

OmegaWindow 1.3

User's Guide

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by

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1 Introduction

OmegaWindow is a mouse-free window manipulating and application managing program for Apple® Macintosh™. OmegaWindow provides keyboard shortcuts for things that normally have to be done using the mouse. The heart of the OmegaWindow package is a system extension. The package also includes an application for customizing OmegaWindow's features. Currently OmegaWindow has the following features implemented using keyboard shortcuts:

- Switch from one application to another: allows direct switching to other applications through a pop-up box.
- Switch to the next or previous application.
- Switch to any process out of 1-7 applications.
- Simulate the system menu: Hide (front application), Hide others, Show All.
- Automatically hide windows belonging to other applications.

- Move and resize windows.
- Zoom window.
- Close one or all of the windows.
- Bring the back-most window to the front.
- Send the front-most window to the back.
- Swap the two front-most windows.
- Hide/Show the front-most application.
- Go to the Finder™.

System requirements

- System 7™ minimum.
- Macintosh Plus™ or higher.

Installing OmegaWindow

The main OmegaWindow has the three items shown below in Fig. 1.1:

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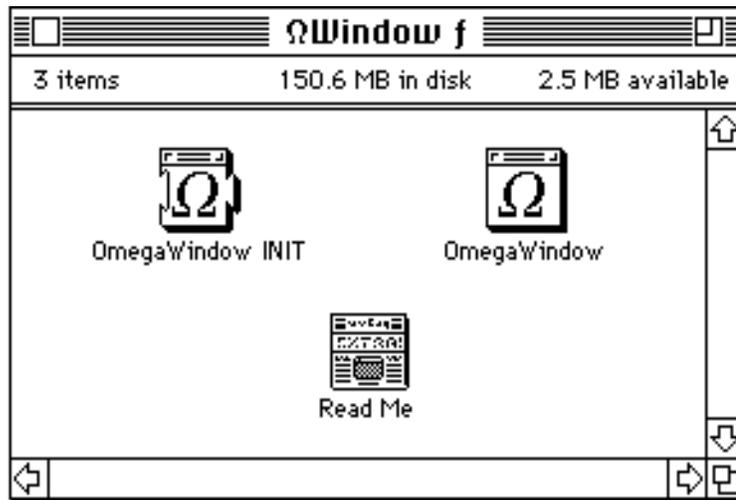


Fig. 1.1 OmegaWindow folder

To install OmegaWindow:

- (1) Just drag and drop the "OmegaWindow INIT" on your system folder icon.
- (2) Press the OK button if the Finder notifies you that the "OmegaWindow INIT" should be in the Extensions folder.
- (3) Restart your Mac.
- (4) You can put the OmegaWindow application any place you like. Double-click "OmegaWindow" application to set up your personalized command shortcuts.
- (5) You can then use your keyboard commands.

• You can try OmegaWindow for 14 days of free trial period. After the period, you must register your copy of OmegaWindow if you want to keep using it. I must warn you that your personalized command settings will only last 14 days but you can disable this initialization by registering your version of OmegaWindow.

Compatibility problem

Before using OmegaWindow's feature to any application you haven't tested with, please make sure that they are compatible with your application. This will prevent you from losing a significant amount of your work.

Copyright notice

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Registration

To register your copy of OmegaWindow, you can do one of the following: pull down the "Registration" menu from the OmegaWindow application and select the "About registration" menu item, and then press the "Print registration form" button, or use the form found at the end of this document.

2 Using OmegaWindow I

After installing the “OmegaWindow INIT” and restarting your Macintosh™, open the “OmegaWindow” application to set up your personalized settings. You will see the “OmegaWindow I” window shown in Fig. 2.1.

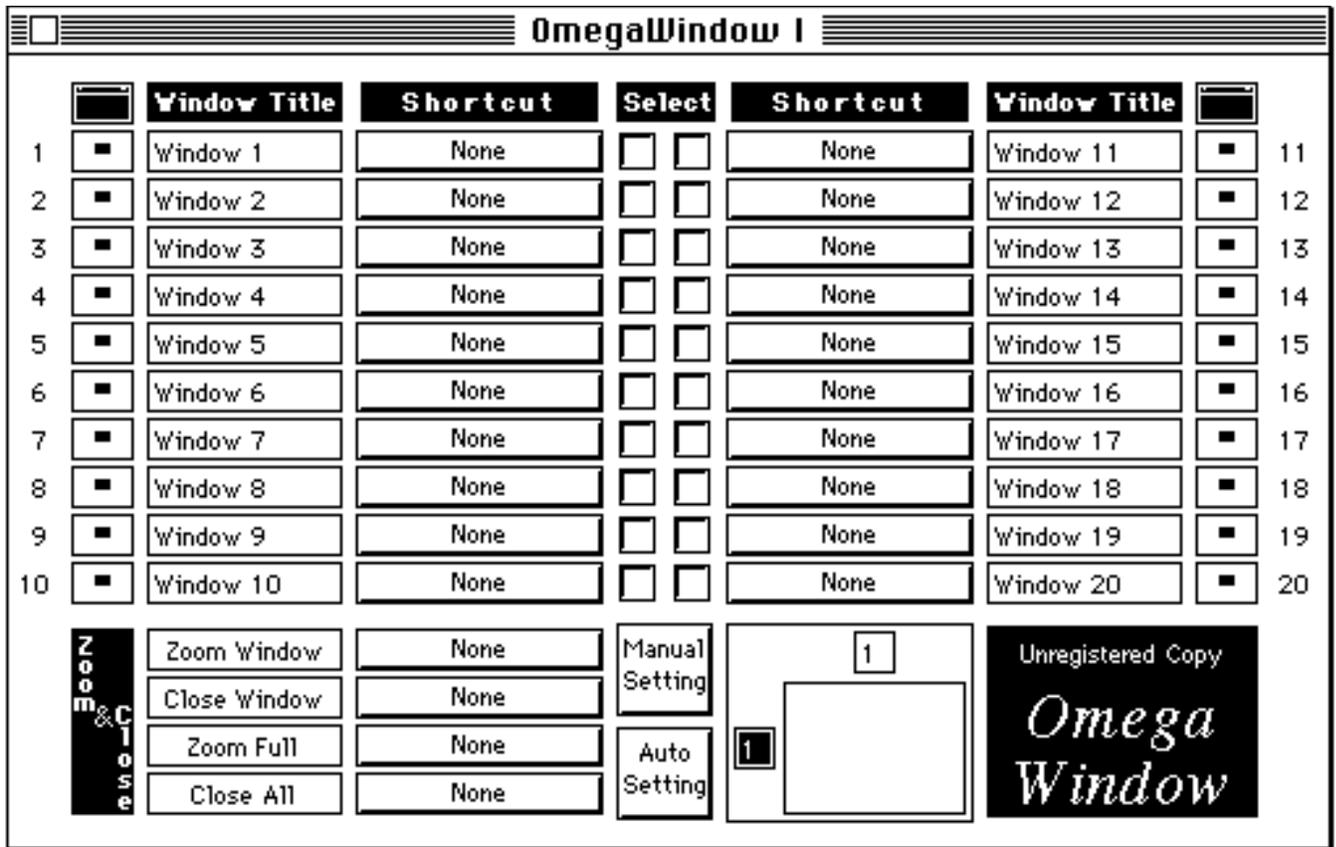


Fig. 2.1 OmegaWindow I

User State Windows (Making a keyboard Command)

As you can see, there are twenty window icons, titles, shortcuts, and select check boxes shown on OmegaWindow I window. Start by making a keyboard shortcut for window #1. Move the mouse over the icon for window #1 (found to the left of the window title box) and click on it. Just after your click, OmegaWindow creates a window titled "Window 1." You will also see that its icon is inverted indicating that you are now modifying its size and position of window 1. You can drag and resize the window as you like. While you are dragging and resizing the window, you will notice that the icon in the OmegaWindow I window will be properly updated to show the most current size and position of the window. After you are done with dragging and resizing of the window, close it by clicking in the close box or pressing the "Command-W". You'll see that the icon for window #1 is inverted back to normal. Now, let's give a keyboard command to it. Click the mouse on the rounded-rectangular button located to left of the window title box. It is currently marked as "None" because no keyboard command has been given to it yet. Use the dialog that appears to set your preferred keyboard shortcut by clicking appropriate check boxes and pressing one key. The dialog in Fig 2.2 below shows what the settings would be to have "Control-1" as the keyboard shortcut.

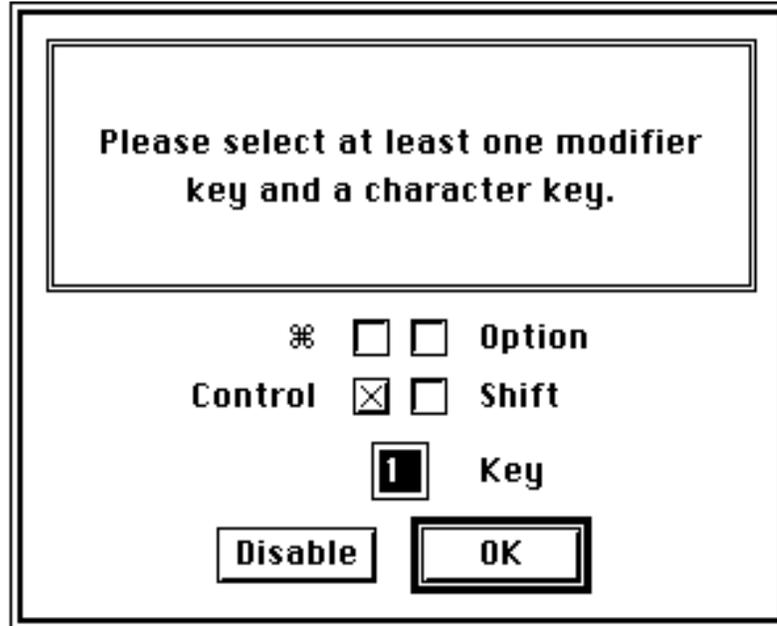


Fig 2.2. Dialog box for keyboard shortcut

If you want to disable the keyboard command, then simply press the “Disable” button. You can also use keyboard shortcuts here. If you press the “Command” key, the dialog box will change to Fig 2.3. Without using mouse you can set your keyboard shortcut for window 1.



Fig 2.3. Dialog box with keyboard commands

Press the return key (or click the OK button). You have just made your first complete keyboard shortcut. You can take a rest now, or you can get out from OmegaWindow application and execute your freshly made keyboard command on any window. If the window you are playing with has both a title bar and a size box, then it will get moved and resized properly. However, if the window doesn't have a size box, then it will only move to the presetted position.

Manual Setting

If you want to set more than one window at the same time, then you can use the “Manual Setting” button shown in Fig. 2.1.

Before pressing the

button you have to select the check boxes for the windows you want to work with. Pressing the Manual Setting button will create all of the windows that you had selected. The setting up of multiple windows is the same procedure as the setting of a single window. You just have to drag and resize the windows and close them after you've done. After you close all of the windows, you will be returned to the "OmegaWindow I".

Auto Setting

By using the "Auto Setting" button found below the "Manual Setting" button, you can automatically set your windows to the sizes and positions defined by OmegaWindow.

- 1) First select your windows by clicking in check boxes shown above the Manual Setting button.
- 2) By using the window palette (shown in Fig. 2.4), you can automatically set your windows. Currently you can have from 1 x 1 up to 3 x 3 windows.
- 3) Pressing the "Auto Setting" button.
- 4) Close all windows. If you want to modify a window, then you can do that too before closing it.

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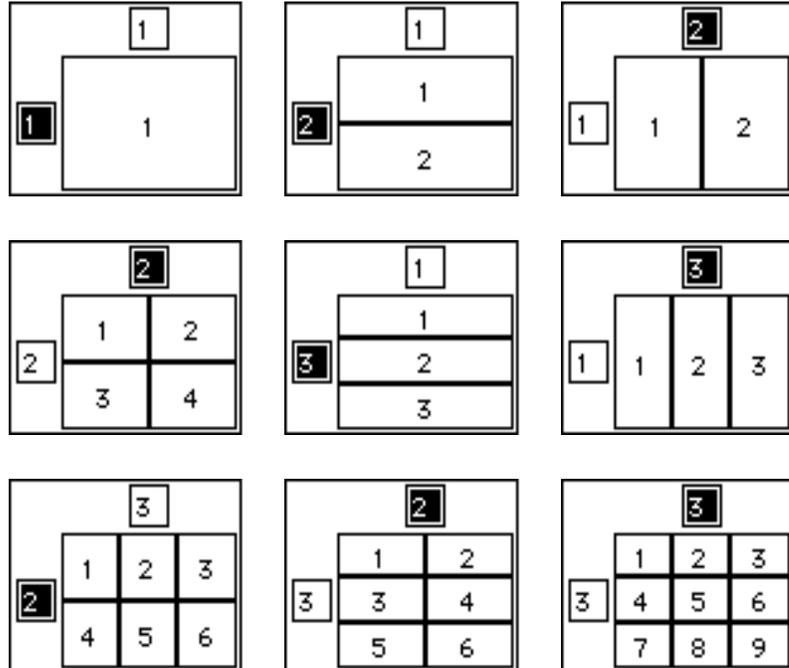


Fig. 2.4 Window Palette

Closing multiple windows

It is cumbersome to close all windows generated by “Auto Setting” or “Manual Setting” buttons if you don't want to make a modification of any window and all you want to do is closing all windows. You can close all windows by clicking in the close box with the “Option key” down. This is the “Option + Click the Close box” function that you may recognize from the Finder shortcut. You can also make use of the OmegaWindow's keyboard command “Close All” that will be explained later.

Window Palette

In order to make use of the Window Palette, you have to select an appropriate text edit box (there are two) by clicking inside one of the boxes. You can automatically select either one of the two text edit boxes by pressing “Command-Tab” key. You can type a number between 1 and 3 in this box and the Window Palette automatically displays total number of windows and sets window numbers in order. You can also change this order manually. For an example, if you have 3 x 3 windows shown in the lower right part of the Fig. 2.4 and you want to exchange the window 1 with window 9, then click the window 1 with your mouse (Fig. 2.5a) and drag the mouse over to the window 9 (Fig. 2.5b) and then release your mouse there (Fig. 2.5c). The Window Palette will switch the window numbers automatically.

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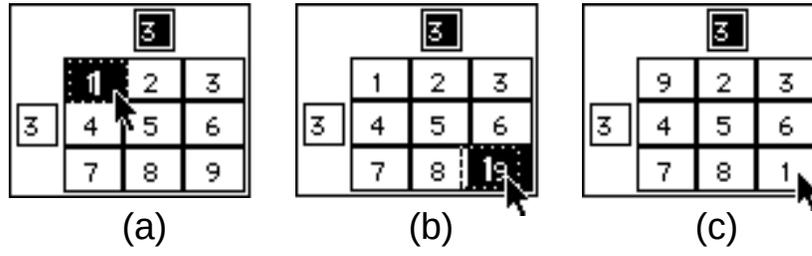


Fig. 2.5 Changing the window numbers.

Window Title

You can replace the default window titles by editing the appropriate text edit box for the window. By pressing “Tab” key, you can walk through the text edit boxes in window order. “Shift-Tab” key will walk the boxes in the opposite direction.

Zoom & Close

You can zoom and close a window by setting keyboard shortcuts (shown in Fig. 2.6). “Zoom Window” command is the same as a mouse-click in the zoom box of your window. “Close Window” simulates the mouse-click in the close box. “Zoom Full” will zoom a window to the full size of the screen it’s on. It simulates “Option + Click the zoom box”. Currently this works on the Finder’s windows and might not work on an application not making use of this function. “Close All” will close all windows. This command simulates “Option + Click the close box”. The closing of all windows will not work on an application not supporting this feature.

Zoom & Close	Zoom Window	Ctl-z
	Close Window	Ctl-w
	Zoom Full	Ctl-g
	Close All	Ctl-l

Fig. 2.6 Zoom & Close commands

Multiple Monitors

Now OmegaWindow support multiple monitors. Any icon shown on OmegaWindow I has a distinct pattern to show which monitor the current window is belonging to.

Icon pattern	Monitor
black	main monitor
gray	2nd monitor
dark gray	3rd monitor
lightgray	4th monitor and later

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3 *Using OmegaWindow II*

Now that you've mastered all the features of the OmegaWindow I window, its time to learn about the OmegaWindow II window. Pull down the "Window" menu and select the "OmegaWindow II" as shown in Fig. 3.1. You can also open "OmegaWindow II" by pressing "Command-2". You will then see the "OmegaWindow II" window shown in Fig. 3.2.



Fig. 3.1 Choosing the "OmegaWindow II" from Window menu

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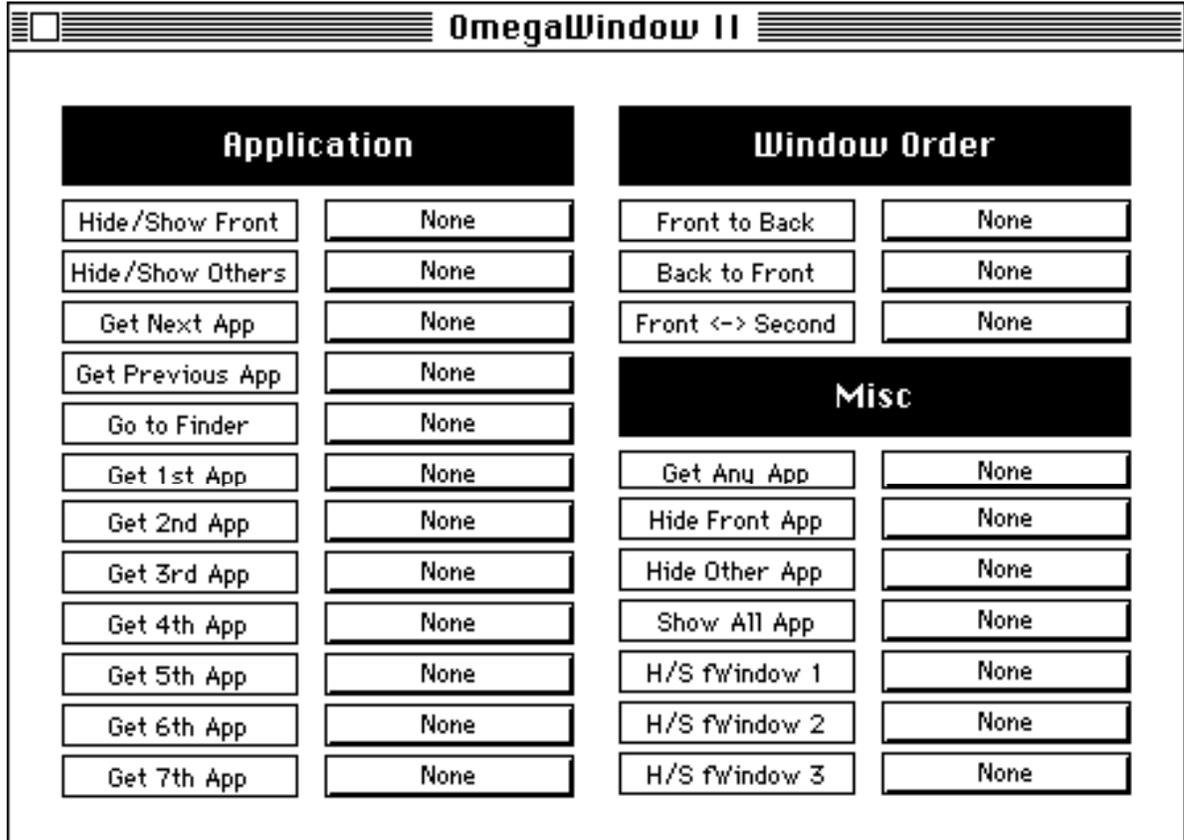


Fig. 3.2 OmegaWindow II

Application Items

Hide/Show Front

“Hide/Show Front” command will hide your front application, saves it in memory, and bring the application behind it to be the front. Another call of “Hide/Show Front” command will make the previously saved application to be the front one. This is useful when you want to switch between two applications quickly.

Hide/Show Others

If you usually open several applications that have several windows attached to them, then your screen is often overcrowded with windows. If you occasionally pull down the system menu and select “Hide Others” to clean your screen, then you'll be benefit from “Hide/Show Others” command. If you initially set your preference for Hide/Show Application (See Hide/Show Application item from the Preferences menu) to hide other applications automatically, then calling this keyboard command will show other applications and change the Hide/Show Application setting appropriately. Another call of “Hide/Show Others” will hide other applications and it will hide other applications automatically until you execute the “Hide/Show Others” command again.

Get Next App

“Get Next App” will bring the next application in memory to the front. If the front application is the last one in memory, then it will bring the first application to the front.

Get Previous App

“Get Previous App” will bring the previous application in memory to the front. If the front application is the first one in memory, then it will bring the last application to the front.

Go to Finder

“Go to Finder” will switch from your current application to the Finder™.

Get 1st App - Get 7th App

You can also select any application in memory without stepping through the next or previous applications. By using the “Get 1st App” to “Get 7th App” shortcuts, you can select any one among seven applications as the front one. Let's say you have five applications running in memory and you are currently working on the last application and you want to switch to the second application. Normally you have to pull down the system menu in the upper-right side of your screen and select the second application with your mouse. With OmegaWindow you don't need to do that! You just have to press a keyboard command and the corresponding application will pop up on your screen.

Window Order Items

Have you ever experience in selecting a back window that is covered by front one? You have to move the front window to uncover the back window and sometimes it's a hassle if you have to move more than two windows to select the one you want. Not any more!! You can use the following window ordering commands: “Front to Back” command will send a front window to the back and “Back to Front” command will bring a back window to the front. “Front <-> Second” will switch the window order of the front and the second windows.

Misc Items

Get Any App

You can switch the application through a pop-up box shown in Fig. 3.3 by using “Get Any App” shortcut.

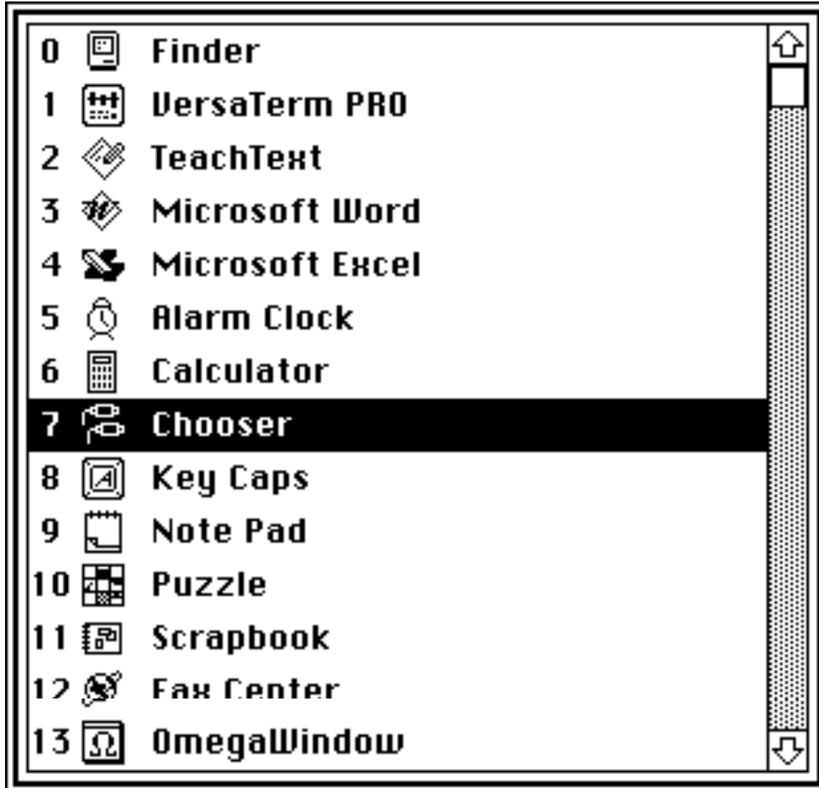


Fig. 3.3 Pop-up box from “Get Any App”

The pop-up box shows the application number, icon, and name from the left to right order. Selecting an application would normally done through the numeric keypad. The keyboard commands are described below.

Here “[]” means a key from numeric keypad.

- “Enter” or “Return”: This assumes that you are done with selecting an application. Thus, it will close the pop-up box and switch to the newly selected application.
- “[0]” to “[9]”: This selects the 0th to 9th application.
- “[0]” to “[9]”: This selects the 10th to 19th application.
- “[.]”: After pressing the numeric key “[.]”, you should press two keys to select an application that you want. For an example, if you want to select the 25th application, then you should press “[2]” and then “[5]”. If you want to select the 7th application, then you should press “[0]” and then “[7]”.
- “[+]”, “tab”, or “down arrow”: This will let you walk down the application list by one step. If the selected application is 5th one, then this will let you select the 6th one.
- “[−]” or “up arrow”: This is the reverse of “[+]” key.

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- “[*]” or “page down”: This will let you go down the application list by one page.
- “[/]” or “page up”: This will let you go up the application list by one page.
- “[=]”, “right arrow”, or “end”: This will let you select the bottom-most application in the pop-up box.
- “[clear]”, “left arrow”, or “home”: This will let you select the top-most application in the pop-up box and this application happens to be the Finder.

Hide Front App

This feature simulates the system menu “Hide (front application)” shown on the upper-right corner of your desktop.

Hide Others App

This feature simulates the system menu “Hide Others”.

Hide Front App

This feature simulates the system menu “Show All”.

The following three features will eventually be removed from OmegaWindow. If you object to this plan, please let me know before this happens.

H/S fWindow 1 - 3

By using “H/S fWindow 1-3”, you can hide a front window within your current application. First give “Front Window 1” a keyboard shortcut and execute your command to any window. After pressing your command shortcut, you’ll see that the window disappears from your screen. Now, press the keyboard shortcut one more time and the hidden window will pop up on your screen. Well, you might say, “So what! What is the use in hiding a window?” The answer for this question is “If you want to switch your application and the preferred application have several windows attached to it and you want to select any of the windows as a front one while you are switching to that application, then it is very useful to utilize this command because you can’t accomplish this task with “Get #th App” command which will only show the front window of the preferred

application as you left it last time.” So how can we make use of “Hide/Show Window” command? You just have to hide any window with a keyboard shortcut and executing that command later will make the window pop up while it makes the application belonging to that window the front one. You can hide up to seven windows and the window you want to hide doesn't have to have a unique application to related it to. You can hide all seven windows within the same application and you can easily make any of the window to be the front one.

4 Preferences

If you pull down the Preferences menu with your mouse, then you'll see the four menu items shown in Fig. 4.1. Let's examine each item starting from the item "UserState Window".



Fig. 4.1 Preferences Menu

UserState Window...

If you select "UserState Window" item, then the following dialog box (Fig. 4.2) will be displayed on your screen.

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The image shows a dialog box with a double-line border. It contains two text input fields, each with a label and a value. The first label is "Distance (0 - 30 pixels) between the screen boundary and a template window:" and the value is "5". The second label is "Distance (0 - 30 pixels) between two template windows:" and the value is "5". At the bottom, there are two buttons: one with a symbol resembling a crossed hammer and sickle, and another labeled "OK".

Distance (0 - 30 pixels) between the screen boundary and a template window: 5

Distance (0 - 30 pixels) between two template windows: 5

⌘- . OK

Fig. 4.2 UserState Window...

You can use this dialog box to set the window-to-window distance and the distance of window-to-screen boundary in pixels. These settings are used by OmegaWindow for customizing the one of twenty “user state” windows shown in OmegaWindow I window. The default number is 5 and you can set any number between 0 to 30.

Hide/Show Application...

The dialog box for “Hide/Show Application...” is shown in Fig. 4.3. Initially the “No” radio button is selected to let OmegaWindow to show all windows not belonging to your current application. You can disable and enable the automatic hiding feature by calling the “Hide/Show Others” command shown in OmegaWindow II.

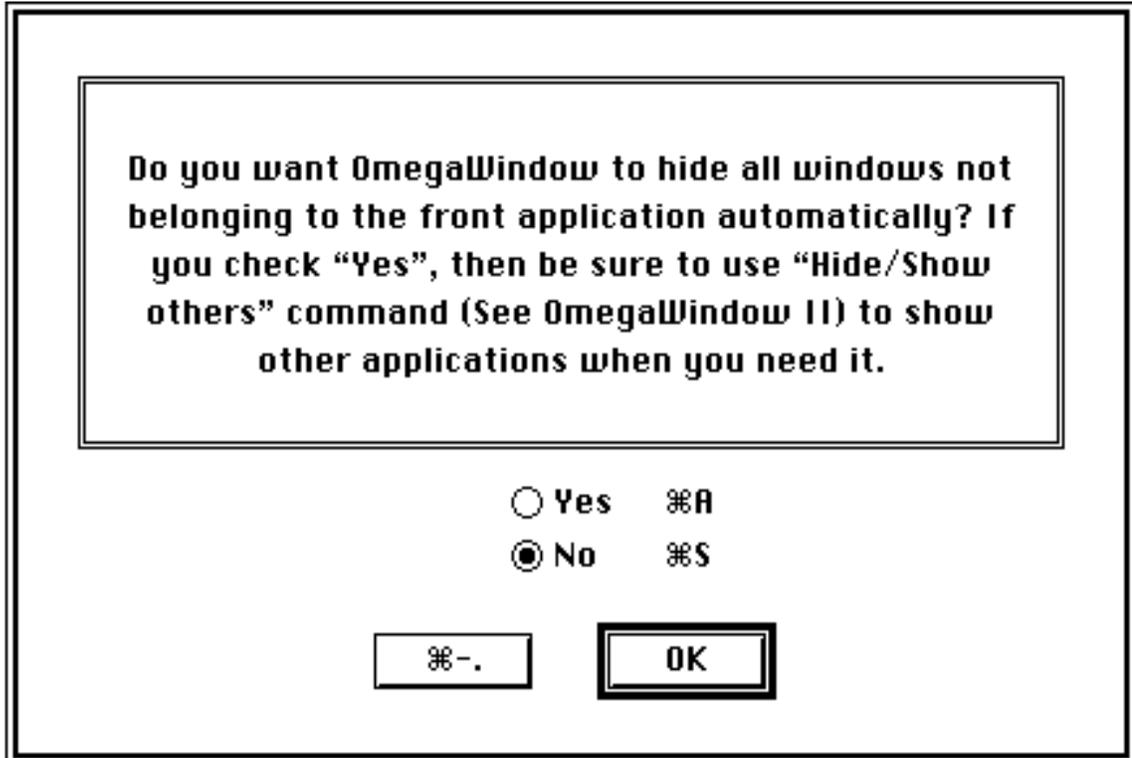


Fig. 4.3 Hide/Show Application...

Initial Window...

The dialog box for “Initial Window...” menu item is shown in Fig. 4.4. The default setting will show only “OmegaWindow I” when you open the OmegaWindow application. You can change the default setting by modifying the dialog box.

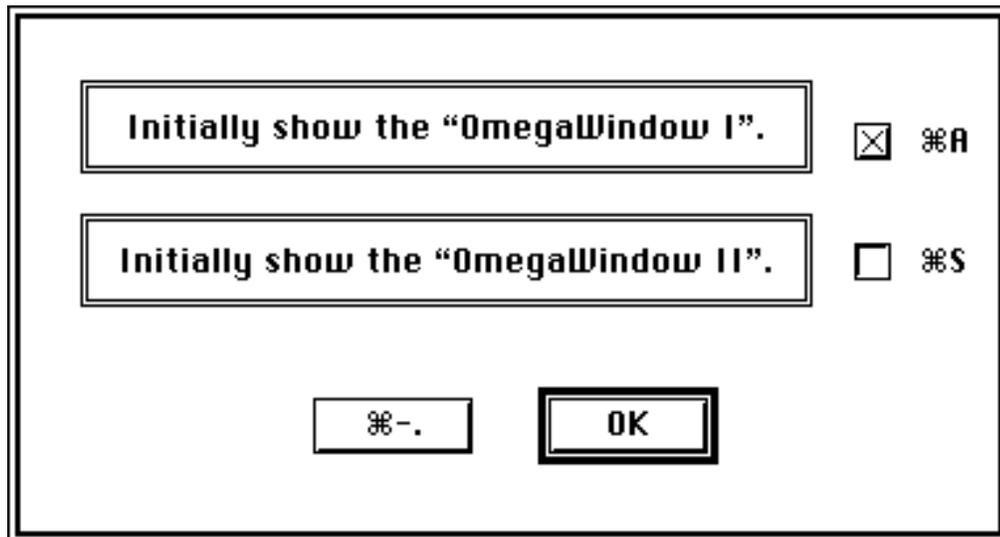


Fig. 4.4 Initial Window...

5 *Troubleshooting*

(1) If you have a problem using OmegaWindow, then first check if your application holding up the command shortcut that you are trying to execute. Try to change your keyboard command to “Shift-1” and execute your command shortcut. If nothing happen, then go to the step (2).

(2) If there is no conflict of command shortcut with your application, then assign a keyboard command to “Close Window” and try to close a window with the “Close Window” command.

(3) If you are unable to close the window, then it is certain that there is a problem. Sometimes OmegaWindow may close other window such as a floating window.

(4) If this happen, then first try to open two (one if that is all you can open) windows within your application and press the four keys, i.e.,

(Command)(Option)(;)(') at the same time.

(5) This will create a TeachText™ file in your desktop and your Mac will beep once. If the application's name is OmegaWindow, then the text file name will be "OmegaWindow.txt".

(6) If you send this file to me through E-mail or regular mail, then I'll try to fix the problem. If you have other problem, I also would like to hear from you.

6 Registration

About registration...

You'll get the dialog box (Fig. 6.1) when you select the "About registration..." menu item. If you are an unregistered user of OmegaWindow, then you can make use of all the features given to the OmegaWindow. However, keep in mind that your personalized keyboard shortcut, window titles, user state window settings, and preferences will all be initialized to the default setting after 14 days . This is because the OmegaWindow is shareware and I urge you to register your copy. For your convenience, "Print registration form" button is installed to print the registration form easily. The registration form is also given in the back of this manual.

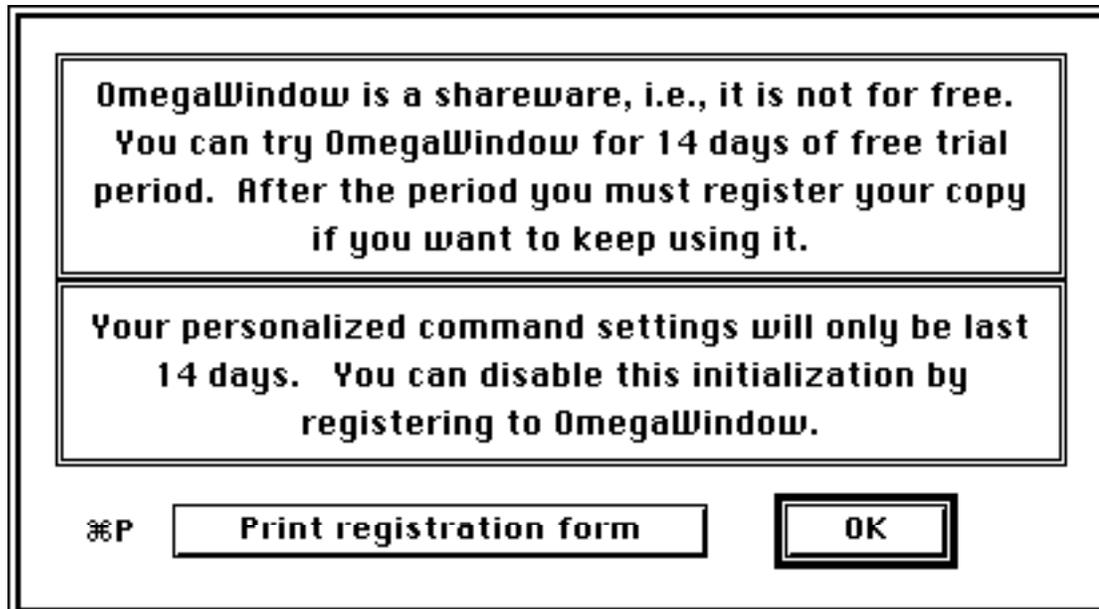
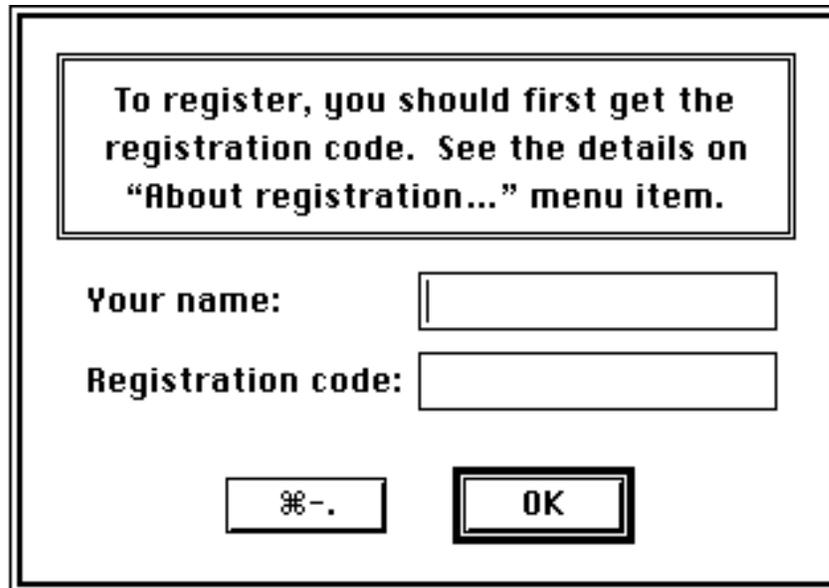


Fig. 6.1 About registration...

Register...

After you register to OmegaWindow, you'll receive the registration code from author. You can use the code to permanently disable the weekly initialization.



To register, you should first get the registration code. See the details on "About registration..." menu item.

Your name:

Registration code:

Fig. 6.2 Register...

7 Acknowledgments

Developing a software is time and energy consuming work. I would like to thank my family for their patience and support. Many people have helped me through Usenet C.S.M.P. and I am truly indebted to the following individuals: Scott Bronson, Michael Hecht, Berrie Kremers, Dave Nebinger, Harry A. Reinke, Keith Rollin, Leonard Rosenthol, Jeremy Roussak, Nobukazu Togu, Jim Walker, Chris Wysocki, and Hiro Yamamoto. I thank you all. Particularly I would like to thank Dave Nebinger for giving me a valuable comments and proofreading this documentation.

Apple, Finder, Macintosh, and TeachText are trademarks of the respective product's manufacturer.

OmegaWindow Registration Form

(v 1.3)

Name _____ Company (Optional) _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Country _____ Phone (Optional) _____
 E-Mail Address (Internet or any online services) _____
 I want the registration code to be sent by: E-Mail _____ Regular Mail _____
 Where did you find OmegaWindow? _____
 Which feature did you find most and least useful?
 Most _____ least _____
 Any problem(s) using OmegaWindow? _____

 What model(s) of Mac do you use? _____ Memory? _____

# of users	Description	Price Each	Total
	1 - 5 users	\$30/user	
	6 - 20 users	\$25/user	
	More than 20 users	\$500.00	
Manual & Disk with latest version of OmegaWindow		\$20.00	
		Sub Total	
NM Residents add local sales tax			
		Total	

Payment: Check or money order drawn on a US bank in US dollars.
 Or an International Postal Money Order in US funds.

Send this form and payment to: **Hyo E. Ahn**
600 San Ildefonso Rd. #142
Los Alamos, NM 87544, U.S.A.

Author's E-Mail Address (Internet): AHN@DAC.LAMPF.LANL.GOV

If you have any comments about OmegaWindow, want to report a bug, or want to see any new features added to it, then please write them on the back of this form.

Thank you for supporting OmegaWindow