

DOCUMENTATION FOR CHOOSER

PROGRAM: CHOOSER.EXE
RELATED FILES: CMDIALOG.VBX, COMMDLG.DLL, CHOOSER.WRI,
MESSRECD.DLL
FILES NEEDED: VBRUN100.DLL
VERSION: 1.1
DATE: 23 July 1992

REQUIRES: Windows 3.00 or higher,

STATUS: CHARITYWARE
If you like this program please make a donation to:
GAY MEN FIGHTING AIDS (GMFA)
PO BOX 99, London SW2 1EL, UK

DISTRIBUTION: Feel free to distribute this program among friends and BBS. But if you do so you must include all five files contained in this ZIP. Magazines wishing to include CHOOSER on cover disks etc must seek my written permission beforehand.

Written in Visual Basic/Professional Toolkit by Derek Cohen
Copyright Derek Cohen 1992

PURPOSE

Chooser lets you quickly select the default Windows printer and change its page orientation. Many Windows programs will let you go into the printer setup but won't give you the option of changing the default printer. Doing it through the Control Panel is possible but laborious.

INSTALLATION

Copy CMDIALOG.VBX, COMMDLG.DLL and MESSRECD.DLL into your Windows directory. Place CHOOSER.EXE wherever it suits you.

If you frequently change the default Windows printer or its orientation place CHOOSER.EXE to load automatically when Windows loads.

IN USE

If you **Load** CHOOSER as an icon, you will just see it sitting on the desktop. The icon will show the orientation of the page and the icon caption will show the name of the default printer. The characters after this (P) or (L) also indicate the orientation of the printer page.

To change printer or orientation just double click the icon. The **Print Setup** dialog box will be displayed. This allows you to select the default printer and its orientation. Additionally the **Options...** button will give you access to further customisation for the printer driver.

If you **Run** CHOOSER then the **Print Setup** dialog box will be displayed immediately. When you click on Ok or Cancel, the CHOOSER icon will appear.

WININCHANGE

Many other programs such as the Control Panel, CorelDraw, Flipper etc can change the default printer or page orientation. If this happens the CHOOSER icon and its caption will change automatically to show the new settings.

FRINGE BENEFIT

A fringe benefit of using CHOOSER is that you can discover the name of your default printer and its orientation while in any Windows application.

To do this you need to be using a Task manager such as BackMenu or WinEz. With these the name and orientation of the printer will appear in the task list.

Windows own Task manager (double-clicking on the desktop or Ctrl Esc) doesn't pick this up and merely shows the name of the application.

KNOWN PROBLEMS

Unknown orientation

In some Windows installations the orientation of the printer is not listed in the WIN.INI file or the printer entry uses a non-standard format.

In these situations the CHOOSER icon and caption will show a ?. To remedy this use the Windows Control Panel to change the printer's orientation the first time. This may result in a standard orientation line is being inserted into your WIN.INI After that CHOOSER will be able to pick up the orientation.

Duplicate listing

In some Task manager lists CHOOSER appears twice, once as Chooser and once with the name of the default printer. Task managers vary in how they respond to your clicking either of these. If, after switching to CHOOSER using either entry, you find the Print Setup dialog box appears but fails to respond, **Control-Break** will clear it.

If anyone can unravel this mystery for me I would be very grateful.

HISTORY

Version 1.0	16 July 1992	Initial release
Version 1.1	23 July 1992	Now responds to WININICHANGE messages if other apps change printer settings

AUTHOR'S DETAILS

Derek Cohen

cix: derek@cix.compulink.co.uk
compuserve: 71307,1503
postal address: 1 Saltoun Road, London SW2 1EN, UK

Thanks to Wilson Smith (CompuServe 76702,1416) for permission to include his messrecd.dll

All comments, suggestions etc very welcome.