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Overview

Hex File Viewer is a Windows program which allows you to view any file in a hexadecimal and ANSI/ASCII character format. If you are not concerned about the hexadecimal values you can select "Display Text Only" from the Options Menu for viewing files. Files up to one gigabyte in length can be viewed. Operations possible with the currently loaded file include comparing, searching, printing and changing file contents.

Special files:

Sound files (WAV, MID & RMI) can be played with Play Sound if you have the appropriate sound drivers. Picture files (BMP, ICO, WMF & RLE) can be viewed as pictures with the View Picture option. The files contained in archive files (ZIP & ARC) can be listed. Icons embedded in code files (EXE & DLL) can be viewed.

Other functions:

Files can be copied. System date and time can be changed. System and disk information can be displayed.

General usage:

Hex File Viewer is helpful in identifying files when doing system housekeeping and anytime a files internal structure needs to be examined. Most files internally have clues to their source, examples are copyright notices and header information for database files showing field names and sizes. With Hex File Viewer you can view any file to help determine what program it belongs to and its purpose.

File Menu

Load File Std: Used to select the file you wish to view using the Windows standard file dialog.

Load File Adv: Used to select the file you wish to view using the advanced file dialog, which shows file size, file date etc.

File Find: Use this selection to search for files.

Search for String: Use this selection if you want to search for a certain string of characters or hexadecimal values within the currently viewed file.

Write to File: This selection is used to write a string of characters or hexadecimal values to the currently viewed file. **WARNING:** Make back up copies of files before using this selection. Do not make changes to any file (especially .EXE or .COM files) unless you are absolutely sure of what the result will be.

File Compare: To determine if a file is identical to the currently viewed file use this option. If the files are not equal the program will allow you to display both files where the miscompare was found.

File CRC and Version Info: Calculates the 32 bit CRC value for the current file and displays embedded file version information if available. The file version information is normally embedded in files with the extensions of DLL, VBX, EXE and DRV. This can be helpful in determining the latest version of a file if you have several versions of the same file on your system. The CRC value for a file is the same as given by PKZIP and ZMODEM file transfer protocol and is helpful in checking for duplicate files or if a file has been modified.

Jump To: Used to jump to a specific hexadecimal location in the file.

Print File: Use this selection to print the currently viewed file or a selected range of it.

Exit: This selection quits the program.

Disk Menu

Show Disk Info: This selection shows information about the disk that you select. The information includes; volume label, total bytes, free bytes, percent free, percent used, bytes per sector, bytes per cluster and sectors per cluster.

Options Menu

Copy File: Copies a specified file to a specified destination.

Delete File: Used to delete the current file.

Export Text: This option is used to create a text file readable by word processors and text editors from the current file.

View Picture: Used to view a currently loaded picture file (BMP, ICO, WMF or RLE) as a picture.

Play Sound: Used to play a currently loaded sound file (WAV or MID).

Show ARC/ZIP Contents: Lists the files contained in the currently loaded archive file (ARC or ZIP).

Display Embedded Icons: Displays the icons contained in the currently loaded Windows .EXE or .DLL file.

Environment Options: This selection allows you to change display fonts and colors.

Display Text Only: Displays as text only and no hexadecimal values.

Save Settings on Exit: The environment settings you choose can be saved automatically used every time you run this program by checking this menu item.

Help Menu

Contents: Displays the contents of this help file.

Search for Help on: Allows you to search for help on a topic.

Help on Help: Displays the Windows Help on Help file.

About: Displays copyright and version information.

Registration

For complete information on registration, support, license agreement, Disclaimer of Warranty, Shareware and other important topics, read the help file for [Setup and Registration](#).

ANSI

American National Standards Institute.

ASCII

American Standard Code for Information Interchange.

Play Sound

This selection of the Options Menu is used to play a sound file. Sound files have one of the following file name extensions: .WAV, .MID or RMI.

After selecting Play Sound the file will begin playing and the Play Sound window will appear. Controls on this form allow you to stop, pause, rewind and play.

Note: to use this feature you must have the proper sound drivers and hardware that support playing sound files.

Environment Options

This selection of the Options menu is used to set the programs file viewer display colors and font.

Titles, text and background colors can be set by clicking on the appropriate button and selecting the your choice of color.

Fonts may be set to either an ANSI character font or the ASCII font. Only one ASCII font is available which will be displayed immediately after clicking the ASCII Font button. The number of ANSI fonts available for use in this program is determined by the number of ANSI fixed pitch fonts you have loaded on your system.

When you make a change to the colors or font selection, the changes are shown in the Preview window. After you have finished making your selections then click the Ok button to continue, or press Cancel to return the font and colors to their original settings.

System Menu

Set System Date: Used to set your computers date.

Set System Time: Used to set your computers time.

Show System Info: Displays system information such as version of DOS and Windows running on your system, processor type and mode.

Load File Adv

This selection of the File Menu is used to select a file to view. When selected, the "Select File to View" dialog box will be shown. This dialog box consists of several integrated parts:

File list: Displays the files of type specified by "List Files of Type" that have the attributes specified in the "Show" box for the directory selected in the "Directories" list for the currently selected Drive.

File Name: Used to display the "List Files of Type" specification and the selected file name. You can also use this box to type in your own file specification or type in the path and file name of the file you wish to view.

Show files with certain attributes: This box contains check boxes for the file attributes: Archive, Normal, Read Only, Hidden and System. Use these to select the files with the attributes you wish to view.

List Files of Type: This drop down list box is used to select the type of files you wish to view. To view all files select All Files(*.*), or to view text files select Text(*.DOC;*.TXT), etc.

Directory List: Used to select the directory of the files to be displayed in the file list.

Drives: Used to select the Drive of the files to be displayed in the file list.

To select a file to view, first select the attributes, file type, drive, and directory. Then either double click on the file you wish to view in the file list or click on it and then press the Ok button. You may also select a file by typing in the path and file name in the File Name box and pressing Enter or clicking on the Ok button.

**For more information on file names, directories, and wildcard characters, see your DOS manual.

File Find

This selection of the File Menu is used to search for a file or files. When selected the File Find dialog box is displayed. Use this feature to find files by specifying the following:

File Name:

[Drive:][Path] File Name

The Drive and Path are optional, if the Drive is omitted the drive in the Drive box is used. If a Path is not used than the entire drive is searched. The File Name can contain the "?" and "*" wildcard characters.

File Attributes:

Only files that have the specified attributes will be returned. At least one of the File Attributes must be checked.

File Size/Date/Time Minimum/Maximum:

These search options help to narrow a search for a file and are not required. The format of the date and time is as defined in the International section of the Windows Control Panel. An example of the formats to use for date and time is displayed at the bottom of the dialog box.

EXAMPLES:

Find all files with the file extension TXT on the "a:" drive: Set File Name to a:*.txt and all applicable File Attributes.

Find all files names starting with WEEK5 on the "c:" drive: Set File Name to c:week5*.* and check all applicable File Attributes.

Find all files changed today on the "c:" drive: Set File Name to c:*. * and check all applicable File Attributes and set File Date Minimum to today's date. (Note: You could narrow this search by setting File Time Minimum and/or File Time Maximum)

Find all files with a certain file date on the "b:" drive: Set File Name to b:*. * and check all applicable File Attributes. Then set File Date Minimum and File Date Maximum to the date of the files you wish to find.

Find all files with a byte size of at least 1,000,000 on the "c:" drive: Set File Name to c:*. * and check all applicable File Attributes. Then set File Size Minimum to 1000000.

**For more information on file names, directories, and wildcard characters, see your DOS manual.

Export Text

This feature is selected from the Options Menu. It is used to create a text file that is readable by word processors and text editors. All characters in the currently loaded file that match the characters that you choose in the Export Text dialog window are written to the file that you choose.

Hexadecimal

Hexadecimal is a numerical system with a radix of 16 (base 16). In the decimal system (base 10), there are 10 digits for representing a numerical value: 0-9. In hexadecimal there are 16 digits for representing a value: 0-9 and A, B, C, D, E, & F. Hexadecimal is most often used for representing values in computer systems for its easy conversion to and from binary (base 2). Binary being the system which most closely resembles a computers actual workings. For example an 8 digit binary number (the size needed to represent an ASCII / ANSI character) has a range of 0 to 1111 1111 in binary, a range of 0 to 255 in decimal, and a range of 0 to FF in hexadecimal. One digit in hexadecimal perfectly represents four digits in binary, making for easy conversions.

Examples of Values in Binary, Hexadecimal and Decimal.

Binary	Hex	Decimal
0000	0	00
0001	1	01
0010	2	02
0011	3	03
0100	4	04
0101	5	05
0110	6	06
0111	7	07
1000	8	08
1001	9	09
1010	A	10
1011	B	11
1100	C	12
1101	D	13
1110	E	14
1111	F	15

