

Microsoft FrontPage 2000

Product Overview

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For the latest information, please see <http://www.microsoft.com/office/>

Introduction

Microsoft® FrontPage® 2000 gives users everything they need to easily create and manage great Web sites. FrontPage 2000 was developed to take the best features of award-winning FrontPage 98, make them even easier than before, and add to them new features that customers have requested.

This document discusses the design goals, end-user benefits and features of FrontPage 2000.

Design Goals for FrontPage 2000

In preparation for FrontPage 2000, we conducted thousands of hours of customer research to learn what customers need to create and manage great Web sites. We learned that users want more control over the look of their Web pages – from the positioning of individual elements to the overall look. Users also let us know that they want to be able to update their sites more easily. Further, since FrontPage users also use Microsoft Office and frequently add content to their Web, making FrontPage and Office work really well together was one of the most common requests we heard from customers.

With these improvements in mind, we identified the following three design goals for FrontPage 2000.

- Easily create Web sites exactly the way you want
- Easily update Web sites--*quickly and flexibly manage Internet or team intranet Web sites*
- Work great with Office to save time—*creating a Web site has never been easier*

Benefits and Features

Easily Create Web Sites Exactly The Way You Want

FrontPage 2000 makes it possible for everyone to create rich, great-looking Web sites with improved ease of use and productivity for all users. FrontPage 2000 gives users control of their Web sites like never before. They can position elements exactly where they want them on the page, give their Web site a professional and consistent look across all of its pages, import and edit HTML just as they like, and use the latest in Web technology.

Everything Needed to Create Great-looking Web Sites

FrontPage 2000 allows users to create engaging Web sites that look and work exactly the way they want them to. FrontPage includes the ability to lay out pages with exacting care, and design the pages with elements that color coordinate, with cutting edge features like Dynamic HTML and Cascading Style Sheets that add style, movement, and interest to pages.

Better-Than-Notepad HTML Editing

For the first time, FrontPage 2000 combines the easiest to use WYSIWYG editor with HTML source preservation and new HTML editing productivity tools. FrontPage 2000 allows users who author in a text editor and know HTML to create code faster, and create code that is formatted just the way they want. This is a breakthrough for HTML authors who want to preserve their formatting and authoring preferences, or for those who want to switch back and forth between multiple HTML editors without unnecessary formatting changes.

Easy Database Integration

One of the most common requests for feature enhancements in FrontPage is the ability to take database queries and easily incorporate them into FrontPage-based Web pages. With FrontPage 2000, this becomes much easier, and users can even create Web sites with pages where the data is updated when the user enters the page or refreshes it. This provides the user with the latest information at all times, and saves the Webmaster from having to keep re-posting fresh snapshots of the database.

Supports the Latest Web Technology

FrontPage 2000 allows users to create Web sites that sizzle with more than just plain HTML. They can take advantage of the latest Web functionality by using the pre-built Web components that FrontPage ships with, buying third-party add-ons, or using its new programmability features, such as Visual Basic for Applications, to easily create add-ons of their own.

Easily Update Sites--*Quickly and Flexibly Manage Internet or Team Intranet Web Sites*

FrontPage 2000 allows users to take a Web-wide view of all of the elements that make up their sites, and make sure that they are operating at top performance,

and just the way they want them to. And FrontPage 2000 allows users to work together in workgroups or teams better than ever before.

Site Management Reports and Views Summarize a Site at a Glance

Updating Web sites is easy with 14 new management reports that summarize the status of your site at a glance, including reports on the total number and size of files, slow pages, unlinked (unused files), broken hyperlinks, and publish status for all files in the Web. FrontPage 2000 uses a Microsoft Outlook-style toolbar on the left side of the screen to help users quickly and easily see their Web site just the way they want to. This allows users to quickly get performance, navigation, and workflow information on their Web site from one easy-to-use application.

Flexible Publishing Features

FrontPage 2000 includes several improvements in the process of publishing Web pages and files to Web servers that make updating sites even easier. New page-level control over publishing enables more flexibility in publishing Web sites to an HTTP server (whether or not it is running the FrontPage Server Extensions).

Flexible Collaboration Features

Building on the remote and multi-user authoring capabilities that FrontPage has had since version 1.0, FrontPage 2000 adds robust collaboration tools to enable teams to easily update their web site with multiple levels of security. New tools such as built in support for page level check-in and check-out help teams work together better than ever. Moreover, FrontPage's open site management allows any user to easily update a FrontPage Web site with new content, even if they are not using FrontPage.

Automate Routine Tasks

FrontPage 2000 was designed to make creating and maintaining Web sites as easy and worry-free as possible. It helps automate routine tasks such as automatically fixing hyperlinks to pages or files when they are renamed or moved, and even automatically inserting links to all Web documents in a specific category.

Web Sites That Work Anywhere

FrontPage 2000 allows users to incorporate advanced functionality that works on the browser and server platform that they want to target.

Works Great with Other Widely Used Microsoft Products

FrontPage 2000 is complementary to many of the products that customers already own. For example, it uses the same management console used by Windows NT Server, Internet Information Services, and other BackOffice applications, and ships with Windows NT Server, Microsoft Site Server and Visual InterDev. This allows administrators to manage FrontPage-based Webs in a familiar environment that they have already learned, and to create Web content in an environment that is as familiar to them as Microsoft Office.

Work Great With Office To Save Time—*Creating A Web Site Has Never Been Easier*

Most FrontPage users also use one or more Microsoft Office applications. When we visit customers that create Web content, one of the things they frequently ask for is better integration between FrontPage and Office applications like Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and Access. This is because so many users already produce documents and presentations, and they would like it to be easy to post them on an intranet or Internet Web site. FrontPage 2000 makes great strides in its interoperability with Microsoft Office documents, allowing users to quickly and painlessly publish Web content. FrontPage 2000 was designed to function more like Office so that users can get up and running with FrontPage more quickly than ever.

Simplified Features

FrontPage 98 has gone through many rounds of usability testing, and we've collected feedback from hundreds of users about how to make common tasks even easier to accomplish. As a result of this feedback we have integrated the FrontPage Explorer and Editor into one easy to use application and made FrontPage look and work like Microsoft Office with shared Office toolbars and menus. Additionally, shared tools such as Themes, background spelling and Format Painter make creating a Web site easier than ever. For a complete list of simplified features in FrontPage 2000, please see the FrontPage 2000 Product Enhancements Guide.

Streamlined Web Publishing with Office 2000

With Office 2000 and FrontPage 2000, users can post their Office documents directly to FrontPage-based Webs as easily as they save files to a hard disk. FrontPage 2000 offers integrated HTML editing with all Office applications and automatically provides hyperlink maintenance for Office documents. Furthermore, Data Access Pages and Office 2000 Web components can all be easily inserted, edited and managed with FrontPage.

Designed for Worldwide Use

A single worldwide executable and support for 15 languages make FrontPage 2000 easy to install and support around the globe. Additionally, users can create Web content in whatever language their Windows operating system supports. For example, a user running Windows 98 in Portuguese could use the English or German or Spanish version of FrontPage to create and manage their Web sites, which are written in Portuguese.

Get Up and Running Quickly and Easily

FrontPage makes setting up and keeping Web sites running easier, both for the individual FrontPage user installing and using FrontPage, and for companies deploying FrontPage 2000 across their organizations. FrontPage 2000 offers great support for disk-based Webs so that end users never have to install a Web server. In addition, FrontPage 2000 utilizes the new Windows Installer Technology to provide new features such as installation on demand, run from server and self-repairing applications.

System Requirements

To use Microsoft FrontPage 2000, the following components are required:

- Personal or multimedia computer with a 486 or higher processor
- Microsoft Windows 95 operating system or later, Microsoft Windows NT Workstation operating system 4.0 or later, or Microsoft Windows NT Server 4.0 or later. (FrontPage 2000 will not run on earlier versions.)
- 16 MB of RAM for use on Windows 95; 32 MB of RAM for use on Windows NT
- 36 MB of available hard disk space
- CD-ROM drive
- VGA or higher-resolution video adapter (Super VGA, 256-color display recommended)
- Microsoft Mouse, Microsoft IntelliMouse™, or compatible pointing device
- Internet access is necessary to use Internet features; Internet and other online access may require payment of a separate fee to a service provider.

The following are additional hard disk requirements for included tools:

- 11 MB for Microsoft Internet Explorer 3.0
- 1 MB for Microsoft Personal Web Server for Windows 95
- 10 MB for Microsoft Peer Web Services for Windows NT Workstation
- 1 MB for Web Publishing Wizard
- 2 MB for Internet Mail and News

To use Microsoft Image Composer, the following components are required:

- 486/66 MHz processor or higher (Pentium processor recommended)
- 16 MB of RAM (32 MB recommended)
- Hard disk space: 28 MB minimum; 44 MB typical, depending on configuration
- VGA, 640x480 16-bit color (Super VGA, 800x600 24-bit TrueColor with 2 MB of video memory recommended)

The following are optional for Microsoft Image Composer:

- Windows-compatible tablet with mouse emulation for basic mouse support, or WinTab-compatible tablet for Full Pressure support

- TWAIN-compatible scanners or digital cameras

For more information: <http://www.microsoft.com/frontpage/>



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