Present! 32-Bit   Help   (c) 1996 CMB Software

Introduction
Present! Features
The Config/Title Screen
Global Options
Creating a Presentation
Designing a Custom Border
File Associations
How to register Present!
Software   License

Welcome to Present! 32-Bit   Developed by CMB Software

Present! is a Windows/95 and Windows/NT multimedia tool which allows users to effortlessly produce a professional slide show   presentation. Your presentations will be able to display pictures using 112 video effects while playing sounds and music at the same time.   The end result is nothing short of professional.

Present! was designed to maximize your creativity. Present! represents a unique multimedia tool that allows you to combine sight and sound into your presentations without having to learn any script language or overwhelming interface. Present! truly combines ease of use with professional results.

From the business user who has a presentation deadline fast approaching to the vendor who needs to put together an in-store advertising tool, Present! will allow you to accomplish these projects quickly and easier than ever before.

While we feel very excited about the release of version 2.1 of Present!, rest assured that our development team is right now behind their computers thinking of ways to <u>improve this product.</u>

(Please remember that if you want to use the mouse buttons to control the picture display, you must turn on the "Presentation Mode" option)

Global Options

The Global Options screen controls the options which affect your presentation while it is playing.

The options are:

● Effect granularity - This option affects the number of pixels used by the video effects to display pictures.

      ● *Super fine* - A small number of pixels will be drawn with each step of an effect.   This causes a very smooth effect which takes longer to display. (CAUTION: This setting can cause some older screen drivers to not function properly.   If you receive a General Protection Fault in your screen driver, change this setting to "normal".) See: <u>About Screen Drivers</u>

      ● *Normal* - A larger number of pixels will be drawn with each step of an effect.   This also causes the effect to display faster.

Present! defaults to NORMAL Effect Granularity when the program is installed.

● Percent of screen used - This lets you specify how much of the screen you want the picture to take up.   The picture will be re-sized to fit this area. Note that the speed of the video effects will speed up or slow down according to the setting of this option.

Most graphic screens can be enlarged to take up the entire screen with minimal loss of quality, however text and other data like business graphics should have this feature turned off.

Note: You may turn the percent of screen used feature off or on.

● Presentation Mode - Setting this option to "ON" will turn on "Presentation Mode".   When in presentation mode, a picture will stay on the screen until a mouse button is clicked.   Once the mouse button is clicked, the program will display the next picture and sound.   Moving the mouse has no effect while in presentation mode. **To exit the presentation, just hit the ESC key.**

Note: If presentation mode is turned on, when the current slide is displayed you may click on the **LEFT** mouse button to go forward or click the **RIGHT** mouse button to go backwards in the presentation.

• Randomize Presentation - Setting this option on will cause the slides to be displayed in a random order. They will not appear sequentially as they appear in the editor.

• Picture Dissolve - This allows you to configure the presentation to dissolve a picture to black after it is displayed. There are 2 ways to achieve the dissolve.

Effect - The dissolve will use the same effect that was used to display the picture.

Block - A random block dissolve will be used. You will also be able to adjust the speed of the block dissolve using a slider bar.

Note: Dissolve occurs AFTER the slide is displayed.

• Play .MID and .WAV files: - You may choose to play .MID file and .WAV files together, or play them separately.

Together - This allows the .MID files to continue playing while the .WAV file is being played. This allows the clever design of background music using .MID files along with the .WAV files being used as sound effects or voice overs.

Separately - Each time an audio file is played, the previous sound will be stopped.

• Border Editor - Click on this button to design a unique border that will appear around each picture.

Present! Features

- Run Present! as a **screen saver** or stand alone **presentation tool.**
- Display **JPEG, GIF, BMP, PCX, DIB, TGA, WMF**, and **TIFF**(*uncompressed*) files.
- **112 Video effects**, wipes, fades and dissolves.
- Each picture can play a .WAV file or a .MID (midi) music file!
- Design an **unlimited** number of custom presentations.
- Create file associations! Configure Present! to view your favorite pictures and sounds from the desktop.
- **Create professional business presentations.**

Config / Title Screen

The Configuration/Title screen is a starting point for your presentation.

- Edit Presentation - When you click on this, you will be presented with an editing screen.. If there is a current presentation, this file will be loaded into the presentation editor.

- Run Presentaion - Runs the current presentation.

- Edit new presentation - Allows you to design a presentation.

- Delete presentation - This will delete the current presentation. This REMOVES the file from your system!

- Current Presentation - This drop down box is a list of all your available presentations that you have created.   The one that is highlighted is the one that is active.

- Registration Key - When you <u>register the program</u>, you will be sent a registration key (a number).   You will type this key into the box.   This will let Present! display an unlimited number of pictures.   It will also remove the red "unregistered" banner.

Present! License Agreement

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OF GOODS.

File Associations

During installation a file association was created to allow you to run presentations created with Present! from a command line or by double clicking on them from the the program group or fileselecter. The individual presentation files (*.css) will be located in your Present folder.

A **user installable** feature is the ability to install Present! as your default picture and sound player. Simply install associations that call Present! for extensions such as .wav, .mid, .gif, .bmp, .jpg, etc.

Creating A Presentation

Present!'s Editor is a very powerful tool which will allow you to produce your own customized presentations. The editor itself is very similar to a spread sheet interface where you have multiple rows containing data. In the presentation editor, each row will contain the information for each picture.

Each picture can contain the following information:

Picture - The file path for the picture to be displayed.

Description - A description of the picture that will be displayed during the presentation.

Delay - How long the picture will stay on the screen.

Video Effect/Speed - Which video effect to use to display the picture along with the speed of the effect used. (112 effects to choose from!)

Audio (.wav or .mid)) - The audio file to be played when the picture is displayed.

.Wav files are digital samples. .Mid files are midi music data files.

Note: Playing .MID files is a very specialized feature and is 100% totally dependent on your machine having a MCI compatible .mid (midi) driver installed. Most sound cards have this feature automatically set up. If you are unsure if your sound card or music set up is capable of playing midi files please contact the vendor or maker of your sound card.

Loop - Off or on. Looping of the sound until another sound is played or a SOUND OFF command is reached.

Creating a presentation can be a creative and very rewarding process. To aid you in the design of a presentation you, may want to have a story board in mind with the order of the pictures and sounds that you want displayed in the presentation.

When the Presentation Editor first appears you are presented with a empty grid. This grid is where you will select and edit all of the pictures for your presentation. Since the grid is initially empty the first thing you need to do is click on ADD to

select a picture.

Adding pictures to the presentation.

Note: Each picture will be displayed in the presentation according to the order in which they were entered. If you have 10 pictures entered, picture 1 will be shown first followed by picture 2, then picture 3, etc.

ADD - Allows you to add a picture (or several!) to the presentation.

When you click on ADD, a screen will appear where you can browse your storage media for pictures to add to the presentation. To add a picture, simply select (highlight) the picture and click on ADD FILE(S). The file select box has the capability to select multiple files by first selecting a file and then dragging down the mouse over the file box. You can also select one file and then hold down SHIFT and click on another file to select all the files in between. Again, by clicking on ADD FILES(S) you can add all highlighted files to the presentation.

To add ALL of the files in the file box simply click on ADD ALL. This will quickly let you add multiple files without having to select multiple files.

To preview a highlighted picture file, simply click on PREVIEW. When the AUTO PREVIEW option is selected the currently selected picture will automatically be shown.

Before clicking on **ADD FILE(S)** you may also change the default delay time each picture will be shown. Simply type in a new value or use the arrow keys to adjust the setting.

Append & Insert - These two options when checked allow you to INSERT or APPEND the pictures to the list. If INSERT is on, then the incoming pictures will be inserted BEFORE the highlighted picture in the editor.

If the **EDIT DESCRIPTIONS** option is selected, after you add the files you will be asked to input the descriptions for each picture that was added. Remember, if you add a description to the picture it will be shown at the bottom of the picture during the presentation. While editing the descriptions for each picture, you can click on NEXT to proceed to the next picture or simply hit return. At anytime you may exit the description screen by clicking on cancel. All descriptions entered up to the point you click on cancel will remain with the picture. To PREVIEW a

picture during the edit description screen simply click on PREVIEW. By setting the option Auto Preview, each picture will be shown automatically to you before you edit the description.

You may repeat the above process each time you want to add a picture(s) to the presentation. Each new picture(s) added will be APPENDED to the list of pictures in the presentation.

Editing the pictures after they are added to the presentation:

After you have added your pictures to the presentation, you now need to make adjustments to each picture to customize their appearance in the presentation. As mentioned earlier each picture can have it's own graphic effect when it is displayed, a sound file can be played at the same time, and each picture can be shown for a specific amount of time in seconds.

The currently selected picture will be highlighted by a BLUE bar going through that row. Each picture will have it's own row. You will see the current information for each picture in the row. The sequence of that picture is shown to the left of the editing grid starting at 1.

To highlight a row simply click on a row containing picture data. You can't highlight a row that does not contain a picture.

There are 6 items that you can edit for each picture. Each editable item has a box that you can click on to bring up a screen that will allow you to edit the settings for that item. After you highlight a row you can click on one of the item boxes or you can DOUBLE CLICK on that column in the picture row that you wish to edit.

Picture - Allows you to select a different picture for this row.

Description - Edit the description of the picture.

Del - Change the delay of the picture. (How long in seconds it will be displayed.)

Video Effect/Speed - A effect screen will be shown allowing you to scroll up and down to view the names of the 112 possible effects. At anytime you can CLICK on a effect to preview how it will look. You can also adjust the SPEED of the effect by clicking on the arrow keys or directly typing in a new value. Click on PREVIEW to see the new speed of the effect. After you choose the effect click on OK or click

on CANCEL to keep the old value. If the COPY TO ALL option is selected then each picture already added to the presentation will be updated to contain the same effect and speed selected at this time.

Note: **RANDOM EFFECT** - If you choose RANDOM EFFECT for the picture effect, it will be displayed using one of the 112 different effects. This allows you to add variety to your presentation at the click of a button!

Audio - Allows you to browse your storage media to select a .WAV or .MID file to be played when the picture is displayed. To hear a sound simply CLICK on the file in the file box. To add the sound file click on OK or click on CANCEL to return without changing the current sound file selected for that row.

Sound Off: This allows you to force any sound currently being played from a previous picture to stop.

Clear Sound: In the event you want to get rid of a previously added SOUND OFF command, simply click on this button.

Loop Sound: If this option is selected the sound will loop when the picture is displayed. It will continue to loop until either a sound is played from another picture or a sound off command has been entered.

Loop - Yes or No. If this value is set to YES then the sound will loop until a new sound is played or until a sound off command is found.

Delete - To delete a highlighted row simply click on this button. All pictures below the deleted picture will scroll up one.

Insert - To insert a picture BEFORE the highlighted row click on this button. You will then be able to select a new picture to insert.

Swap- To swap the positions of two pictures simply click on SWAP and then select a picture to swap with. Note that the two pictures that are swapped will still contain all of their original information, sound file, effect, delay, etc.

Preview - Click on this button to see what the currently highlighted row will look like during the presentation. (Keep in mind all GLOBAL OPTIONS are active here also.)

Reset - Allows you to reset the presentation. Erasing all current information.

Load - Load a previously saved presentation.

Save - Supply a name and save the current presentation.

Save & Exit - Auto save (if possible) and exit back to the Config/title screen.

Delete Presentation-This allows you to delete (erase) a presentation file from your system. After you remove a presentation from your system it is permanently gone. USE WITH CAUTION!

Test Presentation - Test out the current presentation!

Cancel - Exit back to the Config/title screen.

There are also 6 menu boxes at the top of the presentation editor.

  - <u>Global Options</u>

  - Border Editor

  - View highlighted picture in editor

  - Listen to highlighted audio in editor

  - Print out a listing of presentation data

  - View Help!

Creating A Custom Border

Presnet! allows you to customize the appearance of your presentation by giving you the option of designing a border that will appear around your picture when it is displayed. It is important to understand that the same border will appear around each picture in the presentation.

The Custom Border interface is very easy to work with. By clicking on and adjusting the 10 slider bars you can easily change the settings of the border.

The border itself consists of three different layers.

Inner - This is the inside layer that goes around your picture.

Middle - This is the middle layer of the border. Appears in between the inner and outer sections of the border.

Outer - This section appears around the middle part of the border.

You can adjust the color, style, width   of each section of the border. The INNER and OUTER sections of the border have a combination of two colors. This allows you to easily design 3D beveled borders. Both the inner and outer sections have two styles, raised and inset which produces a 3D effect on the border.

The 10 slide bar options are:

Inner Color 1 - Adjust the 1st color of the inner border.
Inner Color 2 - Adjust the 2nd color of the inner border.
Inner Style - Adjust the style (raised or inset) of the inner border.
Inner Width - Adjust the width (in pixels) of the inner border.
Outer Color 1 - Adjust the 1st color of the outer border.
Outer Color 2 - Adjust the 2nd color of the outer border.
Outer Style - Adjust the style (raised or inset) of the outer border.
Outer Width - Adjust the width (in pixels) of the outer border.
Middle Color - Adjust the color of the middle border.
Middle Width - Adjust the width (in pixels) of the middle border.

To turn the border completely off:

In case you want to completely remove the border from around the picture during the presentation simply move the INNER STYLE and OUTER STYLE sliders all the way to the left, and then move the MIDDLE WIDTH slider all the way to the left.

Click on OK to save the current border. Cancel to exit without saving. Help will display this section of the Present! Help file.

About Screen Drivers

Present! uses only the standard Windows graphics routines.   However, some older screen driver programs do not handle all these routines correctly.   If you are using an older screen driver to control your video card, you may get GPF errors in your screen driver software. While most newer systems should include screen drivers capable of displaying the effects without any problems, some older drivers will cause the system to hang up or possibly lock up.

If you experience this problem, please try these 2 things:

1) Change the Effect Granularity to NORMAL.   This helps in some drivers.

2) Contact the maker of your graphics video board and try to acquire the latest version of their video driver that is available.

Register Present! by Credit Card or Postal Mail.

The FASTEST way to register Present! is by credit card.

To order by Credit Card, do one of the following:

- Phone orders are accepted from **9:00-5:00pm Central Time** at **817-485-8143** (You will be given the registration code immediately)
- Send an **E-MAIL** to **CMBSOFT@MCS.NET**.
- **FAX** your order to **(630) 293-9621.**

Please include the following information with your order:

1) Name on card _____

2) Type of card _____ (VISA or Mastercard only)

3) Number on card _____

4) Expiration date _____

5) Email address or FAX #_____

6) Mailing address of credit card (for card verification)

   _____
   _____
   _____
   _____

$39.95 (US) will be charged to your account.

The day your order is received (usually within an hour) you will be sent an E-MAIL with a registration code to enter on the configuration screen.   This will

allow Present! to display an unlimited number of pictures.

To register Present! by Postal Mail, send $39.95 (USA) to:

CMB Software
1199 Laurel Ct.
Carol Stream, IL
USA   60188

Please include the following information with your order:
1) Name
2) E-Mail Address
3) Fax Number
4) Postal Address (If you don't have E-MAIL or a Fax number)

The day your order is received you will be sent an E-MAIL with your   registration code to enter on the configuration screen.   This will allow Present! to display an unlimited number of pictures.

Suggestions for Improvements

We appreciate all of the feedback we get from our customers. If you have any ideas or suggestions for improvements or ideas to add to this program, please feel free to contact us and tell us about them.

CMB Software
1199 Laurel Ct.
Carol Stream, IL
USA   60188

E-mail: CMBSOFT@MCS.NET

Adding pictures to presentation

Note: Each picture will be displayed in the presentation according to the order in which they were entered. If you have 10 pictures entered, picture 1 will be shown first followed by picture 2, then picture 3, etc.

ADD - Allows you to add a picture (or several!) to the presentation.

When you click on ADD, a screen will appear where you can browse your storage media for pictures to add to the presentation. To add a picture, simply select (highlight) the picture and click on ADD FILE(S). The file select box has the capability to select multiple files by first selecting a file and then dragging down the mouse over the file box. You can also select one file and then hold down SHIFT and click on another file to select all the files in between. Again, by clicking on ADD FILES(S) you can add all highlighted files to the presentation.

To add ALL of the files in the file box simply click on ADD ALL. This will quickly let you add multiple files without having to select multiple files.

To preview a highlighted picture file, simply click on PREVIEW. When the AUTO PREVIEW option is selected the currently selected picture will automatically be shown.

Before clicking on **ADD FILE(S)** you may also change the default delay time each picture will be shown. Simply type in a new value or use the arrow keys to adjust the setting.

Append & Insert - These two options when checked allow you to INSERT or APPEND the pictures to the list. If INSERT is on, then the incoming pictures will be inserted BEFORE the highlighted picture in the editor.

If the **EDIT DESCRIPTIONS** option is selected, after you add the files you will be asked to input the descriptions for each picture that was added. Remember, if you add a description to the picture it will be shown at the bottom of the picture during the presentation. While editing the descriptions for each picture, you can click on NEXT to proceed to the next picture or simply hit return. At anytime you may exit the description screen by clicking on cancel. All descriptions entered up to the point you click on cancel will remain with the picture. To PREVIEW a

picture during the edit description screen simply click on PREVIEW. By setting the option Auto Preview, each picture will be shown automatically to you before you edit the description.

You may repeat the above process each time you want to add a picture(s) to the presentation. Each new picture(s) added will be APPENDED to the list of pictures in the presentation.

Select New Picture

This is where you can select a NEW picture for this sequence in the presentation. Any picture that you select will over write the old picture. The effects and audio settings remain unchanged.

See: <u>Adding pictures to presentation.</u>

Editing the Delay for each picture

When you edit the delay for a picture you are actually telling the computer how many seconds to pause between pictures. The minimum value is 4 seconds.

Note: If you are using JPG pictures or other heavily compressed formats, the actual decompressing of the picture(s) could take longer than the delay value set.

Editing the effect for each picture

Video Effect/Speed - A effect screen will be shown allowing you to scroll up and down to view the names of the 112 possible effects. At anytime you can CLICK on a effect to preview how it will look. You can also adjust the SPEED of the effect by clicking on the arrow keys or directly typing in a new value. Click on PREVIEW to see the new speed of the effect. After you choose the effect click on OK or click on CANCEL to keep the old value. If the COPY TO ALL option is selected then each picture already added to the presentation will be updated to contain the same effect and speed selected at this time.

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Editing Audio Selection

(.Wav) files are digital samples. (.Mid) files are midi music data files.

Note: Playing .MID files is a very specialized feature and is 100% totally dependent on your machine having a MCI compatible .mid (midi) driver installed. Most sound cards have this feature automatically set up. If you are unsure if your sound card or music set up is capable of playing midi files please contact the vendor or maker of your sound card.

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