Navigate in a help system

Overview

The WYSI-Help Explorer shows the hypertext structure of a help file as a tree. You select the detail level you want for each of the branches.

How do I...

Develop a branch
Close a branch
Consult a topic
Interpret the topic icons

Open a branch

When the icon before a title looks like a closed book , click on this icon to develop (open) the corresponding branch.

This will result in all topics accessible from the one clicked on being shown.

When the branch is developed, the icon before the title takes the form of an open book .

See also:
Close a branch

On activation of this tab, the WYSI-Help Explorer shows you the Navigate card. This card provides a graphical Navigator which you can use to find and open individual topics in the help file.

Close a branch

When the icon representing a topic is displayed as an open book 📖, click on the icon to close the corresponding branch.

This action will result in the disappearance of the list of topics accessible from the topic you just clicked on.

When the branch is closed, the title icon will be a closed book 📕.

See also:

[Open a branch](#)

To view a topic, just double-click on it's title

Interpret the topic icons

The WYSI-Help Explorer uses different graphics and colors to display before topic titles in the tree.

A closed book means that this topic has links to other topics, but these links are not displayed. (The branch is not developed)

An open book means that this topic has links to other topics, and these topics are displayed in the list. (The branch is developed)

A simple page means that this topic has no links to other topics in the same file.

The last topics actually consulted, are represented by an icon as described above, but red.

Consulted means that the topic has been shown in the display window.

The double arrow means that the topic exists (is developed) elsewhere in the tree.

If you click on this icon, The WYSI-Help Explorer takes you to the icon where the topic is developed.

Changing the help colors

Overview

Usually, all links in a help file are displayed in a single color.   Most often, this color is green. You can modify the colors Windows uses to show the different types of links using the WYSI-Help Explorer card called Colors.

Procedure

1.   Press the button corresponding to the type of link you want to modify.
2.   Choose the color you want in the dialog box that opens.
3. Press OK to accept the choice.

Note: The selected color will be visible in the control window immediately.

All text zones corresponding to the modified link type will also be modified immediately.

Printing a selection of topics

Overview

With the WYSI-Help Explorer you can print a selection of topics without having to load them one by one.   This is especially powerful when combined with WYSI-Help Explorer's Search feature.   If you have just completed a search, you can quickly and easily print out some or all of the topics found in your search.

Procedure

1.   Select the topic titles you want to print from the list.
2. Click the Print button.

Note: If you just did a search before doing print, the print list initially shows only the search result titles.

The button All topics allows you to replace this selection by all titles found in the file.

About this version of WYSI-Help Explorer

This version of WYSI-Help Explorer is the WYSI-Help Composer add-on version.   WYSI-Help Composer is a full-featured help authoring tool.   WYSI-Help Composer is available from UDI Software, 4 Commercial Blvd., Novato, (800) 289-1948 or (415) 382-8840.

This version of WYSI-Help Explorer works only with the help file you are currently using. Help authors who use WYSI-Help Explorer   have the option of adding the WYSI-Help Explorer functionality to the help files they create.

There is a full, standalone version of WYSI-Help Explorer which works directly on any existing help file. You do not need the sources for your help files to be able to make the full version of the Explorer work for you.

The full version of WYSI-Help Explorer is shareware.   If you are interested in using the Explorer with any help file installed on your system, you can find the WYSI-Help Explorer on Compuserve in the WINSDK Forum, WinHelp area.

On activation of this tab, the WYSI-Help Explorer shows you the <u>Colors card</u>. This card allows you to change the display colors for links in the help file.

The topic list is a multiple selection list.

Click on topics while holding the CTRL button down to select topics which are not next to another.

Click on a topic while holding the SHIFT key down to select all topics between the one you clicked and the last one selected.

Clicking this button opens this help file.

Formulate search requests

Overview

With the WYSI-Help Explorer you can formulate search requests combining several words. You can string these together or insert logical operators.

Click on the different zones in the Search card to know it's role:

```
┌─────────────────────────────────────────────────┐
│ ━    WYSI-Help Composer Help          ▼  ▲       │
├─────────────────────────────────────────────────┤
│ Navigate │ Search │ Print │ Colors │   ?         │
│                                                   │
│ Expression │Explorer                            │ │
│ 5 topics                                          │
│          │ And │  │ Or │  │ Not │     │ Search │ │
│ ┌───────────────────────────────────────┐  ▲    │
│ │ Explorer Options Command               │  █    │
│ │ Explorer's Color Feature               │  █    │
│ │ Explorer's Navigator Feature           │  █    │
│ │ Explorer's Print Feature               │  █    │
│ │ Explorer's Search Feature              │  ▼    │
│ │                                        │       │
│ │ ←                                   → │       │
│ └───────────────────────────────────────┘       │
└─────────────────────────────────────────────────┘
```

How to...

Look for the presence of a word
Look for the absence of a word
Look for an expression
Use a wildcard
Extend a search
Restrict a search
Using parentheses

This button will insert the operator (AND) in the <u>search expression</u> zone. This means that the expressions left and right of the operator must be both present in the topic.

This button will insert the operator (OR) in the underline search expression zone. This means that one of the expressions left and right of the operator must be present in the topic.

This button will insert the operator (NOT) in the <u>search expression</u> zone. This means that the expression right of the operator must not be present in the topic.

In this zone you can formulate your <u>search expression</u>.

Pressing this button will start the full text search for the expression in the edit zone.

In this list appear all titles of topics containing the search expression.

From this list you can consult the topics or   print them.   To view a topic, just double-click on it's title.

On activation of this tab, the WYSI-Help Explorer shows you the <u>Print card</u>. If you have just completed a Search, the print card will display all the topics found in the Search.   This allows you to print some or all of the topics found.

1. Type the word you are looking for in the field **Expression**.
2. Press the Search button

Note: The search engine is case insensitive: no difference will be made between upper and lower case nor between accented and non accented characters. Neither will punctuation be taken into account

1. Press the (not) button
2. Type the word which should not be in the topics found in the expression zone.
3. Press the Search button

Note:You can type the (not) operator in the expression field (do not forget the parentheses)

An expression is a series of words, separated by spaces

1. Type the string of words in the expression field.
2. Press the search button

You can use a wildcard character to find words with the same root.

The wildcard character is the star: *

Only one wildcard per word is allowed. The wildcard has to form the end of the word.

Extend a Search Using OR

Overview

If the number of topics found for any given search seems insufficient, you can extend the search by adding the operator **(OR)**

Procedure

1. Position the text cursor in the search expression box where you want to insert the operator.
2. Press the **(or)** button.
3. Press the **search** button.

Note: You can use the (or) operator several times in one search expression.

Restrict a search

Overview

If a search result is too important (The number of topics found seems too much), you can restrict the search with the help of the (AND) operator.

Procedure

1.   Put the edit cursor where you want to insert the operator.
2. Press the (AND) button.
3. Press the Search button.

Note: You can use the (AND) operator more than once in the same expression.

You can mix several different operators in the same expression. If this is the case, the WYSI-Help Explorer applies the normal priority rules.

You can force the priority by using extra parentheses.

For example: (blue (AND) white) (OR) red

The WYSI-Help Explorer
WYSI-Help Composer Add-On Version

About this version of WYSI-Help Explorer

Principles of the WYSI-Help Explorer

Navigate in a help system

Formulate search requests

Print a selection of topics

Change the help colors

The principles of the WYSI-Help Explorer

The WYSI-Help Explorer enhances the Windows Help engine, and gives it fundamental new functions which the standard help engine does not have.

This version of the WYSI-Help Explorer works only with help files created with WYSI-Help Composer. There is a <u>standalone version</u> of WYSI-Help Explorer which works with any help file.

The advanced functions the WYSI-Help Explorer offers are:

•   <u>Navigate</u> in the hypertext network. Represented by the WYSI-Help Explorer in the form of a tree.

•   <u>Search</u> words, expressions and combinations which occur in the text of the help file.

•   <u>Print</u> on demand all or a selection of topics.

•   <u>Modify the colors</u> Windows uses to show hypertext links.