

Color Toolbar for Word for Windows 2.0

Word for Windows 2.0 permits the user to select toolbar buttons for commands and macros. The choice of buttons, however, was always limited to the unchangeable set that came with the software. This set included a large number of unimaginative letters and numerals, and moreover was pretty much limited to black, white, and shades of grey. No longer.

WinWord 2.0 has an undocumented feature that permits the user to create and load an entirely different set of buttons for the toolbar. These buttons can use the full palette of colors and can be totally customized. This package contains everything needed to use this vastly better option on your computer.

Installation

1. Copy the following files to your main WinWord directory:

- 81tbar.bmp, 82tbar.bmp, 83tbar.bmp, 84tbar.bmp. These are the button symbols that will be used on your computer if your video system is 1024x768 or IBM 8514.
- v1tbar.bmp, v2tbar.bmp, v3tbar.bmp, v4tbar.bmp. These are the button symbols your system will use if your video is standard VGA.

I have no idea which will be used if your video is 800x600 mode. Using a higher video resolution permits more detailed button pictures, so the first series has the best looking symbols. Even the second series benefits from the addition of color, though.

2. Add the following line to your win.ini file, in the [Microsoft Word 2.0] section:

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LoadToolbarBitmaps=yes
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Alternatively, you can set this line to "1" instead of "yes."

That's all there is to it! You will need to restart Windows, of course, so that the win.ini setting takes effect; but once you do, the new toolbar will load automatically.

Notes

1. Since the palette of colors used by Windows is not constant, you may notice that some of your buttons do not look the way they should. For instance, paper may not be white, the stop sign and check marks may not be red, etc. This is because the palette of colors you are using differs too widely from the one used by the bmp files to maintain color integrity. There are three ways of dealing with this if you experience it:

- You can try upping the number of colors supported by your video system. The toolbar bmp files use only 16 colors, so if you increase your Windows video to 256 colors, you may solve the display problem.
- You could go to Control Panel/Desktop and change your color combination to Rugby. This set of colors closely tracks those in the toolbar files.
- You could use Windows Paintbrush or some similar utility to manually change the colors in the bmp files to ones that suit your system better.

2. This set of files is released as *freeware*. Even though I spent a bunch of time drawing all those pictures, I don't want anything in return. Unless, of course, you feel like dropping me an email message to say that you're using my toolbar. It's always nice to know that somebody is out there using your product. ☺ My internet address:
gitzlaff@uxa.cso.uiuc.edu

Made by Jim Gitzlaff. Student, University of Illinois Law School. 9 July 1993.