

HerbyRunner v1.0

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HerbyRunner is a simple program I designed to eliminate the need to use Program Manager's "Run" command, which most people find slow and cumbersome.

Besides being able to type in the path and file name of a program you want to run, HerbyRunner also allows you to enter shortcuts for commonly run programs or associated documents, such as the letter "n" for the Windows Notepad or "c" for the Control Panel. HerbyRunner also keeps a buffer of the most commonly used commands available for you at all times.

Running a Program

To run a program, type the file path and name into the top text box (the one next to the "Save" button) as you would using any ordinary command line. If you omit the path, HerbyRunner will search your PATH statement in your CONFIG.SYS file. If it still can't find the program you're trying to run, HerbyRunner will display "Error" in the top text box.

To run a program in a maximized window, add "/x" to the end of the command line. For instance, if you wanted to run "c:\windows\write.exe" maximized, you would enter "c:\windows\write.exe/x". This applies even to programs which take command line "switches" themselves.

To run a program minimized (iconized), add "/m" to the command line.

Creating Shortcuts

To create a shortcut, enter the text you want to use into the top text box. Then, in the Filename text box, enter the actual command line text that you would normally use to run the program. Finally, if you wish to add a descriptive title, enter it into the Description text box. Click save, and the shortcut is ready to use.

Note: shortcuts you enter will supercede any files with that same name. For instance, if you used "calc" as a shortcut for

"c:\word\word.exe calculus.doc,"

you wouldn't be able to run the windows calculator simply by typing "calc."
Instead, you would need to type "c:\windows\calc.exe."

Using Shortcuts

After you've created a shortcut, to use it all you need to do is type it into the top text box. HerbyRunner recognizes what you type on the fly, and if what you've typed is a valid shortcut, HerbyRunner will automatically display the description and filename. To run the shortcut, hit enter.

Shortcuts will accept any switches that the program would accept, and you can use /x or /m to run the shortcut maximized or minimized.

Command History

HerbyRunner saves the most-used commands in the top drop-down text box. To see the list, simply click on the down arrow. Clicking an item in the list will put the item in the top text box. Hit enter to run.

To delete an item in the box, select it using the keyboard arrows and hit the "Delete" key.

The HERBYRUN.INI File

Many other features of HerbyRunner are accessible only through the HERBYRUN.INI file, which is stored in your WINDOWS directory. Use the Windows Notepad or another text editor to open the file. The following explains each line of the file.

PrevCommands=

Each of the items of the drop-down command history are stored after "PrevCommands=", from first to last, separated by a vertical bar - "|"

X-position=

Y-position=

These two settings determine the horizontal and vertical positions of the HerbyRunner window. They are saved automatically when HerbyRunner closes.

Minimized=

To run HerbyRunner in an iconized state, add the line "Minimized=1" to HERBYRUN.INI. If you use this setting, whenever you launch a program from HerbyRunner it will return to an icon. "Minimized=0" will return the program to its default window.

ShowDescription=

Normally, the Description text box is shown. If you wish to hide it, add the line "ShowDescription=0". If the Description box is hidden when you save a shortcut, a dialog box will appear in its place to ask for a Description. "ShowDescription=1" will make the box visible.

ShowFilePath=

Normally, the Filename text box is shown. If you wish to hide it, add the line "ShowFilePath=0". If the Filename box is hidden when you save a shortcut, a dialog box will appear in its place to ask for a file name and path. "ShowFilePath=1" will make the box visible.

NumOfListItems=

This setting controls the number of items HerbyRunner will store in the command history drop down box. Default is 10.

Other Stuff

All the rest of the lines in HERBYRUN.INI are shortcuts. The shortcut text comes first, then an equal sign, then the file name and path, and finally, preceded by a vertical bar ("|"), the description. One example is

```
c=c:\windows\control.exe|Control Panel
```

You can add or delete shortcuts directly from the text editor.

About Herby Derby Productions

This program is shareware. It may be distributed freely, but only without modification. To register, send \$6 to:

Chris Nokleberg
4315 Norris Rd.
Fremont, CA 94536

You will receive the Visual Basic 2.0 sourcecode and a disk with samples of all my programs:

Icon Vacuum

A utility to extract icons from programs and manage hundreds of icon files.

BreakThru!

Breakout with a three-dimensional twist.

Runaway Robots

Conversion of a popular UNIX action/strategy game.

MisterMind

MasterMind for the masochist

Cubemaze

Manuever yourself out of a blind, cubic maze.

Catch the Dragon

How fast can you box the dragon in?

and coming soon...

Watch Out, Willi!

A strategy game in which you race against the clock, trying to eat all the bushes without letting the rocks fall on your head. Includes a game editor!