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IMPORTANT INFORMATION
for
WinSwitch Users
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WinSwitch   **July 11, 1994**
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Contents

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1.0   WinSwitch Problem Detail

When you set WinSwitch=on (primarily used for dynamic color switching), Windows (GDI) and all Windows applications are actually running in 24 or 32 bpp mode (depending on the 24 bpp setting), even when you specify 256, 32K, or 65K colors. This has several consequences:

Graphics performance across various color depths will negatively impacted. For maximum performance in 256, 32K, and 65K color modes, you should disable WinSwitch.

Any application which reads from the screen will not always get exactly the same information which it wrote, because the pixels can be smaller. This means, for example, that the PaintBrush color eraser will not always work in this mode.

Dithering is not performed when WinSwitch is on.

1.1 Windows Application

We do not recommend applications be active during a WinSwitch. Active applications, may not correctly read the new resolution and color depths setting. This can lead to incorrect coloring, windows not properly re-sizing and\or portions of windows being painted black.

If you experience distortion in an application after a WinSwitch, close the application and restart it with the new WinSwitch settings.

Applications that require a 256 palletized mode will produce an error, stating that a 256 color driver is required to used this software, if WinSwitch is enabled.

Any application which retrieves the resolution at startup and expects it to stay the same will not work when you change the resolution. AfterDark does this, and should not be running when you are changing desktop resolutions.

IMPORTANT: Do not use File.Properties to "fix" black icons. It will delete them in some cases. Sometimes the reason that the icons are black is that the maximum number of icons that you can have in a group is reduced in higher pixel depth modes. Windows stores all the icons

for a given group in a 64K segment, and in 24 bpp mode, each icon requires 3K (4K in 32 bpp mode). In some cases, there is not enough room in the segment for File.Properties to add a picture to the icon, and in these cases it will simply remove the icon from the group.