This document is intended to answer some frequently asked questions about PowerBBS. Hopefully this document will help you. I plan on adding to this file. The latest will always be available on the support bbs.

How can I edit the color screens in PowerBBS??

All the screens in PowerBBS are configureable. In order to edit the color (ANSI) screens, you need an ANSI editor. TheDraw is the most popular and is available for download at the support bbs.

Do not use Alt-S to save a screen.   Instead use Alt-B and block off the part to save. Then save that part using 200 characters per line.

I can't seem to get my com port set correct (Read if using nonstandard COM3 or COM4)

The first thing you need to do is to go to the modem section of Config. It is here that you have to edit the Com port number, Base Code, and Irq. These are 3 IMPORTANT items. Look up Modem Info in the manual (2.1.11.1) for complete information on what a typical setting might be.

If you are using a nonstandard port such as COM3 & COM4, along with setting the IRQ/BASE CODES you must also run control panel. Select Ports in control panel; then select the com port you are planning to use in PowerBBS; Select the ADVANCED button; then select the IRQs/BASE codes you will be using; click OK and close the control panel.

I want to run 4 lines under Windows. How can I do it?

You CAN run up to 4 lines on ONE computer using windows, by using COM1 - COM4. The only requirement is that you have a different IRQ for each COM PORT. You can purchase a 4-port card for $119. Call 1-800-735-5266 Ext 29 to place an order (919-286-1502 Ext 40 out of the US). This is a 4 port 16-bit card with 16550 UARTS! Its IRQs can be selected as 2,3,4,5,10,11,12,15. We recommend using IRQs 3,4,10,11, but it depends on your computer system. You can set this up with the Shareware, Windows, & Professional versions of PowerBBS. See the above question for setting up Com1-Com4 (you have to enter the information in the Control Panel/Ports/Modem/Advanced setup + PowerBBS's Config setup).

The carrier seems to drop a lot after running doors or in unexpected places.

Check your modem initialization. Be sure you are using &D0 in

your modem initialization. If you have &D2 set, Windows may drop carrier as it sometimes drops the dtr upon running a door or other type of program.

I can't get ANSI sent in the message bases

Edit the Options #3 screen; Entry #4 "Permit colors in messages". Set this to Yes.

How can I add a forum?

To add a forum, enter the FORUM editing section of config. Use the PgDn button in the dialog box to go to the next forum. Once you see a forum that has no name, you can put a new name as the forum name. PowerBBS will then set the defaults for the other options.

Can I run doors written for other BBS packages?

PowerBBS includes a program called convdoor that will convert the USERINFO.BBS file that PowerBBS creates to the DOOR.SYS file that most other doors can use. See section 17.0 of the manual.
Read the IMPORTANT information on live programs in the manual's section 2.1.4.2.

I'd like to use a .PIF file for my all my dropping to dos

PowerBBS will normally use the _default.pif file for information on dropping to dos. The default file it runs is the live.bat file (you can change this filename in config). As a result by creating a live.pif file, the live.pif file will be used when running live.bat!

I have a 14.4 modem, any hints on setting it up?

The first thing you will want to look into is locking the baud rate. Under the normal 3.1 windows comm.drv the highest baud rate you can use is 19200. Different modems have different setups for locking the baud rate. An example of locking the Supra and USRobitics modems are included in the manual along with others (2.1.11.1).
For best performance, be sure you are using a 16550 buffered uart in your computer.

If I register, what are the upgrade paths?

Once you register, be sure to call the support bbs. You will be given access to the support forum there. As a member of the support forum, 6 months of free upgrades are given. There is a reasonable

yearly fee for upgrades thereafter.   Just leave a message to the sysop with your serial number for access.