About Recover98®-EXPRESS

Introduction

Recover98-EXPRESS is a simple to use "Raw Undelete" for Windows 95/98. Recover98-EXPRESS allows the user to recover files which have been deleted from the system, even if they were removed from The Recycle Bin or deleted from The Command Prompt. by scanning the drive and retrieving deleted file names Recover98-EXPRESS can build a Virtual File System containing deleted files on the disk. The deleted files are displayed in a File Manager type window with their original paths preserved; this makes finding deleted files fast and simple.
Recover98-EXPRESS can recover files, regardless of how long ago the files were deleted, as long as the files have not been overwritten by the file system.

System Requirements

Recover98-EXPRESS requires a system running Windows 95 or Windows 98 and at least 16 Megs of RAM. A mouse is required.

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Installation

Recover98-EXPRESS is supplied on a CD-ROM, which should Autorun when inserted into the CD-ROM Drive of the machine (if Autorun is enabled). If the CD fails to Autorun, open Windows Explorer and DOUBL CLICK the CD-ROM Drive Icon.

You will have the choices:

Run Recover98-EXPRESS from the CD-ROM
Install Recover98-EXPRESS

If the deleted files you wish to retrieve are on this machine, DO NOT INSTALL RECOVER98-EXPRESS, run the program from the CD and recover the files first to avoid overwriting the deleted files during the installation.

Once you have recovered the files you desire, Install Recover98-EXPRESS. It is recommended that you use the default settings of the installer, but Recover98-EXPRESS will run from any directory on the system or from a Floppy Disk in emergency situations.

The Recover98-EXPRESS.exe file can be copied to a floppy and executed on the machine if necessary, but it is licensed only for use on one machine.

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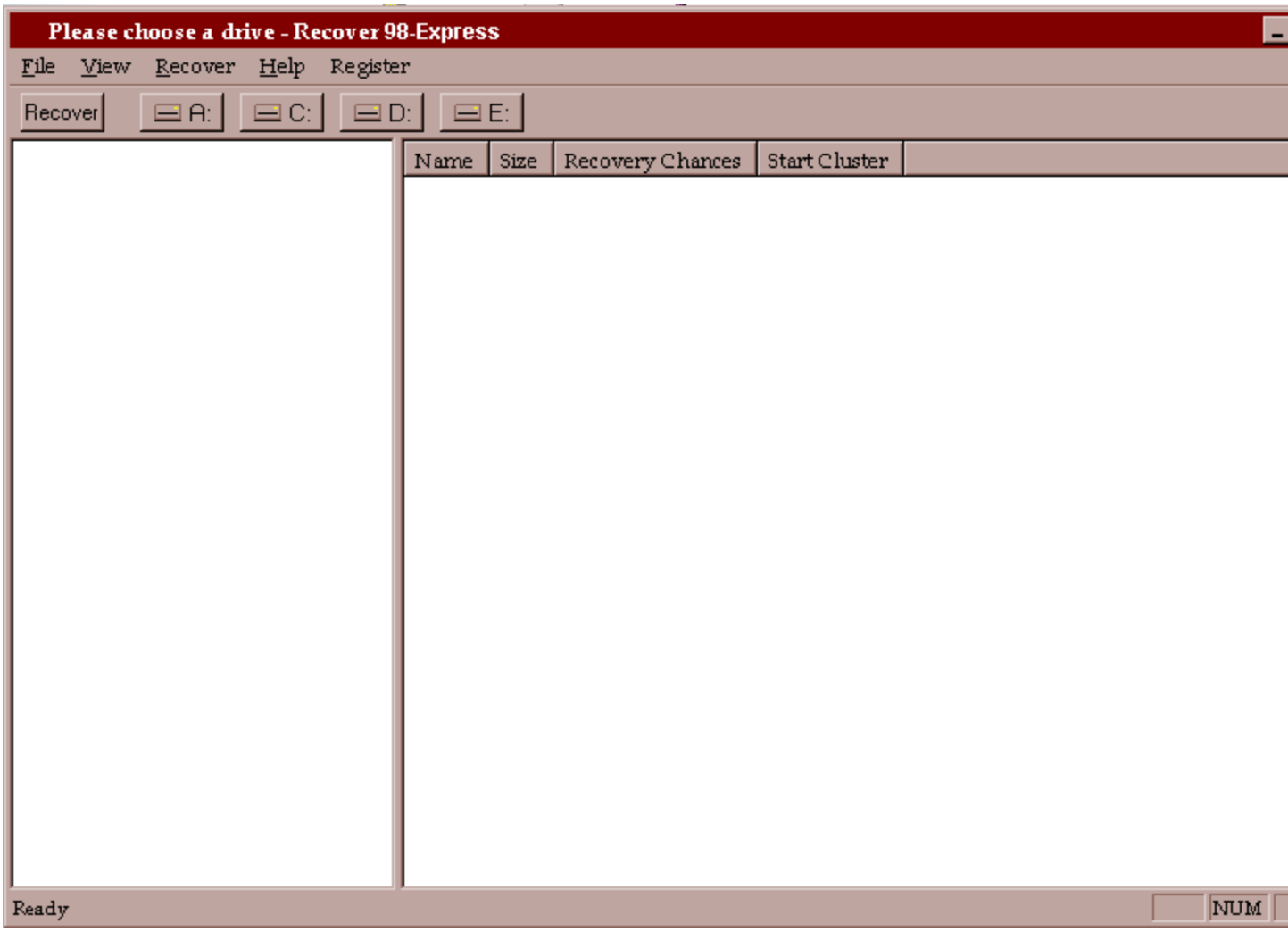
Running Recover98®-EXPRESS

Once the program is executed you will be presented with the following Main Screen, which is the Recover98-EXPRESS File Manager.



The Toolbar will display the Recover Button as well as all the drives available to the system. You can scan any drive for deleted files by CLICKING the Drive Letter in the Toolbar. Once Clicked the File Scan will commence and a status bar will be displayed.

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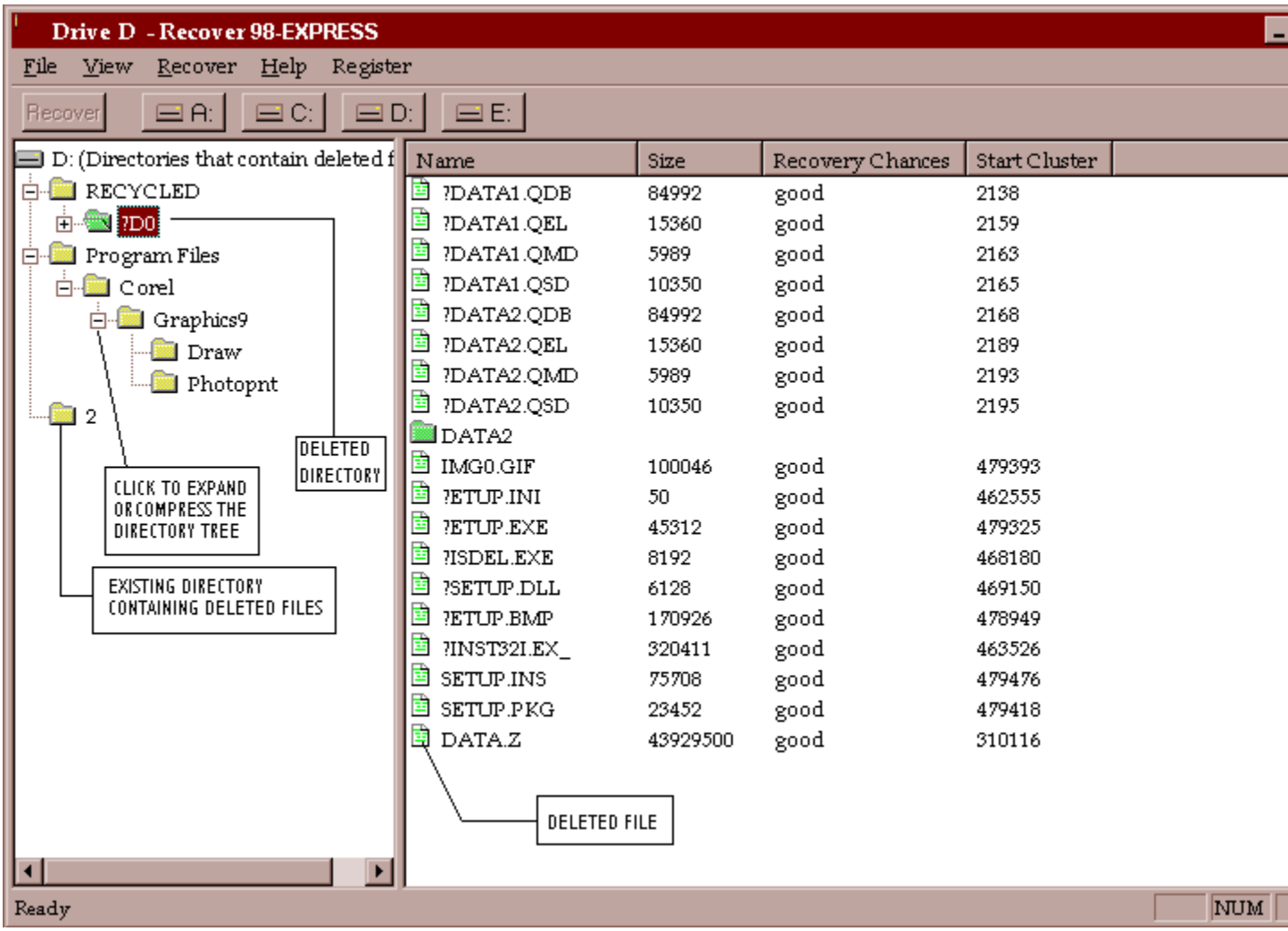
Finding Deleted Files

Once the scan of the drive is complete the Virtual File System will be displayed in the File Manager. The Virtual File System will show only Deleted Files, Deleted Directories containing Deleted Files and Directories containing Deleted Files. Directories with no deleted files will not be displayed. You can distinguish between Deleted and Existing Directories as follows:

ICON	MEANING
	A green folder indicates a directory wich has been deleted from the drive wich you have scanned. This directory may or may not contain deletd files.
	A yellow folder indcates a directory wich exists on the drive and contains deleted files, remember, directories wich contain no deleted files wil no appear in the Virtual File System.
	A green page indicates a deleted file. The # infront of the file is the missing first letter of the file. The File System uses this as a deleted file designator.

You can DOUBLE CLICK a directory to change into that directory. The Virtual File System can be expanded by CLICKING the + next to the directory in the left pane of the File Manager. The right pane will contain the files and directories within the selected directory in the right pane.

As Follows:



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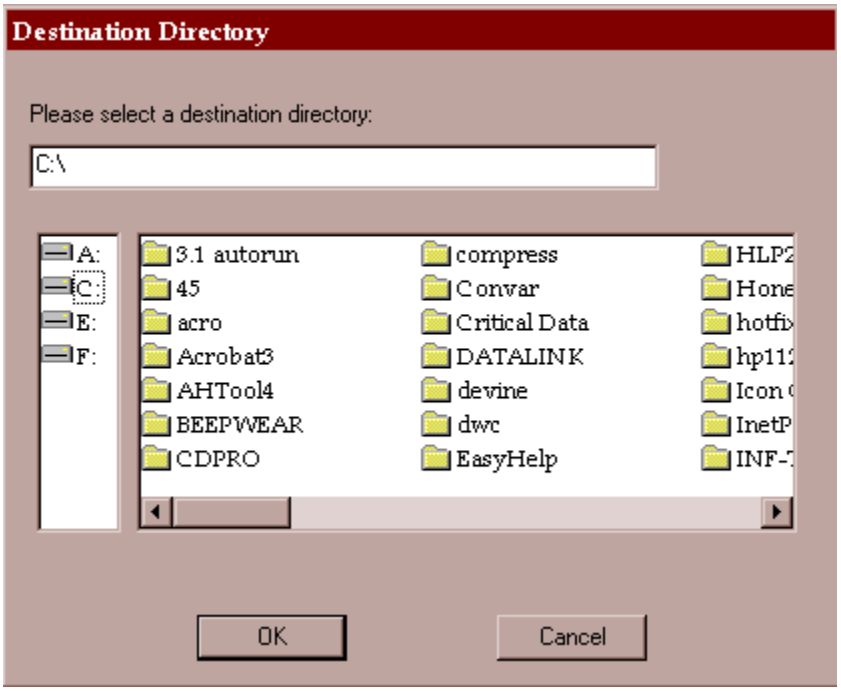
Saving Recovered Files

Once you have located the files you wish to recover you will need to save them to a new location. Files should be saved to a different drive to avoid overwriting existing deleted files you may wish to recover. Removable media such as Zip Drives or Floppies or a Network Drive if one is available is most desirable.

To save files highlight the file with your mouse, You can choose multiple files using the SHIFT or CTRL key to highlight more than one file. This is exactly the same as in Windows Explorer, or you can choose al the files in a directory by CLICKING Recover in the Menu Bar then CLICK Select All. Once the files are selected CLICK the Recover Button.

You will be presented with the Save Files Screen. Choose a drive and directory to save the files to. You may create a Directory "on the fly" by typing in the desired path and directory name, for example, C:\ RECOVERED FILES\, would create the Directory, if it did not already exist, and place the files on Drive C: in a Folder called Recovered Files.



To choose the directory, simply CLICK the desired drive in the Drive List, and then CLICK the directory in the Directory List.

Once the directory is open, CLICK OK. The files will be saved to the chosen directory.

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Troubleshooting

While Recover98-EXPRESS is simple to use, there are some conditions that may cause errors to be generated. These conditions are outlined below, and are easily corrected.

At Start Up

If Recover98-Express is started under WindowsNT the following Message will be generated:
("The program only runs under Windows 95/98."), To correct the problem make sure the system you are working on is Windows 95 or Windows 98.

ERROR MESSAGES AFTER PRESSING RECOVER BUTTON

The following message will be displayed if Recover98-EXPRESS runs out of memory. This is the only event that can cause the program to crash. Though the memory exception is caught, there could be some cleaning up problems after the following message box was displayed **("An exception occurred. The program will be terminated. Close all other applications before you start the program again.)** To solve this problem free up some memory by closing all unnecessary programs and restart the system.

If another application has locked the drive for exclusive access (another utility, defragger, scandisk, or a Network User) the following message will be displayed:
("Cannot access drive. Close other applications before you continue."). To solve this condition, close everything running on the system, you may need to restart to release the drive.

If you attempt to recover from a removable drive (ZIP, Bernoulli Etc.) and the drive is empty the following error will be displayed: **(No or no valid removable disk in drive:)** or **("No valid disk in drive.")** To solve this issue insert the proper disk in the drive.

If you have been infected with a Virus or if the Disk is damaged you may receive the following message: **("Cannot read boot sector.\n Cannot work with this drive.")** You may be able to solve the problem by Re Sysing the drive using the command SYS X: where X is the letter of the drive you want to work with or by using the FDISK /MBR Command, DO NOT RUN FDISK WITHOUT THE /MBR SWITCH, YOU COULD LOSE DATA!

If a removable drive has an invalid File Allocation Table or if it is not FAT formatted the following message will be generated: The FAT of a removable disk could not be read:
("The program cannot work with this disk. \n",). To solve this problem check that you are using the right cartridge.

If The FAT of a fixed disk drive could not be read the following message will be generated:
("The program cannot work with this drive:\n the FAT could not be read."). This may be a serious issue witch requires a Full Version Of Recover98 to perform data recovery, this issue may be beyond the scope of an undelete. Contact LC Technology Immediately after taking the drive out of service.

If no files are selected to save the following message will be displayed: (**"No files are selected.")**. To solve this, simply select some files to save.

ERROR MESSAGES AFTER ENTERING PATH IN DESTINATION DIRECTORY BOX:

The path didn't begin with X:, where X is the Drive Letter; the following message will be generated: **("Please select a path.") Or ("Cannot save to:\n" PATH "\n\n Please choose a valid path.")**. To solve this enter a valid path, for example, C:\RECOVERED FILES\.

If the user selected a path on the drive with the deleted files the following message will be generated: **("You cannot save the files to the drive where they were located.").** To solve this, choose another drive.

If the path ended with \\ or \/ or // or /\ the following message is generated: **("Invalid Path.").** To solve this enter a valid path, for example, C:\RECOVERED FILES\.

If the directory didn't exist and couldn't be created (e.g. on read only drive) then the message: **("Could not create directory\n" (directory is appended)** is displayed. To solve this choose another drive that is not read only, or check you permissions for the drive.

Before recovering removable drives make sure that the disk with the same number of sectors is still in the drive or the following will be displayed: **("Disk has changed. Scan again.")**. If you changed disk on purpose, you must rescan the disk to update the file list.

If the target disk is full or doesn't have room for the recovered files the this message will be displayed: **("File could not be saved. Is the disk full?").** To solve this, make room on the disk or choose a location with more free space.

If a directory was selected rather than a file the following is displayed: **("Directories cannot be recovered. Please select the files inside the directory.")**. To solve this, choose the files within the directory or sub directory then resave.

If files(s) could not be saved because files with the same name are already in the destination directory: **("File(s) of the same name already exist in\n").** To solve this problem, choose or create an empty directory, undelete the files and copy the ones you need to the proper location.

Sometimes a heavily fragmented file cannot be recovered. This occurs when the free space on the disk is smaller than the file size (rare): **("Some fragmented file(s) could not be completely recovered.").** Try saving to a different location, but these files are probably unrecoverable.

When a file couldn't be created with the given filename, the file is saved as r4a0001.r4a or r4a0002.r4a. If all 9999 filenames already exist the following is displayed: **("Some filename(s) seem to be invalid. These file(s) could thus not be recovered.").** Rename the already recovered files and try to recover additional files.

After the scan is completed, if a deleted file was overwritten and the space is no longer free the following message is displayed: **("The disk space for some file(s) is already allocated.")**. The file is now unrecoverable, this is an example of why the undelete should be preformed as soon as possible, or the drive should be taken out of service until the recovery can be completed.

If a sector of the deleted file could not be read and the file was not completely recovered the following message is displayed: **("Couldn't read some sector from disk.")** along with **("Some file(s) could not be undeleted.").** Try rescanning, but chances of recovery are slim.

The extension of a filename was invalid and prevented the filename from being created, thus the default

extension r4a was used: **("Some files were recovered using the default file extension R4A.")**. Not a problem, just rename the files with their original extensions.

If the filename was invalid and prevented the filename from being created, thus the default filename was used the message would be: (**"Some files were recovered using the default filename R4A_\?\?\?\?.").** Again, not a problem, simply rename the files to their original names.

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