The valuable DOS Freeware page

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Links to valuable free Dos programs working on low equipped computers.

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This material appeared originally at ‘`http://www.geocities.com/SiliconValley/7737/`’, in 1996. Now it is incorporated inside the Italian document ‘‘a2’’, and it might be reached at the URI *http://a2.swlibero.org/the_valuable_dos_freeware_page.html* .
Questo materiale è apparso in origine, nel 1996, presso ‘`http://www.geocities.com/SiliconValley/7737/`’. Adesso viene incorporato nel documento «a2» e può essere raggiunto attraverso l’URI *http://a2.swlibero.org/the_valuable_dos_freeware_page.html* . L’intento dell’autore è solo quello di continuare a curare un vecchio lavoro che potrebbe essere ancora utile, nonostante si tratti di riferimenti a software in parte libero e in parte solo gratuito, oltre che evidentemente obsoleto.

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Introduction

The Dos operating system meant much for many people. Today, proprietary Dos-like operating systems seem to be no more developed. In this situation, the only possible future for Dos is the ‘‘free’’ software, and it is not just a matter of money anymore.

Unfortunately, ‘‘free’’ is a word with many meanings. Today, this is still the biggest obstacle to the future of the Dos world. There is so much software for Dos, with so many different license agreements. The typical Dos user doesn’t mind to it. But this problem prevents the realization of big serious projects based on it.

Today, the Dos world needs *philosophy*, and the GNU idea is still the right one (*http://www.gnu.org*).

The author of this space would like to list here only ‘‘free software’’ in the sense stated by the Free Software Foundation, **but it is impossible**, as there isn’t enough good real free software for Dos.

The listed software is meant to work on i286 and below.

It is attempted to give some kind of classification about the legal condition of the software presented here. The definition used might be outdated, or there might be other wrong assumption. In particular, the definition ‘‘public domain’’ means here, in most cases, that there is the source, but there is no clear license statement.

Beside the URI links of some FTP services there is an additional ‘‘search link’’ that queries a FTP search engine for the same file. These additional links should be used when there are troubles with the main links.

Anyone can link this document anywhere, so, there is no need to ask

for it. Anyway, it is better to link to this document using at the file name *http://a2.swlibero.org/the_valuable_dos_freeware_page.html* .

In the future, many links may disappear on this page, because of more selective choices concerning software license.

OS and GUI

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- FreeDOS [1] *http://www.freedos.org*
- nanoDos, a FreeDOS distribution with some networking programs, ready to use/install: *ftp://na.mirror.garr.it/mirrors/AppuntiLinux/nanoDos/*

  Italian documentation can be found in chapter u62.
- FreeGEM [2] *http://l.webring.com/hub?ring=freegem*

Utility

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archive, **backup**

- Gzip [3] - '`.GZ`' archive compressor and extractor. *ftp://ftp.simtel.net/pub/simtelnet/msdos/compress/gzip124.zip* *http://www.google.com/search?q=gzip124.zip*
- TAR [4] - portable TAR - DOS/UNIX backup, compressor, with hardware support. *ftp://ftp.simtel.net/pub/simtelnet/msdos/arcers/tar320g.zip* *http://www.google.com/search?q=tar320g.zip*
- Untgz [5] - '`.TGZ`', '`.TAR`', '`.GZ`', '`.ZIP`' file extractor. *ftp://ftp.simtel.net/pub/simtelnet/msdos/arcers/untgz095.zip* *http://www.google.com/search?q=untgz095.zip*

- Info-ZIP [6] - '`.ZIP`' compatible compression and extraction utility. *http://www.info-zip.org/pub/infozip/* *ftp://ftp.info-zip.org/pub/infozip/MSDOS/*
- Restaur [7] - Replacement for Dos Restore, *ftp://ftp.simtel.net/pub/simtelnet/msdos/diskutil/restaur1.zip* *http://www.google.com/search?q=restaur1.zip*

communication

- DosFax [8] - Send a fax using Dos command line *http://www.Adr.de/speicherplatz/cs/dosfax.htm*
- Bgfax [9] *http://www.blkbox.com/~bgfax/*
- Rifs [10] - Disk sharing over a serial line, *ftp://ftp.simtel.net/pub/simtelnet/msdos/lan/dosrifs2.zip* *http://www.google.com/search?q=dosrifs2.zip*

directory, **file**

- WCD [11] - Powerful chdir for Dos and Unix *http://www.xs4all.nl/~waterlan/*

disk

- Dug_ide [12] - Report ATA (IDE) disks geometry *ftp://ftp.simtel.net/pub/simtelnet/msdos/diskutil/dugide21.zip* *http://www.google.com/search?q=dugide21.zip*
- Fips [13] - Non-destructive splitting of hard disk partitions *ftp://ftp.simtel.net/pub/simtelnet/msdos/diskutil/fips15.zip* *http://www.google.com/search?q=fips15.zip*
- Part [14] - MBR partition manager *http://www.ranish.com/part/*

help

- NG_clone [15] - Norton Guides clone *ftp://ftp.simtel.net/pub/simtelnet/msdos/txtutl/ngclon11.zip* *http://www.google.com/search?q=ngclon11.zip*

shell

- DC [16] - The Dos Controller - A Norton Commander clone *ftp://ftp.simtel.net/pub/simtelnet/msdos/fileutil/dc-sk.zip* *http://www.google.com/search?q=dc-sk.zip*

system

- Cmos [17] - Save/Restore extended C/MOS *ftp://ftp.simtel.net/pub/simtelnet/msdos/sysutl/cmos93cd93.zip* *http://www.google.com/search?q=cmos93cd93.zip*
- Cmoser [18] - Save, restore and modify C/MOS memory *ftp://ftp.simtel.net/pub/simtelnet/msdos/sysutl/cmoser11.zip* *http://www.google.com/search?q=cmoser11.zip*
- Bios [19] - Save, restore, erase C/MOS memory; save a BIOS copy to a file *http://www.bockelkamp.de/software/discontinued/bios1351.zip*
- KGB [20] - Utility to monitor some Dos functions and reporting into a log file *ftp://ftp.simtel.net/pub/simtelnet/msdos/sysutl/kgb104.zip* *http://www.google.com/search?q=kgb104.zip*

text

- Vim [21] - VI improved, a small text editor that can handle very big files with low RAM *ftp://ftp.simtel.net/pub/simtelnet/msdos/editor/vim53d16.zip* *http://www.google.com/search?q=vim53d16.zip*

packet driver

- PC/TCP Packet Driver Collection [22] *ftp://ftp.crynwr.com/drivers/* *ftp://ftp.crynwr.com/drivers/pktd11.zip*
- WATTCP [23] - TCP/IP library routines *http://www.wattcp.com/*
- DOS PPPD [24] - Dos port of Linux PPP packet driver *ftp://ftp.simtel.net/pub/simtelnet/msdos/pktdrvr/dosppp05.zip* *http://www.google.com/search?q=dosppp05.zip*
- Comring [25] - packet driver emulating ethernet over serial link(s) *http://wizard.ae.krakow.pl/~jb/ComRing/*

TCP/IP

- WATTCP apps [26] - some common client application using WATTCP library *http://www.smashco.com/wattcp/apps.zip*
- MiniTelnet [27] - TELNET client *http://www.smashco.com/wattcp/mt.zip*
- Bobcat [28] - Text based web browser *http://www.fdisk.com/doslynx/bobcat.htm* (derived from DosLynx, *ftp://ftp2.cc.ukans.edu/pub/WWW/DosLynx/*)
- Arachne (GPL) [29] - Graphical web browser *http://home.hetnet.nl/~ba8tian/arachne/arachne.htm* , *http://home.hetnet.nl/~ba8tian/arachne/175-gpl/ar175.htm* , *http://home.hetnet.nl/~ba8tian/arachne/175-gpl/a175gp75lf.zip*
- PCroute [30] - IP routing program for IBM PC *ftp://ftp.simtel.net/pub/simtelnet/msdos/network/pcrte224.zip* *http://www.google.com/search?q=pcrte224.zip*

- PPRD [31] - Turn a dedicated PC (XT/AT) into a LPD server *ftp://ftp.simtel.net/pub/simtelnet/msdos/lan/pprd200.zip* *http://www.google.com/search?q=pprd200.zip*
- NCSA Telnet [32] - Telnet, Ftp,... NCSA *http://archive.ncsa.uiuc.edu/SDG/Software/PCTelnet/* *ftp://ftp.ncsa.uiuc.edu/Telnet/DOS/* *ftp://ftp.simtel.net/pub/simtelnet/msdos/ncsatlnt/*
- NOS (KA9Q) [33] - A complete mini TCP/IP system *ftp://ftp.simtel.net/pub/simtelnet/msdos/tcpip/* *http://www.google.com/search?q=e920603.zip*

  To use NOS you need documentation, for example the package *ftp://ftp.simtel.net/pub/simtelnet/msdos/tcpip/intronos.zip*
- SSHDOS [34] - SSH client for Dos *http://sourceforge.net/projects/sshdos*
- Talk [35] - Talk client for Dos *http://www.smashco.com/wattcp/talk-13.zip*
- ABC-nslookup [36] - DNS query clients for Dos *http://www.smashco.com/wattcp/nslb01a.zip*

See also:

- Marc S. Ressl, *Dos Internet Pages* *http://www.fdisk.com/doslynx/*
- Smash-Co Communications, *TCP/IP for MS-DOS* *http://www.smashco.com/wattcp.asp*
- *The U-M Software Archive* *http://www.umich.edu/~archive/msdos/communications/wattcp/* *http://www.umich.edu/~archive/msdos/communications/packet/*

assembler

See the FreeDOS project (*http://www.freedos.org*) for assembler compilers.

batch

- BAT2EXE [37] - Compile batch files for speed *ftp://ftp.simtel.net/pub/simtelnet/msdos/batchutl/bat2ex15.zip* *http://www.google.com/search?q=bat2ex15.zip*

C/C++

See the FreeDOS project (*http://www.freedos.org*) for C and C++ compilers.

Perl

Perl [38] - Practical Extraction Report Language *ftp://ftp.simtel.net/pub/simtelnet/msdos/perl/*

Rexx

- BREXX [39] - Rexx interpreter for Dos/Unix *http://ftp.gwdg.de/pub/languages/rexx/brexx/html/rx.html*

xBase

- nanoBase [40] - Mini, but nearly complete xBase *http://a2.swlibero.org/nanobase_1997.html*

See also:

- David Muir Shamoff, *Catalog of free compilers and interpreters* *http://www.idiom.com/free-compilers/*

Typesetting

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- Nro [41] - A Nroff implementation for Dos *ftp://ftp.simtel.net/pub/simtelnet/msdos/txtutl/nroff1.zip* *http://www.google.com/search?q=nroff1.zip*
- Ghostscript [42] - ‘‘GNU’’ original edition - PostScript previewing, conversion, and printing *ftp://mirror.cs.wisc.edu/pub/mirrors/ghost/gnu/*
- emTeX [43] - TeX-LaTeX distribution for Dos *ftp://www.ctan.org/tex-archive/systems/msdos/emtex/*

More Dos software sources

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- *ftp://ftp.simtel.net/pub/simtelnet/msdos/*
- *http://garbo.uwasa.fi/pc/*

Search engines

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- *http://www.shareware.com/*

[1] **FreeDOS** GNU GPL

[2] **FreeGEM** GNU GPL

[3] **Gzip** GNU GPL

[4] **TAR (Dos)** public domain

[5] **Untgz** GNU GPL

[6] **Info-ZIP** free software with special license

[7] **Restaur** cannot be sold for profit

[8] **DosFax** public domain

[9] **Bgfax** promised to become free software

[10] **Rifs** cannot be sold for profit

[11] **WCD** GNU GPL

[12] **Dug_ide** free of charge, with sources

[13] **Fips** GNU GPL

[14] **Part** public domain

[15] **NG_clone** public domain

[16] **DC** public domain (no license at all, and no sources)

[17] **Cmos** public domain

[18] **Cmoser** free of charge

[19] **Bios** free of charge

[20] **KGB** public domain

[21] **Vim** free software with special license

[22] **Crynwr packet driver collection** GNU GPL

[23] **WATTCP** free of charge library

[24] **DOS PPPD** mixed licenses

[25] **Comring** GNU GPL

[26] **WATTCP apps** cannot be sold

[27] **MiniTelnet** free software with a special license

[28] **Bobcat** GNU GPL

[29] **Arachne** GNU GPL

[30] **PCroute** cannot distribute modifications

[31] **PPRD** software non libero: licenza Artistic

[32] **NCSA Telnet** public domain

[33] **NOS** public domain

[34] **SSHDOS** GNU GPL

[35] **Talk** GNU GPL

[36] **ABC-nslookup** UCB BSD

[37] **BAT2EXE** public domain

[38] **Perl** GNU GPL or Artistic

[39] **BREXX** public domain

[40] **nanoBase** GNU GPL

[41] **Nro** public domain

[42] **Ghostscript** GNU GPL

[43] **emTeX** LPPL but some files have different conditions