

# ProStart

Version 1.0

## What is it?

"ProStart" is short for "Profile Startup". ProStart will execute a different set of startup items, or "Startup Profile", depending on the logged in user name. It also offers several other advanced startup options. There are several reasons you might want to use ProStart.

1. Several people share a computer, and want their own software to load upon login. This can be done with Windows 95's "User Profiles" feature, but you may not need or want all of the other things that User Profiles will do.
2. One user may want different software to load each time he logs in depending on what he plans to use the computer for.
3. You may always want the same software to load, but you can still use ProStart's advanced startup options such as:
  - Skip the loading of all startup items.
  - Delay loading the startup items for up to 60 seconds after login. This delay countdown can be paused and resumed as you wish, or you can skip the delay and execute the Startup Profile right away.
  - Step by step confirmation of each startup item.

## Usage

### Installation

Install ProStart by running the "Setup.exe" file, and then follow the on screen instructions. Setup creates a ProStart icon in your Startup group so that it will run each time you start your computer or log in as a different user.

### Creating Startup Profiles

After ProStart is installed on your system you will need to create at least one Startup Profile. Startup Profiles are simply separate startup folders for each user, or login name. They should be created in the ProStart program folder which is "C:\Program Files\ProStart" by default.

1. Create a folder named with the exact same spelling as the user name you will log in with. If this folder does not exist when ProStart is run, it will create the folder for you.
2. Move the items you want for this user name from your Windows StartUp folder to your Startup Profile folder. Do **NOT** move or copy the ProStart item into your Startup Profile folder or ProStart will not function properly. If you want an item to run for all users, leave it in the Windows StartUp folder. Any item that is in both the Windows StartUp folder and a Startup Profile folder will be executed twice for that user.
3. Create any additional items in your Startup Profile that you would like.
4. Restart the computer and login as the user to test the Startup Profile.

### Changing the Delay Time

The default delay time is 2 seconds. You can set the delay time to any value between 1 and 60 seconds. Here's how:

1. Right click on the "Start" button.

2. Choose "Explore" from the menu.
3. Double click on "Programs" in the Explorer window.
4. Then double click on "Startup".
5. Right click on "ProStart"
6. Choose "Properties" from the popup menu.
7. Select the "Target" entry field.
8. Be careful not to change the existing entry. Move the cursor to the end of the entry, then add a space and a number between 1 and 60.
9. Click "OK".

### **Uninstalling**

If you decide to stop using ProStart, It can be easily uninstalled.

1. Move all items that you want to load on startup from your Startup Profiles to the Windows StartUp folder.
2. Delete all Startup Profiles, including the "\$NoLogin\$" profile, if it exists.
3. Click the "Start" button.
4. Choose "Settings\Control Panel" from the menu.
5. Double click "Add/Remove Programs" in the Control Panel window.
6. Scroll through the list of installed programs and select "ProStart" from the list.
7. Click "Add/Remove", and follow the on screen instructions.

## **Tips**

### **The "\$NoLogin\$" Profile**

If you do not log in, (press "Cancel" or "Escape" on the Login Dialog), a Startup Profile named "\$NoLogin\$" will be used. This is useful if you have some program you want to run only when nobody is logged in.

### **Items that start from the system registry**

Be aware that not all programs that load at login are started from the Windows StartUp folder. Some programs load from the system registry. Many of these items can be moved to a Startup Profile as well, but you should not edit your system registry unless you know exactly what you are doing. Invalid or missing entries in the system registry can cause your system to malfunction. In short, **DO NOT BLAME ME!** If you want to try this anyway, here's how:

1. Click the "Start" button.
2. Choose "Run".
3. Type in "regedit" in the run dialog.
4. Click "OK".

5. In the left pane of the Registry Editor window, goto  
"HKEY\_LOCAL\_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Run".
6. In the right pane of the Registry Editor window, you should see the list of items that are started by the registry. If there are any items you want to move to a Startup Profile, double click on one and you will see it's command line.
7. Create a new shortcut in your Startup Profile, using the EXACT same command line. Then remove the registry entry. Some items must be started from the registry in order to function properly. If you don't know what an item is for, and that it will continue to work as a shortcut, then leave it alone.
8. If you moved an item from the registry "Run" section, and you'd like to put it back, perform steps 1-5 above, and then:
  - a. Right click in the right pane of the Registry Editor window, and choose "New\String Value" in the popup menu.
  - b. Enter the discription for the entry.
  - c. Double click the entry and replace the command line exactly as it was before.
  - d. Delete any shortcuts for this item from your Startup Profiles.

## Registration

ProStart is not disabled and there are no nag screens, so you will not need an unlock code or anything like that.

Sending payment is strictly on the honor system.

Try ProStart for 30 days, if you decide that it is useful to you, please send \$10 check or money order on a US bank to:

Chris Callaway  
P.O. Box 1949  
Lawton, OK 73502-1949

What you get:

1. The legal right to use the software on as many computers as you want.
2. Free future upgrades
3. Free email support
4. A good feeling inside

## Distribution

You may Freely distribute ProStart as long as you do not modify it in any way. You must include all files including this one. You may not make any money for distributing it.

## Contact and Support

If you want to contact me for support, to send comments, (please, good or bad), or for any other reason, please email me at "cwc@poboxes.com".

## Warranty

This is shareware, and you should know if it works for you before you register. However, if you have second thoughts within 30 days after registration, I will send you your money back, no questions asked.

Beyond this, the user must assume the entire risk of using the program. I have done my very best to assure a quality product, but I can not be held responsible for any damages, direct or indirect, from the use or inability to use this software.

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