

in

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WRITTEN BY		June 24, 2025	

REVISION HISTORY

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Chapter 1

in

1.1 ITimer (c) 1997 Paul Turner

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Written & Designed By Paul Turner

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What Is ITimer	-> Just what does it do??!
Installation & Running	-> How to start it running
Using ITimer	-> Instruction manual type bit
CLI Options	-> Using ITimer in the Shell!
Top Tips	-> Good ideas on using ITimer
Contact Information	-> How to praise/complain
Acknowledgements	-> Big thanks to some people
Version History	-> Life story of ITimer
In The Future	-> Possible features I may add
Known Bugs	-> There shouldn't be any!!
Copyright Notice	-> Legal rubbish

1.2 What Is ITimer?

WHAT IS ITIMER?

ITimer is a simple program that lets you see how much time you have spent on the internet. When it is started, it puts a window on your Workbench desktop with the ITimer interface and starts ticking away. All you need to do then is carry on using your computer in the way you did before, only now you don't need to be as paranoid about online charges!

1.3 Installation

INSTALLATION

Just copy the ITimer program to wherever you want. To run the program, run it from Workbench or from the CLI type:

```
RUN >NIL: ITimer <arguments>
```

Replace <arguments> with the commands outlined in CLI Options

Please note, that to run the program, you must have Workbench 2.x or higher as lower versions (1.x) do not contain the gadtools.library which ITimer needs to run.

1.4 Using ITimer

USAGE

Display:

When the program is started, the clock starts a-tickin'! The checkbox at the bottom shows if the timer is active - A tick in it means it is, no tick means it isn't.

Under this are two clocks. The one on the left is the time on the current session since you last started ITimer. The right-hand one is the time spent since you last used the "Reset" button (ie total time).

If you want to exit the program, click on the close window button. This will make ITimer save the current timings to "ENVARC:ITimer.prefs" and close the program down.

Buttons:

Active Checkbox: With this, you can control the status of the program to either Active or Inactive. Click the box to toggle the status.

Reset : Completely resets both clocks. This could be done, for example, when you receive your phone bill when you've paid for your time on-line.

1.5 CLI Options

CLI OPTIONS

If you run ITimer from the CLI or Shell, then you can instruct ITimer to do certain things by typing the commands after the name of the program. The commands are:

INACTIVE : This will stop the timer from automatically counting

from the moment the program is started. Click on the Active checkbox to start counting. Default is to start immediately after loading.

RESET : This will reset both timers before commencing. Same as pressing the RESET button.

WINDOWX=
WINDOWY= : These allow you to set the position of the window on the screen. Type the position (in pixels) after the command
For example:

WINDOWX=200 WINDOWY=200

This will open the window in about the middle of a screen sized 640x512 (Interlaced). As default, the window opens in the top-right of a 640x512 screen.

1.6 Top Tips

TOP TIPS

» Although ITimer cannot yet automatically activate or de-activate when you connect/disconnect your modem, there is a way of getting it to start when you log-in to your internet provider: If you use AmiTCP, then you can change your Run or Connect script to include the lines:

RUN >NIL: ITimer <arguments>

This will make ITimer start when you run your login script. Replace <arguments> with the CLI commands outlined in CLI Options

- » Before you use Reset, make the timer inactive then click Reset. This helps if you don't want it to start counting again straight away.
- » If you want to keep a record of a month's online time, for example, then before running ITimer and resetting it, rename the ENVARC:ITimer.prefs file to something like ENVARC:NOV97.ITimer.prefs (thanks Mike!)

1.7 Support and Contact Information

SUPPORT & CONTACT INFO

For support, please contact me. My addresses are....

SNAIL MAIL: 9 Pytchley Walk,
Cleethorpes,
NE Lincs DN35 0RS
England

E-MAIL: paul@fantasea.demon.co.uk

I really appreciate people contacting me about the program: If it weren't

for the users (ie YOU!) I wouldn't know how to make the program better!

I don't have my webpage any more, but I'll still reply to all e-mails about the program! If anything goes wrong, don't be afraid to yell at me!!

1.8 Acknowledgements

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Big thanks go to a small list of people for the encouragement, support and ideas given to me during the development of ITimer (in no particular order!).....

- Morten Ravn Grove - Encouraging me to make the window position user-definable
- Mike Constantine - For bughunting, a few ideas for the future and some top tips
- Henrik Tikanvaara - For doing some bughunting
- Dave Wingate - For supplying some bug-killing spray :-)
- Matthew Forrester - For designing a logo for the ITimer info page (which doesn't exist any more).
- Urban Mueller - For running Aminet, without which ITimer would never have seen the light of day
- And finally, YOU! - For using the wonderful program that is ITimer!

1.9 Program History

VERSION HISTORY

v1.11 - (29 Nov 97)

- * Acknowledgements page in this guide works now!
- * I didn't like my icon, so I'll use the default Blitz one. Can anyone draw me a good one?
- * Bug Fix. Now ITimer won't crash if you try to place the window out of the screen's perimeters.

v1.10 - (18 Nov 97)

- * Added a CLI interface to control the startup of ITimer
- * Redesigned (sort of) this page of the Guide file
- * Designed my own ITimer icon

v1.04 - (01 Nov 97)

- * Smaller, less obtrusive window.
- * Changed the help doc to AmigaGuide format

v1.03 - (23 Oct 97)

* Internal programming changes only to make final executable file smaller. Not released.

v1.02 - (22 Oct 97)

* Bug Fix. Now ITimer will not use all of the CPU time.

v1.01 - (21 Oct 97)

* Bug Fix. Now ITimer doesn't crash when you quit it.

v1.00 - (20 Oct 97)

* Original release version.

1.10 In The Future

IN THE FUTURE

Here's a list of things I may add to the program in the future if I ever get the chance (and if Blitz Basic lets me :-)

- »~Usage of Tooltypes as well as CLI options
- » Seperate reset gadget for current session clock only
- » Displays timings in title bar of windows (e.g. Web browser windows)
- » Auto active/inactive for when you connect or disconnect modem

1.11 Known Bugs

KNOWN BUGS

There aren't any I know of, but please contact me if you find one!

1.12 Copyright Info

COPYRIGHT

ITimer is Copyright © 1997 by Paul Turner. This package is Freeware, and can only be distributed with the following UNALTERED files:

ITimer
ITimer.info
ITimer-Help.Guide
ITimer-Help.Guide.info
I-Timer.Readme

The author of the program does not take responsibility for any ill-effects caused by the use of the program or its associated files. Users run the program at their own risk.
