

WideOpen

Version 1.2

Long Filename Support for Word 6.0 in Windows 95

One of the most useful features of Windows 95 is the ability to use long, descriptive names for files (up to 255 characters!) Unfortunately, older applications such as Microsoft Word 6.0 are limited to short file names (only 8 characters) and continue to use the old Windows 3.1 open dialog. So "Letter to Grandmother" becomes LETTER~1.DOC. And if you're like me, you won't have the foggiest idea who "~1" is when it comes time to open up the document in Word.

Happily, a solution is at hand! *WideOpen*¹ is a shareware utility that seamlessly replaces Word's Open and SaveAs dialogs with the new Windows 95 dialogs. In addition to long file names, you also get shortcuts, document icons, and all of the other features of Windows 95. *WideOpen* provides simple one-click installation and de-installation, and is available for the low registration fee of \$10.

Just double-click below to install *WideOpen*:

>>Install

Once *WideOpen* is installed, its dialog boxes will automatically be used whenever the *Open* and *Save As* commands are selected. (Try it now...) That's all there is to it²!

Please help support the further development of *WideOpen* and software like it. Share it with your friends, and if you use it, please register your copy by sending \$10 to:

Phillip Bogle
3217 164th Place SE
Bellevue, WA 98008

Registered users will receive the registered version of *WideOpen*, which includes support for additional applications (currently supported applications are Microsoft Excel and Lotus Ami Pro.) To receive the registered version by e-mail, please include an e-mail address with your registration fee. To receive the registered version on disk by snail-mail, please include either a stamped, self-addressed disk mailer or \$2 for postage and handling.

Registered users will also receive technical support and priority in requests for new features and supported applications.

¹ *WideOpen* is © 1995 by Phillip Bogle. *WideOpen* may be freely redistributed, but only its complete form.

² Well, OK, here are a couple caveats: *WideOpen* has no control over window titles, so they continue to use the short names. Second, before installing a new version of *WideOpen*, please uninstall the previous version. Finally, *WideOpen* has only been tested with the *English* (US or UK) version of Word 6 on Windows 95. I have attempted to make it compatible with other versions; however some of the SaveAs formats are not supported in international versions of Word. See the appendix for notes on customizing *WideOpen* for non-English versions of Word to provide full functionality.

I welcome your questions or comments by e-mail at pbogle@lcs.mit.edu; businesses, please contact me for information on site licenses and multiple license discounts.

In the event that you do not like *WideOpen* and choose not to register it, double-click below and close this document before doing any more file operations:

>>Uninstall

Enjoy, and have fun with Windows 95!

Revision History

- 1.2 Increased performance on “underpowered” machines by making WideOpen a DDE server. (There will be a slight delay the first time the program is used; after that dialogs should pop up very quickly.) Modified the install program to work with international versions of Word. Fixed a bug that prevented saving a file under a different format than the one it was opened in. Added additional save and open formats. Fixed a bug which made the Open and Save dialogs always on top of other windows.
- 1.1: Added informative dialog boxes if WIDEN.EXE is not found where it should have been installed. Fixed a synchronization bug that occasionally caused FileOpen to do nothing. Made the installation and deinstallation macros more robust. Renamed to WideOpen from Widen. Fixed a few typos.
- 1.0: Initial version of WideOpen

Internationalizing and Customizing WideOpen

(for tech folk only)

All of the WideOpen macros (WidenInstall, WidenUninstall, FileOpen, FileSaveAs, FileSave, WidenSaveAs) can be customized. This is particularly useful for non-English versions of Word.

I have attempted to make WideOpen language independent; however, I have not been able to test with any non-English versions, so I have no guarantee that this will work. Also, some file formats are missing from FileSaveAs because I don't know the foreign translations of the format names. Please contact me for information on customizing WideOpen for full functionality in your language of choice.

Also, by changing *filter\$* in WidenSaveAs, you can add support for additional file formats. Just be sure that the file format description exactly matches the one that Word uses in the default save dialog.

Manual Installation

To install WideOpen manually, copy WIDEN.EXE to your WINWORD directory and all of the macros in WIDEN.DOT to NORMAL.DOT.