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What is RAR

RAR is an extremely powerful tool which allows you to manage and control archive files.

There are several versions of **RAR** for a number of operating media. Currently they are: **RAR for DOS**, **RAR for OS/2** or **RAR for Windows**.

RAR for Windows features:

- Standard interface including drag-and-drop facility;
- Non-RAR archive support;
- Highly sophisticated, original compression algorithm;
- Better compression than other PC tools using 'solid' archiving;
- Authenticity verification (registered version only);
- Self-extracting archives and volumes (SFX);
- Programmatic installation SFX (currently for DOS only);
- Locking, password, disk volume labels & more ...

To start RAR for Windows do one of the following actions:

- > Click mouse twice on the RAR icon or
- > Press ENTER on it

RAR for Windows starts opening the current directory window.

How to archive files

To create new or update existant archive (add files to archive) :

1. Select files and/or directories in RAR window.
2. Push **Add** button.
3. As the archiving window appears do one of the following:
 - > Press ENTER if you agree with a default archive name or
 - > Change archive name to proper one and press ENTER.

RAR starts archiving process.

Press **Cancel** button if you want to cancel archiving files.

How to extract files from archive

To extract files from archive (unpack archive):

1. Enter the archive file: press Enter or double-click mouse on it.
2. Select desired files in the archive.
3. Push **E**xtract button.

RAR performs extracting.

Press **C**ancel button if you want to cancel archiving files.

Archive types

Common RAR archive

Usually RAR archive has **.rar** file extension and is created as the whole archive file without usage of a special function (splitting to parts - volumes, SFX or solid archiving).

To extract files from common RAR archive you need to process it with **RAR** or **unRAR** utility.

Split archive (volumes)

Volumes are parts of split archive. This archive type is used to store large archive on several floppy disks.

To create such archive choose the needed volume size when adding files to a new archive.

First volume in sequence has common **.rar** files extension and next volume extensions are numerated as **.r00**, **.r01**, **r02** etc.

Self-eXtracting archive (SFX)

SFX archive is the archive module used to extract files from when executed. (**Self-eXtracting** archive), usually in the form of an executable file for corresponding operating media (Windows, DOS or OS/2).

To create SFX archive push the **SFX** button.

Solid archive

Solid archive is packed with a special compression method which sees all files as one continuous data stream. particularly advantageous when packing a large number of small files.

To create a solid archive push the **Solid** button.

Possible combinations of types:

- solid volumes
- SFX volumes
- SFX solid volumes

Managing non-RAR archive:

RAR provides a wide number of operations with non-RAR archives: view contents, extract and delete files, convert to SFX, add comments etc. Supported non-RAR archive types are **.zip**, **.arj** and **.lzh**.

Configuration settings are available from **Options** menu or by pressing **Ctrl-C**

You may change configuration with following settings.

Compression - choose desired compression method to use:

<u>Store</u>	Do not compress file when adding to archive
<u>Fastest</u>	Use fastest method (least compressive)
<u>Fast</u>	Use fast compression method
<u>Normal</u>	Use normal (default) compression method
<u>Good</u>	Use good compression method (more compressive)
<u>Best</u>	Use best compression method (most compressive)

Default is Normal and is chosen as the best compromise between time taken and compression ratio achieved. Marginally higher (0.1% - 1.5%) compression may be achieved with Good or Best, at the expense of 10% - 100% longer processing time.

Command settings - switch desired function on

<u>Always make solid</u>	create archive of solid type by default
<u>Add empty directories</u>	add empty directories to archive
<u>Put auth. verification</u>	produce archive with AV stamp on it
<u>Log errors to file</u>	record error messages to special file RAR.LOG

Working directory

The path where RAR will place temporary files.

Default comment file

If you would like a common comment added to every archive you are creating, enter the full path and name here.

File attributes mask

Choose the categories of files to be included when adding to an archive from the following:

<u>Read only files</u>	Add files with 'Read-only' attribute
<u>System files</u>	Add files with 'System' attribute
<u>Archive files</u>	Add files with 'Archive' attribute
<u>Hidden files</u>	Add files with 'Hidden' attribute

Interface settings are available from **Options** menu or by pressing **Ctrl-I**

You may change interface with following settings.

Sort names

Other options

Viewer

External viewer

File managing commands

Add

Move

View

Delete

Repair

Cmd line

Archive managing commands

Extract, Extract to (+Ignore paths)

Test

View

Delete

To SFX

Comment

Lock

Info

Cmd line

Selecting files

+, -, * and from menu

Drag and drop files

You can drag files from File Manager and drop it to **RAR** If files dropped into archive, they will be added to this archive. Dropping files available only into **RAR** archives, not for **ZIP,ARJ** nor **LZH**. If files dropped when no archive open, **RAR** asks for new archive name.

If archive dropped into **RAR** when no other archive open,this archive will be open and read.

License and ordering information

License

Ordering information

Archive information dialog

archive name

archive type: RAR, ZIP, LZH, ARJ, SFX, solid, SFX, volume

Entering archive name and parameters dialog

Description of this dialog

Enter destination directory

Selecting directory for extracting files.

Enter password for extracted file

You are trying to extract encrypted file. Enter password or cancel extraction.

Enter default password

Enter password to apply with such operations as add, extract, test, view. You will be asked to type password twice to avoid typing errors.

File already exists

File already exists. You may **Overwrite** it, skip (**No** button), **Rename**, **Overwrite all** files or **Quit** from the current operation.

Registration

Enter you registration text and code.

Viewer

Internal viewer
External viewer
Associated program

Executing command window

Cancel Now RAR is executing command. If you wish cancel execution, push button on the command window.

Command line dialog box

In the command line dialog box you can use commands A,M,F,U,X,E,T,D,R,S,C,K and switches -tk,-tl,-o+,-o-,-r,-y,-x<exclude mask>,-ep,-ep1,-p<password>,-z<comment file>,-m<method>,-v<volume size> or -v for autodetecting,-f,-u,-sfx,-s. List files and multiple archives processing not supported.

