Boot Manager 95
Version 2.0.1

F:\MSDOS.SYS – Boot Manager 95   ☒

Select the boot options you require the next time that you start Windows 95.

| Boot | GUI | Other | Advanced | Configuration | Profiles | Restart |

☐ Display Startup Menu
☑ Enable DOS Multi-boot
☐ Boot in Safe mode
☑ Enable Boot Keys (F4, F5, F6 and F8)

Default Boot Menu Option | 1 - Normal ▼

Boot Menu Timeout Value In Seconds (0 to 30): [30] ⬍

Seconds to display "Starting Windows 95" message (0 to 99): [2] ⬍

Instant Help

| About | OK | Cancel | Apply |

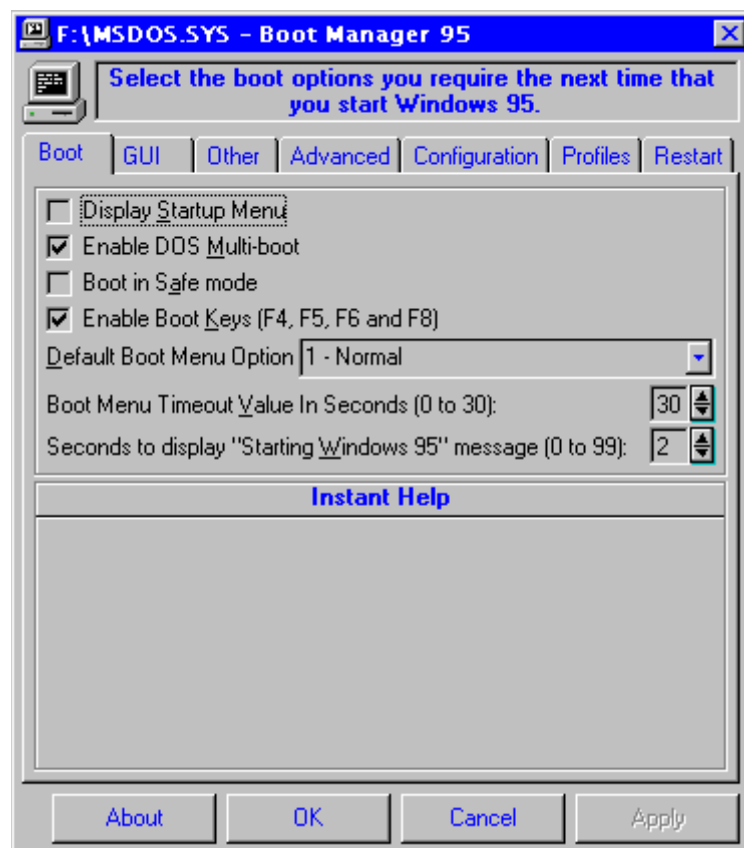## Legal Bits

Whilst I have really tried to avoid getting involved with the legal side of programming, in this day and age I feel that you cannot afford to leave yourself open to legal attack from the small minority that try to spoil everybody's enjoyment of computers. Therefore, I have been forced to include the following statements to placate this group of people:

- Boot Manager 95 ("The program") may be freely distributed but it is not public domain and remains the copyright of the author ("Kevin P.Ferguson").
- You may freely distribute copies of this program by any electronic distribution method as long as you include this document along with the executable(s) in the original archive.
- Whilst you have the freedom to copy this program, you may not charge a fee for the program (You may, however, charge a small fee to cover the costs you have incurred by way of the distribution medium you used).
- The program and all files included in the original archive may not be altered, reverse engineered or decompiled in any way without the explicit written permission of the author.
- By using the program, the user assumes full responsibility for ensuring it is used in the intended manner and may not hold the author liable for any loss or damage howsoever caused.
- If you are unable to accept any of these conditions, the program must not be used and you must destroy all copies in your possession.
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What is Boot Manager 95 for?

Windows 95 has configurable boot options that are only properly documented in the Windows 95 Resource Kit. Boot Manager 95 allows you to change these options without having to buy the Resource Kit.

Boot Manager 95 is complient with all relevant sections of the Windows 95 Logo Program that apply to it, but is not officially endorsed by Microsoft.

The boot options are stored in the **MSDOS.SYS** file in the root folder of your boot drive. This is a user configurable file that allows you to enable various boot options that range from booting to a previous version of an operating system (providing there is one, which is not always the case in an OEM setup), to setting an optional path to a Windows directory other than the default established during setup. Help on these settings may be obtained by opening the **MSDOS.HLP** file included with the program.

Boot Manager 95 allows you to change only the boot options. The paths should never need to be changed, and the feature will <u>NOT</u> be added to the range of options available through Boot Manager 95 unless a significant number of users request it.

Many hours of work have gone into the program and whilst I have tried to ensure that it is as bug-free as possible, there will always be circumstances that are beyond my control (and thinking!) that will cause the program to behave badly. I shall apologise in advance for this, and would like to hear from you if you experience difficulties using the program. If you do contact me with a bug report, please provide as much information about your machines configuration as possible and I'l try to assist you.
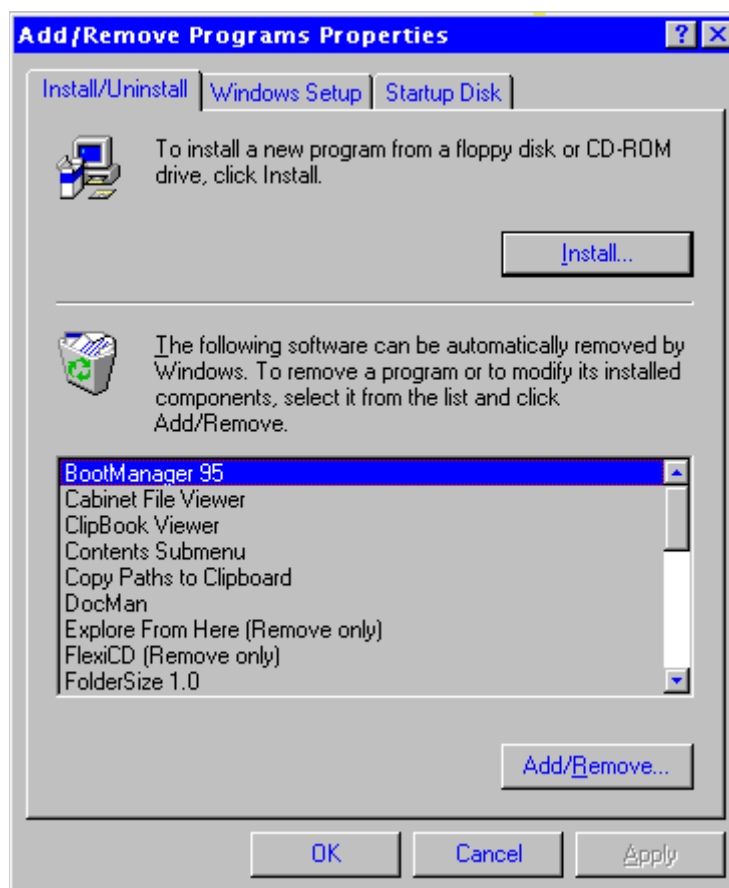
Installation Procedure

Installation is really simple! The method of installation depends on the format in which you received the program.

- If you received the program in archived format (i.e. ARJ, ZIP, LHA, etc.), unarchive the file to a temporary directory on your hard drive and run the SETUP.EXE program.

- If the program was distributed in unarchived format (i.e. CD-ROM, Floppy disk, ZIP Disk, SyQuest drive, etc.) then you should locate and run the SETUP.EXE program.

Uninstallation Procedure

Uninstallation is as simple as installation. From the **Control Panel**, Select the **Add/Remove Programs** applet and select **Boot Manager 95** from the dialogue (see example below). Next, click on the **Add/Remove...** button.

This will uninstall the application automatically, as long as you have not manually deleted any of the elements installed by the installation program!

System Requirements

Boot Manager 95 was designed to run under Windows 95. It will <u>NOT</u> run under Windows 3.0, 3.1, 3.11, Windows for Workgroups and although possible, has never been tested under Windows NT (why would you want to?).

Starting & Using Boot Manager 95

This section assumes that you have installed Boot Manager 95 via the Setup program and have <u>NOT</u> changed any links/references to the program.

• Start Boot Manager 95 by double clicking the *Boot Manager 95* icon in the *Programs* sub-menu of the *Start* menu or double-click the *Boot Manager 95.exe* file in the *\Program Files\Boot Manager 95* folder from *Explorer*.

• To use Boot Manager 95, select the tab that contains the setting(s) you want to change and check or uncheck the options listed. Most of the options are self explanatory, and is accompanied by help in the "Instant Help" panel where appropriate.

Revision History

Version 2.0.1
- Numerous Minor bug fixes (again!).
- Upgraded to 32-bit version (thanks to VB4).
- Major changes to integrate Boot Manager 95 into the *Windows 95 Logo* standard, including registry use (no more BOOTMNGR.INI), Windows 95 controls and support for uninstallation.
- Multiple boot "Profiles" can now be maintained.
- Ability to restart Windows from within Boot Manager 95.
- Better determination of true boot drive (not perfect though!).
  - Instant Help is now optional and can be toggled using a check box in the *Configuration* tab.

Version 1.3a
- Numerous Minor bug fixes.
- The select boot drive from the initial welcome screen was not being saved to the BOOTMNGR.INI file and thus was not being transferred to the configuration tab of the main dialogue.
- The text in the Boot Drive Help dialogue was not displayed correctly.
  - Minor corrections to documentation and addition of de-installation section.

Version 1.3
- Numerous minor bug fixes:
- Fixed BootFailSafe message at boot.
- Improved UI no longer needs TAB VBX.
- Now backs up initial **MSDOS.SYS** for future reference/use.
- Restore original **MSDOS.SYS** and Defaults settings.
  - Help on boot/compressed drives.

Version 1.2
- Bug fix for compressed drives. **MSDOS.SYS** was assumed to be on the C: drive but this is, of course, reassigned by most disk compression software (credit is due to John A Fagerberg for pointing this out to me).
  - Now remembers where you last put it on screen (BOOTMNGR.INI, Sorry, can't use the Windows 95 Registry until the 32-bit version!)

Version 1.1a
- First public release.

Version 1.1
- Major overhaul (tabbed dialogues, wow!).
  - Lots of bug fixes to get it ready for public release.

Version 1.0
- Initial version - Purely for personal use and very buggy. Never publicly released.

The Future

It is difficult to say what may be bolted on to the program in the future, but I will continue to review and use your suggestions! Some that I am thinking of at the moment are:

- Startup/Shutdown Logo module (Will interface to 3rd party applications if desired!)
- Command line profile switching/configuration
- Support for different copies of **CONFIG.SYS** and **AUTOEXEC.BAT** in conjunction with boot settings, when using Profiles
- Control Panel integration
- System Tray Icon
  - Windows 95 Help File

Please feel free to contact me via E-Mail if you would like to see any of the above suggestions implemented or have any other ideas.

Thanks to...

During the writing and testing of this program, many people have helped and inspired me and I would like to say a huge "thank you" to you all. Whilst the list below is by no means complete, those people I have mentioned by name have been instrumental in the design of the program in some way.

- John A.Fagerberg, Kenneth Lee, Rick Shafer, Joseph R.Worrall and Peter Cozens for help with beta testing.
- Before I forget, a special "Hello" to Tony Carnell and Martin Woodgates for being good friends and being **VERY** critcal of PC's (both of them being Amiga owners and not knowing any better!!!). Also, "Dean-o" deserves a mention for just being "Dean-o"!
  - And last but not least, a mention to my beloved K.J. for putting up with me tapping away on the keyboard into the wee small hours (and for keeping the bed warm!).

And Finally...

If you have any comments or suggestions, please feel free to send me and E-Mail at 100634.3111@compuserve.com and I will try to give you a personal reply as soon as possible. I look forward to hearing from you!