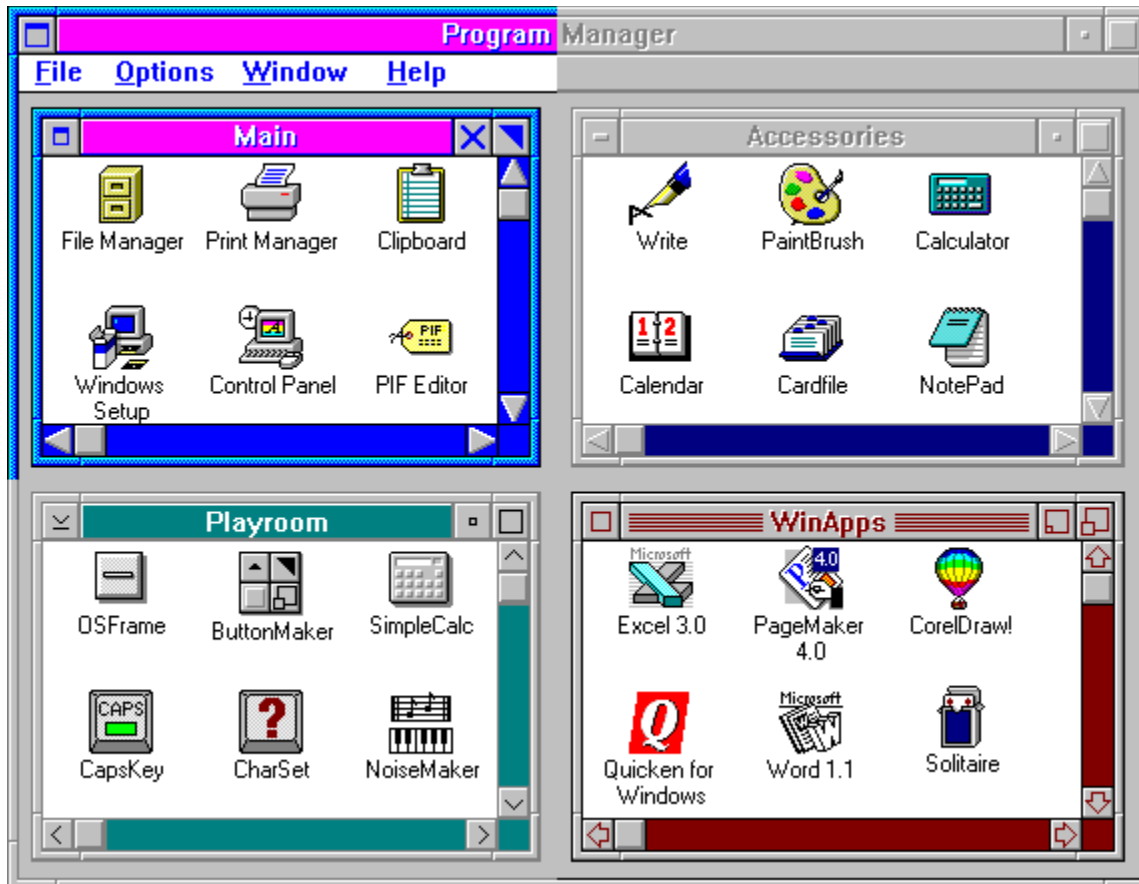# Interface...
With Your Imagination

Makeover for Windows lets you do it.

Since the release of Windows 3.0, many products have been created to enhance and change the way it works.   You can now completely replace the Program Manager or File Manager with better or different programs.   And you can replace icons and wallpaper with your own or those created by others.   Just about everything in Windows can be configured or customized.   Except the way it looks.   **Until Makeover...** You've been stuck with Microsoft's idea of what your Windows should look like.   Sure, you can change your colors and background, but not the general appearance.   Now you can subtly enhance the standard appearance, or you can radically change it.   The screen above is a composite of four different looks created with Makeover,   but it is only a small example of what you can do.   The possibilities are virtually limitless.

OSFrame^{TM} gives title bars and sizing borders fully configurable three-dimensional effects.   Five levels of effects are available for title bars and three levels are available for sizing borders.   A stripes effect can also be applied to title bars and title bar text can be made to appear raised or inset.   Six levels of effects are available for dialog window borders.

ButtonMaker™ provides facilities for changing the appearance of key components in the Windows interface.   Control menu boxes, minimize, maximize, and scroll buttons can be colorized and modified. Predefined button sets are available to make Windows look similar to other Graphical User Interfaces.
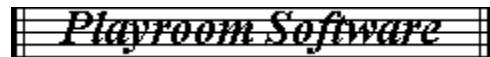
And it's not just another pretty interface...

Modify icons and cursors in any Windows program or display driver, or create new icons for the Program Manager with **IconMaker**™.   Use **CapsKey**™ to make the caps lock key work like a typewriter shift lock.   **SimpleCalc** and **PaperCalc** are handy little calculators that can stay on top of other applications, and **NoiseMaker**™ is   a music teaching & entertainment program.

Makeover™ for Windows includes all of these utilities with a suggested retail price of $39.95, and can be found at finer computer resellers.   VAR, OEM, and site licenses are available.

Getting more info...

Use the **<<** and **>>** buttons above to browse the rest of this document.   Click on any of the highlighted jump words above to get additional details about any of the Makeover utilities. Click on **Feature List** to display and/or print a one page Makeover feature list.   Click on **Where To Buy** to get a list of dealers that carry Makeover, and a list of dealers that should. And click on **Articles** to get a list of some articles that mention Makeover or OSFrame.   If you have a CompuServe account you can find a Working Model demo version of Makeover that gives provides a better feel for the product than any piece of documentation could ever hope to.   Come to our section (listed below) and download the demo.   You can also find it doing a GO IBMFF and searching for the keyword MAKEOVER.

Playroom Software

7308-C East Independence, Suite 310
Charlotte, NC 28227   USA
704-536-3093
FAX: 704-568-5297
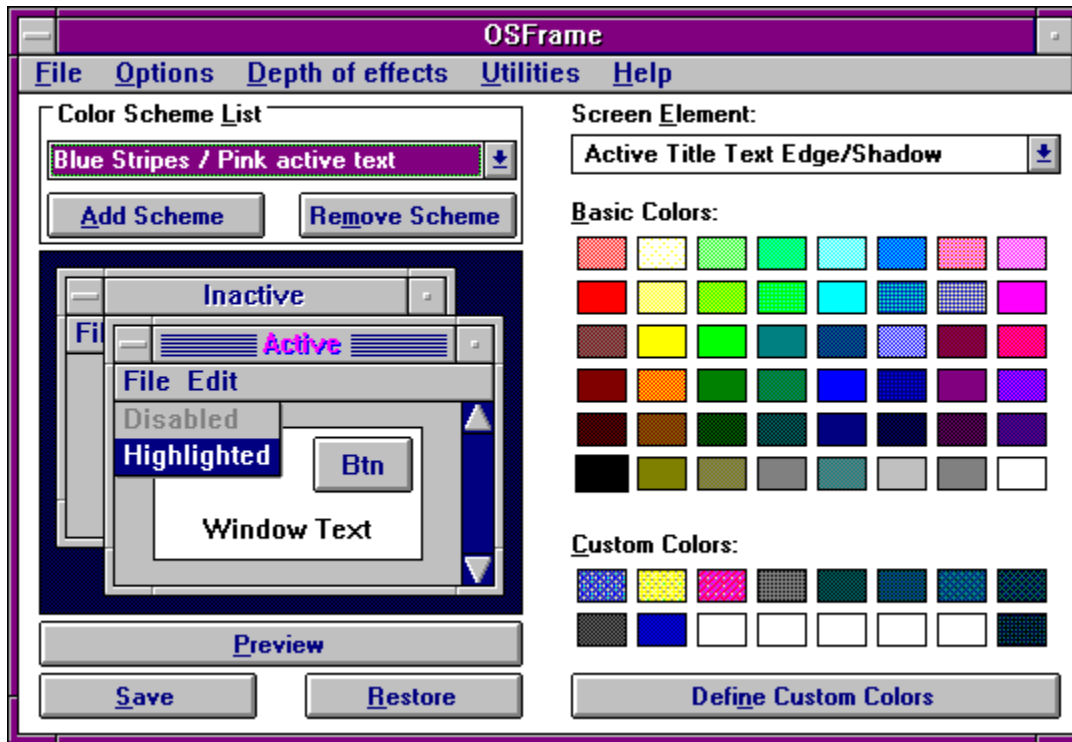CompuServe: 76702,1603   WINAPA forum, Section 17.   Type GO PLAYROOM at any ! prompt.

OSFrame

OSFrame gives title bars and sizing borders fully configurable three-dimensional effects.   Four levels of 3D effects are available for title bars and three levels are available for sizing borders.   A stripes effect can also be applied to title bars for a Macintosh-like appearance, and title bar text can be made to appear raised or inset.   Six levels of effects are available for dialog window borders.

The OSFrame control panel is very similar to the Windows Control Panel Color window.   The additional menu bar at the top of the OSFrame window allows you control the depth and types of special effects that are applied to window borders.
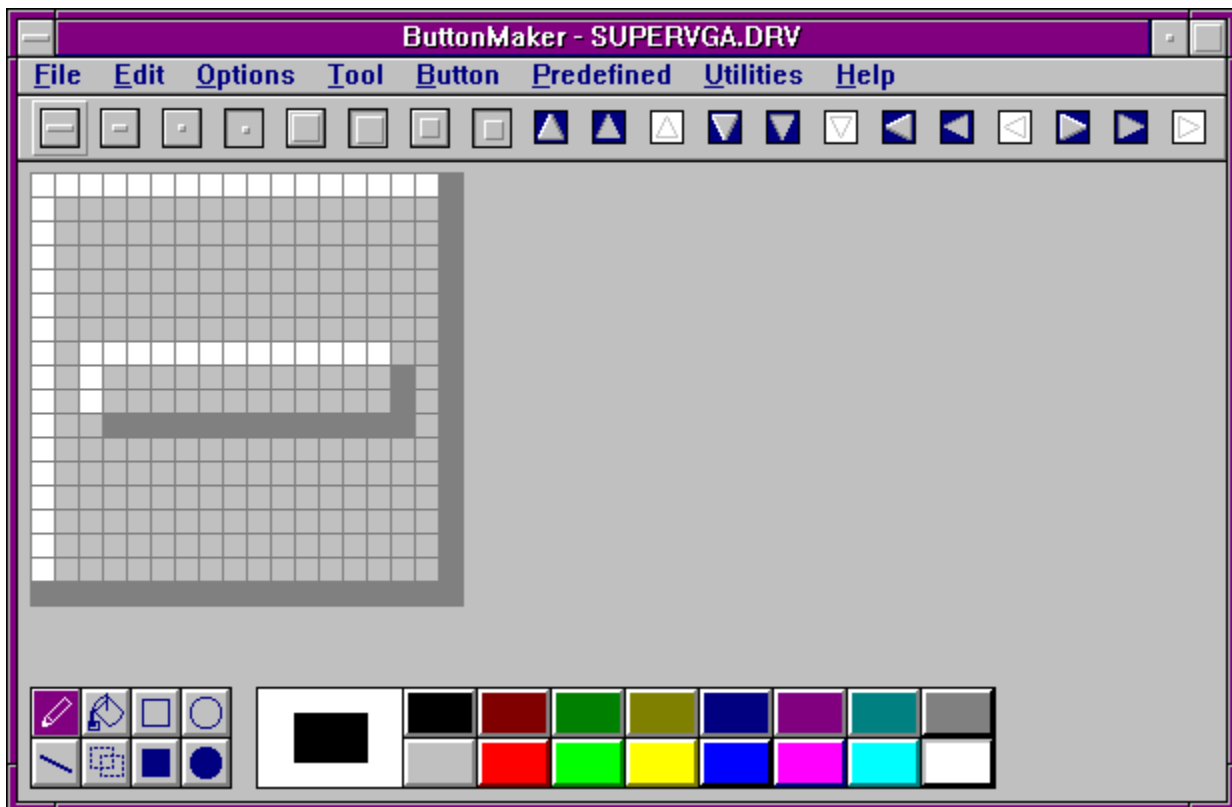
ButtonMaker

ButtonMaker provides a facility to modify the title bar buttons and scroll bar buttons.   Predefined buttons are provided that help make Windows look similar to other Graphical User Interfaces such as those on the Macintosh, NeXT, OS/2 2.0, OSF/Motif, and GeoWorks.

Buttons can also be colorized and modified using standard graphic drawing tools, plus you can mix and match buttons.   For instance, you could mix NeXT style title bar buttons with Motif style scroll buttons, and then colorize them so that they match your color scheme.   After creating your button masterpieces, you can export them and share them with other Makeover users.

By combining the effects provided by OSFrame with the custom buttons ButtonMaker applies to your system, you can drastically alter the appearance of Windows.   Even if you like the standard Windows buttons, you may want to try button colors other than the standard gray.   If you've tried changing the Windows button colors, you've found that while scroll bar thumbs and most push buttons change colors, the title bar and scroll bar buttons don't.   ButtonMaker to the rescue!
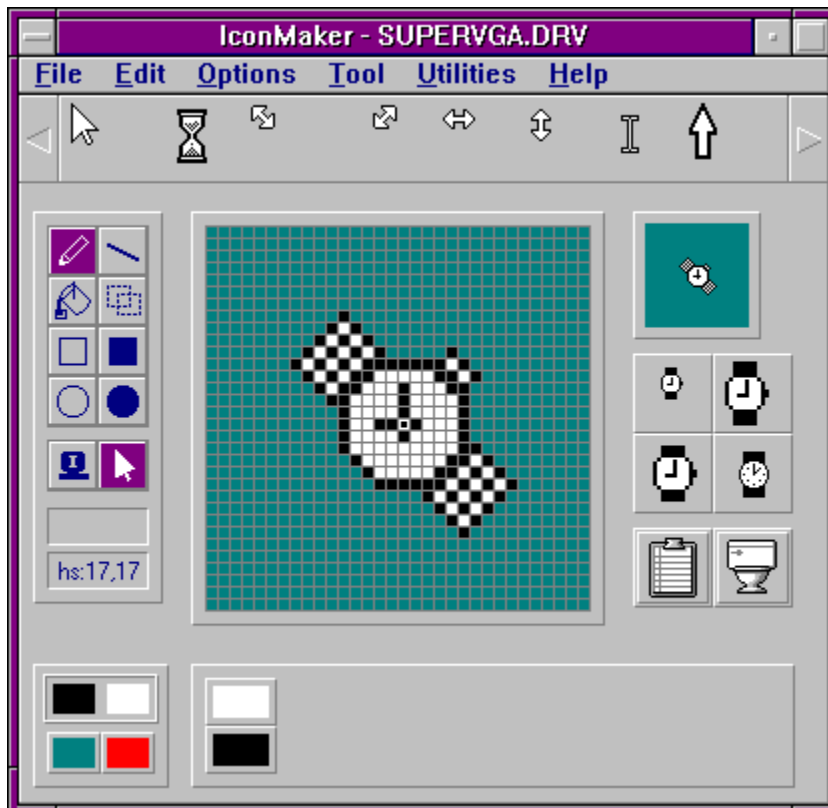
IconMaker

IconMaker can modify the icons and cursors in almost any Windows program or display driver, and it can also create icons for use with the Program Manager.   Now you can quickly and easily fix those unattractive icons or cursors some programs use.

IconMaker uses a drag and drop interface that allows you to work with several images at the same time.   Icons and cursors in a file can be edited simultaneously.

The screen below shows a video driver opened for editing.   The edit buffer and temporary buffers have been loaded with several variations of watch style cursors.   Changing the hourglass cursor is as simple as dragging a new cursor to the hourglass' location.

This screen show Microsoft Excel opened for editing.   The Excel icon that appears on the desktop has been dragged to the editing area, and some colors translated.   By dragging the icon back to its original position and saving the changes, Excel will present the new icon when it is minimized.

CapsKey

CapsKey is a little program that can save you a lot of frustration.   If you've ever typed **hELLO dON** when you meant to type **Hello Don**, you'll probably love CapsKey.

CapsKey allows you to change the Caps Lock mode to one of four modes:

Normal
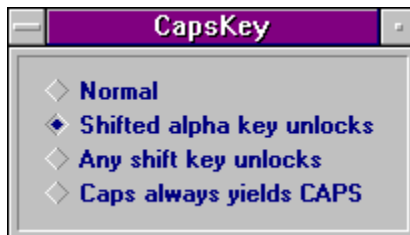Caps Lock functions as if CapsKey is not loaded.

Shifted alpha key unlocks
Caps Lock works like the shift lock on a typewriter, but with the consideration that a typewriter does not have function and cursor pad keys.   Pressing a shift key alone will not release the Caps Lock, but pressing an alpha character while holding a shift key will.   The net result of this mode is that Shift leaves the Caps Lock alone when non-alpha keys are being pressed, but will keep you from getting the reversed case sentences.

Any shift key unlocks
If Caps Lock is on, it will be turned off as soon as either shift key is pressed.   This mode was included because some people have DOS utilities that work this way.   The mode above is generally the better way to work.
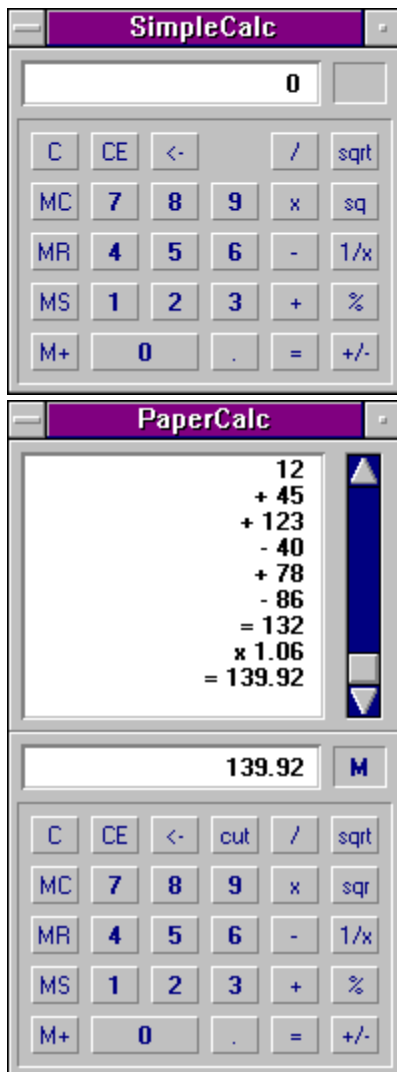
Caps always yields CAPS
When this mode is selected, any alpha character will be entered as a capital, irregardless of the shift keys and Caps Lock.

SimpleCalc and PaperCalc

SimpleCalc is a simple 10 function calculator that takes up less screen space than the Windows Calculator in its standard mode, and looks nicer, too.   SimpleCalc has two Stay On Top modes that can keep it always handy.   It also retains its last screen position and memory between sessions.

PaperCalc is almost identical to SimpleCalc, but with the added convenience of a simulated paper tape that can be reviewed.   Entries are shown on the paper tape in a format similar to handwritten calculations.   Unlike most business calculators, numbers are entered into PaperCalc in the same manner as the standard Windows Calculator program.

SimpleCalc					
				0	
C	CE	<-		/	sqrt
MC	7	8	9	x	sq
MR	4	5	6	-	1/x
MS	1	2	3	+	%
M+	0		.	=	+/-

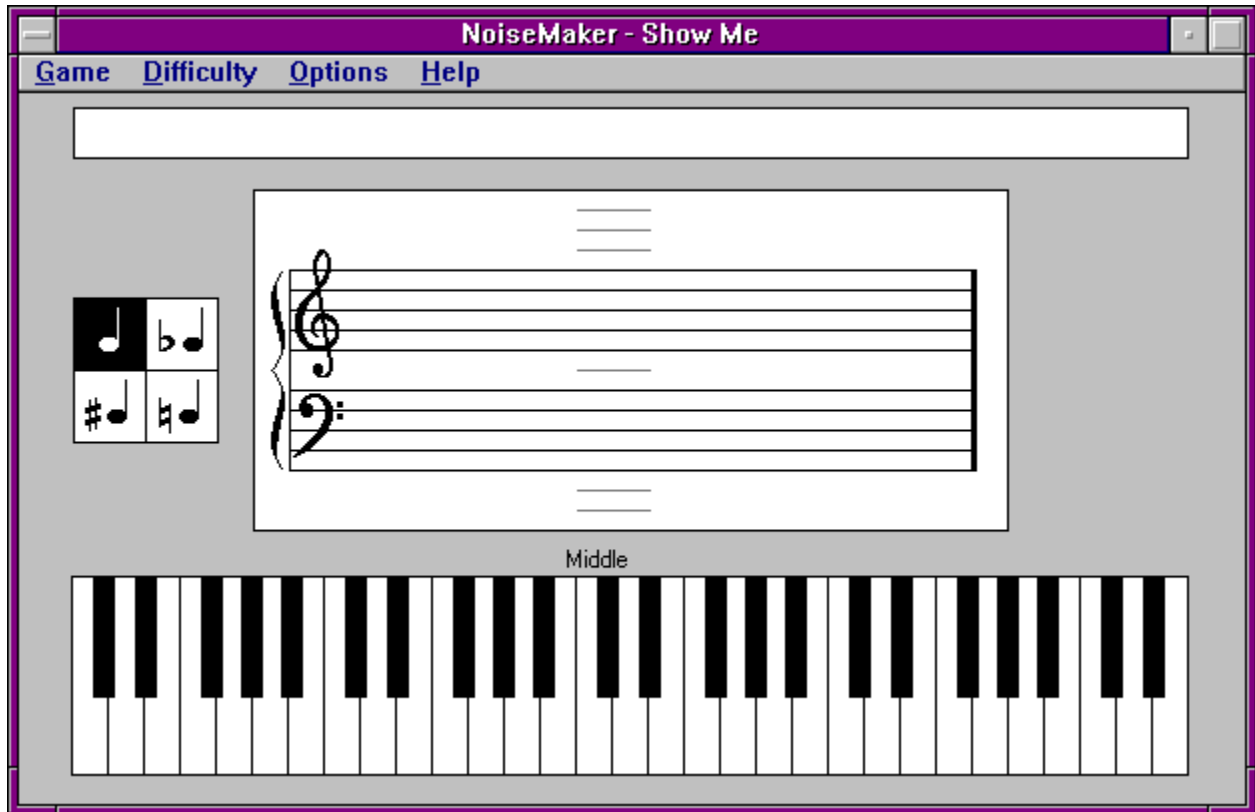| PaperCalc					
			12		
			+ 45		
			+ 123		
			- 40		
			+ 78		
			- 86		
			= 132		
			x 1.06		
			= 139.92		
			139.92	**M**	
C	CE	<-	cut	/	sqrt
MC	7	8	9	x	sqr
MR	4	5	6	-	1/x
MS	1	2	3	+	%
M+	0		.	=	+/-

NoiseMaker

NoiseMaker is a music training program that can test and advance your music reading skills, and also train your musical hearing.   Its screen contains a music staff and an on-screen piano keyboard.   NoiseMaker plays through the speaker in your PC.

At its simplest, it can help you relate the keys on a piano keyboard to the notes on a music staff, or you can just bang out single note melodies.

NoiseMaker has five games that will get you started reading music, and then improve your skills using different drills.

Playroom Software

Makeover for Windows
Feature List

Makeover™ is a $39.95 collection of utilities that allows a Windows™ 3.0 or 3.1 user to highly customize the appearance of the environment.   It builds on the concepts introduced with OSFrame™ 1.x, and adds more functionality.   The individual programs are described below.

OSFrame™ 2.0 gives title bars and sizing borders fully configurable three-dimensional effects. Four levels of 3D effects are available for title bars and three levels are available for sizing borders.   A stripes effect can also be applied to title bars for a more Macintosh-like appearance, and title bar text can be made to appear raised or inset.   Six levels of effects are available for dialog window borders.

ButtonMaker™ provides facilities for changing the appearance of key components in the Windows interface.   Control menu boxes, minimize, maximize, and scroll buttons can be colorized and modified.   Predefined button sets are available to make Windows look similar to other Graphical User Interfaces such as those on the Macintosh, NeXT, OS/2 2.0, OSF/Motif, and GeoWorks.

IconMaker™ modifies icons and cursors in any Windows program or display driver.   It allows any Windows user to adjust these elements to individual tastes.   Icons can be created for use in the Program Manager.

CapsKey™ changes the behavior of the Caps Lock key.   The typewriter mode releases the Caps Lock when a shift key is pressed along with an alphabetic key, making the keyboard work like a typewriter.   Two other alternate modes are provided.

NoiseMaker™ is a music teaching and entertainment program for basic sight reading and ear training.   An on-screen piano keyboard facilitates basic drills including note recognition on the staff and keyboard, and interval training.   No additional hardware is required.

An ergonomic 10 function calculator, a paper tape calculator, and several other utilities are included.

Makeover is shipped dual media, with a 1.2 meg 5.25" diskette, and a 720K 3.5" diskette.

Where To Buy Makeover

Makeover is available on the shelves at all CompUSA stores at a nice discount.   CompUSA has stores in these cities: Phoenix,AZ   City of Industry,CA   Culver City,CA   Fountain Valley,CA   Sacramento,CA   San Bruno,CA   San Diego,CA   Santa Clara,CA   Torrance,CA   Aurora,CO   Miami,FL   Tampa,FL   Norcross/Atlanta,GA   Downer's Grove,IL   Schaumburg,IL   Skokie,IL   Overland Park,KS   Framingham,MA   Woburn,MA   Rockville,MD   Madison Heights,MI   Maryland Heights,MO   Las Vegas,NV   Garden City,NY   Cincinatti,OH   King of Prussia,PA   Philadelphia,PA   West Warwick,RI   Arlington,TX   Dallas,TX   Houston,TX   Mesquite,TX   Vienna,VA   Brookfield,WI   ... And since they are growing very fast, some new stores may not be listed.

Windows Exchange is a mail-order reseller that keeps Makeover in stock all the time.   Check out their ads in Windows Sources, Windows User, and Windows Magazine.   They take all of the major credit cards, and have nice prices on all products including Makeover.   Their toll free number in the US is 1-800-845-1900 and their regular number is 313-344-1140.

Makeover is also available through The Programmer's Shop, Software Spectrum, Corporate Software, and Egghead Special Order (1-800-EGGHEAD).

Contact us directly for VAR, OEM, and site licenses.

Where You Can't Buy Makeover

The Makeover 1.0 package uses completely online documentation which allows us to use an environmentally friendly package.   The slim 6" x 9" two color package is made of recycled papers, and soy based ink is used in printing.   It was designed for safe shipping and is sturdy enough to be shipped in padded bags.   Because of its slim profile, resellers can often insert a Makeover package into the shipping container with a larger software package without having to use a larger container.

Because the package is not the standard four color box, some resellers have refused to carry Makeover on their shelves.   In these days of environmental awareness, we find it repulsive that environmentally friendly packaging, or that packaging in general, disqualifies a product from shelf display.   If we were the only company that's had this problem, we would merely deal with it.   But we know of several other companies that have faced the same situation, and we're tired of it.

You can make a difference for us and other forward thinking companies.   Call your local Babbages or Egghead and ask for Makeover.   Remember that both of these resellers have 30 day return policies for all shelf items.

All trademarks and registered trademarks are acknowledged and are the property of the respective trademark holders.   "Egghead" is a trademark of Egghead Software.

If they tell you that they don't carry Makeover, tell them **NOTHANKS**, which is the password required to open the enclosed software.

Articles about Makeover or OSFrame

OSFrame was previously released as a separate product.   It is now sold only as part of Makeover.   The announced price for Makeover was originally $49.95, but was changed to $39.95 when the product was officially released.   Keep this info in mind when reviewing any of these or other articles.

9/21/92 - InfoWorld, Brian Livingston, "Enter Livingston's Incredible Indescribable Doohickies contest", page 22

9/29/92 - PC Magazine, Barry Simon, "Window Dressing", page 167

11/9/92 - InfoWorld, Brian Livingston, "Microsoft should let readers choose better Windows Icons", page 32

11/16/92 - InfoWorld, Brian Livingston, "And now, the winners of the Indescribable Doohickies Contest", page 30

11/92 - Windows User (UK), Sean Geer, "First Glances: Makeover", page 50

Makeover and OSFrame have been seen in many screen shots in PC Magazine, PC/Computing, InfoWorld, Windows Sources, Windows Magazine, Windows User (US), and Windows User (UK).   If you see stripes in a title bar, or 3D effects on title bars or borders, with a 3D control menu button, there's an extremely high probability that you're seeing Makeover in action.