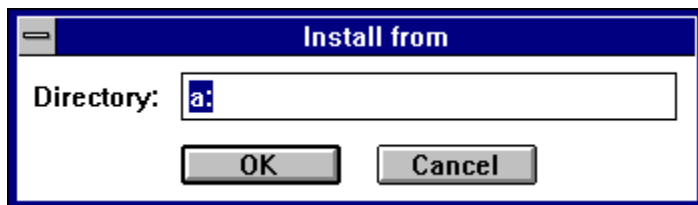
```
Gengame Installation
; Title to display while installing
YELLOW RED
; Background with yellow at top and red at the bottom
a:
; Default source drive/directory
c:\gengame
; Default destination drive/directory
3
```

```
        ; Number of files to install
gengame.ex_
        ; Name of files (may be compressed or
gengame.hl_
        ; un-compressed). Must be the name
readme.tx_
        ; in the source drive/directory)
Games
        ; Program (manager) group
2
        ; Number of program items
@@DIR@@\gengame.exe, Generic Game
        ; Program items (The program itself)
winhelp @@DIR@@\gengame.hlp, Help
        ; (a help file)
```

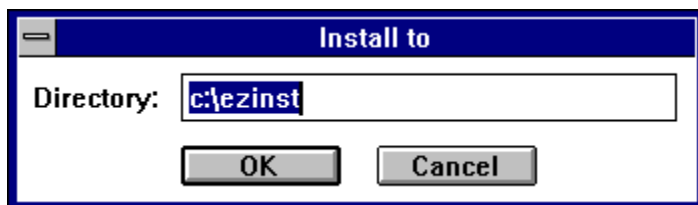
Directories

Lines #2 and #3 contain the default directories. These are the directories that the program will be installed to and from if the user hits enter without changing the directories. Line #2 is the default source directory and line #3 is the default destination directory. These line should contain valid MS-DOS drive/directories. Possible entries include: ., a:, c:\apl, d:\.test\install.

Source:



Destination:



Files

Line #4 contains the number of files to install. This number must correspond to the number of lines in the file list starting on line #5 (not including any @@DISK@@ macros). If the number on line #4 is greater than zero, line #5 starts the file list. The file list contains the files to be installed by the exact name in the source directory.

Program group

Line #6 (assuming only one file to install) contains the name of the Program Manager group in which to put the program items. If the group already exists it will be selected, otherwise it will be created.

Program items

Line #7 (assuming only one file to install) contains the number of program items to install into the program group. This number must correspond to the number of lines in the file list starting on line #8. If the number on line #7 is greater than zero, line #8 starts the program item list. Program items must follow a specific syntax: program_to_execute, program_item_name. The macro @@DIR@@ anywhere in the program item will be substituted with the destination directory.

Example

This example is the installation.ini file for EZinst.

EZinst Installation

YELLOW RED

a:

c:\lezinst

7

install.exe

install.hlp

install.ini

readme.txt

compress.exe

order.frm

file_id.diz

Programming

3

@@DIR@@\install.exe, EZinst

winhelp @@DIR@@\install.hlp, EZinst Help

notepad @@DIR@@\readme.txt, README.TXT

Compression

The file `compress.exe` is included in the EZinst package. This file can be used to compress distribution files in the `install.exe` file list. EZinst will automatically uncompress the files when it installs them. To compress a file use the following syntax: `compress [-r] filename1.ext [filename2.ext]`. If the optional `-r` switch automatically renames the compressed file with the character `_` in place of the original last character.

Registration

EZinst is a shareware program that has a 30 day evaluation period after which a payment of \$12 is required. As shareware, EZinst was distributed freely in order to allow people to "test drive" it. The try-before-you-buy concept allows users to find out which programs are useful before purchasing (registering) them. If a shareware program is useful or entertaining, please support it through registration. The registration fee for EZinst is only \$12. These twelve dollars entitle you to the newest version of the program, a printed manual, customer support (through the mail, CompuServe, or our BBS), source code (for Borland C++ 4.0), an unlimited distribution license, and information (and discounts) on other offerings from Burnham Park Software, Inc. To register, go to the [Registration Form](#) page and use the [File-Print Topic](#) menu command. Fill out the resulting form and send to:

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Registration form

Name: _____

Street: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip code: _____

Country: _____

Phone: _____

Program registering: _____

Type of disk: 3 1/2: _____ 5 1/4: _____

Computer: _____

On-line services or bulletin boards: _____

Where did you get the program: _____

Amount enclosed: _____

* Add \$1.00 shipping to Canada and Mexico. Add \$3.00 shipping to anywhere outside the U.S. (except Canada and Mexico).

Send to:

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