

Conversion Artist Online Help

* Release 1.2 - Help 1.2 *

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Conversion Artist RF for Jasmine

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Conversion Artist RF for Jasmine

What is Conversion Artist RF?

Conversion Artist RF is a specially licensed *reduced functionality* version of North Coast Software's Conversion Artist. This version has the same features as Conversion Artist but will only read TIFF files and will only write GIF, TIFF, TARGA, PCX, and DIB/BMP files. You can upgrade to the full version by simply sending your special Conversion Artist upgrade coupon and \$50. What does \$50 get you?

34 more Image file formats (listed in the next help section)

Upgrades to new versions

A manual

Technical Support

Also available are the Conversion Artist Add-On modules. These include:

Image Editing (scaling, cropping, rotation, adding text, flipping, and more)

JPEG Compression (shrinks a color image down to 3% its original size)

Dycam Digital Camera

Color Separation

Special Effects and more, more, more!

Send your coupon and \$50 to:

**Jasmine Upgrade
North Coast Software
P.O. Box 459
Barrington, NH 03825**

Quick Directions for Running Conversion Artist

Loading a File

Converting and Saving a File

Color Reduction

Loading a File

Click and hold on FILE (upper left corner), pull down to OPEN and release. Click and hold on the down arrow to the right of DIB - Windows Bitmap. This will give you a list of the file formats you can import. Choose one. Use the directory dialog box to change to a directory if you wish. When you have a file listed in the file box, simply double click on it. A Loading box will be displayed which will give information on the file as it is loading.

Converting and Saving a File

When the file is loaded you may save it as another file format by clicking on FILE and then Save As. Click on FORMAT and it will display the valid options for the current file format. You may change to another file format by clicking and holding the downarrow to the right of the current file format. When you are ready to save the file, click on SAVE.

Color Reduction

You must have an image loaded. Click and hold on COLORS (upper middle), a check next to an option shows what color information your image has. Click on a lesser number to perform a color reduction, an indicator will gauge its progress. Click UNDO to reverse to change. Then click UNDO again to get the change back.

What is Conversion Artist?

Conversion Artist Features

- Importing
- Previewing
- Batch Converting
- Compression
- Optimizing and reducing colors
- Color and Black and White Printing
- Add-On Modules

Conversion Artist is a versatile True Color image conversion utility. Conversion Artist will import, preview, and convert a variety of image types from a wide number of applications and computer systems. It provides optimized color reduction, and will print images on color and black and white printers. Conversion Artist also conserves disk space by compressing images.

Requirements

System Requirements for Conversion Artist

- Windows 3.0 or greater
- A 286 CPU or better
- 2 MB of RAM
- 1.2 MB of hard disk space
- A mouse or drawing equivalent is recommended

Format Information

Format Information

Conversion Artist 1.1 imports the following image formats

BIT - Lotus, **CE** - Computer Eyes, **CEB** & **CEG** - Edsun (4 formats), **CLP** - Windows Clipboard, **CUT** - Dr. Halo, **CVP** - Kodak, **DIB** - Windows (**BMP**, **RLE**, and **OS/2**), **GEN** - Generic (2 formats), **GIF** - Graphics Interchange Format, **IFF** - Amiga (+ HAM), **IMG** - Data Translation DT-Iris & Aurora, **IMG** - Ventura, **LBM** - Amiga Deluxe Paint, **MCP** - MacPaint, **MSP** - Microsoft Paint, **PCC** - Paintbrush Clipboard, **PCT** - Macintosh PICT (1 & 2), **PCX** - ZSoft PC Paintbrush, **PPM** - Portable PixMap (UNIX), **RAS** - Sun Raster, **RGB** - Silicon Graphics Iris RGB, **SVW** - Super Video Windows, **TIF** - Tagged Image File Format (100+ subformats), **WPG** - WordPerfect Raster, **WMF** - Windows Metafile, **TGA** - Targa (all 8 subformats)

And outputs to:

BMP/DIB, **BMP** (OS/2), **CEB**, **CEG**, **CVP**, **HEX**, DT-Iris **IMG**, **GEN**, **GIF**, **PCC**, **PCX**, **PostScript**, **RLE**, **RGB**, **TGA**, **TIF**, **WPG**.

Refer to your manual for a discussion of the various file formats.

File

File Commands

File Commands

Batch Conversion

Settings

File Commands

New

Use New when importing a file by pasting from the Clipboard.

Open

Use Open to load or import an image file from disk.

Close

Use Close to close the currently selected window.

Save

Save will save an image to a file without querying you further. If the image has no name you will be prompted for one.

Save As

Save As will save an image and will allow you to change the image format, number of colors, and compression before saving it to a file.

Print

Use Print to output the selected image on an attached printed or file.

Printer Setup

Printer Setup will allow you to adjust options on your printer such as paper size, memory, before printing.

Batch

Batch is a powerful and convenient facility which will perform one or more conversion operations on multiple files. You may apply color reduction, color promotion, dithering, compression, and conversion to grayscale with batch. Refer to your manual for more details.

Settings

[Screen Bitmaps](#)
[Speed Memory Options](#)
[TIFF Compression](#)
[File Saving Options](#)
[CEG Options](#)

Screen Bitmaps

If the screen bitmaps option is turned on, screen redrawing will be much quicker.

Because screen bitmaps use extra memory you may wish to turn this option off when using images that are large or have 16-bit or 24-bit color information.

Use on all

This option will speed up your screen updates at the cost of using more memory for each image which is loaded.

Don't use on 16-bit, 24-bit images

This option will disable screen bitmaps for high color images. This will allow you to get quick screen updates on low color images and conserve memory on high color images. Screen updates will be slightly slower.

Don't use at all

This option will conserve memory by turning off screen bitmaps. Screen updates will be slightly slower.

Memory/Color Options

Color

If you are viewing an image with more colors than your video card supports, Best Color and Halftone will improve the image appearance. Use Halftone when appearance is more important than the speed of display.

Dither

Eight different dithering options are available. Use Floyd-Steinberg as a default and others if they are more suitable to a particular image.

Keep UNDO Buffers

By disabling the **UNDO** buffers you may conserve memory, but at the cost of disabling the UNDO function. You may wish to disable UNDO buffers if you have limited system memory or are working with large images.

See also: **Screen Bitmaps**

TIFF Compression

This option will allow you to set a default method of compression for each TIFF color combination.

File Saving

This option will let you set defaults for the conversion operations that occur when you use Save As to convert to a format with less colors. Refer to your manual for more information on color reduction and dithering.

Using CEG Options

These options are only relevant if you are running a CEG video card with a CEG Windows driver.

Using CEG Driver

This option will allow you to override the CEG autodetector. This allows to you disable or enable viewing of CEG bitmaps and anti-aliasing of metafiles under Windows.

CEG File Save Type

This option will set the default saving format for images converted to CEG. Refer to your manual for for details.

Dither On Conversion

This option, when enabled, will dither when converting to the 700-color CEG format.

See also: **CEG Colors**

Metafile Options

This option allows you to set the percentage of enlargement or reduction of a metafile as it is loaded and converted to a bitmap. If a metafile will not load initially you may wish to lower the percentage size and try loading again.

Edit

Clipboard Functions and Undo

Undo

Cut

Copy

Paste

Delete

Undo

Undo will reverse the affects of an operation which changed an image. For instance, if you convert an image from color to gray scale, Undo will revert it back to color. Undo itself can also be undone.

See also: **Speed/Memory Options**

Cut

Cut will move a selected image to the Windows Clipboard where it can be pasted back to Conversion Artist or to other Windows applications. The image's window border and title will remain on the screen and will not be included as part of the cut image.

Copy

Copy will create a copy of the selected image in the Windows Clipboard without removing it from Conversion Artist. The image can then be pasted to other Windows applications.

Paste

Paste DIB will copy an image from the Windows Clipboard into a window which you have created with New from the File menu.

Delete

This option will remove the image contents of a window, leaving the border and title. This operation can be **UNDONE**. You can **PASTE** images to the resulting empty window after deleting it.

Capture

Screen Capture Features and Options

Active Window

Active Application

Entire Screen

User Defined Rectangle

Window Under Mouse

Set Options

Active Window

This will capture the window which is currently active.

Active Application

This will capture the window of the application which is currently active including child sub-windows.

Entire Screen

This will capture the entire Windows screen.

User Defined Rectangle

This will capture a rectangle on the screen which you may select.

Window Under Mouse

This will capture the window which is currently under the mouse.

Set Options

Options For Screen Capture

Capture

Use this to specify whether a screen capture goes to a file, the clipboard, or a new window.

Output File

This will set the file name and optionally add an automatic increment number. If you use the auto-increment options, the last two characters of filename before the extension will be used for the file count. The increment file number is settable, and the file output format may also be selected.

Window Capture

Capture Contents - this will capture only the contents of a window and will exclude the border and title.

Capture Entire Window - this will capture the entire window including the border and the title

Hot Key

Use this option to set your screen capture hotkey to a function key: F1 - F12 in combination with Alt and Ctrl..

Colors

Color Reduction, Promotion, and CEG

Color

Gray

Monochrome

16 Colors

256 Colors

16-Bits

24-Bits

32-Bits

CEG Colors

Refer to your manual for discussions of Flat Cut, Median Cut, Dithering, and CEG.

Color

If the current image format allows, this option will switch from a grayscale format to a color format.

Gray

This option will convert a color image to grayscale.

Monochrome

Use this to color-reduce an image to black and white.

Flat cut

Flat cut with dither

16 Colors

Use this to convert an image to a standard 16-color fixed palette

Flat cut

Flat cut with dither

Increase colors to 16

Use this to change a monochrome image to a 16-color format image.

256 Colors

Convert to 256 colors and create a palette.

Flat cut

Flat cut with dither

Optimized cut

Optimized cut will create a palette optimized for 256 colors

Optimized cut with dither

The Optimized Cut with Dither method is the optimal means reducing colors for 256-colors.

Increase colors to 256

Use this to change a low-color image to a 256-color format image. This will not create or add new colors.

16-Bits

Convert to 16 bits, or 32767 colors with no color palette. 16-bit images may be saved as Targa-16 or Tiff-16 images and can also be saved as 24-bit images.

Flat cut

Use this only when converting or reducing from 24 or 32-bit color formats.

Flat cut with dither

Use this only when converting or reducing from 24 or 32-bit color formats.

Increase colors to 16-bit.

Use this to change a lower-color image to a 16-bit format image. This will not create or add new colors.

24-Bits

Convert to 24-bits, or 16.6 Million colors.

Increase colors to 24-bit

Use this to change a lower-color image to a 24-bit format image. This will not create or add new colors.

32-bits

Increase to 32-bits

i.e. 24-bits with a NULL Alpha channel.

CEG Colors

Convert images to high color Edsun CEG formats.

To view CEG high colors you must have a CEG video board installed.

700 colors, Alt/Basic-8

This format may be viewed with the standard 16-color CEG Windows driver. You can use this bitmap format with ordinary Windows applications. It has a fixed palette of 740 colors. You can enable dithering of this format by setting the Dither On Conversion option in the **CEG Options** box.

7000 colors, Flash convert

This format will convert an entire image in 30 seconds.

700,000 colors

This format will use the highest number of CEG colors available and may take 15 minutes to convert a 640*480 sized image.

Window

Multiple Document Interface Commands

Tile

Cascade

Arrange Icons

Close All

Tile

This command will arrange all existing windows as tiles so that at least part of each window is visible.

Cascade

This command will arrange all existing windows so that all the windows are stacked, one on top of the other.

Arrange Icons

This command will tidy up the icons of closed windows.

Close All

This command will close all windows and images opened by Conversion Artist.

Help

Conversion Artist Help

Index

Index will place you in the top level of the Conversion Artist Online Help.

Using Help

Using Help will load the Help Facility introduction and will show you how to become familiar with Help basics.

About

About will display information on the version of Conversion Artist and may have a hidden message.