

LESSON 108

PROGRAMS MENU DISPLAY - INTERNET SEARCH RESOURCES

Windows 95/98, when used with Microsoft Internet Explorer 5.0, changes the way your computer displays the Start/Programs menu. The old method displayed side-by-side menus if Windows couldn't fit everything on a single menu. With IE 5.0, Windows now displays the Start menu as a single menu. You have to hold your mouse pointer on the down-arrow at the bottom of the Start menu to scroll up or down and read the entire Start menu. I like the old method. Here's how to make the change.

Click Start and then Run. Type REGEDIT and press Enter or click OK. Highlight HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE and double-click. Now find and click on Software, Microsoft, Windows, Current Version and Explorer. Find and highlight Advanced.

In a blank spot in the right pane, right-click, and then select New/String Value. Type "Start Menu Scroll Programs" (without the quotes) and press Enter. Right-click on the new string and select Modify. Type "false" (again, without the quotes) and press Enter. Now close REGEDIT and restart your computer. The next time you click on Start and select Programs, the Start menu will display in side-by-side panels.

Shareware and freeware programs are plentiful on the Net. The problem is finding single sources to use. I have two of them for you. The first is **www.download.com**, which has most every useful shareware and freeware programs available on the Net. It's slow, however, and you might want to look at **www.zdnetdownloads.com**, which has most of the same links as **download.com**. It's faster.

The Internet reference desk, **refdesk.com**, is a wonderful source for information. It's like a card file in a library reference section. Start by looking at **www.refdesk.com/fastfact.html**, where you can find about 400 links, neatly organized into categories like almanacs and maps, dictionaries and thesauruses, dictionaries of people and places, encyclopedias, and libraries of data.

Refdesk.com also has a Facts encyclopedia at **www.refdesk.com/myency.html**. This page has some 75 categories covering more than 7,500 sites. Great for homework at any grade level.

