

Backdrop

for Win32

Version 2.00

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Overview

Backdrop helps you to create more interesting wallpaper for Windows 95, NT and Win32s. With Backdrop you can combine your favorite images into a collage which you can then make your wallpaper.

Ever wish you could have a tiled image **and** a foreground image? Now you can. In fact you can have a tiled image and virtually unlimited foreground images -- placed however you like. It's quick and easy. But, don't take my word for it, **try it!**

What's New

Features

- Restore Last Wallpaper - Now you can easily make changes to the last wallpaper you saved. Select "Restore Last Wallpaper" and your images are opened up where you last left them.
- Arbitrary Tiling - Allows you to specify the horizontal and vertical duplication of the image.
- Center - Quickly center an image.

Fixes

- Palette handling is much better in 256 color mode.
- Fixed a bizarre bug that caused either black icons or a Win95 start menu that filled the entire screen.

What's Next

- JPEG import?
- Preview of images in the open dialog?

Let me know what you'd like to see in Backdrop.

Information on Ordering

Single user licenses for Backdrop are \$10 U.S. Site licenses can be arranged. I accept cash, check or money order.

To register, fill out the following form. Make check or money order out to David A. Rogers. Send payment and form to:

David A. Rogers
1616A Maynard Dr.
Champaign, IL 61821

When payment clears I will mail the validation key for your copy of backdrop. If you have supplied an e-mail address on the form, I will also e-mail you the key.

Order for Backdrop 2.00

Name _____
(as you wish it to appear in your registration)

Street Address _____

City _____

State or Province _____

Postal Code _____

Country _____

E-mail Address (optional) _____

Copies of Backdrop _____ x \$10 U.S. = _____

Installation

Copy the backdrop executable (backdrop.exe) to an appropriate place on your hard drive.

Windows 95® - I recommend placing it on the desktop or putting an alias to it in your "Start" menu.

Windows NT® - Make an entry in the program manager. Your Windows reference manual will explain how.

Reference

The Basics

Right click to see the Backdrop menu.
Left click and drag, to move an image.

The Menu

Open - Open any .bmp file. You can open as many images as your computer has memory for.

Close - Close the window clicked on.

Save As - Save the current Backdrop image to an arbitrary .bmp file.

Save As Wallpaper - Save the image to (Windows directory)\backdrop.bmp. And make backdrop.bmp the current wallpaper.

Restore Last Wallpaper - Restore the images and their positions from the last saved wallpaper.

Tiling - SubMenu

Toggle - Toggle between a tiled and untiled versions of the image. If the image has never been tiled, this is the same as fill screen.

Fill Screen - Repeat the image so as to fill the entire screen. Backdrop actually overfills the screen so that you can drag the tiled image to its best appearance.

Specify Tiling - Specify a particular tiling. The resulting dialog will allow you to specify the number of times to repeat the image in the vertical and horizontal dimensions.

Center - Center the image on the screen.

Move to Back - Move the selected image behind all the others.

About - The usual thing.

Register - Enter your name exactly as it appears in your registration. And the key which was provided. Click OK. You will need to restart Backdrop for your registration to take effect.

Exit - Exit Backdrop. Exiting does **not** save your current work.

Other items of interest:

- 1) Click on an image to move it to the front.
- 2) If a tiled image obscures other images, simply select "Move to Back" on the tiled image and all the rest will appear.
- 3) On systems displaying 256 colors or less - the foremost image gets the best palette.
- 4) If you are running in 256 color mode, I highly recommend using images which use a common palette. The easiest way to do this is to save a copy of the image using the Windows standard palette.

Restrictions on the Unregistered Version

The unregistered version will only open two images at a time. This is enough for one tiled and one foreground image or two foreground images on a black background. This is twice the number Microsoft® gives you. ;-) Plus, backdrop is cheap. Sign up and get the full benefit.

Support

To ask questions, suggest features, or report bugs, send mail to my address above or send e-mail to:

darogers@prairienet.org

The latest version will always be available from the Backdrop web page at:
<http://www.prairienet.org/~darogers/bdrop.html>.

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