

## **LESSON 25**

### **SELECTING WINDOWS SAFE MODE OR DOS AT STARTUP**

When you start up your Windows 95 or Windows 98 computer, your system goes right into the Windows program. I'm going to show you how to make an automated prompt that lets you select DOS or Windows each time you start up your computer.

First, right-click on My Computer, then left-click on Explore. Choose View, then Options, and make sure "Show All Files" is selected. Now click on OK. Next, locate the file "MSDOS.SYS" in the root directory of your C drive. Highlight it, then right-click, and choose Properties. In the dialog box that now comes up, uncheck the "Read Only" attribute, and then click on OK. Close Explorer.

Now click on Start, then run, then type in "NOTEPAD C:\MSDOS.SYS" and press the Enter key. In the file that is now open on your screen, look for the "OPTIONS" heading. If you see a line that says "BOOTMENU=" edit it by adding the number 1 after the = sign. If you don't see that line, add it. Again, it's "BOOTMENU=1". This line brings up a menu of choices at boot up. Next, add the line "BOOTMENUDEFAULT=1" which will force your computer to come up in Windows if you don't make a selection from the menu. You can even tell windows how long to display the menu before it boots Windows if no menu choices are selected. Add the line "BOOTMENUDELAY=4" where 4 represents a 4 second delay. Four seconds is just about right. You can also add the line "BOOTDELAY=0" to insure that you get this startup menu as soon as possible. Now, just click on file, then save, and you're done. The next time you start up your computer, you'll have control over how things start up.

Now that wasn't so hard, was it?

