

DDR_V Print Preview v2.1 - shareware

Written by:

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Features:

New lower price - \$19 (+ \$3 for s & h)
dll/exe to distribute royalty free
screen preview or just print
multiple page support
text, lines, boxes, and bitmaps
paragraphs of text and angled text
measurements in inches or cm
portrait or landscape modes
customize buttons and toolbar hints
change the default printer
set the initial viewer positions and window state
six zoom states - 50%, 75%, 100%, 125%, 150% & zoom to fit
float the viewer
kill the viewer screen with your own code
print to any printer
print page ranges and multiple copies

Registration upgrade to v2.1 registered:

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SWREG forum on compuserve

Registration ID = 6833

<or>

Contact Don at
72762,645 on compuserve

<or>

Snail mail
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Minneapolis, MN 55421

I will deliver the registered version by e-mail if possible or by uspo/ups upon request.

Why Register

1. I'll take away that silly registration warning
2. Support via compuserve e-mail
3. Free bug fixes, and a free upgrade to the next version
4. Delphi source code

What is in this zip file ???

	readme.wri	This file
>>>>	howto.doc	A tutorial and discussion w/ examples- READ THIS FIRST !!
>>>>	ddrv_vb.doc	A word6 file with descriptions of the dll functions- READ THIS !!
	ddrv_del.doc	Special instructions for use with Delphi applications
	ddrv.dll	The DLL
	ddrvexe.exe	The EXE
	ddrvcnst.bas	The constants and declarations for VB v3.0
	ddrvcnst.pas	The constants and declarations for Delphi v1.0
	rvtest.exe	A VB program example (requires vbrun300.dll)
	rvtest.mak	VB program example project file
	rvtest.frm	The VB form for the example
	delph_eg.zip	Delphi example project zipped. This is, unfortunately, not as complete an example as the VB example is - it does show most of the viewer features, though. Potential users, should obtain VB run and examine ddrv with rvtest.exe instead of compiling this example. It's main purpose is to show pascal programmers the basics of working with ddrv.dll and ddrvexe.exe.
	test.bmp	A test bitmap used by the examples
	ddrv.bmp	Another test bitmap used in the examples
	alt_tool.bmp	A sample bitmap used to re-assign the default button bitmaps

What is it ???

The Print Preview program was originally written to replace the printer object in Visual Basic v3.0. It allows for a single set of code to output information to the screen and/or the printer. It consists of two parts - ddrv.dll and ddrvexe.exe. Through VB (or any other language that allows calls to DLLs) the programmer makes printing calls to ddrv.dll - see the Delphi examples. The information sent will then either be displayed on the screen or sent to the printer. Your app does not actually interact with ddrvexe.exe, ddrv.dll uses the exe to create the display screen.

Running the sample app

1. copy ddrvexe.exe and ddrv.dll to \windows\system
2. make sure you have vbrun300.dll in your path (preferably in windows\system)
3. copy rvtest.exe and *.bmp into your favorite directory
4. run rvtest.exe

A quick example ...

Place ddrv.dll and ddrvexe.exe in your windows\system directory (or in the program directory). Create a new VB project and add ddrvcnst.bas to it. Place one command button on the application's form. In the click event of the button, type in the following code:

```
    Dim Title$, Text$, a%, Handle%
    Title$ = "Test RV"
    Handle% = Form1.hWnd

' -- Initialize the viewer
    a% = rvInit(Handle%, Title$, RV_VIEWFIRST, RV_INCH, RV_PORTRAIT)

' -- Set the font size to 12 pt.
    rvFontSize 12

' -- Set the fontname to Arial
    rvFontName "Arial"

' -- Print the text left-aligned at 1, 1
    rvText 1, 1, RV_LEFT, "A test of ddrv.dll"

' -- End the document
    rvEndDoc
```

Now run the VB app and click the button - the viewer should come up on the screen.

The minimum skeleton for using ddrv.dll is as follows:

```
a% = rvInit(hParent, Title$, ViewOrPrint%, UnitOfMeasure%, Options%)
```

... Next set the font specs for the page, this must be done to start each page.

```
rvFontSize Whatever%
```

```
rvFontName "WhateverFontYouWant"
```

```
rvFontStyle RV_NORMAL 'or Bold, or italic, or Bold + Italic, etc.
```

... do whatever you want - rvText, rvLine, rvRect, rvGraphic, rvNewPage, etc.

... When you are done call -

```
rvEndDoc
```

... The preview will now be on the screen.

More details please ...

A quick overview of what happens behind the scenes:

When you call rvInit, the dll creates a temporary file to hold the list of your page description instructions. The dll simply transfers your calls into a page description file. The file continues to build until rvEndDoc is called. When rvEndDoc is called, the dll closes the temp file and executes ddrvexe.exe, adding a command line parameter containing the temp file name and some option parameters. When ddrvexe.exe starts up, it opens the temp file, reads the page descriptions, and prints the pages out to the screen (or the printer). When it's done, ddrvexe.exe deletes the temp file.

The source code ???

This program/dll is one of my first attempts at using Borlands Delphi to create something useful. Being new to Object Pascal and Delphi, I'm sure there is room for improvement in the structure and methods of my code. The code will be shipped free with all registrations.

What do I do now ???

#1 copy ddrv.dll and ddrvexe.exe to your windows\system directory (or your app directory)

#2 read the write file called HOWTO.DOC

#3 look over DDRV_VB.DOC (the function reference) and the sample app.

#4 start playing. e-mail me if you get stuck and i'll give you a hand <g>