

Help for Master Series CD-ROM Library Program

The Master Series CD-ROM is much more than just a collection of great Windows shareware programs. The WINCAT (WINdow CATalog) program allows you to view descriptions of each program then execute the program immediately. You can display bitmaps and icons to actually see what they'll look like before you copy them to your Windows directory. With the proper driver installed (included) you can even listen to the .WAV sound files thru your PC's speaker!

Index

This is the index to the Help system. You can use the cursor to select the topic you are interested in by clicking on the topic after the cursor changes shape.

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Categories

This scrollable window contains a list of the different software categories available for viewing. To select a category use the mouse pointer to CLICK on a topic. After clicking on a category the file descriptions for that topic will be displayed in the descriptions window.

To scroll past the end of the window use the mouse pointer to CLICK on the up or down arrows in the upper and lower right corners of the window. You can also click on the position button and drag it to a new position in the list.

Descriptions

This window lists the descriptions for the programs in the Master Series library. To select a program simply DOUBLE-CLICK on the line of text that contains the program's file name. After double-clicking a window offering various program options will be displayed.

Pull Down Menus

At the top of the opening screen are a variety of menu choices. These items can be selected by clicking them with a mouse or by using the TAB key to change positions and the ENTER key to select.

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About

The About button will display a window containing information about Advantage Plus. Try clicking on the icons inside the About box for more information.

System

Click this button to display a screen of your computer's hardware and system information.

Search

Clicking the SEARCH from the Opening Screen will display a dialog box to enter and specify search criteria. From this window you may search any combination of categories from one to all.

In the Find box you should enter the text string you wish to locate. This text can be any word or number or any combination of words or numbers.

Inside the Search Type box are two option buttons and a check box. The two option buttons allow you to select a CASE SENSITIVE or CASE INSENSITIVE search. A Case Sensitive search will find only exact matches while a Case Insensitive search will find any text that matches no matter what case the lettering is.

The Search All Categories check box will cause the search to begin with the first category then search each subsequent category till it reaches the last one. You may cancel a search any time a match is made.

The FIND button initiates the search by starting at the top of the selected category. Use the FIND button to start a search and to repeat a search.

The FIND NEXT button continues the search from the current position within the text. It is used to find the next occurrence of the search text.

The SELECT CATEGORIES button will display a window containing all the available categories. You may use standard Windows keys to select any or all categories. Press and hold the CTRL key to select individual categories. To select a range of categories press and hold the SHIFT key then use the mouse to select the TOP and BOTTOM. All categories in between will be selected.

The CANCEL button exits the Search dialog box.

Exit

The Exit choice prompts you to close and exit the Master Series program. You may also double click the button in the upper lefthand corner to exit the program immediately without being prompted.

Program Options

The Program Options window is where all the fun is. From here the program you have selected can be reviewed by reading it's text files or by executing it from the CD-ROM! If you are viewing ICONS or BITMAPS you need only to CLICK on the file name to have them displayed.

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File Types

The program handles filenames differently depending on the file's extension. Below is a list of the different extensions and what the WINCAT program does when they are clicked on.

.EXE - Executable files will be executed. These are usually the files that start the program. Be sure to read the documentation to determine which file to execute.

.COM - These files perform exactly like .EXE files.

.TXT - Text files almost always contain important information for running the program. This type of file will be loaded into the Windows text editor to allow easy viewing.

.ICO - Icon files are small graphic images. When you click on an icon it will be displayed at the top of the large button in the center of the screen. If you click on the ZOOM button up to 104 icons will be displayed at one time.

.BMP - Bitmap is a graphic file format. In windows the most common use for bitmaps is the colorful backgrounds displayed on the desktop. When you click a bitmap file it will be displayed on the large button in the middle of the screen. If you click the Zoom button the bitmap will be displayed in a full screen window.

.WAV - WAV files are windows sound files. They can be assigned to different events that occur within Windows. WINCAT will display a player style button bar at the bottom of the window when a WAV file is clicked on.

(In order for sound files to be heard you must have a sound device driver loaded. If you do not have a sound board installed you can use the Microsoft Speaker driver to have sound played thru your PC's speaker. This driver is available on this CD-ROM. Refer to the README file for information on installing the driver.)

.HLP - Help files are standard Windows help files like the one you are viewing now. These files will be loaded by the Windows Help program to allow you to access them the same way you are currently using this file.

.XXX - All other files will be loaded into the Windows WRITE program. If a file is in some other format besides WRI the WRITE program will prompt you to convert it. If you choose to convert a file be sure you do not save the file after you have finished viewing it.

Copy Programs

The COPY window allows you to copy selected files or entire programs to anywhere on your system. The COPY window also has a feature that will automatically create a sub-directory when copying files. Below are listed the functions of the different objects on the COPY window.

At the top of the window are two INFORMATION BOXES. These boxes display the currently selected program name (This is also the name of the sub-directory where the program is stored.) and the name of the currently selected file. (If one has been selected.) These are called the Source files.

To the right of the information boxes are two buttons named COPY ALL and COPY SELECTED. The COPY ALL button will copy all of the files in the currently selected directory. This would be the option to select when you are copying an entire program to a new directory. The COPY SELECTED button will copy only the file that has been selected. This is the likely choice when copying bitmaps, sound files, or icons.

Underneath the two information boxes is an INPUT WINDOW where you should enter the DRIVE and PATH you would like to send the files you are copying to. This is called the Destination path.

Below the input window is a DIRECTORY BOX that allows you to browse about your systems directory structure. To the right of the directory box is a DRIVE SELECTION BOX that allows you to select a different drive. DOUBLE CLICKING a selection in either the DIRECTORY or DRIVE box will fill in the INPUT WINDOW.

Underneath the drive box is a CHECK BOX named CREATE SUB-DIRECTORY. Clicking this box to ON will fill in the input window with the program's name. This name will be used to automatically create a new subdirectory for the program you are copying to be copied to. If you like the name can be edited.

Cancel

The CANCEL button always clears the current window and returns to the previous screen.

Help Button

The HELP button loads this help file.

Zoom Button

The Zoom Button is the big button in the middle of the Program Options window with the words Advantage Plus in the middle. This button performs two functions.

When viewing ICON files the Zoom Button allows you to see up to 104 icons at one time. To use the zoom first click on an icon filename. The icon will be displayed at the top Zoom button. If you now click on the Zoom Button the Icon View window will be displayed.

When viewing BITMAP files the Zoom Button first displays the bitmap image on top of itself. If you then click on the Zoom Button the bitmap will be displayed in a full screen window.

Playing Sound Files / Sound Drivers

The Sound Button Bar will be displayed only when a filename ending with the .WAV extension is selected. It appears at the bottom of the Program Options window. To play a sound file click on the filename then click the PLAY button on the Sound button bar. (The Play button is the third button from the left.)

Before Windows can play sound files you must have a sound device driver loaded. If your computer is equipped with a sound board refer to it's documentation on how to implement it's features in windows.

If you don't have a sound board there's no need to despair. MicroSoft has graciously supplied a Speaker Device Driver that allows high quality digitized sound to be played through your PC's speaker. For more information on installing the driver please refer to the README file located in the root directory of the Window Master CD-ROM.

Viewing Icons/Bitmaps

The ZOOM button allows you to view up to 104 icons at 1 time or see a bitmap displayed full screen.

Clicking the ZOOM button after selecting an ICON will display the ICON window. At any time you may click on an ICON to display the COPY window. From the COPY window you have the option to copy all or only the selected icon.

Clicking the ZOOM button after selecting a BITMAP file will display the bitmap in a full screen window much the same way it would be displayed as a background on the desktop. You may copy a bitmap by selecting COPY PROGRAM from the PROGRAM OPTIONS window.

