

CabWiz v1.01 Maintenance release

Description

CabWiz is designed to do just two things: list the compressed contents of any or all Win95 (beta or final release) installation cabinet file(s), from any drive, and save that list to a text file. The list has the format: filename, size (in bytes), & cabinet location, can be sorted by name or file extension, and contains other pertinent file information. *No* Win95 installation file extraction feature is included.

CabWiz is freeware. You are free to use and distribute it as you please.

How to use it

For HDD & CD cabinet locations:

You can either allow CabWiz to search for cabinet files on your drive(s) (hard or CD, networks included) or you can specify the drive and directory location yourself. Once selected, the list of available cabinet files will be displayed. Clicking on a cabinet file in the list will display it's size. Multiple file selection in the list is similar to that of Explorer or File Manager:

Ctrl+Click selects/unselects successive files.

Shift+Click selects all files between the last selected file & the file clicked.

Ctrl+/ selects all files listed

Select which files you want listed and click "List Contents". The selected cabinet(s) compressed files will be displayed in the "Contents" listbox. The compressed file list can be sorted by name or extension. When your ready, click "Save list to Text file" and choose a name and location for the text file which will contain what is displayed in the "Contents" listbox.

Note: CabWiz can list and sort an entire CD cabinet installation set in around 30 seconds! We're talking about reading 33mb of 19 cabinet files and listing somewhere over 80mb of 1840 compressed files! The size of the text file for a full listing may be more than 70k, so it will have to be viewed in an application other than Notepad.

For Floppy cabinet location:

The only difference between a floppy and HDD or CD listing is you can obviously only list the contents of a cabinet file on a floppy disk one disk at a time. CabWiz includes a floppy feature which will allow you to generate a list from any and *all* floppy disks form a Win95 installation set. CabWiz will detect the presence of the floppy disk and ask you if you would like to list that disk's cabinet contents. Each chosen disk's cabinet contents will be added to the Contents list. CabWiz will keep asking you if you want to list another disk until you select Cancel.

A little history

I got the idea to create CabWiz because I couldn't find any installation file list included with the Win95 beta builds I had been running.

After a while I found two methods to view the contents of a cabinet

file. One was to use the MSDOS extraction tool extract.exe with the /d switch (displays cabinet directory) and the other was the view feature of CabView (adds the "View" option to a cabinet file's right-click menu in Explorer) which is included with the PowerToys accessory pack. But neither offered the option to view and/or save *combined* cabinet file contents as a *sorted* list. So CabWiz it was.

Developer info

CabWiz is a simple 16 bit program developed in VB Pro 3.0, running on Win95 build 490. Each cabinet file has it's own "contents" header which indicates the files and their respective size that it contains. If you are a VB developer and are interested in CabWiz's design, function, or source code, I will be more than happy to pass it on .

Quick note

The file VBRUN300.DLL is necessary for the operation of CabWiz and must be present on your system. It was not included in the zip file due to it's size (400k). It can be downloaded from most online services .

The obligatory disclaimer

I am not a professional programmer & am by no means intending to pass CabWiz off as a polished product. I wrote this program prior to final release of Win95 and therefore it is possible that it may not function correctly on it (it's accuracy cannot be guaranteed). As a Win95 preview participant, I tested CabWiz quite extensively on both Win95 builds 347 and 490, as well as in Win 3.11 running on both DOS 7.0 (dual booted from the Win95 startup menu) and DOS 6.2 (no Win95).

Under no circumstance do I assume any responsibility for the reliability and/or any unlikely result of possible damage that may be incurred from the use of this program. It is distributed as freeware. Use it at your own risk.

That's it!

CabWiz is very simple program and therefore no help file other than this text is included. I will update the program as needed. If you have any questions, problems, suggestions of enhancement, or just want to express a gesture of gratitude, I'd be happy to hear from you.

Enjoy

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