

The Shape of Software: 30 Apps Worth Waiting For

Company and Product	What's New?	Plug and Play	OLE 2.0	Target Release Date*
Applications/Suites				
DacEasy DacEasy Accounting Financial management	Follows guidelines for Windows 95 interface—tabbed dialog boxes, property sheets, and so on. Multithreading should improve performance. Full support for OLE (client and server, as well as OLE automation). Built-in communications capabilities.	N/A	Y	90
Lotus Development SmartSuite 1-2-3, Ami Pro, and more	An all-new 32-bit code base, plus smarter SmartMasters, more Wizard-like Assistants, and a more consistent interface. Look for the LotusScript language to show up throughout SmartSuite. Integration with Notes should be tighter than ever.	Y	Y	?
Microsoft Office Office for Windows 95 Standard and professional editions	Expect a major upgrade to all office components. The 32-bit versions of Excel and Word (for Windows NT and Windows 95) were released last November. Priorities for the Windows 95 version of Office include support for the new user interface and more emphasis on consistency of dialog boxes and individual features.	Y	Y	90
Shapeware Visio Drag-and-drop drawing	Enhanced drag and drop, including right-mouse-button support, plus the capability to create and open new documents directly from desktop. Able to generate OLE events. Plug-and-Play awareness means users will be notified if connection with file is lost.	Y	Y	0
WordPerfect/Novell PerfectOffice The newest suite	No dramatic new features, but 32-bit code should mean better performance, while multithreading and multitasking will concentrate on printing and spell-checking. The major focus for developers is improving network access.	TBA	Y	95
Communications				
America Online AOL for Windows 95 Online service	Multiple threads and preemptive multitasking should improve overall performance. OLE 2.0 drag and drop to/from text fields will be available in the first Windows 95 release, but not all features from the Windows 3.1 version will be supported initially.	TBA	Y	?
DCA Crosstalk Communications/fax	Full support for the Windows 95 interface. Integrated with Microsoft Exchange Server, the built-in universal mail client. New features will include a GIF viewer and additional terminal emulations. OLE support? Certainly as a server, possibly as a client.	Y	Y	90
Delrina WinFax Pro, WinComm Pro Communications/fax	Fully integrated with MAPI address books, supports voice mail, enables call discrimination. Improved telephony support should simplify modem setup. Multithreading/multitasking capabilities should provide true background operation, and	Y	Y	90

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	OLE will permit in-place editing of faxes and cover sheets			
NCSA Mosaic World Wide Web browser	Because Mosaic is already a 32-bit program, it will perform better under Windows 95. Built-in networking should simplify setup of Internet connections, and OLE automation will let users write programs (in Visual Basic, for example) that send Mosaic out	TBA	Y	0
	to search the Internet for specific items.			
Traveling Software LapLink for Windows File transfer, remote access	Windows 95's Plug and Play and improved modem and telephony support should improve usability and make it easier to connect to remote sites. Theoretically, a Windows 3.1 user can connect to a Windows 95 machine and run applications remotely.	Y	Y	180
Networking & Groupware				
Artisoft LANtastic Peer-to-peer networking	The combination of card-and-software starter kits with Plug and Play should make installation much simpler. Look for enhancements in security, performance, interoperability (including OS/2 and TCP/IP environments), and network navigation.	Y	Y	?
Collabra Software Share Group discussion forum	Tightly integrated with Windows 95 interface so users can navigate easily between applications. Better integration with e-mail. Easier, more pervasive network connections. Current version supports OLE, and the Windows 95 performance	N/A	Y	180
	improvements should increase use of OLE.			
WordPerfect/Novell GroupWise Mail/scheduling	Integration with the Windows 95 shell makes it easier for users to access functions directly. Plug-and-Play support helps program behave consistently and correctly whether remote user is connected or detached from network. Full OLE support.	Y	Y	90
System Utilities				
Borland Simplify Dashboard Desktop add-in	Full support for Windows 95 interface, including extensive drag and drop, tabbed dialog boxes, awareness of long filenames, and use of the Registry. SmartDialer will take advantage of modem support and Dial Helper. Partially an OLE client.	Y	Y	90
McAfee VirusScan Virus detection/removal	Easier installation and use thanks to Windows 95 interface standards such as property sheets. Plug-and-Play support will automatically identify and scan a floppy disk or CD as soon as it's inserted, and a VxD-based scan engine should provide better	Y	N/A	90
	protection.			

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Stac Electronics Stacker Disk compression	New, all-32-bit drivers will completely replace the DriveSpace component of Windows 95. Multitasking will allow compression to take place in the background, improving performance. Adds support for long filenames and Plug and Play.	Y	N/A	0
Symantec Norton AntiVirus Virus detection/removal	An Express (scan-only) version will be available the same day as Windows 95. The full package, with a 32-bit VxD-based architecture, is due 90 days later. It will scan files after they're received via modem & write the file to disk only if it's	N	N/A	90
	virus-free.			
Symantec Norton Utilities Disk and system diagnostics	Fully 32-bit utilities run in protected mode for faster performance and true background operation. Support for long filenames, plus consistent use of Windows 95 user interface and Registry. Plug-and-Play support will let Norton Disk Doctor pause	Y	N/A	0
	to allow incoming faxes or data transfer.			
Publishing & Graphics				
Corel CorelDraw 6 Graphics package	Fully 32-bit code means better performance, crucial when working with large graphics files. Full OLE support means it's easier to create rich compound documents that contain graphics, and easier to work with them via in-place editing.	Y	Y	0
Microsoft Publisher Desktop publishing	Dramatically different look and feel thanks to system support for toolbars and common dialog boxes. New 32-bit code means performance improvements in load times, Wizards, and other areas. Already an OLE 2.0 client with full drag-and-drop support.	Y	Y	90
Software Publishing Corp. Harvard Graphics Presentation graphics	Full support for the Windows 95 interface, including easier installation and hooks to the Uninstall feature. Completely rewritten code means smaller executable files and faster performance--overall and in specific functions. OLE client and server support.	N	Y	90
WordPerfect/Novell Envoy Cross-platform portable document software	Full support for Windows 95 interface, with accompanying advantages in ease of use when reading and creating documents. Plug-and-Play support will allow detection of changes in video resolution and available printers. Plans call for OLE client support.	Y	Y	95
Databases				

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Borland International dBASE for Windows Database manager	Support for long filenames and the Windows 95 user interface. New 32-bit code base should improve performance. According to Borland, dBASE will "support OLE 2.0 features that are required for the Windows 95 logo." Plug-and-Play support is still under development.	TBA	Y	90
Microsoft Visual FoxPro 3.0 Database manager	FoxPro 2.6 was already 32-bit, so there's no rewrite needed there. This upgrade will provide FoxPro applications with direct access to Windows 95 system services, including long filename support and the Registry. Applications can also be made Plug-and-Play-aware.	Y	Y	0
Development Tools				
Blue Sky Software RoboHelp Help system compiler	Full support for Windows 95 Help file format, including full-text search in the created file. Improvements for developers include hierarchical graphical view of entire files, toolbar buttons in secondary windows, and faster compiles. Full OLE 2.0 compatibility.	N/A	Y	0
Borland International C++ version 2.0 Development environment	Current 16-bit version supports Windows 95. In 32-bit version, multithreading should improve compilation speeds and increase developer productivity. Allows developers to easily add OLE client & server support so applications can interoperate with suites.	N	N/A	90
Microsoft Visual C++ Development environment	Features will not change from current version for Windows NT; interface changes will be the only difference. Plug-and-Play support and full OLE functionality (client, server, container, automation) can be added to any application.	Y	Y	0
Business Utilities				
Block Financial Software Managing Your Money Personal finance	Completely compatible with Windows 95 interface, including long filenames, which make data sets easier to identify. Greater use of built-in controls, for example, will use hierarchical lists extensively. Plug and Play improves modem & printer support.	Y	Y	0
CrossTies Software CrossTies Personal information manager	Will adopt Windows 95 look and feel, including right mouse-button menus, tabbed dialog boxes, and 3-D controls. OLE support allows drag and drop from desktop folders into programs and vice versa. Integrates with Windows 95 Explorer for browsing, and with Exchange for e-mail.	N/A	Y	90

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Elan Software GoldMine Contact management	New 32-bit code base should improve performance. Will incorporate Windows 95 interface, including use of rich-text editing control for simple word processing tasks. May provide custom links to dial-up networking and Briefcase synchronization feature.	N/A	N	0
* Number of days after Windows 95 ships that upgrade is due.				