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What is Resource Hacker™?

Resource Hacker™ is a **freeware** utility to view, modify, rename, add, delete and extract resources in 32bit Windows executables and resource files (*.res). It incorporates an internal resource script compiler and decompiler and works on Win95, Win98, WinME, WinNT, Win2000 and WinXP operating systems.

Viewing Resources: Cursor, Icon, Bitmap, GIF, AVI, and JPG resource images can be viewed. WAV and MIDI audio resources can be played. Menus, Dialogs, MessageTables, StringTables, Accelerators, Delphi Forms, and VersionInfo resources can be viewed as decompiled resource scripts. Menus and Dialogs can also be viewed as they would appear in a running application.

Saving Resources: Resources can be saved as image files (*.ico, *.bmp etc), as script files (*.rc), as binary resource files (*.res), or as untyped binary files (*.bin).

Modifying Resources: Resources can be modified by replacing the resource with a resource located in another file (*.ico, *.bmp, *.res etc) or by using the internal resource script compiler (for menus, dialogs etc). Dialog controls can also be visually moved and/or resized by clicking and dragging the respective dialog controls prior to recompiling with the internal compiler.

Adding Resources: Resources can be added to an application by copying them from external resource files (*.res).

Deleting Resources: Most compilers add resources into applications which are never used by the application. Removing unused resources can reduce an application's size.

Last Updated:

24 March 2002
Version: 3.4.0

Author & Copyright:

Angus Johnson
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Resource Hacker is no longer being developed:

I have been overwhelmed by the interest in Resource Hacker™, the emails of thanks, encouragement and suggestions. It's been downloaded over 3 million

I have been overwhelmed by the interest in Resource Hacker™, the emails of thanks, encouragement and suggestions. It's been downloaded over 3 million times. However, I've moved on to other things and have no plans to continue its development. Please don't ask for the source code, I'm not releasing it, nor is it for sale. Colin Wilson has written an open source **Resource Editor** which may interest those looking for source code.

One off update - 19 December 2009 (version 3.5.2 beta):

I needed to access resources in a 64bit Windows executable so I've just updated Resource Hacker™ to open (ie decompile/recompile) these files too. This new version also displays PNG image resources. However, please understand that I have no intention of reviving this project so please DON'T ask for other features. Also, because this version has only had limited testing I'm releasing it as a beta version. You can download this beta version here - **reshack_setup.exe**

Known Limitations:

Limitation:
Resource Hacker™ is currently compiled with Delphi 3.02. When decompiling and recompiling Borland's Delphi forms in applications compiled with later version of Delphi, there may be errors in the recompiled forms if frames have been used to create the form. This error is due to the *inline* DFM keyword not being recognized. While decompiling, the *inline* keyword will be replaced by *object* and, if manually corrected before recompiling, *inline* will be rejected by the internal compiler.
Status:
I'm not rushing to make all the changes that are necessary to recompile Resource Hacker™ with the latest version of Delphi.

Limitation:
To reduce the size of application files, some applications are "packed" or "compressed" using an EXE compressor once they have been compiled. This has a side-effect of making it more difficult to view and modify resources. When a "compressed" executable is viewed with Resource Hacker™, only resource types and names will be visible but not the actual resources.
Status:
This is not viewed as a bug. The application developer may well have viewed this as beneficial feature so no "fix" is planned.

Download Sites for Version 3.4.0

Europe (Zip File 541kb)

Australia (Zip File 541kb)

Resource Hacker Tutorial and Other Tips

Tutorial by Vishal Gupta.
Other Resource Hacker tips by Vishal Gupta.

Resource Hacker™ translations:

Simplified Chinese: (Ver 3.4.0)
Translation by: **Darong Lv**

Traditional Chinese: (Ver 3.2.10)
Translation by: **Menghsi Wu**

Japanese: (Ver 3.4.0)
Translation by: **Yoshiroh Maruoka**

I do not intend to host any other translations of Resource Hacker™.

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