

Winlogo Help

This program is a utility to facilitate the process of making changes to the Windows start up logo. It is written for MS-Windows 3.1.

It may or may not work correctly under Windows 3.0, and will most certainly NOT work under pre-3.0 versions of Windows.

The Windows startup logo is actually just a bitmap, (in an RLE 4 encoded format) which is written into WIN.COM by Windows itself, or any other program, such as WINLOGO, that can make changes to the startup logo. The process is a bit involved (if it can be done at all) and is far from a straightforward business if done without a utility such as WINLOGO. With WINLOGO, the process simply involves selecting an RLE encoded bitmap from the menu, and the program takes care of the rest. The whole process takes just about 5 seconds.

WINLOGO also employs a new approach to Windows programs. The program encompasses a DOS version and a Windows version, all within the same executable (WINLOGO.EXE). If you run WINLOGO.EXE from the DOS command line, the DOS version is executed. If you run it from within Windows the Windows version is executed.

This feature was implemented by using Duncan Murdoch's brilliant GLUE.EXE program, which can be used to join any DOS program to any Windows program. Duncan's program can be downloaded by anonymous ftp from various ftp sites.

Detailed information on using WINLOGO is available by browsing through the topics listed below. Please read the DISCLAIMER section BEFORE attempting to use WINLOGO.

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The_Logo_File

The default logo that Windows uses is called VGALOGO.RLE and exists in your Windows System directory. WINLOGO can always restore this if you choose it from the menu. However, WINLOGO also allows you to have such things as company logos, funny pictures, and the like, as your Windows startup logo, instead of the boring one that is supplied with Windows itself. This is because any RLE 4 encoded bitmap file would do just as well as the VGALOGO.RLE that resides in your Windows System directory.

You would need some utility, such as WINGIF or PAINTSHOP PRO (both Shareware) to convert standard Windows Paintbrush bitmap files into RLE 4 format. You can obtain copies of WINGIF and PAINTSHOP PRO from bulletin boards or by ANONYMOUS FTP from various ftp sites all over the world (e.g., "micros.hensa" in the U.K., or "garbo.uwasa.fi" in Finland; both are accessible from anywhere in the world).

NOTE:

[1] The required format for the bitmap is RLE 4 (not RLE 8) and the bitmap must not contain more than 16 colours.

[2] The RLE file must not be bigger than 46k in size. Otherwise the WINCHG.COM file that will be built will not be usable. Windows will not be able to load it, or even to start at all. If an RLE file selected from the menu is too big, WINLOGO will inform you of this.

Some sample RLE 4 bitmaps are supplied for you to play with. Most of them are third party bitmaps which I have simply converted from other formats to the RLE 4 encoded format. I personally cannot draw, so I do not have any original bitmaps of my own.

The_New_Logo

When you select a new logo, WINLOGO normally builds a new Windows command file, and calls it "WINCHG.COM". Thus to start Windows with the new logo, type "WINCHG" instead of the usual "WIN". At the end of installation, WINLOGO will ask if you want to overwrite the existing WIN.COM file. You should normally answer "NO" to this question unless you already have made a backup copy of WIN.COM. You can always start Windows with your new logo by typing "WINCHG".

Settings in the INI file

Below are the settings in the file WINLOGO.INI and what they mean.

RLE-DIRECTORY:

This line should contain the directory in which the .RLE files are kept. If there is no entry on this line, the program will search in the Windows System directory.

VIDEO-TYPE:

This line should contain a number. This number represents the type of VIDEO DRIVER that you have installed on your Windows system. The valid entries are between 1 and 5. The numbers mean;

- 1 = VGA/SVGA (or compatible) Colour
- 2 = EGA (or compatible) Colour
- 3 = EGA/VGA (or compatible) Mono
- 4 = CGA
- 5 = HERCULES

The responsibility for the correct entry on this line is yours. If there is no entry on this line, WINLOGO does an internal check to determine the type of screen driver in use. The user will be asked to confirm the results of this internal check.

User_Support

WINLOGO is NOT a free program. It is distributed as a user supported program. For my purposes, this means that you get the program free and you pay whatever you think it is worth if you decide that you like it. It does NOT mean that you do not have to pay. I have distributed the program in a completely uncrippled state, and there are no nagging messages. I am relying on users showing good faith and playing fair. This program took me a long time to develop and test, and I am not asking for much.

If you find WINLOGO useful and intend to keep using it, I would suggest a fee of £5 (FIVE British Pounds Sterling). Please forward the fee to me at the address below. Payment of this fee confers the following benefits:-

[a] The satisfaction of being an honest person.

[b] A clear conscience.

[c] 30% discount on Registration of any of my Shareware programs (see "Products").

[d] Evaluation copies of my Shareware programs and copies of my Public Domain programs. There are several, both for DOS and Windows. This particular benefit applies ONLY if you send a diskette (unformatted), a S.A.E, and appropriate postage.

If you feel that WINLOGO is not worth paying for, then I ask you to please DELETE it from your disks immediately.

For payment, please contact;

Dr. A. Olowofoyeku

268 Horwood,

Newcastle,

Staffs ST5 5BQ

England, U.K.

Email : laa12@uk.ac.keele.seq1 (JANET/Internet)

Disclaimer

The program WINLOGO is supplied AS IS. I do not guarantee anything other than that it will probably not kill YOU. You use WINLOGO at your own risk. I accept no responsibility for any damage or loss, physical, financial, or otherwise, that may result from the use, or purported use of WINLOGO, for any purpose whatsoever.

If these terms are not acceptable to you, then you have NO license to use or test WINLOGO. You should DELETE it from your disks IMMEDIATELY.

Bug_Reports

For comments, bug reports, and payment, please contact;

Dr. A. Olowofoyeku

268 Horwood,

Newcastle,

Staffs ST5 5BQ

England, U.K.

Email : laa12@uk.ac.keele.seq1 (JANET/Internet)

Products

Below are a list of other programs which you can obtain from me;

Shareware Programs;

[1] Windows Command Line Processor (WCL) :-

This is a command line interface for Windows 3.0 and 3.1. It simulates the infamous DOS "C:>" prompt, from WITHIN Windows, and also duplicates most of the internal DOS commands. This is a FULL Windows program, and you get a prompt from which commands can be typed, just as under DOS. You can run any DOS or Windows program from this prompt, while at the same time having Program Manager in view for clicking on other programs with the mouse.

WCL supports batch commands in Windows, and directory aliases. Other commands include COPY, DELETE, RENAME, MKDIR, RMDIR, DIR, TYPE, MORE, PRINT, CONCAT, TIME, DATE, HIDE, UNHIDE, TYPE-WRITE, FREE, SHELL, etc., and a host of others. Many of the commands behave exactly like their DOS counterparts, except that you do all this WITHIN Windows. The WCL window is just tucked away in a corner of the Windows desktop, and you can switch to it just by clicking on any part of it.

With WCL, you may never need to invoke the "MSDOS PROMPT" again, and for basic functions like file copying, deleting, and renaming, creating, deleting and renaming directories, setting the system date or time, you will not need to load the file manager. This is a great program!

[2] AUTO-CONFIG :- This is a DOS based automatic system configuration program. It manages multiple AUTOEXEC.BAT and CONFIG.SYS for you, and whenever you need to change the system configuration in order to run a particular application, or whatever, all you need do is select from a menu, and AUTO-CONFIG will do the rest - update your AUTOEXEC.BAT and CONFIG.SYS files with the new configuration AND reboot the computer. The program has a built in Editor to facilitate editing or creation of the different configurations. Every one needs this program!

[3] KWIKMENU :- This is a DOS based Hard Disk Menu program. It features full mouse control, passwords, a file manager, and a file link utility which links data files to the applications that created them. You can have an unlimited number of menu items. KWIKMENU can swap itself to Extended or Expanded memory, or to the hard disk, when running a menu item. In these cases, it uses only 6.5k of conventional memory. KWIKMENU is also very fast (especially when it swaps to Extended or Expanded memory), leaving most of the competition trailing far behind, hence, its name. Highly recommended!

Public Domain Programs:

[1] METRIX :- This is a program which converts from Metric to Imperial measurements, and vice versa. e.g., Metres to Feet, Kilograms to Stones, etc. About 16 conversions are built into the program. There is a DOS version and a Windows version. The DOS version allows you to create your own conversion tables. I have not yet built this feature into the Windows version, and I may never do so.

[2] SIMPLE-EDITOR :- This is a DOS based Text Editor for editing ASCII files of up to 64k. The keystrokes are Wordstar(tm) compatible. This is the same editor that it built into AUTO-CONFIG (see above).

[3] TXT2TPAS :- This is a DOS based program that converts the contents of an ASCII file into Turbo Pascal string arrays. This is useful for producing help files, taking the

tedium out of multiple "writeln" statements, etc. All you need do is put all the required information into an ascii file, run TXT2TPAS, and you are presented with a .PAS file, which is ready to compile, with the text in the file converted into the required Turbo Pascal data structures (either a String Array, a pointer to a String Array, or a Turbo Pascal Object Type). The resulting code will compile without fuss 100% of the time, both under Turbo Pascal v6.0 and with minor editing, Turbo Pascal for Windows too. You can then edit the code to your heart's content.

[4] WINDEZIP :- This is an Unzip program for Windows 3.0/3.1. It extracts files from within a ZIP archive created with PKZIP. It was converted to Windows from a DOS version the Turbo Pascal source code for which was released into the public domain by its original authors. I converted the code to compile under Turbo Pascal for Windows and changed the user interface for the DOS version to an interactive one. It will compile under Turbo Pascal 6.0 (or 5.5) for Dos, and Turbo Pascal for Windows, if a single conditional compilation directive is turned on or off. The source code is supplied as well. The program is VERY slow because of the original extraction algorithms, most of which I cannot understand. Thus I could not optimise it beyond changing a bubble sort in the original implementation to a quick sort. If any one can improve the performance, I should like to see their code.

NOTE: My code may contain bugs. Many things I did were work arounds to persuade the code to compile under Windows, and to get around the (odd?) decision of the original authors to use their own dynamic memory management routines instead of the ones in the run time library. However, I have been using the DOS and Windows compilations without any problems so far.

The original code is well commented, and I also have endeavoured to explain what I was doing at various places. If we circulate this code well enough, we may eventually be able to get something that rivals the great PKUNZIP in performance.

[5] FOYEH UTILITIES :- This is a host of small and basic DOS based utilities.

