

it works in DOS, the basic commands are easy to learn. ★★★★★

\$129 • ViaCrypt 4.0, 602-944-0773

PROFESSIONAL CAPTURE SYSTEMS

Professional Capture Systems is a screen capture utility that works in both DOS and Windows. Unlike Screen Thief, Professional Capture Systems can run alongside several memory-intensive games. WarCraft, however, rendered it useless by locking out keyboard commands. If Professional Capture Systems included an animation utility for automatic captures, it would be an excellent product. ★★★

\$39 • JASC, 800-622-2793

SCREEN THIEF

Screen Thief is among a handful of programs that let you take digital still shots of other computer programs as they run. Simply load Screen Thief into RAM before running other programs and hit keyboard commands when you want to

capture a screen image. The pictures are stored as PCX files, which can be used and viewed with most word-processing and desktop publishing programs. However, many games use so much RAM that they won't run in tandem with Screen Thief. ★★★

\$29 • Nildram Software/FormGen, 800-263-2390

TELIX FOR WINDOWS

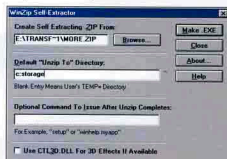
As communications managers go, the shareware version of Telix for Windows competes well with such established giants as Delrina's WinCom. It allows background transfers, features a powerful user phone book, and has a fairly understandable graphical interface. The retail version even allows you to view image files during downloads. The shareware version of Telix for Windows has two main drawbacks: It does not display GIF files and (like other shareware programs) it turns itself off after a 45-day trial period. ★★★

\$89.30 • DeltaComm Development/FormGen, 800-263-2390

WINZIP SELF-EXTRACTOR

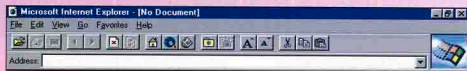
The purpose of this tiny utility is to decompress zipped files, letting you distribute multiple copies of zipped files that unzip automatically when accessed. You simply type the name of the zipped file and the directory where you wish to place its contents. Then WinZip Self-Extractor does the rest. ★★★★★

\$49 • Nico Mak Computing, 800-242-4775, CompuServe: 70056,241



WinZip Self Extractor is a simple utility with an equally simple interface.

SHAREWARE on the WEB



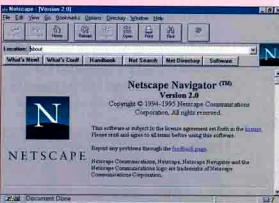
INTERNET EXPLORER 2.0

In an unusual turn of events, Microsoft has found itself lagging behind the pack in Internet browsing software. Microsoft's Internet Explorer is tough to learn and cannot access many kinds of files.

This summer Microsoft will release Internet Explorer 3.0, which will have progressive rendering and will match many of the features available from competitor Netscape Navigator 2.0. ★★★

Free at <http://www.msn.com> • Microsoft, 800-426-9400

Option menus for Internet Explorer [above], and Netscape Navigator [below].



has become a common sign along the information superhighway. ★★★★★

\$49 (free trial version at <http://www.home.netscape.com>) • Netscape Communications, 415-254-1900

SHOCKWAVE

Shockwave is a plug-in that allows Internet browsers to access animations cre-

ated with Macromedia Director. Since Director handles both audio and visual effects, it provides an effective way to advertise on the Internet. It also enables publishers to jazz up their Web sites considerably. ★★★★★

Free at <http://www.macromedia.com> • Macromedia, 800-326-2128

JAVA APPLET

3-D NAVIGATION

This Java applet by Jean-Claude Dufourd is a 3-D cube that you can spin using your cursor. On each side of the cube you'll find an interventional flag that's hyperlinked to a specific Web page. Hack the source code to create your own version. ★★★

Free at <http://www.elec.enst.fr/java/n/test.html>

CELEBRITY PAINTER

This paint program created by Jeff Orkin allows you to paint brush strokes with celebrity faces. Mixing and matching them yields mischievous fun. ★★★★★

Free at <http://www.demonsys.com/jorkin/CelebrityPainter/#celebrity>

NETSCAPE NAVIGATOR 2.0

With advanced features such as framing and progressive rendering of graphics, and with more proprietary extensions than its competitors can offer, Netscape Navigator 2.0 is the best Internet browser available (see our April feature, "Browser Battle," page 66).

Tapping into this extra power, many companies have used Netscape server tools to create their Web sites. In fact, "Netscape Enhanced"

