

## **LESSON 12**

### **FIND IRQ SETTINGS**

### **FASTER WIN 95 MENUS – RESIZE ICONS**

We've all heard about IRQ conflicts in our computer where one device, a modem for example, is in conflict with another device like a scanner. The IRQ setting lets a device like a printer or scanner communicate with the CPU or main chip of the computer. Here's how to see exactly what devices are assigned to each available IRQ setting. Right-click on My Computer, then select Properties. Now open the Device Manager tab and double-click on Computer. There you'll find the list of IRQ settings for your system. IRQs 03 and 04 are generally reserved for Com 2 and Com 1, while IRQ 7 is usually reserved for LPT1, your printer port.

You can adjust the pop-up speed of the menus in Windows 95. Click on Start, then Run, then type REGEDIT and press the Enter key. Now highlight HKEY\_CURRENT\_USER and double-click. Now double-click on Control Panel, then on Desktop. Look on the right side of your screen for Menu Show Delay. You may only see part of it, like "Menu Show". Double-click on it. The default setting is 500 milliseconds. You can reduce that number and thereby increase the speed at which menus will pop up.

If you don't find Menu Show Delay, you can create it by right clicking in the right-hand pane of REGEDIT and selecting New, then String Value. Name the new String Value MENUSHOWDELAY and press Enter. Now you can double-click on the new value and set the data value. Remember, the lower the value, the faster your menus will pop up. Now save your work.

You can control the size of the Shortcut Icons on your desktop. Just right-click on the desktop, then select Properties. Now click on the Appearance tab, then open the Item: Box. Select Icon, double-click and then change the default setting, which is 32, to about 16. Now click on Apply, then OK. This will work best if the words under each icon are as short as possible.

See, that wasn't so hard, now was it?

