

Theme Weaver

Tutorial

- **Introduction**

Theme Weaver is an application that will assist individuals in creating themes for MS Plus! The following information provides a quick overview of how to use Theme Weaver.

- **Beginning**

Start Theme Weaver by clicking the Start button, Programs, McNair Software (if you installed to the default directory) and Theme Weaver. This will start the Theme Weaver application.

- **First Screen**

The first available screen in Theme Weaver deals with selection of icons, desktop wallpaper and screen saver. You may choose icons for each of the following:

- My Computer
- Network Neighborhood
- Recycle Bin (empty and full)

Valid file types for this screen are:

.ico	Icons
.bmp	Desktop Wallpaper
.jpg	Desktop Wallpaper
.scr	Screen Saver

The chosen icon will be displayed next to the path of the file. Next, choose a desktop wallpaper. Once selected, you will be given the option of previewing the image. Also notice the 'tile' button. Depress this button to have the desktop wallpaper tile, otherwise the desktop wallpaper will not be tiled when displayed. Finally, choose a screen saver. Once these steps are completed, click on the 'Next' button.

- **Sound Screen**

The sound screen will allow you to select different sound (.wav) files to be associated with different system events. If there is no path name in the text box, clicking on the speaker button will open a dialog box in which you can locate the sound you want. Once you have a sound selected, and it's path is displayed in the text box, you can once again click on the speaker button and this time it will play the sound. Repeat this procedure until you have sounds for all the events to which you want sound associated. To clear the text box of a file name, right click on that box for a pop-up menu that will allow you to clear the entry.

Valid file types for this screen are:

.wav	Sounds
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- **Desktop Color Scheme Screen**

This screen will allow you to modify the colors of different parts of Windows 95. There are nine preprogrammed schemes and sixty-nine preprogrammed colors to allow you to quickly generate a color scheme. Any of the colors can be modified to your liking using the scrollbars. Once you've created a color you like, click on the Window object box to make that object the same color. Do this until you've created a scheme that you like and click the 'Next' button.

- **Cursor Screen**

By now, you should have the hang of how it works. The cursor screen is very similar to the sound selection screen, although there is no preview of chosen cursors.

Valid file types for this screen are:

.cur	Cursor
.ani	Animated Cursor

- **Saving The Theme**

Once you've got the theme fine tuned and ready to save, click the 'Save' button. This will ask you to name your theme. Once you enter a name and click 'OK', a subdirectory of the name you just chose will be created in the same directory location as Theme Weaver. Then a Save dialog box will open. Here you may choose a different name for the actual theme you just created, although there really is no need. The important point here is, if you change the directory within the Save dialog box, your theme file (ex. My First Theme.Theme) will be placed within the directory you chose, but the files for the theme (icons, bitmaps, cursors, etc.) will be placed within the directory that Theme Weaver created just after you chose a name. In other words, the theme file will not be in the same directory as the theme's dependent files. You just need to be aware of that fact. It is recommended that you don't choose a different path in the Save dialog box only because this will keep all files in one directory.

- **Distributing Themes**

If you didn't incur the problem of the .theme file being placed in a different directory than the other remaining files, all you need to do is zip up all files in the directory and either upload to your ISP or copy to floppy. No royalties are required from me for any theme created with Theme Weaver, although it is a copyright violation to distribute themes created on the unregistered copy of Theme Weaver.

You should instruct potential users that they must have Microsoft Plus! to load the themes.

- **Theme Weaver**

That's all there is to it. If you have any suggestions or comments, just send me an e-mail at the address listed in the Readme file. Good luck creating new themes!