

## **OpenHelp overview**

OpenHelp is a utility that allows you to customize the Help systems of Borland products to meet your needs. Select the topic you are interested in:

[Selecting a search range](#)

[Managing search ranges](#)

[Adding/removing help files from OpenHelp](#)

[Adding/removing table of contents entries from help files](#)

[Selecting which product to work with](#)

[Managing products](#)

## Search Ranges page

On Search Ranges page you can see which search range is the Current Search Range, select a new Current Search Range, or create, copy or delete search ranges. You can also add and remove help files from OpenHelp.

## **Current Search Range**

The Current Search Range is the search range that the Windows Help system uses in searching and displaying indexes of help files. Each product has its own Current Search Range. The Current Search Range for the current product is displayed on the Search Range page.

## Search Ranges list

The Search Ranges list contains all the search ranges defined for the current product. Each search range contains a list of help files. The index entries of the help files that are part of the selected search range are included in the indexes of other help files that are associated with the current product.

The search range that is currently in use is displayed in the Current Search Range indicator, displayed above the Search Ranges list. You can change the Current Search Range by highlighting the desired search range in the Search Ranges list and clicking the Select button.

Create a new search range by clicking the Create button.

To make a copy of a search range, highlight the search range you wish to copy in the Search Ranges list then click the Copy button.

To delete a search range, highlight the search range you wish to delete in the Search Ranges list then click the Delete button.

## Select search range button

Makes the search range that is currently highlighted in the Search Ranges list the current search range. Note that when Select is clicked, the search range name displayed in the Current Search Range indicator above the Search Range list changes to the newly selected search range.

The index entries of the help files that are included in the current search range are added to the indexes of the other help files that are associated with the current product.

## Create search range button

Allows a new, initially empty, search range to be created for the current product. Clicking the Create button displays a dialog that prompts for the name of the new search range. The new search range name cannot be blank and cannot be the same as an existing search range.

## Copy search range button

Creates a copy of the currently highlighted search range in the Search Ranges list. Clicking the Copy button displays the Create search range dialog that prompts for the name of the new search range. The new search range name cannot be blank and cannot be the same as an existing search range. The new range will contain the same help files as the range from which it was copied.

### **Create search range dialog**

Enter a name for the new search range in the Search Range Name field. The new search range name cannot be blank and cannot be the same as an existing search range.



### **Delete search range button**

Deletes the search range that is highlighted in the Search Ranges list. You cannot delete the Current Search Range.

## Available Help Files list

Displays a list of all the help files associated with the current product that are **not** included in the highlighted search range in the Search Ranges list. Files in this list can be added to search ranges.

## Add help files button

Displays the Open File dialog allowing additional help files to be added to the Available Help Files list. Adding files to this list associates those files with the current product, and allows those files to be added to search ranges.

Any files added to the list must already exist and have an .HLP extension.

If a file is added that resides in the directory defined as the current product's home directory, the file will have its contents (.CNT) file modified to include the configuration file for that product's Current Search Range. A file that is added that is **not** in the current product's home directory will not have its contents file modified.

## Remove help files button

Removes the help files selected in the Available Help Files list from the list. Removing help files from the list also removes them from any search ranges for the current product they are included in. Removing the help files from the list does not delete the files from the disk, it only removes the association between the help file and the product.

Any files removed that reside in the directory defined as the current product's home directory, will have their contents (.CNT) files modified to remove the configuration file for that product. Files that are removed that are **not** in the current product's home directory do not need to have their contents file modified.

## **Add (>) files button**

Adds the highlighted help files in the Available Help Files list to the Selected Help Files list and to the highlighted search range in the Search Ranges list.

### **Add all (>>) files button**

Adds all the files in the Available Help Files list to the Selected Help Files list and to the highlighted search range in the Search Ranges list.

### **Remove (<) files button**

Removes the highlighted help files in the Selected Help Files list and from the the highlighted search range in the Search Ranges list and returns them to the Available Help Files list.

### **Remove all (<<) files button**

Removes all the help files in the Selected Help Files list and from the the highlighted search range in the Search Ranges list and returns them to the Available Help Files list.



### **Selected Help Files list**

Displays a list of all the help files associated with the current product that are included in the highlighted search range in the Search Ranges list.

## Contents Files page

The Contents Files page allows you to select one of the help files associated with the current product and add or remove the table of contents entries will be available in that file by selecting one or more of the .TOC files available. The order in which the .TOC files are selected determines the order of the table of contents entries when viewing the help file.

You can also add or remove .TOC files to the Available Contents Files list.

## Help File list

The Help File list is a drop down list of all the help files associated with the current product. Use this list to select the help file whose table of contents entries you wish to modify.

## Available Contents Files list

The Available Contents Files list contains a list of all the contents (.TOC) files that are associated with the current product that are **not** associated with the help file selected in the Help File list.

## **Add contents files button**

Displays the Open File dialog allowing additional contents files to be added to the Available Contents Files list. Adding files to this list associates those files with the current product, and allows those files to be added to help files.

Any files added to the list must already exist and have an .TOC extension.

## **Remove contents files button**

Removes the contents files selected in the Available Contents Files list from the list. Removing contents files from the list also removes them from any help files for the current product they are included in. Removing the contents files from the list does not delete the files from the disk, it only removes the association between the contents file and the product.

### **Add (>) contents files button**

Adds the highlighted contents files in the Available Contents Files list to the Selected Contents Files list and to the selected help file in the Help File list.

### **Add all (>>) contents files button**

Adds all the contents files in the Available Contents Files list to the Selected Contents Files list and to the selected help file in the Help Files list.



## **Remove (<) contents files button**

Removes the highlighted contents files in the Selected Contents Files list and from the selected help file in the Help Files list list and returns them to the Available Contents Files list.

### **Remove all (<<) contents files button**

Removes all the contents files in the Selected Contents Files list and from the selected help file in the Help Files list and returns them to the Available Contents Files list.

## **Selected Contents Files list**

Displays a list of all the contents files associated with the current product that are included in the selected help file in the Help File list. The order in which the contents files appear in the list is the order they are displayed in in the help file's table of contents.

## Products page

The Products page show which product is the currently selected product. It allows you to select which product you wish to work with. You can only work with search ranges and help files that are associated with the current product. You can also create new products and delete existing products.

## Currently Selected Product

Displays which product is the current product. Only the current product's search ranges and help files can be viewed and edited. To change the current product, highlight a different product name in the Installed Products list and click the Select button.

## **Installed Products list**

The Installed Products list lists all the products installed in OpenHelp. The products listed can have help files and search ranges associated with them.

## Select product button

Makes the highlighted product in the Installed Products list the current product.

## Create product button

Creates a new product in the Installed Products list. Clicking the Create button displays the Create New Product dialog. To create a new product the following information must be provided:

- The name of the product. For example, "Borland C++ 5.1".
- The user supplied name of the configuration file for the product. Another product cannot use the same configuration file name. The name given should not include a path or a file extension. For example, the configuration file name given for Borland C++ 5.1 might be "bc5".
- The home help directory for the product. This is the directory where the help files for the product are stored. Most Borland products create a directory called "Help" one level below the product's main directory to hold the product's help files. This Help directory would be the product's home help directory. For example, by default Borland C++ 5.1 is installed in the C:\BC5 directory. The help files for Borland C++ are, by default, installed in the directory C:\BC5\HELP. So, if using the default directories, the home help directory for Borland C++ would be C:\BC5\HELP.



## Create New Product dialog

To create a new product the following information must be provided in the fields:

### **Name**

The name of the product. For example, "Borland C++ 5.1".

### **Configuration file**

The user supplied name of the configuration file for the product. Another product cannot use the same configuration file name. The name given should not include a path or a file extension. For example, the configuration file name given for Borland C++ 5.1 might be "bc5".

### **Home directory**

The home help directory for the product. This is the directory where the help files for the product are stored. Most Borland products create a directory called "Help" one level below the product's main directory to hold the product's help files. This Help directory would be the product's home help directory. For example, by default Borland C++ 5.1 is installed in the C:\BC5 directory. The help files for Borland C++ are, by default, installed in the directory C:\BC5\HELP. So, if using the default directories, the home help directory for Borland C++ would be C:\BC5\HELP. The name of the directory can be typed in the field, or click the folder tool see the directory tree and select a directory.

## Delete product button

Deletes the highlighted product in the Installed Products list from OpenHelp, along with all of its associated search ranges and help files. No files are deleted from the disk, only their registration with OpenHelp is removed.

## **OK button**

Saves any changes made and exits OpenHelp.

**Cancel button**

Discards any changes made and exits OpenHelp.

## **Apply button**

Saves any changes made.

## **Help button**

Displays information on using OpenHelp.

