

IconMaster

Beta Release
Version 0.1

Product Comparison

IconMaster is an icon editing and management program for Windows 3. The document compares IconMaster with several similar products.

IconMaster

This program includes a very full set of features for editing, capturing, and managing icons. It is distributed as shareware with a registration fee of \$20. Full documentation is included.

Ike

This program appeared in PC Magazine. It is a very basic icon editor without transparency. It offers no icon management. Documentation is minimal. It is available free.

IconDraw 1.2

This is a good basic icon editor without transparency. It offers no icon management. It is distributed as shareware with a registration fee of \$15. A fancier version is promised to registered owners. Documentation is minimal. (It crashes on mixed type icon files.)

PBIcon 1.1

This program does no icon editing. It allows screen capture and transfer of images from other programs to icon format. It is intended to be used with a program like PaintBrush. Documentation is minimal. It is distributed as shareware with a registration fee of \$10.

IconTamer 1.0

An icon manager that does not do its own editing but links to any other icon editor. Documentation is very complete. It is distributed as shareware with a registration fee of \$15.95 plus \$1.50 shipping.

IconEditor (IE) 1.3

This editor is not a windows program. It is plain DOS and therefore not listed in the tables below. It does handle transparent but not inverse transparent colors. Documentation is minimal. It is distributed as shareware with a registration fee of \$10.

Icon Designer by hDC 1.0

This is an editor and previewer. It handles transparent but has no editing tools beyond single pixel brush. Has good on-line help but no manual at all. It is a commercial program that sells for about \$40.

SDK Paint

This program comes with Microsoft's Windows Development Kit. It can do all forms of cursors and icons.

Others

There are a number of icon collections such as Sight and IconLib that simply bundle lots of icons into one EXE file. You can't do a lot with these other than look at them or click-click forever through them to install one in the Program Manager.

COMPARISON TABLE

The categories in the table are:

Edit - create new icons and change existing ones.

Capture - make an image on the screen into an icon

Preview - see many icons at once

Manage - sort and move icons around while able to see at least the one being manipulated

The symbols are:

x Feature is present

- Feature is present but limited

b Feature is present but broken, behaves strangely

z Crashes

o Feature is not present

	Icon Master	Ike	Icon Draw	PB Icon	Icon Tamer	Icon Designer	SDK Paint
Edit	x	x	x	o	o	x	x
Sizeable Window	x	o	x			o	x
Standard ICO Files	x	x	x			o	x
Extract 32x32 from mixed ICO files	x	o	z			o	x
Formats other than 32x32	o	o	o			o	x
Extract from .EXE	o	o	o			x	o
Edit in .EXE	o	o	o			o	o
Transparency	x	o	o			x	o
Transparency in edit display	x	o	o			x	o
Show on colored backgrounds	x	o	o			o	o
Undo	x	x	o			o	x
Revert	x	o	o			x	x
Copy/Cut/Paste	o	-b	o			o	-
Clear	x	o	x			x	x
Mirror/Flip	x	o	o			o	o
Fill	x	-	o			o	x
ReColor	x	o	o			o	o
Variable Brush	x	o	o			o	x
Rectangles & Ellipses	x	x	x			o	x
Screen Capture	x	o	o	x	x	o	o
Magnify	x			o	o		
Single pixel adjust	x			x	o		
Shrink/expand	o			o	x		
Preview	x	o	o	o	o	x	o
Standard ICO	x					o	
Show icon names	x					o	
Manage	x	o	o	o	x	x	o

See multiple icons	x	o	x
Delete	x	x	x
Rename	x	x	o
Copy/Move	x	x	-
Change format	o	x	o

As you can see from the above comparison, IconMaster has virtually all of the features of the other products combined in one integrated package. Try it, you'll like it.