

## **"Sync-it-yourself" Feature**

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This feature manually links up lines in the side-by-side file viewer, overriding the built-in synchronization algorithm.

Right-click over each of the the lines you would like to line up, selecting Link from the popup menu. The two lines that you select are forced together, and following lines are re-synchronized. The spacebar is the keyboard shortcut for Link.

[Click here for an example](#)

You can use this feature several times to link up different parts of the files, as long as you work in a downward direction. Each manual link causes a re-synchronization of the text below it, which will undo any manual links in that area. Links are not saved when you exit the viewer.

Displays the program's About dialog, containing your registration info and the program's version number.

Selecting Acquire Cutoff sets the cutoff date for the "Older than cutoff" filter to that of the selected file.

## **Backup Files Before Copy**

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When selected, this option instructs Beyond Compare to rename the file in the target directory before copying over it.

<b>Button</b>	<b>Menu equivalent</b>
	File   Backup Files Before Copy

Backup files have a tilde (~) character added to them. Depending on the Backup Naming Style option selected under View | Main Window Options, the backup filename will take one of these formats:

<b>Original name</b>	<b>Backup name</b>	<b>Explanation</b>
Beyond32.exe	Beyond32.~ex	Extension is limited to 3 characters
Beyond32.exe	Beyond32.~exe	Extension is not limited
Beyond32.exe	~Beyond32.exe	Extension is not modified
Beyond32.exe	Beyond32.bak	Extension is replaced with .bak

## **Backup Files Before Save**

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When selected, this option causes the file viewer to keep a copy of the original file before saving changes. The name of the backup file depends on the Backup Naming Style option selected under View | Main Window Options. For example, the backup of FOOBAR.TXT would be one of:

FOOBAR.~TX  
FOOBAR.~TXT  
~FOOBAR.TXT  
FOOBAR.BAK

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<b>Button</b>	<b>Menu equivalent</b>
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(none)	File   Backup Before Save
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## **Bookmark**

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Use the bookmark feature to save your position in the File Viewer for quick return.

<b>Buttons</b>	<b>Menu equivalents</b>	<b>Keyboard shortcuts</b>
(none)	Search   Set Bookmark	Ctrl+K
(none)	Search   Go To Bookmark	Ctrl+Q

## **Collapse All**

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Close all subdirectories in the directory comparison.

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<b>Button</b>	<b>Menu equivalent</b>
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View | Collapse All

## **Command Line Parameters**

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You can run Beyond Compare with command line parameters to speed access to your favorite directories. You can specify:

- a session name
- a pair of directories, or
- a pair of files.

If you specify an existing session name, that session will be loaded when Beyond Compare starts. For example:

```
BEYOND32.EXE "My Application <-> Floppy"
```

You can specify two directories on the command line:

```
BEYOND32.EXE C:\ALPHA C:\BETA
```

Note: If you specify directories on the command line, the filename filter will be "\*.\*".

You can also specify two files on the command line and Beyond Compare will compare these files, skipping the main (directory compare) window altogether.

```
BEYOND32.EXE APPLES.TXT ORANGES.TXT
```

In this case, Beyond Compare starts with a quick compare of the two files. A dialog box will display the results. Click the "View Files" button to display the files side-by-side in the file viewer. If you would prefer to skip the quick compare and always go straight to the file viewer, select View | Main Window Options and disable the "Confirm File Viewing" option.

You can further control Beyond Compare by using command line switches.

## **Windows95/98/NT Shortcuts**

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To place a shortcut to a specific session on your desktop, start up the Windows Explorer, then locate the Beyond Compare program and drag it to a blank area of the desktop. Then, right-click on the shortcut, select Properties from the popup menu, select the Shortcut tab and add edit the Target field to include the session name.

Notice that if the path to the Beyond Compare program contains spaces, there will be quotation marks around the path. Add the session name after the quotes. For example:

```
"C:\Program Files\Beyond Compare\1.9b\beyond32.exe" "My Application <-> Floppy"
```

Or, specify a pair of directories:

```
"C:\Program Files\Beyond Compare\1.9b\beyond32.exe" C:\ALPHA C:\BETA
```

Or, specify a pair of files:

```
"C:\Program Files\Beyond Compare\1.9b\beyond32.exe" C:\ALPHA\A.TXT C:\BETA\B.TXT
```

If the directories or files that you specify contain spaces, be sure to enclose them in quotes:

```
"C:\My Application\A Long Filename.PAS"
```

## **Windows95/98/NT Command Prompt**

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Another option in Windows 95/98/NT4 is to run Beyond Compare from a DOS prompt, or from the Start | Run command. To simplify typing, consider adding Beyond Compare's program folder to your PATH definition. Then, you could type simply:

```
BEYOND32 C:\ALPHA C:\BETA
```

Or,

```
BEYOND32 About.pas Save\About.pas
```

## **Batch Files**

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You can create a batch file to run multiple automated operations together. Be sure to use the START /W command so that the command processor will wait for one instance of Beyond Compare to finish before starting the next. For example:

```
START /W BEYOND32 C:\Project1 D:\Backups\Project1 /syncright /dor  
START /W BEYOND32 C:\Project2 D:\Backups\Project2 /syncright /dor  
START /W BEYOND32 C:\Project3 D:\Backups\Project3 /syncright /dor
```

(This example assumes that Beyond32.exe is in your path.)

See the topic [Command Line Switches](#) for a description of the various automation features.

## **Command Line Switches**

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These command line switches affect the behavior of Beyond Compare.

<b>Switch</b>	<b>Function</b>
/expandall	Expand all subfolders
/display=mismatches	Set initial display filter in main window
/display=matches	"
/display=doubles	"
/display=mismatchdoubles	"
/display=singles	"
/display=older	"
/display=newer	"
/filedisplay=mismatches	Set initial display filter in File Viewer
/filedisplay=majormismatches	"
/filedisplay=matches	"
/rules=<name>	Select initial file comparison rules
/filter=<filters>	Set file filters (separate multiple filters with semicolon)
/fileviewer	Start with file viewer, even if no files specified
/leftreadonly	Disable operations affecting left side
/rightreadonly	Disable operations affecting right side
/readonly	Disable all copy, delete operations
/mergeoutput=<filename>	Save edited text in alternate file
/noedit	Disable editing functions in the file viewer
/configpath=<path>	Specify alternate folder for Beyond32.ini file
/configpath=exepath	Look for Beyond32.ini in the same folder as Beyond32.exe

The following switches perform automated operations without user interaction:

<b>Switch</b>	<b>Function</b>
/syncright	Automatically copy newer and missing files from left to right
/syncleft	Automatically copy newer and missing files from right to left
/dor	Delete orphaned files on right
/dol	Delete orphaned files on left
/out=<command>	Produce Directory Comparison or File Differences report

If you want the automated switches to affect files in subfolders, include the /expandall switch also. You can combine switches on one line. For instance, combining /syncright and /dor will copy updated files to the right and also delete any orphaned files on the right.

**Warning:** The above switches are designed to run from batch files with no user interaction. All confirmation dialogs are suppressed. If either base folder does not exist, the operation is ignored.

## **Comparing .DFM Files.**

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Borland Delphi's .DFM files are binary files, but Beyond Compare automatically converts them to text for viewing and editing. They are displayed side-by-side so you can identify form properties that have changed.

## **Overview**

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Our biggest challenge in developing Beyond Compare is to provide a wide range of powerful features and options, yet keep the program easy to use. While the number of options may seem overwhelming at first, these are the most important parts of the program:

- Beyond Compare's main window presents a side-by-side view of two directories. [Click here for a screen shot image](#) with embedded descriptions of the various interface elements and features.
- Before comparing folders, you need to pick them. The Session Settings dialog lets you specify the base folders for comparison, as well as [file filters](#) to limit the comparison. This is also where you can manage saved sessions.
- We've grouped the various options that control how folders and files are compared into File Comparison Rules (or simply "Rules"). There are predefined sets of Rules such as <default>, Quick, C/C++, and Pascal. You can add, delete or customize Rules as desired by opening Main Window Options and selecting the Rules tab. Saved sessions include the name of the Rules that should be loaded with the session.
- For comparing files side-by-side you will use the built it File Viewer, or possibly one of the plug-in viewers (available to registered users). Here's a [screen shot image](#) of the File Viewer with descriptions of its various features. Simply double-click on a line in the directory comparison to call up the appropriate viewer. To view and compare files with different names, use the [Link](#) feature.

## **The Default File Viewer**

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The File Viewer displays two text files side-by-side with differences highlighted.

[Click here for a screen shot.](#)

Both panes scroll together, either vertically or horizontally. In addition to using the scroll bars, you can scroll to the right by pressing Ctrl+RightArrow or to the left with Ctrl+LeftArrow.

You can make one side or the other wider by dragging the splitter bar that separates the two panes. Or, you can move the splitter with Alt+RightArrow and Alt+LeftArrow

Use these features to peruse your files:

[Next, Previous Difference](#)

[Difference Filters](#)

[Find Text](#)

[Go To Line](#)

You can produce a report of the differences between the files by selecting File | Differences Report. A dialog box appears, allowing you to send the report to your printer, a disk file, or the clipboard.

Under Windows3.x/95/98, the File Viewer window is limited to comparing the first 32,500 lines of huge files. This limitation does not apply to the Quick Compare function, which compares entire files.

**WARNING:** You can view binary files if you like, but **do not try to edit or save them!** If you do, they will be truncated at the first occurrence of an end-of-file mark (Ctrl+Z), and may have CR/LFs inserted!

## **Comparing Subdirectories**

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If the Show Folders option is selected (under View | Main Window Options), all subdirectories will appear with folder icons in the main window (no matter which file filters or display filter are specified).

You can double-click on the folders to "open" them and view their contents, or to "close" them.

File operations such as copy, delete and Quick Compare will work on entire subdirectories. A folder needs to be "closed" to perform an operation on the entire folder.

You can open all folders with the Expand All function, or close them all with Collapse All. Additionally, you can right-click over a folder and select Expand Subfolders to open all folders within the selected folder.

Using the keyboard, Enter will open or close a folder while Ctrl+Enter will open a folder and all its subfolders.

## **Folder Comparison Criteria**

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The side-by-side folder compare window visually identifies matching and mismatching files. By default, Beyond Compare just considers the files' date and time (timestamp), and size. This information is quickly read from directory entries, so folder comparisons can be very fast.

You can change the rules for folder comparison by selecting View | File Comparison Rules and editing the options under the Criteria tab. These options let you define what criteria is used to consider files as mismatches.

Deselect the **Timestamp** option if you would like to ignore differences in file timestamps. If you deselect this option, you will probably want to enable the Contents option.

The **At Least 2 Seconds Apart** option is useful for comparing directories between computers with different file systems. For instance, the DOS FAT file system only stores file timestamps to the nearest 2 seconds, while NTFS and HPFS systems can represent timestamps to the nearest 100 nanoseconds. Copying across a network, between file systems, can result in files with slightly different timestamps. If this option is selected, those files would be treated as if they had the same times.

Use the **Ignore 1 Hour Differences** option when dealing with discrepancies in how file servers and workstations handle Daylight Saving Time. When enabled, timestamps that are exactly 1 hour apart are considered matching.

Generally speaking, files of differing size must be mismatches. However, if you are comparing directories containing text files with mixed line termination and you want to use text-based content comparison, disable the **Size** option.

Normally, Beyond Compare lines up files with the same filename and extension. Disable the **File Type** option if you would like to compare a directory with, for instance, ".txt" file extensions with another directory containing corresponding files with ".bak" file extensions.

Enable any of the **Attribute** options to flag differences in file attributes.

Enable the **Contents** option to automatically read and compare file contents when the directory is accessed. Notice that this option may considerably slow the loading of directories.

The **Use Text-Based Content Comparison** option modifies the behavior of the Quick Compare function and the automatic content comparison criteria. Instead of a straight binary comparison, a text-based compare assumes the files are text files and compares them line-by-line. Differences in line termination are ignored, so you can compare a DOS style text file with a Unix style file. The comparison stops on an end-of-file mark (Ctrl-Z).

**WARNING:** If you compare binary files with this option selected, mismatched files may be erroneously displayed as exact matches.

## **Comparison Info**

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Displays a dialog box containing statistics for the currently displayed comparison.

<b>Button</b>	<b>Menu equivalent</b>	<b>Keyboard shortcut</b>
(none)	File   Comparison Info	Ctrl+I

## **Configuring the Toolbar**

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You can change the toolbar layout by right-clicking over it and selecting "Configure Toolbar" from the pop-up menu. Or, select View | Configure Toolbar from the main menu.

In the Configure Toolbar dialog box, drag buttons to or from the "currently on toolbar" list. You can also rearrange the buttons by dragging them to different positions.



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## **Copy to Clipboard**

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This command copy text from the selected lines to the Windows clipboard. A dialog will appear, allowing you to chose just the right side, the left side, or both sides. If you choose both sides, the text from each side will be separated by a tab character.

<b>Button</b>	<b>Menu equivalent</b>	<b>Keyboard shortcut</b>
(none)	Edit   Copy to Clipboard	Ctrl+C

## **Copy to Folder**

---

This function copies selected files to a specified folder. A dialog will prompt you to select which side of the directory comparison to copy from, and allows you to specify a folder to copy to.

Only selected files are copied - not folders.

<b>Button</b>	<b>Menu equivalent</b>	<b>Keyboard shortcut</b>
(none)	File   Copy to Folder	(none)

## **Cutoff Date, Time**

---

This feature allows you to ignore files that are beyond a specified cutoff date. From the main menu select Display Filter | Set Cutoff and enter a date. You can pick either older or newer files to ignore. The "Today" or "This Week" buttons are shortcuts.

If you have the legend bar enabled, the cutoff date/time will appear on it as a reminder. (You can also double-click over the legend bar to edit the cutoff date.) You can quickly set the cutoff date to match a file or directory date by right-clicking over the appropriate entry and selecting Acquire Cutoff from the popup menu.

Assuming you have selected the "exclude older than" option, files will not appear in the directory comparison unless at least one of the pair is newer than the cutoff. Therefore, if files (matched or mismatched) are both the same as or older than the cutoff, they do not appear. If a file is on one side but not the other (orphaned) and is the same as or older than the cutoff, it will not appear. These rules are followed regardless of the Display Filter selection in effect.

Files older than or equal to the cutoff will only appear if there is a newer (than cutoff) version in the other directory. The older file will appear in a different color.

The oldest cutoff date you can specify is January 1, 1980.

## **Delete Files or Folders**

---

This function deletes the selected files or folders after appropriate confirmation. Since items from both side may be selected at a time, a confirmation dialog is displayed allowing you to delete just left side, right side or items from both sides. BE VERY CAREFUL with this function, particularly when deleting entire folders. Currently, the delete function DOES NOT use the recycle bin.

To delete a folder and all its contents, it must be "closed".

<b>Button</b>	<b>Menu equivalent</b>	<b>Keyboard shortcut</b>
	File   Delete	Del

## Difference Filters

---

Select one of these options to control the file viewer display.

<b>Button</b>	<b>Menu equivalent</b>
	View   Show All
	View   Just Differences
	View   Just Major Differences
	View   Just Matching Text

## **File Differences Report**

---

This feature produces a report of the differences between the files. A dialog box appears, allowing you to send the report to your printer, a disk file, or the clipboard. When selected from the main folder compare window, a composite report is produced for all selected files.

<b>Button</b>	<b>Menu equivalent</b>
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## **Direct Cable Connection (DCC)**

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Windows' Direct Cable Connection offers a convenient way to compare and move files between computers that are not otherwise networked. DCC is part of Windows95/98/NT and uses printer or COM ports, connected with special cables, to transfer data. The special cables are readily available at computer retail stores.

If installed, DCC is found in the Start menu under Programs | Accessories. If you have trouble connecting with DCC, you may need to install the NetBEUI protocol in your Network configuration. Look up Direct Cable Configuration in Windows Help for assistance.

To use Beyond Compare over DCC, use the UNC path name for the remote folder. For instance, if connected to a computer named "Leslie" with its C: drive shared as "C-Drive", you could access the Program Files folder by specifying this base folder name:

`\Leslie\C-Drive\Program Files`

Notice that Windows does not support browsing the Network Neighborhood to locate a DCC connected computer.

This header area displays the base folders of the directories being compared. It also identifies the "active" side for operations that act on one side only (such as the ["Open With"](#) function).

This optional status bar provides information about the files displayed above. You can disable by clearing the View | Statusbar option on the main menu.

## Display Filters

---

In addition to file filters which limit comparison to types of files, you can filter the directory display based on how the directory entries match.

Note that matches and mismatches are determined by the folder comparison criteria in the current Rules. For instance, you can instruct Beyond Compare to ignore the file date/time and compare file contents instead.

The display filter buttons on the toolbar let you quickly switch between viewing any files, matching files, or mismatched files. The Single Side filter displays "orphaned" files - files that are on one side but not the other. This filter is useful for isolating missing or obsolete files.

The [Cutoff Date, Time](#) feature can further limit the display of files.

<b>Button</b>	<b>Menu equivalent</b>
	Display Filter   Show Any Matches
	Display Filter   Show Mismatched Files
	Display Filter   Show Matching Files
	Display Filter   Show Double Sides
	Display Filter   Show Mismatched Double Sides
	Display Filter   Show Single Sides
	Display Filter   Show Left Side Older Files
	Display Filter   Show Left Side Newer Files

## **Where's the Disk?**

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The Beyond Compare program is distributed electronically, available from a variety of on-line locations. In today's "connected" world, this is the fastest method of distribution and the easiest way to provide you with program updates. As such, **there are no diskettes or printed manual** (although the program has this extensive help file).

When you register, we send you a registration code that you key into the program, converting it from an evaluation copy to a registered copy.

For the latest version of the program, current pricing, and other news, please visit our [web site](#).

## **Drag and Drop**

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You can use the Windows "drag and drop" facility with Beyond Compare to compare files or directories. Drag a pair of files or folders from programs such as the Windows Explorer and drop them on Beyond Compare for comparison.

If Beyond Compare is not already running, drag the items over the Beyond Compare program icon.

If Beyond Compare is running, you can drop a folder onto the left or right pane of the main directory comparison window to open the folder there. Or, drop a pair of folders anywhere over the main window to open them both.

For text files, drop one on either the left or right pane of the File Viewer window, or drop a pair of files anywhere over the window.

If you drop more than two files or folders, only the first two are recognized.

In Windows95/98/NT, if Beyond Compare is running but minimized or in the background, you can drag the items over the Beyond Compare button on the taskbar, wait a moment (without releasing), and Windows will bring Beyond Compare to the foreground for you.

*Speed Tip:* In your "Send to" menu add a shortcut to Beyond Compare, and you'll always have it handy for comparing folders or files.

These lines have been edited by copying the contents of the left file to the right.

## **Editing Files**

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You can selectively reconcile differences between text files by copying, inserting, deleting or editing lines.

In the Viewer window, select the lines you would like to edit. To select an entire section of mismatched text, double-click over it. Or, hold down the Ctrl key while double-clicking to add the section to your current selection. Then pick a [copy, insert, or delete operation](#).

Deleted text is changed to gray with a strike-through line. Copied text is colored teal in the target file, and a small red arrow indicates the direction of the copy. [Here's a sample](#).

If the Line Details option is enabled (View | Line Details), you can also [edit individual lines](#).

The status bar shows a reminder that a file has been modified. You can cancel editing by selecting lines and picking Undo Edit from the popup menu. Or, you can select [Reload Files](#) to revert to the stored version of the files.

Select [Save](#) to save your modifications. If the File | Backup Before Save option is selected, Beyond Compare will keep a copy of the original file, adding a tilde "~" to the file extension.

Or, you can select [Save As](#) to save the modified file under a different filename.

**WARNING:** The File Viewer can open binary files, but **do not try to edit or save them!** If you do, they will be truncated at the first occurrence of an end-of-file mark (Ctrl+Z), and may have CR/LFs inserted!

This is a sample of a file viewer editing session.

var CUFile:TCUFile; SessionIndex:Integer;  begin {attempt to locate desired file in CUSSess: if (FAFSFile = nil) and (CUSSession <> nil) for SessionIndex := 0 to CUSSession.Count CUFile := (CUSSession.Objects[SessionIn	var CUFile:TCUFile; SessionIndex:Integer; WasActive:Boolean; Index, AFSIndex:Integer; Field:TCUField; S:string; begin {attempt to locate desired file in CUSSess: if (FAFSFile = nil) and (CUSSession <> nil) for SessionIndex := 0 to CUSSession.Count CUFile := (CUSSession.Objects[SessionIn
---	---

## File Editing Commands

---

You can selectively reconcile differences between text files by copying, inserting, or deleting selected lines. First, select a line or lines. Then, right-click over the selection and pick one of the following commands from the popup menu. If you select an Insert command, the cursor will change to an insert pointer and you can click on the line that you want to insert text in front of.

Buttons	Menu equivalents	Keyboard shortcuts
	Edit   Copy Right ->	Ctrl+R
	Edit   <- Copy Left	Ctrl+L
	Edit   Delete Left	
	Edit   Delete Right Edit   Insert Right -> Edit   <- Insert Left	

If the Line Details option is enabled (View | Line Details), you can make changes to specific lines. The current line in the File Viewer is also displayed in the Line Details area, with the line from the left file appearing on top of the line from the right file. Double-click on either line in the Line Details area to open the line for editing. Press Enter to save or Esc to cancel your changes. You can also edit a line by selecting one of these commands from the menu:

Buttons	Menu equivalents	Keyboard shortcuts
	Edit   Edit Left	
	Edit   Edit Right	

You can cancel any of the above editing commands by selecting a line or lines with modifications and then picking the Undo command:

	Edit   Undo Edit
--	------------------

**Please Note:** Only one editing command can be used on one line, so for instance you can't move a line by copying right and deleting left. These editing commands don't actually take effect until the file is saved. If you reload either file, or refresh the comparison, all editing changes will be lost. If you manually resynchronize text, all editing changes below that point will be lost.

## **Error Codes**

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If you get an error message in Beyond Compare, hopefully it will be self-explanatory. If not -- if you see a blunt message such as "I/O Error 3" or "Access Violation" -- it means we have failed to properly identify and handle a special condition. Please let us know when this happens so we can improve the program.

### **Access Violation at xxxxxxxx**

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This is a serious failure in the program. To make sense of the error address, we need to know the specific version of the program.

### **I/O Error Codes**

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These DOS error codes might help you understand or work around an error condition.

- 2 File not found
- 3 Path not found
- 4 Too many files open
- 5 Access denied
- 19 Disk write-protected
- 21 Drive not ready
- 23 Uncorrectable data error on disk
- 25 Seek error
- 28 Printer out of paper
- 29 Write fault
- 30 Read fault
- 31 General failure
- 32 Sharing violation
- 33 Lock violation
- 53 Network name not found
- 55 Device no longer exists on network
- 59 Unexpected network error

## **Expand All**

---

Open all subdirectories in the directory comparison.

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<b>Button</b>	<b>Menu equivalent</b>
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View | Expand All

## **Folder Compare Features:**

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-  Side-by-side comparison of two folders
-  Explorer-style tree of embedded folders
-  Color highlighting of newer files, mismatched files
-  Multiple filename/extension filters
-  Saves your favorite "sessions" for fast repositioning
-  Compare, copy, delete, rename, or touch files
-  Sort the comparison by file name, type, date or size
-  Fast byte-by-byte compare of files - are they really the same?
-  Detect or ignore differences in file types, timestamps, attributes, etc
-  Recursive binary comparison of directory trees
-  Drag and drop support for folders and files
-  Adjusts for different timezones, Daylight Saving Time

## **File Compare Features:**

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-  Side by side comparison of two text files
-  Color highlighting of mismatched, inserted lines
-  Thumbnail view of all differences
-  Edit, copy, or delete lines
-  Unique "Sync-it-yourself" manual synchronization override
-  Can ignore differences in whitespace, programming comments
-  Compares Delphi form files (.dfm) as plain text
-  Handles large files, long lines

## **Registered Users Only:**

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-  Open files with your favorite editors
-  Specialty plug-in viewers, such as Hex viewer for binary files

## **Copy or Move Files or Folders**

---

Use the Copy Right and Copy Left functions to copy selected items from the left directory to the right, or vice versa.

Use the Move Right and Move Left functions to move rather than copy the items.

A dialog box prompts you to confirm the operation (unless you turn off the Confirm File Copy or Move option). If you attempt to replace a newer file with an older one a larger warning box appears.

To copy or move a folder (and all its contents), first make sure the folder is "closed".

If the Backup Files Before Copy option is selected, Beyond Compare will rename the file in the target directory before replacing it.

<b>Buttons</b>	<b>Menu equivalents</b>	<b>Keyboard shortcuts</b>
	File   Copy Right	Ctrl+R (also Ctrl+RightArrow)
	File   Copy Left	Ctrl+L (also Ctrl+LeftArrow)
(none)	File   Move Right	(none)
(none)	File   Move Left	(none)

This header area identifies the files being compared. One side is highlighted to identify the selected side for certain operations.

## **File Viewer Options**

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This command calls up the options dialog for the file viewer. Use it to configure the appearance of the File Viewer and Difference Report.

<b>Button</b>	<b>Menu equivalent</b>
	View   Options   File Viewer Options

This is the File Viewer window, highlighting the differences in text files side-by-side. Click on any area in the figure below for further explanation:

The screenshot shows the 'File Viewer' application window with two code editors side-by-side. The left editor displays the file `C:\Beyond\BeyondD1\DelConf.pas` and the right editor displays `C:\Beyond\BeyondD3\DelConf.pas`. A context menu is open over the right editor's code, specifically over the line `if ItemCount = 0 then S := 'Select side to`. The menu includes options like Link, Copy Right, Delete Left, Insert Right, Undo Edit, and Open With.

```
if DeleteRight.Checked then ItemCount := It
if ItemCount = 0 then S := 'Select side to
else begin
  S := 'Are you sure you want to delete '
  if SingleFilename <> '' then S := S + S
  else S := S + 'these ' + IntToStr(ItemC
end;
Prompt.Caption := S;
DeleteLeftGlyph.Visible := DeleteLeft.Check
DeleteRightGlyph.Visible := DeleteRight.Che
YesBtn.Enabled := (ItemCount > 0)
end;

115 4 section(s) different 116 Modified

if ItemCount = 0 then S := 'Select side to delete items from'
if ItemCount = 0 then S := SPickDeleteSide
```

col=23

## **Find Filename**

---

To quickly find a specific file in a long directory display, simply type the first few letters of the filename. The display will scroll to matching entries as you type.

<b>Button</b>	<b>Menu equivalent</b>	<b>Keyboard shortcut</b>
(none)	Search   Find Filename	Ctrl+F

## **Find Text, Find Text Again**

---

These buttons let you search for specific text in either file.

<b>Buttons</b>	<b>Menu equivalents</b>	<b>Keyboard shortcuts</b>
	Search   Find	Ctrl+F
	Search   Find Again	F3

## **Go To Line**

---

This feature lets you go to a specific line number. A dialog box will appear, allowing you to specify the line number and which side it applies to.

<b>Button</b>	<b>Menu equivalent</b>	<b>Keyboard shortcut</b>
	Search   Go To Line	Ctrl+G

Displays this help file

## **How To Contact Us**

---

Registered users are entitled to prompt e-mail support. We are also happy to support unregistered users while they are evaluating the software.

Please send any comments, suggestions or bug reports to:

**[support@scootersoftware.com](mailto:support@scootersoftware.com)**

If you need help ordering Beyond Compare, contact:

**[sales@scootersoftware.com](mailto:sales@scootersoftware.com)**

Our mailing address is:

Scooter Software  
2828 Marshall Court, #208  
Madison, WI 53705-2276  
USA

For the latest version of Beyond Compare and for other news about the program, visit our web site at:

**[www.scootersoftware.com](http://www.scootersoftware.com)**

## **Ignoring Leading, Trailing Columns**

---

If your text files contain line numbers at the beginning or end of each line (such as COBOL source), you may want to ignore them for the purpose of comparing text.

In the File Comparison Rules dialog under the Miscellaneous tab, you can specify the first and/or last significant column.

The ignored columns are displayed in gray.

## **Keeping Folders in Sync**

Beyond Compare is great for keeping two folders in sync with each other. If you sync a pair of folders often, you can create a shortcut to speed the process:

1. In the Session Settings dialog, create a named session with the two folder names, specify file filters if desired, and set the initial condition "Only Show Mismatched Files".
2. Create a new shortcut to Beyond Compare on your desktop.
3. Right-click on the shortcut, select Properties, and go to the Shortcut tab.
4. In the Target field, add the name of your session in quotes at the end of the line. For instance:

```
C:\Beyond Compare\beyond32.exe "Daily Correspondence"
```

To sync the folders, double-click on the new shortcut and then select Synchronize Right and/or Synchronize Left.

## Keyboard Shortcuts

---

Here's a summary of the various keyboard shortcuts in Beyond Compare.

In the main Folder Compare window:

Shortcut	Action
Spacebar	Compare to...
Ctrl+R or Ctrl+RightArrow	Copy right
Ctrl+L or Ctrl+LeftArrow	Copy left
Del	Delete
Alt+F4	Exit program
Ctrl+F	Find filename
RightArrow	Focus right pane
LeftArrow	Focus left pane
Ctrl+I	Information
Enter	Open
Ctrl+P	Produce Directory Comparison report
Ctrl+Q	Quick Compare
F2	Rename
Ctrl+A	Select all
Ctrl+S	Session settings
Ctrl+T	Touch
F5	Refresh

In the File Viewer:

Shortcut	Action
Ctrl+K	Bookmark, Set
Ctrl+Q	Bookmark, Go to
Esc or Alt+F4	Close viewer
Ctrl+V	Compare clipboard
Ctrl+R	Copy right
Ctrl+L	Copy left
Ctrl+C	Copy selection to clipboard
Ctrl+F	Find text in file
F3	Find same text again
RightArrow	Focus right pane
LeftArrow	Focus left pane
Ctrl+N	Go to next difference
Ctrl+P	Go to previous difference
Ctrl+G	Go to specific line number
Ctrl+I	Information
Spacebar	Manually sync lines
Alt+RightArrow	Move splitter right
Alt+LeftArrow	Move splitter left
Ctrl+O	Open file

Ctrl+D	Produce File Differences report
F5	Refresh
Ctrl+S	Save file
Ctrl+RightArrow	Scroll right
Ctrl+LeftArrow	Scroll left
Ctrl+A	Select all

The optional legend bar identifies the current color scheme. It can be enable or disabled by toggling View | Legend on the main menu.

## **License Agreement**

---

You should carefully read the following terms and conditions before using Beyond Compare for Windows. Unless you have a different license agreement signed by Scooter Software, your use of this software indicates your acceptance of this license agreement and warranty. If you do not accept these terms you must cease using this software immediately.

### **Copyright**

Beyond Compare for Windows ("the Software") is copyright © 1996-2001 by Scooter Software, all rights reserved.

### **Evaluation and Registration**

This is not free software. You are hereby licensed to use the Software for evaluation purposes without charge for a period of 30 days. If you use the Software after the 30 day evaluation period a registration fee as described in the documentation is required.

Unregistered use of the Software after the 30-day evaluation period is in violation of U.S. and international copyright laws.

One registered copy of the Software may either be used by a single person who uses the software personally on one or more workstations, or installed on a single workstation used by multiple people, but not both.

An organization may purchase a multi-user license amounting to either the number of individuals who have access to the Software on any number of workstations, or the number of workstations that will access the Software by any number of individuals.

### **Distribution**

Provided that you do not include your Registration ID Number (stored in the .INI file) you are hereby licensed to make copies of the Software; give exact copies of the original to anyone; and distribute the Software in its unmodified form via electronic means. You are specifically prohibited from charging for any such copies.

### **Governing Law**

This agreement shall be governed by the laws of the State of Wisconsin.

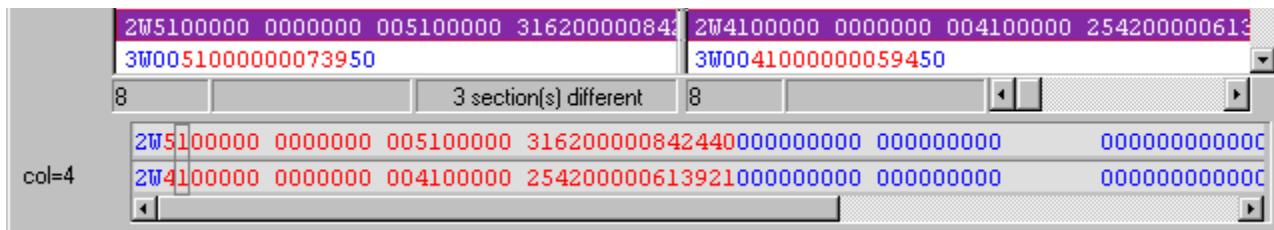
### **Disclaimer of Warranty**

THIS SOFTWARE AND THE ACCOMPANYING FILES ARE SOLD "AS IS" AND WITHOUT WARRANTIES AS TO PERFORMANCE OF MERCHANTABILITY OR ANY OTHER WARRANTIES WHETHER EXPRESSED OR IMPLIED. NO WARRANTY OF FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE IS OFFERED. ANY LIABILITY OF THE SELLER WILL BE LIMITED EXCLUSIVELY TO REFUND OF PURCHASE PRICE.

## Line Details

---

The optional Line Details area "zooms in" on the current pair of lines selected in the File Viewer. It uses the entire width of the viewer window to display each line, one on top of the other. You can click on a character to determine its column number.



Use the following command to show or hide the Line Details area:

---

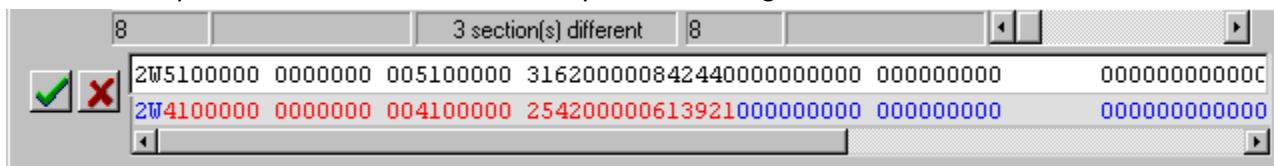
Button	Menu equivalent
--------	-----------------

---



View | Thumbnail View

You can edit lines by double-clicking them in the Line Details area. The following image shows the top line (from the left side file) open for editing:



## **Line Termination**

---

Text files normally contain invisible control characters that mark the end of each line. Different operating systems and applications use different conventions for these control characters. For example, DOS and Windows text files normally have a carriage return (ASCII code 13) and a line feed (ASCII code 10) at the end of each line. But Unix uses line feeds alone for line terminators. Some applications produce output files that use a carriage return alone, or in some obscure cases a line feed followed by a carriage return.

The situation is further complicated when a file originally from a Unix system is changed by a Windows workstation and ends up with a mixture of different line terminations in the same file.

Beyond Compare is designed to be tolerant of different line termination styles. In the file viewer you can compare a file using one style side-by-side with a file using a different style. Also, the "text-based content comparison" option lets you do Quick Compares of text files ignoring differences in line termination.

In the File Comparison Rules dialog under the Miscellaneous tab, you can select one of these two modes:

### **Consistent**

Each file can use any combination of carriage return and line feed control characters, but it must be consistent throughout a single file. Control characters that don't fit the pattern used on the first line of the file are displayed as rectangular boxes and don't cause a line break.

### **Flexible**

The file can use any mix of the standard DOS/Windows or Unix styles of line termination.

## **Line Weights**

---

Line Weighting lets you assign higher or lower synchronization priority to lines that contain key text. For instance, for Delphi code you may want to give precedence to lines that match AND contain the word "procedure" or "function". This would tend to line up routines of the same name even if their contents had changed substantially.

Likewise, you may want to give a lower priority to matching lines with commonly occurring text, such as "begin" and "end".

In the Line Weights memo box, enter numeric weights followed by a slash and a key word or phrase. A "normal" match is given a weight of two (2), so use a weight of one (1) for trivial matches and larger values for more important matches.

## **Compare To**

---

This function lets you compare two files with different names. Right-click over the first file and select Compare To from the popup menu. Then select the second file. The files can be in the same directory or different directories.

If you right-click over the second file, you can optionally perform a Quick Compare of the two files.

<b>Button</b>	<b>Menu equivalent</b>	<b>Keyboard shortcut</b>
(none)	File   Compare To...	Spacebar

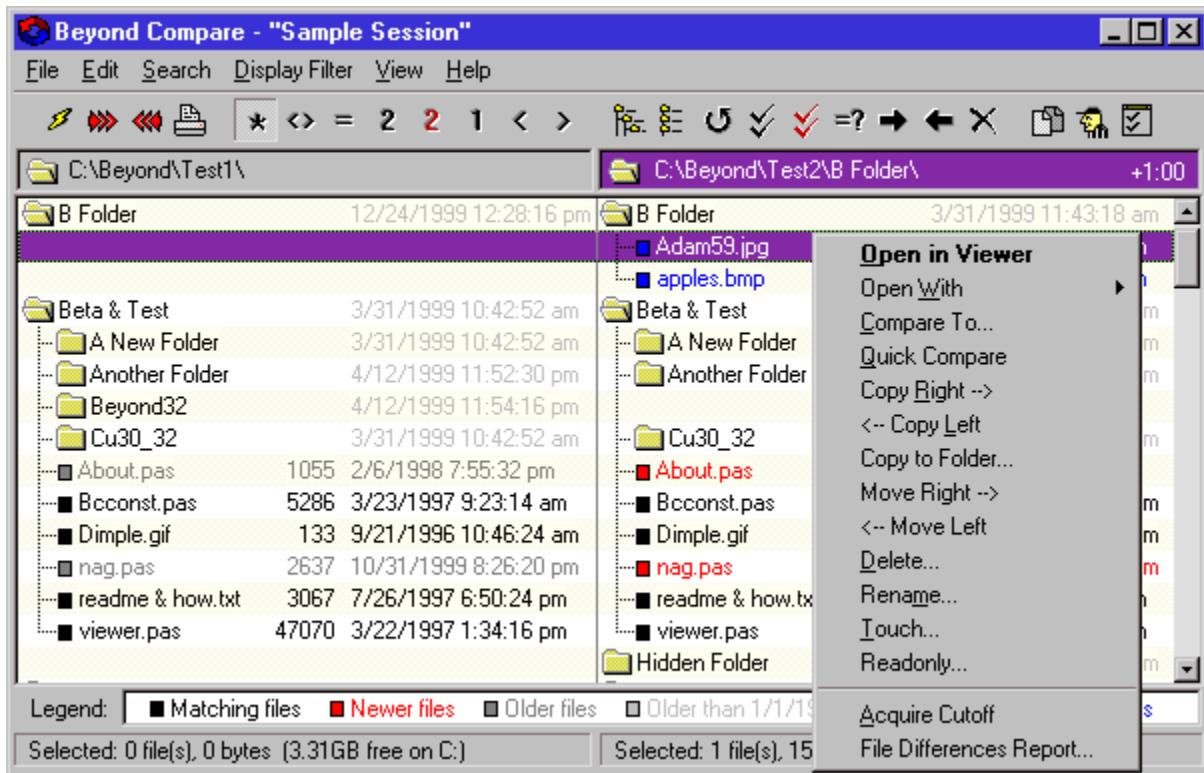
## **Main Window Options**

---

This command opens the Main Window Options dialog. Use it to customize the appearance and functionality of directory comparisons.

<b>Button</b>	<b>Menu equivalent</b>
	View   Main Window Options

This is Beyond Compare's main window. You may have more or fewer buttons on the toolbar depending on your current toolbar configuration. Click on any area in the figure below for further explanation:



Colored text highlights changed files (based on file dates, sizes). The small rectangular color spots hold their color when a line is highlighted, allowing you to clearly read highlighted text without losing the color cues.

If you have long filenames that are chopped off, drag the edge of the window for a wider display or select a smaller font.

## **What is a Session?**

---

A unique feature of Beyond Compare is its use of named "sessions" to remember **what** and **how** you want to compare. Sessions are quickly retrieved from the Sessions Settings dialog or the list of most recently used sessions. Sessions are stored in the BEYOND32.INI (or BEYOND16.INI) file located in your Windows directory.

For example, you might save a session called "My Application <-> Floppy" that helps you transport Delphi source code via diskette. This session could identify C:\DELPHI\MYAPP as the left-hand directory; A:\ as the right-hand directory; and \*.pas, \*.dfm, \*.dpr, \*.bmp as the file filters. You can leave out other files such as \*.dcu, \*.dsm and \*.dsk which you probably *don't* want to copy to a different Delphi installation.

Alternatively, you can include all files (\*.\*) and then specify files to skip. Use a hyphen in front of a file filter to *exclude* that class of files. For instance, the filter -\*.~?? will suppress the display of the "backup" files that Beyond Compare creates. Exclusion filters should come after filters that include the files that you want to exclude. Clear?

The <untitled> session refers to the last time you used Beyond Compare without using or saving a named session.

To return to a recent saved session, select File from the main menu and pick from the 9 most recently used sessions. If you typically pick a session from the File menu you may want to disable the Session Settings Dialog on Startup option.

Sessions are managed from the Session Settings dialog box, which is accessed by:

<b>Button</b>	<b>Menu equivalent</b>	<b>Keyboard Shortcut</b>
	File   Session Settings	Ctrl+S

*Speed Tip:* You can create an icon to run Beyond Compare with a particular session name on the command line.

Matching directory entries are shown in black by default.

Lines that are identical are displayed in black by default.

## **MatriDigm**

---

This copy of Beyond Compare has been customized for the MatriDigm corporation. Please note that some of the functions described in these help topics are not present or may work differently.

In particular, functions that copy, delete or edit files have been removed so as to not interfere with batch controlled operations.

## **Merging Changes to Source Code**

---

Whether you program in C++, VB, Delphi, HTML or any other language, Beyond Compare can help you manage changes to your source code. The side-by-side directory comparison quickly isolates files that have changed, and the file viewer lets you analyze the differences. You can easily merge changes made by independent work on the source code - perhaps by programmers in different locations. It also works for keeping code in sync that is maintained for different platforms.

Mismatched lines are displayed in color. One color is used for "similar" text and another is used for different text.

"Similar" text is defined as differing only in leading or trailing whitespace, or upper vs lower case. Lines are scanned from their ends towards the middle until different (non-similar) text is found.

This section represents missing text - perhaps lines that were deleted from this file or lines that were inserted in the opposite file. You can control how missing text is displayed by setting options in View | Viewer Options..

Files with newer date stamps are shown in red by default. Also, files with matching date stamps but differing sizes are shown in red in both directories.

## **Next Difference, Previous Difference**

---

These buttons jump to the next or previous section of mismatched text.

<b>Buttons</b>	<b>Menu equivalents</b>	<b>Keyboard shortcuts</b>
	Search   Next Difference	Ctrl+N
	Search   Previous Difference	Ctrl+P

Older files are shown in gray by default.

## **Open With...**

---

The Open With feature allows you to open files with other applications, such as your favorite text editor. Right-click over a file in the Main Window, select Open With and the appropriate application, and that application will be run on the file selected. Although both side-by-side files may be highlighted, Beyond Compare is sensitive to which one was clicked over.

You can also right-click over a file in the File Viewer window and select Open With from the popup menu. And, if your editor supports it, you can have the editor jump to the same line as selected in the File Viewer (see Replaceable Parameters below).

The Open With menu will also automatically show any installed plug-ins, so you can override the assigned viewer selection for particular files.

The Open With feature is only available in the registered program.

### **Setting Up "Open With" Applications**

From the Main Window menu, select View | Options, and then select the Open With tab. In the memo field, enter the applications you would like to access. Here are some examples:

```
Notepad=notepad.exe "%f"  
Wordpad=write.exe "%f"  
Hex Editor=C:\Program Files\HexEdit\HexEdit.exe "%f"  
QuikView=c:\windows\system\viewers\quikview.exe "%f"
```

You do not need to specify the folder if the program is in the Windows folder. Note that the WordPad program file is called write.exe.

### **Replaceable Parameters**

The %f at the end of the example lines means "insert filename here". If you leave it off, Beyond Compare simply adds the current filename at the end of the line before carrying out the operation. The quotes around the filename parameter help insure that long filenames are passed correctly.

If you specify %f twice, the left and right filenames will both be sent to the application (although most applications don't support two filenames on their command lines).

In addition, you can use %l (lower case "L") to represent the current line number. Some editors recognize a line number on their command line and go to that line automatically.

Suppose you are comparing two versions of the file "mouse.txt" and you wish to use your "Cat" editor to edit the left file. You are positioned on line 75 in the left file.

<b>"Open With" definition</b>	<b>Resultant operation</b>
Cat=c:\util\cat.exe	c:\util\cat.exe mouse.txt
Cat=c:\util\cat.exe %f/L=%l	c:\util\cat.exe mouse.txt/L=75
Cat=c:\util\cat.exe "%f" -#%l -s3	c:\util\cat.exe "mouse.txt" -#75 -s3

Consult your editor's documentation for the proper command line syntax, and test the configuration with long filenames.

You can configure Beyond Compare to open files with your favorite utilities.

The Open With menu will also automatically show any installed plug-ins, so you can override the assigned viewer selection for particular files.

(registered program only)

## **Open File**

---

Select this command to open a different file into the selected side of the file viewer. First, select the appropriate side by clicking on it or using the cursor keys.

<b>Button</b>	<b>Menu equivalent</b>	<b>Keyboard shortcut</b>
	File   Open	Ctrl+O



## Beyond Compare 1.x Order Form

de1.9e

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

To: Scooter Software  
2828 Marshall Ct, #208  
Madison, WI 53705-2276  
USA  
Fax: 608-233-0246

From: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

1) Select One:  Check is Enclosed  Send Invoice (Purchase Order is Attached)

2) Use the price list at the bottom of this page to fill in the appropriate amounts here:

Part#	Description	# Users	Price	Total
_____	Beyond Compare version 1.9 - _____ user license	_____	_____	_____
_____	International Bank Transfer	_____	\$15	_____
_____	Sales tax (Wisconsin USA residents only)	_____	5.5%	_____
Total				_____

3) If you elect to pay by International Bank Transfer, please include the \$15 charge if the license price is less than \$100. We will send you our bank details along with our invoice.

4) If you send a check in "US\$", then it must be from a US or Canadian bank. We can also accept checks from many other countries, at the current exchange rate. Contact us for a quote.

5) Please indicate how you would like your license identified. Use your organization's name, or your own name if you are ordering the license for personal use.

License Holder: \_\_\_\_\_

6) Specify a contact name and e-mail address for us to use to send your registration code and for program update notices. (We will never use this data for any other purpose, or give it to anyone else.)

Contact: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

### Price List:

Part#	#Users	Price (US\$)	Part#	#Users	Price (US\$)
BC1X1	1	\$30	BC1X128	128	\$240
BC1X2	2	\$60	BC1X256	256	\$270
BC1X4	4	\$90	BC1X512	512	\$300
BC1X8	8	\$120	BC1X1K	1024	\$330
BC1X16	16	\$150	BC1X2K	2048	\$360
BC1X32	32	\$180	BC1XU	unlimited	\$390
BC1X64	64	\$210	BC1XD	doubler	\$30

If you want to add to your existing license, enter your current registration code here \_\_\_\_\_ and order one or more "doublers". Each doubler (\$30) doubles your count of licensed users.

These prices are valid through June 30, 2001. For current pricing information or other payment options, visit [www.scootersoftware.com](http://www.scootersoftware.com) or contact [sales@scootersoftware.com](mailto:sales@scootersoftware.com)

## **How to Order Beyond Compare**

---

### **Step 1 - Evaluate the Program**

You can use the program free for 30 days to see if it suits your needs. If you use it beyond 30 days you are obliged to pay the license fee. Please read the [License Agreement](#) for details. If you do not register the program, it will stop functioning 45 days after it was first run. If you need more time for evaluation, please e-mail us for an extension.

### **Step 2 - Purchase a License**

The single user license fee for the full program is US\$30. We have [discounted pricing for multi-user](#) site licenses.

To pay by check, company purchase order, or international bank transfer, please fax or mail this [Order Form](#).

You can also purchase a license using a major credit card, over the phone, by fax, or online from a secure web site. For instructions, please visit our web site at:

<http://www.scootersoftware.com/ordering.html>

### **Step 3 - Unlock the Program**

Once we receive your order, we e-mail you back with your registration ID that unlocks the program, usually within 24 hours. If you register on-line or by phone and do not hear from us within 48 hours, please send us a message.

When you receive your registration ID, start up your copy of the program and choose Register from the "Thank you for trying Beyond Compare" screen (or, select Help | Register from the main menu). Enter the registration data exactly as shown, since the registration ID is keyed to this information.

The registration ID disables the "nag" screen, removes the 45 day timeout, and unlocks support for plug-in viewers and the Open With feature. Registered users also have access to bonus plug-in viewers from a special "members only" web page.

Your registration ID will work with both BEYOND16 and BEYOND32, as well as all subsequent minor version updates.

## **Output Options on Command Line**

There are a variety of output styles and options available in Beyond Compare. Output can be generated automatically by using the /out command line switch in shortcuts or batch file commands.

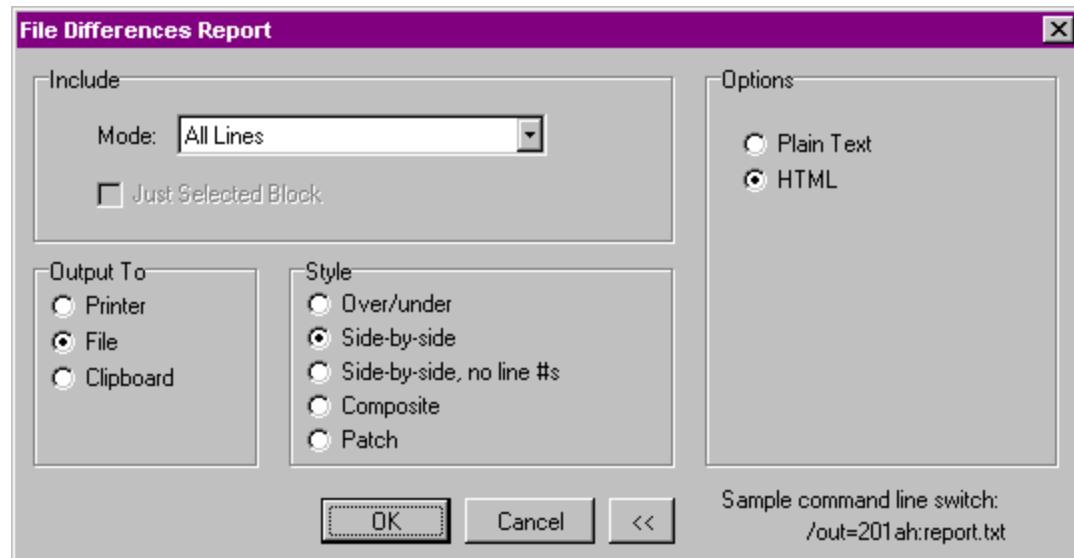
A Directory Comparison report can be generated for the base folders (or session) named on the command line. A File Comparison report can be generated for a pair of files named on the command line. If you specify base folders (or a session) along with a File Comparison report style, a File Comparison report will be generated for every file pair found in those folders.

Here is a sample /out switch:

```
/out=201dh:report.txt
```

The first digit controls where the report is sent (printer, file or clipboard); the next two digits represent the report style; and then a series of letters determine various options. In this example, a side-by-side File Comparison report of "differences only" is stored in report.txt, in HTML format.

The easiest way to come up with the command line switch is to run Beyond Compare interactively, select the desired report options, and then notice the sample command line switch displayed in the lower right-hand corner of the dialog:



## **Plug-ins**

---

Plug-ins are add-on products that enhance and extend Beyond Compare's functionality. For instance, the hex viewer plug-in displays binary files side-by-side in hexadecimal notation.

We also have a Plug-in Toolkit product that helps Delphi programmers produce custom plug-ins for Beyond Compare.

Support for plug-ins is only available when the program is registered. See our web site for a list of available plug-ins.

### **Installing Plug-ins**

A plug-in is provided as a .DLL file. To install:

1. Copy the plug-in .DLL to the same directory as the Beyond Compare program.
2. Start Beyond Compare and select View | Options.
3. Under the Plug-ins tab, click the "Install New Plug-in" button and enter the name of the plug-in (the filename without the extension).
4. Specify the file extensions you would like the plug-in to process. If more than one, separate with spaces. An asterisk (\*) refers to "all extensions", and a forward slash ('/') refers to files without extensions.
5. Drag the new plug-in definition up through the list to an appropriate spot.

When viewing files, Beyond Compare will search down the Installed Plug-ins list and use the first one that matches the file extension being processed. You can change the order in this list by dragging the plug-in names to different positions.

The built-in file viewer appears as "<default>". You can't remove it but you can change which file extensions it handles, and you can change its order in the list.

## **Pricing**

---

These prices are valid through June 30, 2001. For current pricing information visit our [web site](#).

### **Single-User Pricing**

The single user license fee is US\$30.

-  Licensee can use Beyond Compare on any number of computers.
-  Right to use both 16-bit and 32-bit products.
-  Free upgrades through version 1.9.

### **Multi-User Pricing**

An organization can license its members or employees (but not its customers) using our heavily discounted pricing scheme.

For each additional \$30 you double the number of licensed users within your organization. We call these "license doublers". You can extend your user count at any time by purchasing additional license doublers.

### **Redistribution**

If you would like to resell Beyond Compare to your customers, or integrate Beyond Compare with your products or services, please [contact us](#) for more information.

## **Beyond Compare Pricing Table**

These prices are valid through June 30, 2001. For current pricing information visit our [web site](#).

---

<b>Number of Users</b>	<b>Total Amount (US\$)</b>
------------------------	----------------------------

---

1	\$30
2	\$60
4	\$90
8	\$120
16	\$150
32	\$180
64	\$210
128	\$240
256	\$270
512	\$300
1024	\$330
2048	\$360
unlimited	\$390

## **Directory Comparison Report**

---

The Directory Comparison report mimics the layout of the side-by-side folder compare window. Use the display filter buttons to control both the main window and the report contents.

You can optionally send the report to a text file, or copy it to the clipboard.

---

<b>Button</b>	<b>Menu equivalent</b>
---------------	------------------------

---



File | Directory Comparison Report

## **Quick Compare**

---

This function does a binary comparison of the selected files. The files can be of any type. A message informs you whether all files match or which files don't.

<b>Button</b>	<b>Menu equivalent</b>
	File   Quick Compare

## **Read-only**

---

This feature of the main folder comparison window lets you set or clear the Read-only attribute on selected files.

<b>Button</b>	<b>Menu equivalent</b>	<b>Keyboard shortcut</b>
(none)	File   Read-only	(none)

## **Refresh**

---

Click this button to refresh the directory display. This will reflect any changes made by other applications or other network users.

<b>Button</b>	<b>Menu equivalent</b>	<b>Keyboard shortcut</b>
	View   Refresh	F5

## **Reload Files**

---

This feature reloads both files. Use it to display any changes made to the files (by other applications) since the File Viewer was invoked. You will lose any "sync-it-yourself" alignments or editing modifications you may have made.

<b>Button</b>	<b>Menu equivalent</b>	<b>Keyboard shortcut</b>
	View   Refresh	F5

## **Remove Read-only**

---

This feature of the File Viewer window lets you clear the Read-only attribute of the file on the selected side.

<b>Button</b>	<b>Menu equivalent</b>	<b>Keyboard shortcut</b>
(none)	File   Remove Read-only	(none)

## **Rename**

---

This function lets you rename the selected file or folder.

<b>Button</b>	<b>Menu equivalent</b>	<b>Keyboard shortcut</b>
(none)	File   Rename	F2

## **What are Rules?**

---

File Comparison Rules (or simply "rules") refer to sets of options that control how folders and files are compared.

Rules are made up of options that control:

-  [what indicates a mismatch](#) in the directory comparison window
-  tab stops
-  how hard the file viewer should work at [lining up text](#)
-  what makes up "minor differences" in text and whether they should be ignored
-  [line weighting](#) to assign higher priority to lines containing certain words
-  [line termination](#) handling options
-  starting, ending columns for comparison

Since you may use Beyond Compare for a variety of comparison jobs, you can maintain any number of rules. Different rules are identified by a short name, such as "Pascal" and "C-C++". In the Session Settings dialog you can pick which of these rules should be associated with the session.

Beyond Compare comes with several rules predefined, but you can change them and add your own. To edit the collection of rules, select View | Main Window Options and pick the Rules tab.

<b>Button</b>	<b>Menu equivalent</b>	<b>Purpose</b>
	View   Main Window Options	To edit the collection of rules
	View   File Comparison Rules	To modify the currently selected rules

## **File Comparison Rules**

---

This command opens the File Comparison Rules dialog for the current rules. Use it to control how text files will be compared.

<b>Button</b>	<b>Menu equivalent</b>
	<a href="#">View   File Comparison Rules</a>

## **Save As**

---

Select this command to save modifications under a new file name. If both files were modified, you will get a separate Save As dialog for each file.

<b>Button</b>	<b>Menu equivalent</b>
---------------	------------------------

---

(none)	File   Save As
--------	----------------

## **Save Changes**

---

Select this command to save modifications to either or both files. You will get a separate confirmation dialog for each file that was modified.

<b>Button</b>	<b>Menu equivalent</b>	<b>Keyboard shortcut</b>
	File   Save	Ctrl+S

## **Scooter Software**

---

...is a computer services firm located in Madison, Wisconsin. We develop and support a wide variety of custom applications for small to medium size companies.

We've been doing business locally under the name Computations Unlimited, since our inception almost three decades ago as a service bureau, providing "computations" to engineers and accountants.

Throughout our history the defining thread has been custom software development -- specifically simple, cost-effective stuff that runs well. So in light of that, we launched our Beyond Compare shareware product under a new company name -- Scooter Software.

[How to contact us.](#)

## **Scroll Right, Scroll Left**

---

These buttons scroll the file display to the right or left. Both panes of the viewer scroll in tandem.

<b>Buttons</b>	<b>Menu equivalents</b>	<b>Keyboard shortcuts</b>
	View   Scroll Right	Ctrl+RightArrow
	View   Scroll Left	Ctrl+LeftArrow

*Note:* You can move the splitter bar that separates the two panes with the keyboard also. Press Alt+RightArrow or Alt+LeftArrow.

## **Select All**

---

This command selects all lines in the file viewer.

<b>Button</b>	<b>Menu equivalent</b>	<b>Keyboard shortcut</b>
(none)	Edit   Select All	Ctrl+A

## **Select All**

---

Click this button to select all the displayed files.

<b>Button</b>	<b>Menu equivalent</b>	<b>Keyboard shortcut</b>
	Edit   Select All	Ctrl+A

### **Select Newer**

---

Click this button to select the files in the left pane that are newer than those in the right pane. Click it again to select newer files in the right pane.

<b>Button</b>	<b>Menu equivalent</b>
	Edit   Select Newer

Selected files are highlighted in the normal manner. You can click and drag to select several adjacent lines, or you can hold the Ctrl key down while you click specific lines.

Select one or more lines before picking an operation to perform on them.

## **Session Settings**

---

This command opens the Session Settings dialog. Use it to set or change the base directories to compare, the file filters to use, or other session settings.

<b>Button</b>	<b>Menu equivalent</b>	<b>Keyboard Shortcut</b>
	File   Session Settings	Ctrl+S

## **Customizing Program Behavior**

---

There are several ways that you can customize the behavior of the program. Beyond Compare's optional features are split between those relating to the Main Window (directory comparison) and the File Viewer window.

The resultant configuration is stored in the BEYOND32.INI file in your Windows folder.

### **Toolbar Buttons**

To add, remove or rearrange the buttons on the toolbar, right-click over the toolbar and select Configure Toolbar. It is a good idea to review the toolbar configuration every time you upgrade Beyond Compare to a new version, since any new buttons are not automatically added to your toolbar.

### **File Comparison Rules**

Various options control how folders and files are compared. They are grouped into sets of "rules" which can be stored under different names, and associated with different sessions. To edit your collection of rules select View | Main Window Options and pick the Rules tab. To modify the currently selected rules, select View | File Comparison Rules.

See also [What are rules?](#)

### **User Preferences**

Select View | Main Window Options from the menu in the directory comparison window to edit:

-  general program options
-  the collection of rules
-  color scheme and other attributes of the folder compare window
-  report options
-  installed [plug-in viewers](#)
-  [open with applications](#)

Select View | Viewer Options from the File Viewer menu to control the appearance of the file viewer and the File Differences report.

### **Other "Manual" Customizations**

You can also manually edit the BEYOND32.INI file in order to manipulate some of Beyond Compare's more obscure options.

Section	Key	Action, Example
[Directory Window]	FlatButtons	Set "FlatButtons=False" to revert to Win95 style toolbar buttons.
"	RetainSessionOrder	Set "RetainSessionOrder=1" to leave session order alone.
"	SortSessions	Set "SortSessions=0" to disable alphabetic sorting of sessions.
"	RulesQC	Set "RulesQC=0" to suppress minor difference settings during Quick Compares.
"	MultiLineComments	Set "MultiLineComments=1" to support multi-line

		comments as "minor differences" during content comparisons (does not affect File Viewer).
"	SuppressLFN	Set "SuppressLFN=1" to avoid long filename expansion in drag-drop operations.
"	ClassicSS	Set "ClassicSS=1" to use old style Session Settings dialog.
"	TimeButtons	Set "TimeButtons=1" to always display timezone buttons.
"	MRU	Set "MRU=x" to show the "x" most recently used sessions in the menu.
"	StripRTF	Use "StripRTF=abc def" to strip rich text formatting from files with the .abc or .def extensions. Only the plain text content will be compared.
"	UnderscoreDot	Set "UnderscoreDot=1" to ignore underscore vs period differences in filenames.
"	SizeOffset	Set "SizeOffset=xxx" to help locate virus-infected files based on an exact size difference from the uninfected files.
"	BWAccents	Set "BWAccents=1" to use bold and italic accents on printed reports.
"	StandardCRC	Set "StandardCRC=1" to use better CRC formula for snapshots, and output as hex.
[Viewer Window]		
		SoftColRange
"	DiffByCol	Set "DiffByCol=1" to colorize differences on a column-by-column basis.
"	AvoidStream	Set "AvoidStream=1" to compare very large files under Win95/98.

## **Sharing Beyond Compare on a Network**

---

If you are sharing a network copy of Beyond Compare between several workstations, you can avoid the need to enter registration data at each workstation.

1. Enter your registration data at one workstation.
2. Copy Beyond32.ini from your Windows folder to the network folder containing Beyond32.exe.
3. Rename the network copy of Beyond32.ini to Beyond32.net.
4. If you like, edit Beyond32.net and remove everything except the Registration section.

Now, when users access the network copy of Beyond Compare, the registration data should appear in the About box.

## **Show Any**

---

Display all files in the directories, as long as they conform to the current session's file filters.

<b>Button</b>	<b>Menu equivalent</b>
---------------	------------------------

---



Display Filter   Show Any Matches
-----------------------------------

## **Show Double Sides Only**

---

Display files that are on both sides of the directory comparison.

<b>Button</b>	<b>Menu equivalent</b>
---------------	------------------------

---



Display Filter   Show Double Sides
------------------------------------

## **Show Line Numbers**

---

Enable this option to display line numbers for each file.

<b>Button</b>	<b>Menu equivalent</b>
---------------	------------------------

---



	<a href="#">View   Show Line Numbers</a>
--	--

## **Show Matches Only**

---

Display files with matching directory entries. *Note that their contents are not necessarily identical.*

<b>Button</b>	<b>Menu equivalent</b>
	Display Filter   Show Matching Files

## **Show Mismatched Double Sides Only**

---

Display files that are on both sides of the directory comparison and have mismatched directory entries.

<b>Button</b>	<b>Menu equivalent</b>
	Display Filter   Show Mismatched Double Sides

## **Show Mismatches Only**

---

Display only those files whose directory entries differ. *Note that their contents are not necessarily different.*

<b>Button</b>	<b>Menu equivalent</b>
	Display Filter   Show Mismatched Files

## **Show Newer**

---

Display files that are both directories but are newer in the left directory.

<b>Button</b>	<b>Menu equivalent</b>
	Display Filter   Show Left Side Newer Files

---

## **Show Older**

---

Display files that are both directories but are older in the left directory.

<b>Button</b>	<b>Menu equivalent</b>
---------------	------------------------

---



	Display Filter   Show Left Side Older Files
--	---

## **Show Single Sides Only**

---

Display "orphaned" files - those that are on one side of the directory comparison but not the other. Useful for isolating missing or obsolete files.

<b>Button</b>	<b>Menu equivalent</b>
	Display Filter   Show Single Sides

## Show Whitespace

---

Enable this option to visualize the "whitespace" in your files. Spaces will be displayed using the tilde character ("~") and tabs will appear as rectangles.

Button	Menu equivalent
	View   Show Whitespace

"Single Side" or "orphaned" files are in one directory but not the other. They are shown in blue by default.

## **Snapshot Feature**

---

A Snapshot is a text dump of an entire directory structure, including CRC calculations on each file. You can create Snapshots at different times, and then use Beyond Compare to compare them to see what's changed.

<b>Button</b>	<b>Menu equivalent</b>	<b>Keyboard shortcut</b>
(none)	File   Save Snapshot	(none)

## **Sort By...**

---

You can sort the directory comparison window by file name, extension, date or size. When sorting by date or size, the file in the left pane takes precedence over the right. Also, date and time sorts are in descending order.

<b>Button</b>	<b>Menu equivalent</b>
	View   Sort by Name
	View   Sort by Type
	View   Sort by Date
	View   Sort by Size

The optional Status Bar displays line numbers, file status (read-only or modified), and a scroll bar that scrolls left and right views simultaneously. You can disable it by clearing the View | Statusbar option on the main menu.

In the following example, we would like to synchronize the "begin" lines. First, right-click over the left pane and select Link:

<pre>var CUFile:TCUFile; SessionIndex:Integer;  begin {attempt to locate desired file in CUSession} if (FAFSFile = nil) and (CUSession &lt;&gt; nil) for SessionIndex := 0 to CUSession.Count</pre>	<pre>var CUFile:TCUFile; SessionIndex:Integer; WasActive:Boolean; Index, AFSIndex:Integer; FieldDef:TAFSFieldDef; Field:TCUField; S:string; begin {attempt to locate desired file in CUSession} if FAFSFile = nil then for SessionIndex := 0 to CUSession.Count</pre>
---	---

Then do the same over the right pane:

<pre>var CUFile:TCUFile; SessionIndex:Integer;  begin {attempt to locate desired file in CUSession} if (FAFSFile = nil) and (CUSession &lt;&gt; nil)</pre>	<pre>var CUFile:TCUFile; SessionIndex:Integer; WasActive:Boolean; Index, AFSIndex:Integer; FieldDef:TAFSFieldDef; Field:TCUField; S:string; begin {attempt to locate desired file in CUSession} if FAFSFile = nil then for SessionIndex := 0 to CUSession.Count</pre>
--	---

The result:

<pre>var CUFile:TCUFile; SessionIndex:Integer;  begin {attempt to locate desired file in CUSession} if (FAFSFile = nil) and (CUSession &lt;&gt; nil) for SessionIndex := 0 to CUSession.Count</pre>	<pre>var CUFile:TCUFile; SessionIndex:Integer; WasActive:Boolean; Index, AFSIndex:Integer; FieldDef:TAFSFieldDef; Field:TCUField; S:string; begin {attempt to locate desired file in CUSession} if FAFSFile = nil then for SessionIndex := 0 to CUSession.Count</pre>
---	---

## **Synchronizing Folders**

---

Use the Synchronize Right and Synchronize Left functions to keep your folders in sync.

These commands select the files that are newer or unique on one side and prompt to copy them to the other side.

<b>Button</b>	<b>Menu equivalent</b>
	File   Synchronize Right
	File   Synchronize Left

## **Text Synchronization Settings**

---

Various settings under the View | File Comparison Rules control how side-by-side text files are lined up.

**Initial Match Requirement** represents the minimum number of lines that need to match before Beyond Compare will synchronize text. Enter a number between 1 and 50. A larger value helps prevent syncing on trivial matches, such as blank lines, or commonly repeated lines. (You can further control how lines are counted against this value by changing line weights.) If "recursion" is enabled, this value is used in the initial scan for matches. The resulting mismatched sections are then scanned with half this value, then half again, and so on, to line up successively smaller matching sections.

**Skew Tolerance** is the number of lines Beyond Compare will search forward or backward in a file, looking for a matching sequence. You can normally keep this value rather high (hundreds or thousands of lines) when working with small to moderately large text files. However, comparing huge files with long sections of mismatched text can be quite slow. Use a smaller number for higher performance, especially if large insertions or deletions of text are not likely.

The **Never Align Mismatches** option prevents mismatched lines from lining up. Otherwise, mismatched text is sometimes lined up in order to save vertical space, and to compare lines that may have only slight mismatches.

**Recursion** improves the ability to match up larger as well as smaller sections of text, but it can take longer, particularly if many lines don't match.

Certain characteristics of text, such as spaces at the end of lines, may be considered unimportant when comparing lines. You can define minor differences to help Beyond Compare synchronize lines in the side-by-side viewer display.

If the **Ignore Minor Differences** option is selected, lines with only minor differences will be considered exact matches.

## **The Daylight Saving Time Problem**

---

Beyond Compare can help if you need to synchronize folders across a network, after Daylight Saving Time has started or ended. Windows 95 and Windows NT handle file dates differently. Under Windows NT when DST starts or ends, file timestamps from before the transition will jump forward or backward one hour. Windows 95 doesn't do this, so if you have a copy of a NT server's folder on your Win95 workstation, the dates will be out of sync by an hour.

There are two ways that Beyond Compare can help you deal with these differences.

You can enable the "Ignore 1 Hour Differences" option in the Criteria section of the File Comparison Rules dialog.

Or, you can use the Time Zone Adjustment feature to change the timestamps on the server:

1. select Edit | Adjust Time Zone to adjust the server's timestamps by one hour
2. use the "=" display filer to show files that are exactly one hour apart,
2. select all files and use Quick Compare to verify that their contents are really the same, and then...
3. select all files again, click on the 1:00 button in the header area, and select "Modify" to change the timestamps

## **Thumbnail View**

---

The thumbnail view is a visual summary of file differences in an area to the left of the file display. Colored lines show the relative position of line mismatches. A white rectangle represents the part of the files currently visible in the file viewer window. You can click on the thumbnail view to position the file viewer at that point.

Use the following command to show or hide the thumbnail view:

<b>Button</b>	<b>Menu equivalent</b>
	View   Thumbnail View

---

## **Time Zone Adjustment**

---

You can move the timestamps forward or backward on either size with this feature. Use it to compare folders between computers in different time zones, or with a server that has not properly accounted for Daylight Savings time.

The Time Zone Adjustment only affects the directory comparison display - it does not permanently change timestamps on files.

Once you have made an adjustment, a button appears on the header bar to remind you of the adjustment and to let you cancel or modify it.

<b>Button</b>	<b>Menu equivalent</b>
(none)	Edit   Adjust Left Time Zone
	Edit   Adjust Right Time Zone

*Speed Tip:* If you use this feature a lot, you can add the Time Zone buttons to the header permanently by adding the line "TimeButtons=1" to the .INI file under the Directory Window section.

You can customize your toolbar, adding or removing buttons as you like. Right-click anywhere over the toolbar to access the toolbar configuration. Disable the toolbar altogether by clearing the View | Toolbar option.

## **Touch Files**

---

This feature lets you force a specific datestamp on selected files.

<b>Button</b>	<b>Menu equivalent</b>	<b>Keyboard shortcut</b>
(none)	File   Touch Files	(none)

## **Verifying CD Copies**

---

You can use Beyond Compare to do a byte-by-byte comparison of entire directory trees. After "burning" a CD, use Beyond Compare to verify the accuracy of the copy:

1. In Session Settings, select the root of the CD and the hard drive directory containing the copy.
2. Pick Select All, and then Quick Compare

All files in all subdirectories will be compared and a report of any mismatches is displayed.



## **Willkommen!**

---

Beyond Compare ist sowohl ein Verzeichnisvergleichs- als auch ein Dateivergleichswerkzeug in einem Paket. Seine Aufgabe ist es, Unterschiede in Kopien Ihrer Ordner und Dateien aufzuzeigen, und Sie bei deren Beseitigung zu unterstützen.

Es wurde zur Bewältigung von Änderungen in Programmquellcode, der zwischen verschiedenen Orten, Programmierern oder Firmen aufgeteilt ist, entwickelt. Außerdem ist es großartig geeignet zur Analyse von Programmausgaben, Kopieren und Vergleichen von Verzeichnissen innerhalb eines Netzwerkes, zur Überprüfung der Exaktheit von Kopien usw.

Die folgenden Hilfethemen sind lediglich in englischer Sprache verfasst. Wir hoffen, in einer der zukünftigen Versionen eine komplette deutsche Übersetzung zur Verfügung stellen zu können. Bitte entschuldigen Sie die derzeitigen Unannehmlichkeiten!

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Wählen Sie eine Ihrer bereits bestehenden Sitzungen aus.

Startet eine neue "untitled" (unbenannte) Sitzungsdefinition, für die die aktuellen Sitzungseinstellungen als Basis genommen werden.

Löscht die aktuelle Sitzung.

Wählen Sie jenen Ursprungsordner, der auf der linken Seite des Vergleichs erscheinen soll.

Wählen Sie jenen Ursprungsordner, der auf der rechten Seite des Vergleichs erscheinen soll.

Dateifilter spezifizieren jene Dateitypen, die Sie vergleichen wollen. Geben Sie eine Spezifikation pro Zeile in das freiformatige Memofeld ein.

Verwenden Sie einen Bindestrich vor einer Spezifikation, um bestimmte Dateitypen *auszuschließen*. Beispiel: der Filter `-*.~??` wird die Anzeige der Sicherungsdateien von Beyond Compare unterdrücken. Die Filter werden nacheinander angewendet, sodass Ausschlussfilter hinter den anderen Filtern stehen sollten.

Klicken Sie hier, um alle Dateien einzubeziehen. Es werden "Wildcards" ("\*.\*") in das Dateifilterfeld eingetragen.

Wählen Sie jene Dateivergleichsregeln, die dieser Sitzung zugeordnet werden sollen.

Geben Sie einen stundenweisen Ausgleichswert an, der auf den linksseitigen Datums-/Zeitstempeln angewendet werden soll.

Verwenden Sie diese Funktion, wenn sich der linksseitige Ursprungsordner in einer anderen Zeitzone befindet, oder wenn die Sommerzeit nicht korrekt eingestellt ist.

Geben Sie einen stundenweisen Ausgleichswert an, der auf den rechtsseitigen Datums-/Zeitstempeln angewendet werden soll.

Verwenden Sie diese Funktion, wenn sich der rechtsseitige Ursprungsordner in einer anderen Zeitzone befindet, oder wenn die Sommerzeit nicht korrekt eingestellt ist.

Drücken Sie diese Knöpfe, um die Anfangsanzeigefilter einzustellen, und weitere Sitzungseinstellungen zu tätigen.

Die Änderungen an den Sitzungseinstellungen speichern.

Die Sitzungseinstellungen unter einem neuen Sitzungsnamen speichern.

Die geänderten Sitzungseinstellungen unter dem Namen "untitled" (unbenannt) verwenden, statt die aktuelle Sitzung zu ändern.

Die Änderungen der aktuellen Sitzung verwerfen und zum vorherigen Stand zurückkehren.

Wählen Sie diese Option aus, um die Sitzungseinstellungsmaske automatisch beim Programmstart anzeigen zu lassen. Wenn Sie normalerweise Ihre Sitzungen aus dem Bereich der kürzlich verwendeten Sitzungen im Datei-Menü starten, dann ist es sicherlich schneller, wenn diese Option nicht ausgewählt ist.

Wählen Sie diese Option aus, um sämtliche Dateien und Ordner, einschließlich jener mit Versteckt- oder System-Attribut, anzeigen und vergleichen zu lassen.

Auswählen, um Unterverzeichnisse im Verzeichnisvergleichsfenster einzubeziehen. Diese sind mit einem Ordnerpiktogramm gekennzeichnet.

Dateiattribute werden hinter den Dateinamen in Klammern angezeigt. Das Archiv-Attribut entfällt normalerweise, um die Anzeige nicht zu überladen. Wählen Sie diese Option aus, um auch das Archiv-Attribut anzeigen zu lassen.

Wählen Sie diese Option aus, um die Funktion "Älter-als-Datumsschwellwert" abzuschalten.

Wählen Sie diese Option, um die MS-DOS-Dateinamen anzuzeigen und zu vergleichen, statt der langen Dateinamen.

Wenn diese Option ausgewählt wurde, wird Beyond Compare vor dem Kopieren (einmal) eine Bestätigungsaufforderung aufblenden. Selbst wenn diese Option *nicht* ausgewählt wurde, wird das Programm warnen, wenn Sie neuere oder schreibgeschützte Dateien überschreiben wollen.

Wenn Sie aus einem Unterordner kopieren wollen, der nicht auf der anderen Seite existiert, wird Beyond Compare einen entsprechenden Unterordner auf der Zielseite anlegen müssen. Wählen Sie diese Option aus, wenn das Anlegen eines Unterordners bestätigt werden soll.

Wenn diese Option ausgewählt ist, erwartet Beyond Compare vor dem Überschreiben einer schreibgeschützten Datei eine Bestätigung.

Wenn Sie Dateien in der Kommandozeile angeben, wird Beyond Compare (standardmäßig) einen Schnellvergleich der Dateien durchführen. Sie können dann "Vergleich anzeigen" auswählen, um sie Seite an Seite zu sehen. Wenn Sie den Schnellvergleich lieber überspringen und immer direkt zum Dateibetrachter gelangen möchten, dann schalten Sie diese Option aus.

Beim Erstellen von Sicherungsdateien wird eine Tilde "~" in die Dateierweiterung eingefügt. Diese Option steuert, ob die Dateierweiterung in diesem Fall um ein Zeichen gestutzt werden soll. In jedem Fall werden Dateierweiterungen mit weniger als 3 Zeichen nicht gestutzt.

Dieses ist eine Liste definierter Dateivergleichsregeln.

Startet eine neue Regeldefinition.

Ermöglicht die Änderung verschiedener Optionen, die die ausgewählte Regeldefinition ausmachen.

Löscht die ausgewählte Regeldefinition. Sie können die <default> (Standard) Regeln nicht löschen.

Wählen Sie die Farbe für Dateien mit übereinstimmenden Verzeichniseinträgen.

Wählen Sie die Farbe für neuere Dateien. Diese Farbe wird auch verwendet, wenn das Datum übereinstimmt, aber nicht die Größe.

Wählen Sie die Farbe für ältere Dateien.

Wählen Sie die Farbe für Dateien, die älter als der Datumsschwellwert sind.

Der Datumsschwellwert ist unter dem Menüpunkt "Anzeigefilter" | "Datumsschwellwert setzen..." einstellbar.

Wählen Sie die Farbe für Dateien, die in einem Verzeichnis existieren, aber nicht in dem anderen.

Wählen Sie eine Schriftart für den Seite-an-Seite Verzeichnisvergleich.

Farbkästchen sind kleine Rechtecke, die ihre Farbe behalten, wenn eine Zeile ausgewählt ist. Dies erlaubt Ihnen, ausgewählten Text zu lesen, ohne auf die Farbmarkierung zu verzichten.

Wählen Sie diese Option aus, falls Sie "flache" Symbolleistenknöpfe wünschen.

Hier kann eine Farbe für die abwechselnden Farbstreifen in der Verzeichnisvergleichsanzeige ausgewählt werden. Dieses funktioniert am Besten, wenn Ihre Anzeige auf "High-Color" oder Echtfarbenmodus gestellt ist, und Sie für die Streifen eine blasse Farbe auswählen.

Selects a printer font for the Directory Comparison report.

Enable this option to use colors in the printout to highlight differences.

Dieses ist eine Liste installierter Plug-Ins. Die angezeigte Reihenfolge ist auch die Reihenfolge der Benutzung.

Klicken Sie hier, um ein neues Plug-In zu installieren. Die Plug-In-Datei muss zuerst in das Programmverzeichnis von Beyond Compare kopiert werden.

Dateierweiterungen, die dem Plug-In zugeordnet sind. Verwenden Sie ein Sternchen (\*) für alle Erweiterungen und einen Schrägstrich (/) für eine leere Dateierweiterung.

Entfernt das ausgewählte Plug-In aus der Liste. Die Plug-In-Datei wird dabei nicht gelöscht.

Dieses ist eine Liste der installierten "Öffnen mit"-Anwendungen. Beispieleinträge sind:

Notepad=notepad.exe

Wordpad=write.exe "%f"

QuikView=c:\windows\system\viewers\quikview.exe "%f"

Standardmäßig ist diese Option eingeschaltet, sodass Dateien mit neuem Datum oder neuerer Zeit markiert sind. Schalten Sie diese Option aus, wenn Sie Datumsunterschiede ignorieren möchten. Wenn Sie diese Option ausschalten, werden Sie sicherlich die Inhalts-Option einschalten wollen.

Diese Option ist zum Verzeichnisvergleich zwischen Computern mit unterschiedlichen Dateisystemen nützlich. Zum Beispiel speichert das DOS FAT Dateisystem Zeitstempel auf 2 Sekunden genau, während NTFS- und HPFS-Systeme Zeitstempel auf 100 Nanosekunden genau angeben können. Das Kopieren über Netzwerke hinweg kann zu leicht unterschiedlichen Zeitstempeln führen. Wenn diese Option ausgewählt ist, werden solche Dateien so behandelt als hätten sie dieselbe Zeit.

Allgemein gesagt, müssen Dateien verschiedener Größe unterschiedlich sein, sodass diese Option standardmäßig eingeschaltet ist. Wenn Sie aber Verzeichnisse vergleichen wollen, die Textdateien mit gemischten Zeilenendezeichen enthalten, und Sie wünschen textbasierten Inhaltsvergleich, dann schalten Sie diese Option aus.

Normalerweise stellt Beyond Compare Dateien mit identischen Namen und Dateierweiterungen nebeneinander dar. Schalten Sie diese Option aus, wenn Sie z.B. Verzeichnisse vergleichen wollen, wo ".txt" Dateien auf der einen und die entsprechenden ".bak" Dateien auf der anderen Seite sind.

Schalten Sie diese Option ein, um Unterschiede beim Archiv-Attribut anzeigen zu lassen.

Schalten Sie diese Option ein, um Unterschiede beim System-Attribut anzeigen zu lassen.

Schalten Sie diese Option ein, um Unterschiede beim Versteckt-Attribut anzeigen zu lassen.

Schalten Sie diese Option ein, um Unterschiede beim Schreibschutz-Attribut anzeigen zu lassen.

Schalten Sie diese Option ein, um automatisch beim Verzeichniszugriff Dateiinhalte zu lesen und zu vergleichen. Diese Option könnte das Laden von Verzeichnissen beträchtlich verlangsamen.

Schalten Sie diese Option ein, um Zeitstempel als identisch anzusehen, die genau eine Stunde auseinanderliegen. Dies ist nützlich, wenn es sich um verschiedene Dateisysteme handelt, die die Sommerzeit unterschiedlich behandeln.

Diese Option verändert das Verhalten der Schnellvergleichsfunktion sowie den automatischen Inhaltsvergleich. Anders als ein reiner Binärvergleich, geht ein textbasierter Vergleich von Textdateien aus und vergleicht sie Zeile für Zeile. Unterschiede bei den Zeilenendezeichen werden ignoriert, sodass Sie DOS Textdateien mit UNIX Textdateien vergleichen können. Der Vergleich endet bei einem Dateiendezeichen (Strg+Z).

Stellt die Spaltenanzahl pro Tab ein. Beyond Compare erkennt nur gleichmäßige Tab-Stopps.

Dieses stellt die minimale Zeilenzahl dar, die identisch sein müssen, bevor Beyond Compare Textbereiche synchronisiert wird. Geben Sie eine Zahl zwischen 1 und 50 ein. Ein höherer Wert verhindert die Synchronisation trivialer Übereinstimmungen; z.B. Leerzeilen oder allgemein, sich wiederholende Zeilen. (Außerdem können Sie die Zählung von Zeilen steuern, indem Sie die Zeilengewichtung verändern.) Wenn "Rekursion" eingeschaltet ist, wird dieser Wert beim anfänglichen Suchen nach Übereinstimmungen verwendet. Die sich ergebenden ungleichen Bereiche werden dann mit der Hälfte des Wertes durchsucht, dann erneut mit der Hälfte, und so weiter. Auf diese Weise werden kleinere, übereinstimmende Passagen sukzessive nebeneinander dargestellt.

Die "Skew"-Toleranz ist jene Zeilenanzahl, die Beyond Compare vorwärts oder rückwärts guckt, um eine übereinstimmende Sequenz zu finden. Normalerweise können Sie diesen Wert recht hoch einstellen (hunderte oder tausende von Zeilen), wenn Sie mit kleinen oder mäßig großen Textdateien arbeiten. Jedoch wird das Vergleichen von sehr großen Dateien mit großen, unterschiedlichen Bereichen recht langsam. Verwenden Sie eine kleinere Zahl für höhere Geschwindigkeit, speziell wenn große Texteinfügungen oder -auslassungen eher unwahrscheinlich sind.

Rekursion verbessert die Fähigkeit größere sowie kleinere Textbereiche als gleich zu erkennen; allerdings kann es länger dauern, wenn viele Zeilen nicht übereinstimmen.

Beim Seite-an-Seite Textvergleich stellt Beyond Compare exakt übereinstimmenden Text und solchen mit nur geringfügigen Abweichungen in der selben Zeile dar. Unterschiedlicher Text wird manchmal in der selben Zeile dargestellt, um Platz auf dem Bildschirm zu sparen, und damit Zeilen mit nur leichten Unterschieden verglichen werden können.

Wählen Sie diese Option, wenn unterschiedlicher Text immer in verschiedenen Zeilen erscheinen soll.

Einige Texteigenschaften, wie z.B. Leerzeichen am Zeilenende, können beim Zeilenvergleich als unwichtig angesehen werden. Sie können geringfügige Unterschiede definieren, um Beyond Compare bei der Zeilensynchronisation im Seite-an-Seite-Betrachter zu unterstützen.

Wenn diese Option eingeschaltet ist, werden sämtliche geringfügigen Unterschiede ignoriert, und als exakte Übereinstimmung angesehen.

Wählen Sie diese Option, wenn Unterschiede hinsichtlich Klein- bzw. Großschreibung als geringfügig angesehen werden sollen.

Wählen Sie diese Option, wenn Leerzeichen und Tabs am Zeilenanfang zu den geringfügigen Unterschieden gehören sollen.

Wählen Sie diese Option, wenn Leerzeichen und Tabs am Zeilenende zu den geringfügigen Unterschieden gehören sollen.

Wählen Sie diese Option, wenn Leerzeichen und Tabs innerhalb einer Zeile zu den geringfügigen Unterschieden gehören sollen.

Wählen Sie diese Option, wenn C/C++ Kommentare zu den geringfügigen Unterschieden zählen sollen.

Wählen Sie diese Option, wenn Pascal/Delphi Kommentare zu den geringfügigen Unterschieden zählen sollen.

Wählen Sie diese Option, wenn Pascal/Delphi Kommentare zu den geringfügigen Unterschieden zählen sollen.

Wählen Sie diese Option, wenn Kommentare, die mit den entsprechenden Zeichen beginnen und am Zeilenende aufhören, zu den geringfügigen Unterschieden gezählt werden sollen.

Geben Sie 1 bis 4 Zeichen ein, die das Kommentarzeichen repräsentieren (z.B. '//' oder 'rem').

Programmkommentare in Fortran.

Wählen Sie diese Option, um in Apostrophen eingeschlossene Zeichenketten von den geringfügigen Unterschieden auszuschließen. Mit anderen Worten, Textunterschiede innerhalb von Apostrophen werden immer als "signifikant" angesehen.

Wählen Sie diese Option, um in Gänsefußchen eingeschlossene Zeichenketten von den geringfügigen Unterschieden auszuschließen. Mit anderen Worten, Textunterschiede innerhalb von Gänsefußchen werden immer als "signifikant" angesehen.

Wählen Sie diese Option, wenn Unterschiede in Text in Gänsefußchen als geringfügig anzusehen sind.

Wählen Sie diese Option, wenn Unterschiede in Text in Apostrophen als geringfügig anzusehen sind.

Liste der Zeilengewichtungen. Geben Sie eine numerische Gewichtung, gefolgt von einem Schrägstrich und einem Schlüsselwort oder -phrase, ein.

Mit **konsistentem** Zeilenende kann eine Datei jegliche Kombinationen von CR- und LF-Zeichen enthalten; aber es muss konsistent (durchgängig) in der ganzen Datei sein. Steuerzeichen, die nicht zu dem Muster in der ersten Zeile passen, werden als rechteckige Kästchen angezeigt, die keinen Zeilenumbruch bewirken.

Mit **flexiblem** Zeilenende darf eine Datei jegliche Mischung aus Standard-DOS/Windows oder Unix-Zeilendezeichen enthalten.

Geben Sie die erste signifikante Spalte für den Textvergleich ein.

Geben Sie die letzte signifikante Spalte für den Textvergleich ein. Tragen Sie eine Null in dieses Feld ein, um bis zum Zeilenende zu vergleichen.

Das Strg+Z Steuerzeichen wird häufig zur Markierung des Dateiendes verwendet. Wählen Sie diese Option, um auch hinter Strg+Z weiterzulesen.

EBCDIC ist ein Zeichensatz, der für Textdateien auf älteren Großrechnern verwendet wurde.  
Wählen Sie diese Option, um EBCDIC, zur Anzeige im Betrachter, in ASCII umzuwandeln.

Geben Sie einen Ordner an, in den die ausgewählten Dateien kopiert werden sollen.

Dateien, die an oder vor diesem Datum oder dieser Zeit verändert wurden, werden als unwichtig für den Vergleich angesehen.

Markieren Sie dieses Kontrollkästchen, um die Datumsschwellwertfunktion einzuschalten.

Geben Sie die ersten Buchstaben jener Datei ein, die Sie suchen.

Geben Sie lediglich den Dateinamen der Plug-In-DLL ein. Zum Beispiel: der Name des Hex-Plug-Ins ist BCHex32.

Geben Sie den Benutzernamen ein, exakt so wie auf der Registrierungsmitteilung angegeben, die Sie von Scooter Software erhalten haben.

Geben Sie die Organisationsbezeichnung ein, exakt so wie auf der Registrierungsmittelung angegeben, die Sie von Scooter Software erhalten haben.

Geben Sie die achtstellige Registrierungsnummer ein, die Ihnen mit der Registrierungsmittelung von Scooter Software zugeschickt wurde. Die Nummer kann sowohl Ziffern als auch die Buchstaben "A" bis "F" enthalten.

Geben Sie einen beschreibenden Sitzungsnamen an, oder wählen Sie eine zu ersetzende, bereits existierende Sitzung aus der Auswahlliste.

Geben Sie das Datum an, mit dem die ausgewählten Dateien versehen werden sollen.

Geben Sie die Zeit an, mit der die ausgewählten Dateien versehen werden sollen.

Wählen Sie diese Option, um die Datums-/Zeitstempel der ausgewählten Dateien von der einen auf die andere Seite zu kopieren.

Wählen Sie diese Option aus, um alle Datums-/Zeitstempel der ausgewählten Dateien auf ein bestimmtes Datum und eine bestimmte Zeit zu setzen.

Wählen Sie eine Methode zur Initialisierung der Datums- und Zeitfelder aus.

**Aktuelle Systemzeit** verwendet die Zeiteinstellungen Ihres Computers.

**Ziel-Zeitstempel** verwendet den ersten Zeitstempel der ausgewählten Zielfdateien.

**Letztes Berühren** verwendet den zuletzt verwendeten Zeitstempel bei der Anwendung der Berühren-Funktion.

Sobald die Datums- und Zeitfelder initialisiert sind, können Sie sie nach Belieben modifizieren.

Wählen Sie die gewünschte Farbe für Zeilen, die identisch sind.

Wählen Sie die gewünschte Farbe für ähnlichen Text. Ähnlicher Text unterscheidet sich nur in führenden oder angehängten Leerschritten, oder in Groß-/Kleinschreibungsunterschieden.

Wählen Sie die Farbe für Text, der unterschiedlich ist.

Wählen Sie den Stil, der "Löcher" innerhalb des Textvergleichs anzeigt. **Leerfläche** führt zur saubersten Darstellung auf der Anzeige. Jedoch ist in diesem Fall schwer zwischen Leerzeilen und fehlenden Zeilen zu unterscheiden. Wählen Sie **Schraffur**, um den fehlenden Bereich mit diagonalen Linien kenntlich zu machen. (Leider funktioniert die Schraffur nicht unter Windows 3.1 sowie Windows NT). Oder aber wählen Sie eine **Farbe**.

Diese Tafel zeigt wie Ihre Farben und Stile im Dateibetrachter erscheinen werden.

Wählen Sie diese Option, um übereinstimmende Textbereiche von unterschiedlichen mit einer horizontalen Linie abzugrenzen. Dies ermöglicht eine deutlichere Unterscheidung zwischen Textunterschieden. Allerdings könnte die Anzeige schnell sehr überladen wirken, wenn Sie typischerweise, häufig Einzelzeilenübereinstimmungen und -unterschiede haben. Die horizontalen Linien erscheinen immer, wenn die Anzeigefilter "Nur Unterschiede zeigen" oder "Nur Hauptunterschiede zeigen" ausgewählt wurden.

Hier kann eine Schriftart für den anzuzeigenden Text ausgewählt werden. Verwenden sie eine nicht-proportionale Schriftart für spaltenweisen oder mit Tabs getrennten Text, z.B. Courier.

Diese Auswahl ermöglicht die Änderung der Art der "Nächsten Unterschied suchen"- und "Vorhergehenden Unterschied suchen"-Befehle. Die Standardeinstellung ist **Nur Position**, die zum gefundenen Unterschied springt, ihn aber nicht farblich markiert. Damit kann weiterhin die Unterschiedsfärbung erkannt werden. Wenn Sie aber der Meinung sind, man könne die gefundene Zeile nicht leicht erkennen, sollten Sie stattdessen **Normale Zeilenauswahl** verwenden.

Selects the printer font to be used in the header of the Differences Report.

Selects the printer font to be used in the body of the Differences Report to display text from your files. Select a mono-spaced font if your text is column-oriented.

Enable this option to print a side-by-side file comparison. The report will be forced to landscape orientation.

Disable this option to print lines from mismatched sections using the full width of the report, with left side lines first and right side lines following. The report will use portrait orientation unless the lines are too long to fit.

In either report layout, there is no line wrapping. If the lines do not fit in landscape orientation, they are truncated.

Set this option to include or exclude line numbers from the side-by-side report layout. (The left-over-right layout always includes line numbers.)

Select All  
Copy to Clipboard  
Link

---

Copy Right ->  
<- Copy Left  
Delete Left  
Delete Right  
Insert Right ->  
<- Insert Left  
Edit Left  
Edit Right

---

Undo Edit

Open

Open With

Compare to Clipboard

Save

Save As

Remove Read-only

---

Backup Before Save

---

Differences Report

Comparison Info

---

Close

[Help Topics](#)

---

[About](#)

[Next Difference](#)

[Previous Difference](#)

[Go To Line](#)

---

[Set Bookmark](#)

[Go To Bookmark](#)

---

[Find](#)

[Find Again](#)

[Toolbar](#)  
[Statusbar](#)  
[Thumbnail View](#)  
[Line Details](#)

---

[Show All](#)  
[Just Differences](#)  
[Just Major Differences](#)  
[Just Matching Text](#)

---

[Show Whitespace](#)  
[Show Line Numbers](#)

---

[Scroll Right](#)  
[Scroll Left](#)  
[Refresh](#)

---

[File Comparison Rules](#)  
[Viewer Options](#)  
[Configure Toolbar](#)

[Show Any Files](#)

[Show Mismatched Files](#)

[Show Matching Files](#)

[Show Double Sides](#)

[Show Mismatched Double Sides](#)

[Show Single Sides](#)

[Show Left Side Older Files](#)

[Show Left Side Newer Files](#)

---

[Set Cutoff](#)

Select All

Select Newer

Adjust Left Time Zone

Adjust Right Time Zone

Session Settings

Synchronize Right ->  
<- Synchronize Left

---

Open  
Open With  
Compare To...  
Quick Compare  
Copy Right ->  
<- Copy Left  
Copy to Folder...  
Move Right ->  
<- Move Left  
Delete...  
Rename...  
Touch Files...  
Read-only...  
File Differences Report

---

Backup Files Before Copy  
Directory Comparison Report  
Comparison Info  
Save Snapshot

---

Exit

---

recent sessions

[Help Topics](#)

---

[Register...](#)

---

[About...](#)

Find Filename

[Toolbar](#)

[Statusbar](#)

[Legend](#)

---

[Expand All](#)

[Collapse All](#)

[Refresh](#)

---

[Sort by Name](#)

[Sort by Type](#)

[Sort by Date](#)

[Sort by Size](#)

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[File Comparison Rules](#)

[Main Window Options](#)

[Configure Toolbar](#)

Up to 9 of the most recently accessed sessions are listed at the bottom of the File menu.

