

Programmable Slide Show 1.0 for After Dark 2.0

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This version (1.0) is in the public domain. Voluntary contributions may be made to:
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- DESCRIPTION

This module allows you to create slide shows as a list of 256-color Windows BMP files. The files are faded in and faded out at a user-specified speed, or displayed instantly without unattractive "banding."

- INSTALLATION

To install this module, simply copy SLIDES.AD to your After Dark 2.0 directory. The slide show will appear in your After Dark control panel under "Slides."

- INSTRUCTIONS

The file lists are called programs, and you can create and maintain several of them using the "Edit Program" features. Unless the "random" checkbox is selected, the program that shows in the drop-down control is the active program. The "random" setting will cause a program to be chosen at random each time the screen saver is activated.

To create a program, click the "Program" button, and then click "New." Type a name for the new program, and add files using the "Insert" button. Multiple files can be inserted at the same time in the "Select Image File" dialog.

- NOTES

This screen saver requires a 256-color palettized display driver, and it can only show 256-color Windows (BITMAPINFO-type) palettized bitmaps. Some OS/2 bitmaps are of the BITMAPCORE type, and these are not supported. These files can be converted to BITMAPINFOs by simply loading them into Windows Paintbrush and then resaving them.

Display drivers for 15-bit, 16-bit, and 24-bit video cards are not supported because they cannot perform palette animation, which is used to fade in and fade out the images, a key feature of this screen saver.

The program maintains its settings in a file, slides.ini, which will be created in the same directory as the screen saver module. Since this is a binary file, you cannot use a text editor to modify it. Use the After Dark 2.0 control panel instead.

Since this screen saver module uses the entire display when it is active, it can take over Windows palette entries which are normally reserved for use by the system. This allows images to be displayed with the richness of a full 254 color palette, rather than the 240 color palette most image display programs must use. This means that pictures should look slightly better in this slide show module than with any other Windows program. This also explains why some system colors are missing or incorrect in the control panel when you use After Dark's "demo" button with

this module.

Since this module takes over the Windows palette, using it in a MultiModule may have unexpected results. This is not recommended.

- *RELEASE NOTES*

The functionality of the "preview" button in the "Edit Slide Program" dialog is not yet implemented.

When you select more than one file in the "Select Image File" dialog, the files are inserted in the program in reverse order.