

**** Help Magician Pro 95 Small DEMO Read Me File *****

Thank you for your interest in Help Magician Pro 95!

You have a demo of one of the best help authoring tools on the market for creating Windows help files and Internet Web pages from your help files.

Being a demo version, we've disabled certain features in Help Magician such as spell checking, rtf importing, html exporting, limited project management features, and limited the demo to 25 help topics. The demo version also does not include the clipart library, nor the opening.wav and sp05.avi file for demo95 source, or some executables and the website demonstration.

We attempted to make this demo as small as possible so it can be downloaded off the web (thus a lot of stuff has been left out). You can request our "Help Magician Pro 95 Demo and Hypertext Tools CDROM", which is packed full of clipart, midi files, WinHelp Add-ons, and Help Magician Pro 95 demo in its entirety.

When you are ready to purchase Help Magician Pro 95, view the purchase.hlp file for information on how to unlock the demo so you can get started right away.

We suggest that you run the Help Wizard from within Help Magician's Help Menu and let it give you an introduction to Help Magician.

We've included demo files that you can open and explore. They are in the \DEMO31 (for Windows 3.1 users), \DEMO95 (for Windows 95 users), and \WEBDEMO (to show a sample of a help file converted to a web site).

This file contains any last minute notes that didn't make it into the manual or the help file.

HTML Support

The manual was written before the completion of the HTML support in Help Magician. There have been quite a few changes since the manual was published. Refer to the online help file for documentation on the HTML support. We've included a Website demo in the \WEBDEMO subdirectory to show how a sample website can be done. This demo shows an early version of our website currently at www.sinterphase.com. You will need Windows 95 to see the WEBSITE.HLP file.

Clipart

We've included a collection of clipart images that you can use in your help file or web site. They are located in the \CLIPART directory.

Using 256-color Bitmaps in Windows 3.1

You have two options for using 256 color bitmaps:

1) Help Magician Pro includes a DLL that allows WinHelp for Windows 3.1 to display 256 color bitmaps. The Help Magician Installation program installs this DLL to your Windows directory. When you make a HLP file, you need to distribute the HMEW2.DLL file to your customers. You must make sure it gets installed in their Windows directory. Also, you must distribute all the 256-color .bmps with the .hlp file and install them in the same directory as the .hlp file. If you don't do any of the above, WinHelp will display the message "Unable to display picture" when showing a 256-color bitmap. You may distribute the HMEW2.DLL royalty-free. Windows 95 supports high color bitmaps without the need for this DLL or distributing the bitmap files.

2) Use the HC505.EXE help compiler in place of the HC31.EXE help compiler. It has a few quirks, so we recommend you completely check out your help file. This compile supports 256-color images directly without the need for HMEW2.DLL or including your .bmp files.

Images and Memory

There are three methods that can be used to represent images in the editor.

Display Image

Stores the image in memory and in the HLX file. This method uses the most memory and disk space but provides the fastest display of the image in the editor.

Display Filename

Stores the filename only in memory and in the HLX file. This method uses the least memory and disk space of all the display options.

Link to File

Stores only the image filename in memory and in the HLX but displays the image in the editor. This method is a compromise between the two methods described above.

After installation, the system defaults to Link to File. This can be changed at any time in the Environment Options form, available from the Options menu.

Backup Source Files

The Help Magician will keep previous versions of the source (.HLX) for your help system depending on the setting on the File Save tab in the Environment Options form. After installation the system defaults to two files but this can be changed at any time in the Environment Options form, available from the Options menu. The extensions for the backups are from .H01 to .H10.

Special Font

A special font has been installed on your system for use with the Help Magician's Macro Editor. In the font selection dialog, it will be listed as:

Help Macro 10

IMPORTANT: After installation, you will have to re-start Windows for this font to be available.

Multimedia

The Help Magician automates the use of audio (.WAV), midi (.MID), video (.AVI), and movie (.MMM) files in your help system using the standard WinHelp engine, supplied with Microsoft Windows 3.1. Windows 95 Help supports multimedia directly.

- The Help Magician is shipped with:
- (1) MMMovie driver, MCIMMP.DRV & MMP.DLL.
 - (2) Example Midi file: CANYON.MID
 - (3) Example MMMovie file: SNDOIL.MMM
 - (4) Example Wave file: THANKS.WAV