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Getting Started With File Dog for Windows 95

System Requirements:

To use fully File Dog for Windows 95 you will need:

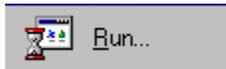
1. A computer running the Windows 95/NT4 operating system.
2. Eight, or more, megabytes of RAM recommended.
3. Approximately five megabytes of free hard disk space. Plus enough free disk space to store any downloaded files.
4. A dialup or other internet network connection.
5. Winsock and internet network protocol stack (both available free with Windows 95).

Setup:

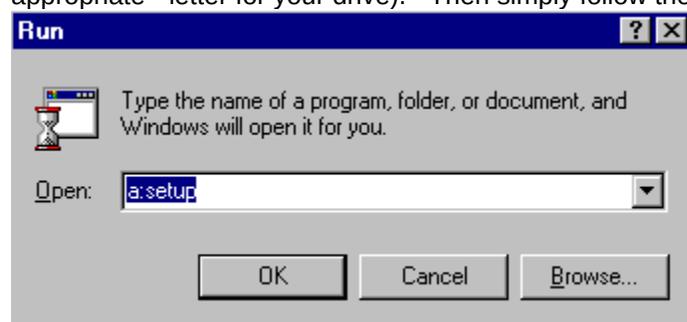
File Dog uses an automated setup program to make installation and removal easy and trouble free.

If you are loading File Dog from diskettes just install the diskette labeled #1 into your floppy drive, then

from Window "Run" menu (Start menu option).



Select x:setup (where "x" is the appropriate letter for your drive). Then simply follow the on-screen prompts.



If you have downloaded File Dog simply click on the download file icon  interback and follow the on-screen prompts.

Introduction to File Dog

Welcome, and thank you for using File Dog. We've worked hard to make this a quality program that meets your needs, and we're always working to make it even better for you. If you have comments or questions we want to hear from you.

There are ten of thousands of files available for download on the internet. Now you can retrieve as many as you want, and spend almost no time doing it.

File Dog retrieves the files you select for you. Anytime you want. In the middle of the night. While you sleep.

File sizes are getting bigger. Microsoft Corp. has many files available for download that exceed ten megabytes! Other sites around the internet have files that large too.

So, you can fight the daytime internet traffic trying to get a connection to an overloaded server, then wait as the server slowly delivers, and wait, and wait... Or, setup a fetch event with File Dog, and forget it.

You have more important daytime uses for your internet connection!

Internet Traffic Reduces File Transfer Rates

The speed of internet file transfers is dependent on several factors: your connection, internet traffic, and the load on the file server.

The fastest rate that you can retrieve files is determined by your connection. If you connect with a 28.8 Kbps modem, then under ideal conditions it will take about 30 minutes to retrieve a five megabyte file. At 14.4Kbps you double that time. Even with a 28.8Kbps modem, phone line "noise" will often reduce your connect rate, and thus increase the download time.

When the internet is busy, as it usually is from mid-morning until close to midnight, your transfer rate will drop. Too many users means your connection must compete for "bandwidth" with everyone else. What happens is that everybody gets some bandwidth, but not as much as they could use. The result: slower downloads.

File servers, especially the popular ones, can, and do, get overloaded. Even though these servers are fast they have limitations. When lots of users are downloading the server can't deliver files as fast as the users can receive them. The result: slower downloads. And, most servers have a maximum number of allowed users. If you try to connect to a fully occupied server it will not let you log on.

The longer you are connected to the internet, especially during busy periods, the greater the likelihood of a download interruption. When that happens you have to start the entire download over.

File Dog helps overcome these problems by letting you automatically download files anytime you want. Just set up fetch events for two or three in the morning. At that time, phone circuits, the internet, and file servers are all lightly used.

Unfortunately it's difficult to get ideal connections, but File Dog certainly improves your opportunity.

File Dog Overview

Here's a brief overview of the File Dog process. First, you tell File Dog which files you want it to retrieve (it just takes a few mouse clicks, and will work with most web browsers and other internet software). Then you setup the retrieve parameters: time, date, destination folder, and retrieve frequency (you can setup default settings for these, so they only need be setup once). The whole

event setup process takes just a few seconds! Events setup is described in detail in the "Setting Up Fetch Events" tutorial.

Then you activate File Dog and forget it! The files you want will be automatically retrieved, and put in the folder you want. File Dog is sophisticated software, but using it is easy.

Once you have your fetch event setup you don't have to do much else. File Dog takes care of all of the work for you, and keeps a detailed activity log for you.

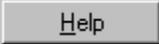
File Dog has more! Included with File Dog are fully function ZIP (compression) and FTP (File Transfer Protocol) modules.

ZIP: File Dog includes a compression module that uses the popular "ZIP" format. Many files available on the internet are stored in ZIP archives. File Dog can unzip these for you. And, you can use the Zip module to create Zip archives yourself! Many Zip only programs are priced higher than File Dog!

FTP: The internet has many, many FTP servers that deliver files to users. File Dog includes a fully functional FTP module so you can access files on these servers. You can retrieve files immediately, or with two mouse clicks, you can setup a fetch event to retrieve later.

More help

In addition to the tutorials, File Dog has extensive on-line help. You can easily access the on-line help by clicking on either the "what's this" help buttons  (to learn about a specific item). Or select a Help button

 (to open the on-line help for the window).

Most users should be able to "jump right in" and start using File Dog effectively right away. The on-line help should be enough to guide you through.

If you need more help, just read through any of the other tutorials. It's helpful to leave the tutorial open while using File Dog.

Technical Support

We want you to be satisfied with your usage of File Dog, and to use it to its fullest. Your purchase of File Dog entitles you to 30 days of Free technical support. Additional support can be obtained through our low cost annual support agreements which include free software updates!

Professional Phone Support: 406-252-2640 (M-F 8:00 to 5:00 MST).

E-mail: support@edgepub.com

Fax: 406-248-7850

Postal: Edge Publishing, Inc., 1148 1st Ave. N., Billings, MT 59101.

When reporting a problem please be as specific as possible, and if possible, be at your computer when you call.

We're working on additional support options to help you. Check our web site for announcements concerning additional support options: <http://www.edgepub.com/>

Archive File

An "archive" is a file that contains other files. Typically the files within the archive are compressed, and archives are most often used for file(s) distribution, data backup or long-term storage.

