

Window Control version 1.21 for Windows 95 or Windows 3.x

Window Control allows the user to control the positioning of any program's windows. There are many window positioning programs on the market, so why another one? Well, at first it was just an exercise in programming, then I decided that I could improve on any of the products out there, by having more features and also making the program simple to use, while still being powerful. I think I have achieved this goal, but if you feel that any features are missing, or any part of Window Control could be improved, then please contact me.

Features.

Window Control is a desktop manager for all your windowing needs. Here are all the functions that Window Control has, and some of the uses for each function.

AutoPlace

Automatically hide, move, resize or top any windows. Can do this both for specific window titles, or all windows of a certain class. Built in features to automatically minimise or maximise windows as well.

View Hidden or Visible Windows

At a touch of a button lets you view all visible or hidden windows. An alternative Task-Manager.

Minimise All, Restore All Visible Window

Minimises and Restores all visible desktop windows. Quickly hide and restore all visible desktop windows.

Hide selected windows

Allows you to clear up clutter by hiding unused windows from your screen. This removes windows from the ALT-TAB chain, and if in Windows95 also from the Start bar.

By using the AutoPlace/AutoHide function, Window Control can be made to check to see if any of your AutoHide windows are loaded, and if so, will hide them.

Restore windows

Will automatically show any hidden windows, and if they were minimised, it will show them in their Normal status.

Sometimes you hide a window by mistake, or a program hides another window, and you want to be able to see it again, this allows you to do this.

Window Placement

This is one of Window Controls most powerful features. Can move any window to a desired location on the screen. This can be done manually, but when used with AutoPlace, this means that you can have any window you want always appearing in the same position each time it is run.

Minimise, Maximise and close windows

Standard window options directly from Window Control. No need to go into the actual program itself to carry these out. Both minimising and maximising can be done automatically using AutoPlace.

Change window captions

When working with more than one copy of a program, this lets you change it's caption so that you can tell which one you are working with.

Set windows to be OnTop of all other windows

Very handy when you want one window to always be on top of all other windows.

How to Use Window Control.

There is complete documentation and tutorials being constantly updated on the Window Control homepage. So, this file on contains a brief user guide. For more details, goto the Window Control hompage, <http://members.aol.com/HarCohen>.

Most features in the main window are selected by clicking on a window you wish to work with in the list of all windows (either visible or hidden depending on what you have selected). I will assume visible for the rest of this tutorial unless

otherwise stated. Once you have selected a window, its program icon will be visible in the top right corner of the window list.

Now right click on the window list, and all the features that you can do to that window will appear. Select one to carry it out. Therefore, you can top, set focus, hide, minimise, maximise, change the caption, view the windows properties or close the window from here.

TIP: To quickly set the focus to a window, double click on it in the window list.

TIP: To minimise Window Control screen space without minimising Window Control itself, press F5. This will Shrink the program to a small box in the bottom left of the screen. Just click on that box again to restore Window Control. If set in the preferences, this box can be made to appear at the top of the screen instead.

To use the AutoPlace features of Window Control press F1, or double click on the yellow status bar at the top of the Window Control screen, or thirdly right click on it and choose Preferences.

Once you set up the general tab to your wishes, go into AutoPlace. It won't contain any windows to start with, so you must add them. New in Version 1.2, there is a wizard that allows you to easily add AutoPlace entries. However, you can also add them from the main window as you could in previous versions. To do this, choose a program you want to control from the main window list. Click and drag its icon onto the AutoPlace list. This loads the windows current position into the AutoPlace window. You can now select the AutoPlace features you want for this window. If you have AutoTop enabled, then if you select *Topped*, the window will automatically top when found. If AutoHide is selected, then the window will be hidden if you select *Hidden*. If AutoPlace in the general tab is switched off, then the window will not change. You can manually change the window position by typing in new values, or select Left, Top, Height or Width then press the + or - buttons to change these values by the value in the box between these two buttons.

You can add as many windows as you like to the AutoPlace list. If you want to add a window class, you must know the name of a windows class. To do this, select a window from the window list, and goto its properties. Within properties, you will see Class. That is the value you want. For example, Notepad is easily enough, NotePad, and Windows Explorer is ExploreWClass. To add a class, either drag and drop a window and then select it from the AutoPlace list, type in the name of the class instead of the Window Title, then press EDIT. Alternatively, just type in the name, and press ADD. Now change the entry from *Title* to *Class*. You can now do all the same things you can with windows except Top. This is disabled because it is unlikely you will want to automatically top every window of any given class.

If you want to use the Wizard to do this, you will find it more intuitive. It automatically finds window classes if you choose a window from the currently open programs. It also leads you through each phase of adding a window to the AutoPlace list with instructions of what to do at each stage of the process, and how that will affect the way AutoPlace runs. Not only does this make it much easier for new users, but more experienced users will find it quicker to add new entries using the wizard as well.

ShortKeys

In Window Control:

Shift + N: Create new AutoPlace entry using the Wizard

F1 = Show Properties window

F2 = Minimise All

F3 = Restore All

F5=Shrink

F10 = Exit

In Preferences:

F1 = General Options

F2 = AutoPlace Options

F3 = About Box

ESC = Close Preferences

F10 = Exit

Remember, more detailed help will be available online on the Window Control homepage, <http://members.aol.com/HarCohen>. To get help from me directly on any feature of Window Control, email me on WindowControl@USA.NET. If you are wanting support, then I would normally expect you to register the program first.

Registering Window Control

Window Control is not unique, but I think it is the best program out there for manipulating windows. Therefore, I don't think I'm being unfair asking for £10/\$15 for this program. Window Control has no nag screens or disabled features, so I'm relying on your good natures to register this program.

If you register, I'll notify you of any updates to Window Control, put your suggestions at the top of the ToDo list, and you'll get any future upgrades to Window Control 1 for free. You might even feel better at helping out a poor programmer, but I guess that might be stretching reality too far.

To register, send a cheque or postal order (or cash if you want to take the risk) for £10 (UK) or \$15 (US) made payable to Harry Cohen to the following address.

Harry Cohen
73 Milverton Road
Giffnock
Glasgow G46 7LQ
Scotland
UK

Include your email address so that I can send you your registered version of Window Control, and can add you to the list of registered users so that I can inform you of upgrades to Window Control.

If you want to contact me about alternative methods of payment, then email me to WindowControl@USA.NET

Legal Necessities

The author of this program accepts no responsibility for damages resulting from its use and makes no warranty or representation, either express or implied, including but not limited to, any implied warranty of merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose.

This software is provided "AS IS", and you, its user, assume all risks when using it.

I guess all that means, if you use Window Control, you use it at your own risk, and if anything happens to your computer due to use of Window Control, I am in no way liable for it. In saying that, Window Control has been thoroughly tested, and I've never heard of any problems when running it.