

StartBar v1.0 Guide

COLLABORATORS

	<i>TITLE :</i> StartBar v1.0 Guide	
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Chapter 1

StartBar v1.0 Guide

1.1 StartBar v1.0 Guide

StartBar v1.0

A simple program Launcher

Copyright

Distribution conditions

Overview

What is StartBar

Requirements

What is needed to run StartBar

Installation

How to install it

Configuration

How to edit the preferences

How to use it

Function and options

Hints, suggestions, bug reports, disclaimer...

The author

How to contact me

1.2 Copyright notice

Well, there is absolutely NO copyright on this soft : you can do whatever you want with it. I even included the sources, in Blitz Basic.

In fact, this is only my second program with the Blitz, I did it to learn the use of the gadgets from the gadtools library, and also to test different means of launching an application from a program.

Now, if you use it and like it you have no obligations. But what you could do is to send me some nice ideas of implementations, ideas, etc, or even an other icon, it would not be bad :-)

1.3 Overview

Every time I turned on my computer, when I decided to launch ↔
Imagine, the Blitz,
a game, or anything, I was obliged to open successively 4, sometimes 5 drawers (I like things well organized). Even with a hard disk, I becomes a bit boring. So when I bought the Blitz, I decided to create an interface which would do the work for me.

To see what it looks like, you can just launch it and you will see.
I wanted to do something between the Toolmanager and Windows95 : more configurable than the second, and less greedy than the first for the memory. I think I succedeed, since it eats up only 80 Ko of RAM.

To launch it, it requires a config file, which should be placed in the drawer called "s" on your system disk. To create it, see the
configuration
part.

I also may create a preference file in the same drawer, in case you changed the position of the bar (see the part :
How to use it
).

1.4 Requirements

StartBar requires Kickstart 2.0 or more , because of the gadtools.

I have tested it on my 1200, with and without my blizzard. But if you send me a report, It should not be bad :-)

1.5 Installation

Installing StartBar is very simple : just drop it in your ↔
WBStartup drawer, and
put the file "start.data" in the s drawer on your system disk, this if you want to start it every time you reboot your computer.
Else, just double-click on it.

It will look for the data file first at s: then, if not found, in current ↔
directory.

To create/modify the data file, see the
configuration

1.6 Configuration

Here we are, and here begin the problems.

For a beginning, you should just try to launch the program with the sample file included in the archive, so that you could see what it looks like.

Done ? Ok ! Now, here are the explanations ...

When you run StartBar, some buttons appear. And when you click on one of them, others appear, or disappear, a bit like a menu. And all this is configurable.

You will have to choose, for each button of the original bar :

- 1-Name of the button
- 2-Name of the first (or next) button which appears
- 3-The program to launch if it is clicked
(with full path)
- 4-How to launch it :
 - n : no output
 - o : output enabled
 - s : this is a script
- 5-Go to 2 if you want one more button to appear
or let a blank line

Note you are allowed to configure up to 7 buttons on the original bar, and up to 21 on each "menu".

1.7 How to use it ?

This is the easy part : click on a button on the bar, then choose ↔ an application.

- If you want to move the bar, choose in the menu the item "Position", move the bar and when finished click the close gadget.
- To save the current position, choose the item "Save Pos" in the menu.
- If you want to quit (what ?!), click on the thin gadget on the left of the bar, or choose the item "Quit" in the menu"
- Once configured (see configuration), when you click on a button of the original bar, a kind of menu appears, with the applications you will have configured. If you click once again on the same button the "menu" disappears.

1.8 Problems

If you have a problem with this program, you can try to join me ↔
with my
e-mail (see
Contact me
).

If you think you just found a bug, try to catch it then send it to me, I
will then try to get rid of it.

If you think of anything to add to this program, tell me and I'll do my best.

BUT, I have to be honest with you, if one day, for any reason, this program
crashes your hard disk, creates a virus of an unknown type (what ?!), makes
your screen show strange things, wakes up the Guru, or ANYTHING unpleasant, I
would NOT be liable for that. In other means, USE IT AT YOUR OWN RISKS.

Apart from that, I have been using it for some time now, and it always has
worked fine. Try it, you'll see ...

1.9 Contact me

If you have problems, suggestions, etc., I can be reached via EMail :

ybetemps@gmc.insa-lyon.fr

or if it does not work :

betemps@cismsun.univ-lyon1.fr