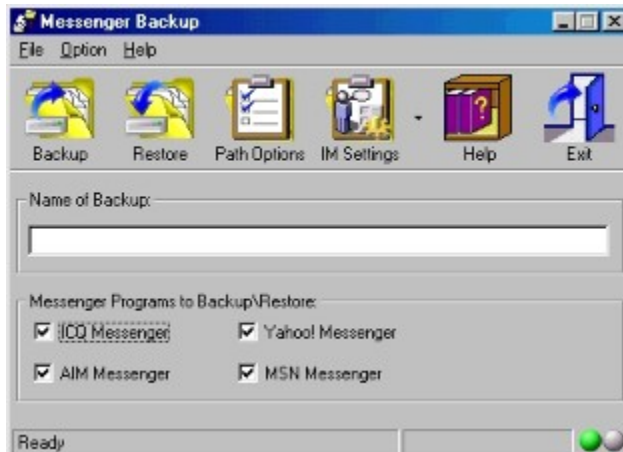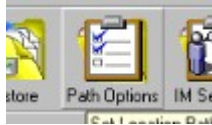# Overview

Messenger Backup creates backup files for ICQ, AIM, Yahoo!, and MSN Messenger programs. Vital information (from passwords to contact lists to logged file transfers) can be saved in a zipped file format for future retrieval. Once zipped, these files can be stored elsewhere for safekeeping. If you should need the information reinstalled, the files can be easily retrieved and installed with Messenger Backup.
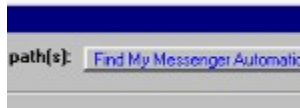
Backing Up Your Files (And Restore)

For Messenger Backup to properly create a compressed file with your information, you must select the path for each messenger program so Messenger Backup knows where to find your vital information. To set the path for each messenger program, follow these steps:
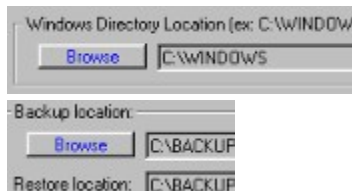
1)   Click on the **PATH OPTIONS** button.

2)   Click on the **FIND MY MESSENGER AUTOMATICALLY** button to allow Messenger Backup to find your data files for each of the messenger programs. Or you can manually choose the paths by clicking on the **BROWSE** button and selecting the main directory for each messenger program you wish to backup.

You must also select the **Windows** path by using the **BROWSE** button. and the path for where you want your backup files to be saved. Repeat the above steps and at the bottom of the Location Paths window you will find a **Restore Location** window with the same default location as **Backup Location** for easy backing/restore from same path. Note: Restore Location will only show on-screen if there is zipped file existed in Backup Location path.

If you wish to use the default directory, simply click the **OK** button to close the Location Paths window and save the new settings. If you wish to change the location for the backup files to be saved, click on the **BROWSE** button and select the directory you wish to use and then click **OK** to save the new settings.

Once the location paths have been established for each of your messenger programs, simply click on Backup button and Messenger Backup will create the zipped files.

Restoring your saved settings:

To restore your saved settings for each messenger, simply click on the Restore button and Messenger Backup will automatically install the previously saved settings for each messenger program you have selected with the checkboxes in the Backup/Restore window.

Note:

When restoring Yahoo! Buddy names, you must check the Restore Buddy Names checkbox in Yahoo! Settings option and you must also be connected to Internet before attempting to click Restore button for Yahoo! settings.

Technical Support

Technical support is available by e-mail addressed to Troy Phillips at
support@troyphillips.com

I will try to reply to all email inquiries but priority response will go to registered users.

Please include the following information when requesting support:
- Program version (find under ABOUT under HELP option)
- Registered name (if you're a registered user)
- Where did you obtain a copy of Messenger Backup from (name of web site)
- Windows 95/98/ME/2k/NT version (including service packs and other installed patches)
- What version of Internet Chat Messengers have you installed on your system (ICQ, AIM, Yahoo!, and MSN)
- Full description of your problem - **provide as much information as possible to allow duplication of the problem**: place of error, sequence of your actions, etc.
- Files causing problems may be included as an e-mail attachment, but only if less than 1MB in size.

Note: Before writing for support, please consult the F.A.Q. page in this helpfile to see if your problem has already been addressed. Also, make sure you are using the latest version of Messenger Backup. You can find the latest version at:

http://www.messengerbackup.troyphillips.com

and check F.A.Q. page.

Registration

If you choose to use Messenger Backup longer than the twenty days trial period, you can register your copy of Messenger Backup for **US $18**. Please log on to:

https://www.regnow.com/softsell/nph-softsell.cgi?item=3736-2

The ordering page is secure, ensuring that your confidential information remains confidential.

Registration fees:
There are two type of registrations available...

1) $18 US to register a single installation of Messenger Backup.
2) $139 US to register unlimited installations of Messenger Backup.

(For USA only):
Please make your **Money Order** payable to **Troy Phillips** and mail to:

**Troy Phillips
PO Box 1018
Fremont, CA 94538**

Note: You must include a valid email address with your payment. When payment is received, registration information will be sent to you via email.

Personal checks will be refused.

Once registered, you will receive use of all Messenger Backup features and receive help at:
support@troyphillips.com.

Messenger Backup can be made on a custom **CD-ROM Disc**. Send email to support@troyphillips.com for more information on how to receive a CD-ROM Disc of Messenger Backup.

System Requirement

Minimum requirements to run Messenger Backup, you need Windows 95/98/ME, Windows NT or Windows 2000 and one or more of available Internet Messengers: ICQ, AIM, Yahoo! and MSN Messengers. You must also have Microsoft Internet Explorer v5.0 (IE5.0+) browser or higher installed. A Pentium or Athlon 100MHz CPU or higher is recommended to run Messenger Backup.

FAQ

Will Messenger Backup detect any version of ICQ databases and backup?

Yes, Messenger Backup supports from ICQ version v.99a to v2000b.

How do I get Messenger Backup to backup AIM's multiple login username accounts, passwords, and buddy list ?

#1:   Sign onto your AIM account. Minimize AIM

#2:   Start Messenger Backup and select the proper username under AIM Settings.

#3:   Check Password and Buddy List check boxes, then click Ok. Your AIM settings have now been saved or 'backed up'.

If there are multiple AIM accounts installed on your computer, repeat steps 1 through 3 until all account information has been 'backed up'.

Caution: If you are backing up multiple AIM accounts, make sure you change the destination filename of your saved information or you will overwrite the saved information for the previous AIM account.

Why does Messenger Backup backs up my Yahoo! Messenger Buddy's Names and Buddy's Profiles even though its already on Yahoo! server?

Most people want **control** of the information on the computer or the backup disc instead of relying on someone else's server. Servers can experience hard drive crashes, or worse, can be hacked into resulting in loss of data

I enabled the Automatic Chat Logger feature and have some chat boxes are opened but why Chat Logger is not saving chat conversations to a log file?

Chat Logger only saves to a log file after you close the chat box. Chat Logger will detect any closed chat boxes and automatically save to a log file (the file name will be the same as the screen name of the person you were talking to when you closed the chat box).

Features

Custom backups: Each messenger program has its own unique features. Messenger Backup allows the user to select which features should be included in the backup.   These custom settings can be found under the pull-down window **OPTIONS**.
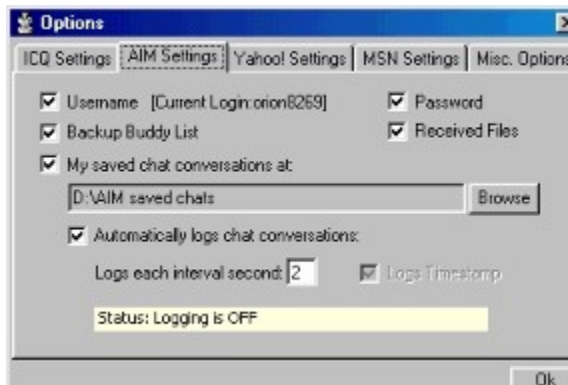
Scheduled Backup: Messenger Backup can create backup files at pre-set intervals.   This feature can be found under **OPTIONS**.

Restore: Finds, extracts, and reinstalls the data for the selected messenger program.

Automatic Chat Logger

Messenger Backup can automatically logs up to15 opened of AIM's or MSN's chat boxes simultaneously .

To enable chat logging feature, you must check "**My saved chat conversations at:**" under **AIM** or **MSN Settings** option and then choose the folder where you want your saved conversations to be stored.

Once chat logging is enabled, all open chat conversations will be saved at intervals you select. At close of chat window, Chat Logger will save the entire chat to a filename of the user you were chatting with. For example: You are chatting with "User555" for a half hour before you end your conversation and close the chat window. Once the chat window is closed, Chat Logger will save the entire conversation in a file named "User555".

PLEASE NOTE: The Chat Logger will not save any of the chat conversation if the chat window does not stay open long enough to reach the first time interval you select for saving. For example: You are chatting once again with "User555". You have set the interval saving at 55 seconds. If you close the window anytime prior to the 55 seconds mark, Chat Logger will not save any of the conversation to a file. To ensure all conversation is saved, set the time interval to something low, like ten or twenty seconds.

If you are not sure if the time interval has passed, simply enable "**Show Chat Logger icon in system tray when logging**" option in **Misc. Options**. This will show an icon of Chat Logger in your system tray and changes colors indicate that each and everytime the time interval has passed, saving conversation and same time detected one or more chatboxes on-screen. If there are no more chatboxes on-screen, then the colors of the icon will stop and then stand-by to change again next time a chatbox is detected.

With chat logging enabled, Messenger Backup will run silently in the background and record all chat conversations to a filename identical to each user you chat with.

Messenger Backup also have log filename format with date option. When this option enabled in **Misc. Options** will ensure you of not saving into a existing "running" log file (saving same long

log file) that sometimes gets huge in megabytes.

To disable Chat Logger, simply go to **AIM** or **MSN Settings** options and uncheck **"Automatically logs chat conversations"** option and click the OK button. Chat logging is now disabled. Or if **"Show Chat Logger icon in system tray when logging"** option is enabled, you can right-click from mouse on the icon to show its menu and choose "Exit Chat Logger" to disable Chat Logger.