

Clocker 2.1 Help

Welcome to Clocker 2.1!

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What Is Clocker?

Clocker is an event-scheduler program, which will execute pre-determined events at a specific time. Clocker is extremely useful for running unattended backups, running after-hours processes such as downloading or faxing, and many other things -- limited only by your imagination! Clocker can also pop up user-defined reminder messages, so it can function as an alarm clock.

Clocker also has the capability for group scheduling on a network. The system administrator can place a group schedule on a shared disk, and each machine running Clocker on the network will optionally read this file, in addition to its private schedule file. This group schedule is also automatically refreshed, so the administrator can make a change once and every machine using that group schedule will be automatically updated to reflect the changes. This can be extremely useful for tasks ranging from network backups to broadcast meeting notices.

Clocker Command Line

The command line for Clocker is:

```
clocker [privatefile] [groupfile]
```

where privatefile is a private Clocker data file and groupfile is a group Clocker data file. Note that the order of these parameters is not important -- Clocker will auto detect the file type.

Also note that these command line parameters will override the Load Files on Startup feature.

File Menu

The File menu contains commands for opening, saving, and closing Clocker data files.

Open...

Close

Save

Save As...

Open Group...

Close Group

Save Group

Save Group As...

Exit

Options Menu

The Options menu contains commands for adding, editing, and deleting items which are in the list(s) of events.

Add Item

Edit Item

Delete Item

Add Group Item

Edit Group Item

Delete Group Item

Settings Menu

The Settings menu provides options which change the way information is handled, displayed and reported by Clocker.

Font

Delete After Execute

Print Log

Display Date

Display Group

Load Files On Startup

Help Menu

The Help menu provides on-line help and information about Clocker.

Open File

This menu selection opens a private Clocker data file. These files usually have a .CLK extension.

An error message will be printed if you try to open a group file using this command.

Close File

This menu selection closes an open private Clocker data file. The event list in memory will be cleared.

Save File

Choosing this option allows you to save the current private Clocker data file. The file will be saved with the same name it was opened with, or if the file was just created, you will be prompted for a name for the file.

Save File As

Choosing this option allows you to save the current private Clocker data file. You will be prompted for a name for the file.

Open Group File

This menu selection opens a group Clocker data file. These files usually have a .CLK extension.

An error message will be printed if you try to open a private file using this command.

Close Group File

This menu selection closes an open group Clocker data file. The event list in memory will be cleared.

Choosing this command will also exit Supervisor mode for the group file.

Save Group File

Choosing this option allows you to save the current group data file. The file will be saved with the same name it was opened with, or if the file was just created, you will be prompted for a name for the file.

Choosing this command will also exit Supervisor mode for the group file.

Save Group File As

Choosing this option allows you to save the current group data file. You will be prompted for a name for the file.

Choosing this command will also exit Supervisor mode for the group file.

Exit

Exits Clocker. If any schedules have been modified, you will be prompted to save them before Clocker closes.

Note that a schedule file could have been modified if the Delete After Execute option is on.

Add Schedule Item

This command is used to enter a new schedule item into the private schedule. For detailed information, see [Edit dialog](#).

Edit Schedule Item

This command is used to edit a schedule item in the private schedule. For detailed information, see [Edit dialog](#).

Delete Schedule Item

To delete an item from the private schedule, simply select the item by clicking on it and choose this menu option. The event will be removed from the list.

Add Group Schedule Item

This command is used to enter a new schedule item into the group schedule.

If there is no group schedule currently loaded, you will be prompted for a new password for this group schedule. This password will be stored with the file when you save it and it will be required whenever you want to make changes to the file.

If there is currently a group schedule loaded, and you are not currently in Supervisor mode , you will be prompted for the password for this group schedule. Without the proper password, you cannot alter the group schedule. If you enter the password correctly, you will enter Supervisor mode .

For detailed information on adding a new schedule item, see Edit dialog.

Edit Group Schedule Item

This command is used to edit a schedule item in the group schedule. If you are not currently in Supervisor mode , you will be prompted for the password for this group schedule. Without the proper password, you cannot alter the group schedule. If you enter the password correctly, you will enter Supervisor mode .

For detailed information on editing a schedule item, see Edit dialog.

Delete Group Schedule Item

This command is used to delete a schedule item from the group schedule. To delete an item, select the item by clicking on it and choose this menu option. If you are not currently in Supervisor mode , you will be prompted for the password for this group schedule. Without the proper password, you cannot alter the group schedule. If you enter the password correctly, you will enter Supervisor mode .

Edit Schedule Item Dialog

When you choose to add or edit a private or group schedule item, you need to enter the following information about your event into the form:

Date

Specifies the date the event is to be executed. This date can carry slightly different meanings, depending on the other settings as described below.

The date must be entered in the following format: MM/DD/YY.

Time

Specifies the time the event is to be executed.

The time can be entered in either 12-hr or 24-hr format. To use 24-hr format, enter the time in the form HH:MM. If you want to enter it in 12-hr, use the form HH:MMa or HH:MMp, for AM or PM respectively.

Repeat

Specifies if the event is to be repeated multiple times on the days it runs.

To specify that an event should repeat, click the repeat box. Then fill in the two boxes to the right of the repeat box -- these are the repeat interval and the end time. The event should then execute every [repeat interval] minutes until [end time].

For example, if you wanted an event to execute every hour from 9:00am to 5:00pm, you would enter 9:00a as the start time, 60 as the interval, and 5:00p as the end time.

One Day Only

Specifies that the event should only occur on the date specified. Note that this repeat mode allows you to use the Delete After Execute command, if you wish.

Repeat Daily/Weekly

Specified that the event should occur every week, on the specified days of the week. When this option is used, the date field is ignored.

Repeat Monthly

Specified that the event should occur every month, on the day of the month specified. For example, if the specified date is 3/31/92 and the Repeat Monthly option is checked, then the event would execute on the 31st of every month.

Note that no check is made for dates that do not occur in every month; hence in the above example, the event will never execute in February since February does not have 31 days.

Command Line

To run a program at the specified time(s), select this option and type the command line of the program you wish to run below it.

Note that the browse button is available for selecting the desired file. Also note that file associations (set up with the Windows File Manager) are supported.

Message

Select this option if you want to pop up a reminder message at the desired time instead of running a program. Type the message you want in the area below this button.

Specify Working Directory

If you wish to specify a working directory, select this option and enter it in the area below. Note that this option is only available when the Command Line option is selected.

Normal

Select this option if you want to run a program in a normal window.

Iconized

Select this option if you want to run a program as an icon.

Hidden

Select this option if you want to run a program hidden. Be careful with this option, as you will not be able to give user input to the program. Also be sure to have a valid .PIF file with Background Execution enabled to run DOS programs hidden.

Test

Clicking the Test button will test the entry you have made, whether it is a command line or a message.

Changing Font

Select this menu item to change the font used for the current date and time, the time displayed in the icon, and the font used for the status line.

Delete After Execute

If this option is checked, any One Day Only events which do not repeat (ie. will only execute once) will be deleted from the list after they are executed. This feature is most useful for one-time message boxes, such as a reminder for a meeting, etc.

Print Log File

When this item is checked, a log file will be maintained which logs every program which was run and the error code, if any.

This log file will be called CLOCKER.LOG, and will be stored in your Windows directory.

Display Date

When this item is selected, the current date will appear next to the time in the Clocker window. When iconized, the date will become part of the title line (ie. Clocker - 11/17).

Display Group

If there is a group schedule active, you have the option of displaying it or not. If you do display it, it will be shown on the bottom half of the Clocker window.

Note that regardless of whether or not the group schedule is displayed, the status line will still reflect the group file status, and the group schedule will still be active (if there is one loaded).

Load Files on Startup

If this option is selected, Clocker will start in the state it was in when last exited -- the file(s) which were loaded will be loaded again on startup.

Note that both private and group files will be automatically loaded if this option is selected and both were active when Clocker was previously exited.

Also note that any command line parameters will override the automatic load feature.

Using Private and Group Files

Private Files

Each machine running Clocker can have its own private schedule. This schedule should contain events which are unique to that machine. For example, if a user wanted to get a reminder before a meeting, or download a file after hours, this would most likely be in the private schedule. Also, any stand-alone (not networked) should only use a private file in most cases.

Private schedules are read once at the beginning of the session.

Group Files

Group schedules are central schedules which multiple machines read. These schedules are password protected and should be stored on a shared network disk, which is readable by all machines using the group schedule.

Each machine will automatically refresh its internal schedule from the group file. So, the system administrator can make a schedule, and edit it several times during the day and all of the machines reading this schedule will be automatically updated within minutes (see [Advanced Options](#)).

Group files are password protected for security reasons. When a group file is created, a password must be specified for it. Any attempt to edit this file in the future will require the correct password. If the password is correctly entered, Clocker will enter [Supervisor mode](#) .

Other Options

Icon Always On Top

This option is available from the system menu. This makes Clocker stay on top of all other windows when it is iconized.

Advanced Options

Note: these options are intended for advanced users and network administrators only. They should not be necessary for normal use of Clocker.

Time Update Interval

This option changes the frequency with which Clocker updates its internal time. The default is 5 seconds, which should be adequate for most uses. However, with this default, events executed and the time displayed by Clocker could be up to 5 seconds late.

To change this value, create a [Settings] section in the CLOCKER.INI file (which should be in your Windows directory), if there is not one already. Add the following line, under this section header:

```
TimeUpdateInterval=5
```

Instead of 5, enter the interval in seconds you want. Note that the interval must be between 1 and 59 seconds. Smaller numbers will slightly increase overhead, but this effect will probably not be noticeable.

Group Refresh Rate

This option changes the frequency with which Clocker refreshes the group file. The default is every 15 minutes, which should be adequate for most uses.

To change this value, create a [Settings] section in the CLOCKER.INI file (which should be in your Windows directory), if there is not one already. Add the following line, under this section header:

```
GroupRefreshRate=15
```

Instead of 15, enter the refresh rate (in minutes) that you want. The actual refresh times will be when (minutes MOD interval) is zero -- for example, if the GroupRefreshRate is 15 minutes, then refreshes will take place at 0, 15, 30, and 45 minutes past the hour. Note that smaller intervals can increase overhead, both within Clocker and on the network (since all of the machines will probably be hitting the file server simultaneously).

Supervisor Mode

To edit a group file, you must be in supervisor mode. To get into supervisor mode, you must enter the correct password for the group file you are trying to edit. After you enter the password once, and enter supervisor mode (as reflected on the status line), you will have the capability to add, edit, and delete group schedule items.

To exit supervisor mode, you must either save the group file, close the group file, or open a new group file.

Be careful not to remain in supervisor mode longer than necessary, for security reasons -- the capability to run processes on someone else's machine is a powerful one. Also note that while you are in supervisor mode, the machine you are using will not update its group schedule from disk until you exit supervisor mode.

Support Information

Support will be available via telephone, E-mail or US Mail. All inquiries from registered users will be acknowledged; non-registered user inquiries will be handled as time permits.

Telephone

(303) 484-7204

E-mail

CompuServe: 71774,605

Internet: 71774.605@compuserve.com

US Mail

Winnovation

P.O. Box 271071

Ft. Collins, CO 80527-1071

Ordering Information

The registration fee for Clocker 2.0 is \$24.95, for a single-user license. Site license rates shown in ORDERFRM.TXT.

To order, fill out ORDERFRM.TXT and send it to:

Winnovation
P.O. Box 271071
Ft. Collins, CO 80527-1071

