Bloat

The Selection Criteria Window

Directory List
The File Mask
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Directory List

The directory list is used to select the top directory. The current top directory is shown at the top of the window. To move down one level double click on the required directory name. To move up a level click on the entry '..'. To select the top directory of another disk select the disk (from the bottom of the list).

Normally, you will probably find it most useful to select a whole disk, but the more directories included in the selection the longer it will take to read the disk and construct the results.

The File Mask

If a file mask is set then only files matching the mask will be included. The mask does not apply to directory names.

Only one mask can be specified.

Attributes

You can specify that only files with certain attribute flags, or lacking certain attribute flags are to be included in the search. By default all files are included. All directories are included regardless of the attribute settings, except for hidden directories which are included only if hidden files are to be included.

Bloat will first include files whose attributes match any of the 'include' settings, and from those will then exclude those whose attributes match any of the 'exclude' settings. No flags refers to files which have no attribute flags set.

This makes it easy to check the size of files which will be included in a backup, for example.

Sort and display switches

The results display shows a list of directories which can be sorted by name or by size, which can include or exclude directories which contain no files matching the attributes and mask given, and which can show all the directory levels below the top one or only the next level down.

It is not necessary to specify these settings before starting the search because they can be set in the results window.

The Show Button

When you have selected the required criteria then press the **Show** button to start the search and see the results.

A dialog will be displayed with a **Cancel** button on it. Pressing the button will end the search and return to the Selection Criteria window. While the search is continuing you can press the iconise button on the Cancel dialog to iconise Bloat.

The Results Windows

The Results Text Window
The Results Chart Window

The Results Text Window

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The Results Chart Window

This shows a pie chart of the space used in the directories in the level below the top directory. It displays the %ge of the total used in each directory. It does not display directories which contribute less than 1% to the total, but if there are a large number of these it may lump them all together and display them as 'Others'.

The window can be resized for convenience. For the best view it should be maximised.

If there are a large number of directories the names may overlap. Maximising the window will reduce this.

The colours used to display the pie chart can be set in the <u>Configuration</u> window.

The Directory List

This shows the directories together with the total size of the matching files in each directory, and in all of its subdirectories.

The dashes on the left show how many levels below the top level each directory is.

To make a directory the current top directory, double click on its entry. To make the top directory the parent of the current one, press the **Up** button. To reinstate the original top directory, press the **Top** button. Both of these actions modify the pie chart.

You cannot move to a directory above the one originally chosen as the top directory of the search.

Sort and Display switches

The directory list can be sorted by name or by size, can include or exclude directories which contain no files matching the attributes and mask given, and can show all the directory levels below the top one or only the next level down.

Use the relevant button to change the display.

Size Box

The Min and Max entries in this box allow you to set the minimum and maximum sizes (in kilobytes) of files which will be included. If the maximum is set to 0 then there is no maximum limit on the file sizes.

By default, files are included regardless of size.

Free Space

At the bottom left hand corner of the window the current free space on the disk, and the total size of the disk are displayed (both in Kilobytes).

The Files Button

Displaying files

You can display the files in a directory by selecting the directory and pressing the **Files** Button. If no directory is selected then the files in the current top directory are displayed.

The files and their sizes are listed in the order specified on the Results Text window (either by name or by size).

Deleting files

From the files display a file may be deleted by selecting it and pressing the **Delete** button. Confirmation is requested before the file is deleted. Further confirmation is requested if the file's read only attribute is set.

Deleting a file will subtract its size from the display of its directory and that directory's parents. This will not be visible until the files display is exited.

Displaying a file's details

The details of a file (last modification date, attributes etc.) can be displayed from the files display by selecting the file and pressing the **Display** button.

Viewing a file

A file can be viewed from the files display by selecting it and pressing the **View** button. This will start an external viewer.

By default, the external viewer is the program defined by the file's File Manager association or, if this is not set, the notepad accessory, but this can be changed in the Configuration screen.

Configuring Bloat

Setting default values

The configuration window, reached by pressing the **Configure** button on the Selection Criteria window, allows you to set a number of options for Bloat, and set default values for the Selection Criteria window.

The **Styles** box is used to select whether Bloat will use the 3D dialog style or Normal Windows style. It does not take effect until the next time Bloat is run.

The **Virus Checker** switch sets Bloat's Virus checking option on or off. It does not take effect until the next time Bloat is run.

The **Viewer** box allows you to specify the default program to be used to view files. Any changes take effect when the configuration is saved. The program used must be able to accept the name of the file to be viewed as the first parameter of the command line which runs it.

The **Associate** switch specifies whether files are to be viewed using the Associations defined for their extensions in the File Manager. If it is on (the default) then the associated program is used. If there is no association for a particular file or this switch is off then the default viewer is used. Any changes take effect when the configuration is saved.

The **Colour** button allows the pie chart colours to be set. Any changes take effect when the configuration is saved.

The **Save** button saves the new configuration, and the **Cancel** button exits to the Selection Criteria window without saving any changes.

The remaining controls in the Configuration dialog are used to set the default selection criteria and display options which will be set when Bloat is next started up.

Setting the pie chart colours

The Pie Chart colours can be set by pressing the **Colours** button in the Configuration dialog. This displays a dialog showing the current colour settings.

The **Monochrome** switch determines whether the pie chart will be displayed as a simple line drawing or in colour. If it is set then none of the colour controls will be available.

If the **Monochrome** switch is off then the colour controls will be displayed. The **Colours:** box specifies the number of colours which will be used for the pie chart slices. This must be between 3 and 10 inclusive. Note that you must press the **Tab** key after changing this value for it to take effect.

The colours are displayed in the boxes above. To change a colour first select it using the radio button to its left and then modify it using the scroll bars on the right hand side. These control the red, green and blue components of the colours.

3D Dialogs

Bloat contains code which allows it to use a dynamic link library (called three_d.dll). This library provides facilities which allow Bloat to display its windows with a 3D style, quite different to the normal Windows style.

Unlike most other programs which have facilities like this Bloat does not insist on its use and will even run without the library being present. (If you obtained Bloat from a Bulletin Board then the library may not have been included).

To use the 3D facility three_d.dll must be present in a directory specified in the PATH environment variable of DOS. Your Windows directory is probably the best place to put it.

If the library is available the 3D style can be switched on or off from the Configuration dialog.

About Bloat V1.1

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Acknowledgements

Acknowledgements

Bloat was written by Trevor Prinn of Babbacombe Computers Ltd using Turbo Pascal for Windows.

The virus detection code is based on a program written by Nick Wallbridge and published in Personal Computer World (Aug 1991).

Three_d.dll is used by permission of Ray Donahue.

These Help screens were generated using Xantippe, from IRIS Media Systems.

Contact

How to contact Babbacombe Computers Ltd

The postal address is

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Registration

How to register Bloat, and why

Bloat is shareware, which means that you may use it for evaluation purposes without registering it for up to 21 days. If at the end of this period you decide that you want to continue to use the program you must register it.

To register, send cash, cheque or money order for £15 or $25 US to Babbacombe Computers Ltd, using the Order Form in the documentation.

In return, we will send you a registration number, which you can enter by pressing the Register button in the About box. This will disable the nag window which appears when the program is run. If the program is not registered then the nag windows get more annoying after a while, but the program will continue to operate.

Why register, given that the program will work anyway? You will receive notification of further releases of Bloat and, if you wish, a disk with each new release (of Version 1) will be sent to you free of further charges. But, more importantly, shareware authors can only afford to spend the time to write these programs if the users register them.

The Virus Detector

Bloat contains a simple virus detector which is capable of warning that its executable image (bloat.exe) has had a virus attached to it. This virus detector should not be used in place of a comprehensive virus protection system, but is supplied because it may give an earlier warning of the presence of a virus than might otherwise be the case.

By default, the virus detector is switched off. This is because it takes several seconds to run, and slows down loading of the program.

The program can be set to use it by selecting its Virus Checker setting in the <u>Configuration</u> dialog.