

WinCat/PRO Disk & CD-ROM Catalog for Windows
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About WinCat/PRO 4.0 Alpha

This WinCat/PRO 4.0A package contains a 'sneak-preview' testversion of WinCat/PRO 4.0

Note that this package only contains those files which are necessary to run the new WinCat/PRO 4.0A ; the WOODLE disklabel print utility, the WinCat/unZIP archive unpacker, helpfile and orderforms are NOT included !

If you need those files, please download WinCat/PRO 3.4 (file WINCAT.ZIP) from CompuServe, forum WINSHARE.

If you discover bugs in this testversion, please send a note to me at CompuServe.

The complete and 'official' WinCat/PRO 4.0 package will be available on CompuServe around December '94.

Thanks for using WinCat/PRO,

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Installing WinCat/PRO 4.0A

The installation program will create directory C:\WINDOWS\WINCAT40, and unpack all necessary files into this directory.

These files will be created :

WINCAT.EXE	the WinCat program
WINCATBT.DLL	graphic routines runtime library needed by WinCat
WINCATAR.DLL	WinCat's archive scan routines
WINCATIC.DLL	Icon library
WINCATRS.BAT	Used by Restore File function
WINCATRS.PIF	

What's new in WinCat/PRO 4.0

General

* WinCat now uses 'tabcard' displays (like those in for instance Excel 5.0 and Word 6.0).

* WinCat's memory-management has been significantly enhanced by implementing VROOMM (ViRtual Object Oriented Memory Management) routines ; as a result, WinCat uses less memory when loading a catalog. This in turn reduces Windows' memory-swapping, which enhances WinCat's performance significantly.

WinCat's reduced memory requirements also enable you to create bigger catalogs.

* **WARNING** : if you save a catalog with the new WinCat/PRO 4.0, you cannot load that catalog anymore with a previous release of WinCat !

File List window

* Now supports drag&drop; this means you can 'drag' an entry from the File List window to another application. For instance, you can drag a ZIP file to an unzip tool, drag a text-file to an editor to edit it, drag a file to a 'trashcan' to delete it, etc.

Directory List window

* You can now also print a disk's directory list (to a file or directly to the printer) using the Print button on this window.

* The full pathname of the selected directory entry is now displayed at the bottom of this window.

Volume Information window

* You can now reset a volume's icon to the default one using the 'Reset Icon' button on the Extra's tab.

File Information window

* Now supports file-descriptions of up to 500 characters in length. When importing file-descriptions (with the IMPORT function, or by reading 4DOS `descript.ion` files or `file_id.diz` files) WinCat makes use of these extended-length fields.

* Copy, Cut, Select and Paste buttons make it easier to edit file-descriptions.

WARNING : due to the increased size of file-description fields, the structure of the catalog has changed. This means that if you save a catalog with the new WinCat/PRO 4.0, you cannot load that catalog anymore with a previous release of WinCat !

Note : as a result of the new catalog structure, a catalog's size may decrease by up to 10% when saved with WinCat/PRO 4.0

Search Files window

* You can now search for files that were created or modified within a specific date-range.

* An easy-to-use calendar simplifies selecting search-for dates ; this calendar even understands you when you mumble things like 'from 2 weeks ago until last tuesday' . !

* In the ongoing effort to boldly go where no cat has gone before, the technojoeks at WinCat International Inc. have once again surpassed modern technology -as we know it- by developing a sophisticated pattern-analyses algorithm (based on Boyer-Moore), which provides text-search capabilities at a speed good enough for a nr. 1 Oscar-nomination (category Best Performing Cat) plus a nr. 2 nomination in the category 'Must-Have Pussy' (nr. 1 nominee being Sharon Stone, of course).

Catalog Disk window

* In addition to scanning 4DOS `descript.ion` files for file-descriptions, WinCat now also automatically scans `FILES.BBS` files.

* You also can make WinCat read all `FILE_ID.DIZ` files by enabling the appropriate option on the Configure window.

Statistics window

* Can now display additional statistical information :

History : summary of all files by year of creation

Classes : summary of all files by function class

Filetypes : summary of all filetypes (filename-extensions)

Double-clicking an entry on these lists will display the File List window, showing all applicable files.

Import window

* The Import function now supports multiple-line filedescriptions.

* When importing Compuserve *.CAT listings, WinCat now copies the entire file-description (following the Title and Keywords lines) to it's catalog.

* You can now let WinCat automatically remove all non-standard ASCII characters (i.e. ASCII-codes < 32 and > 127) from the imported text.

* You can optionally limit importing to one or more function-classes.

Export window

* Filenames are now split into a FILE field (the filename) and a TYPE field (filename-extension).

Print Reports window

* The 'Report...' menu-options have been replaced by a 'Reports' window ; on this window you can select the type of report to be printed and the fields to be included on the report.

You can also (optionally) limit the files listed on the report to those that belong to one or more function-classes (i.e. only Archives and Programs).