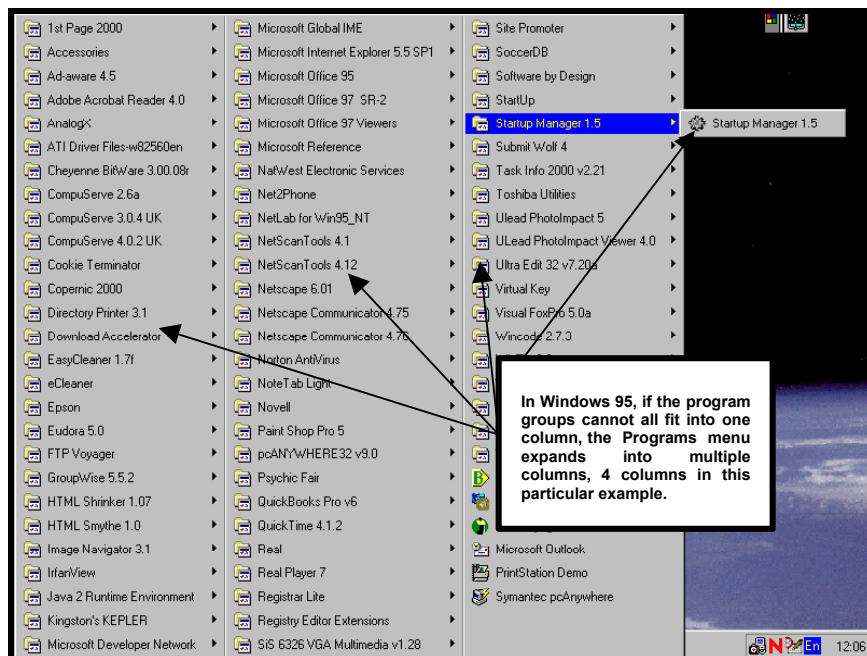


## How to have a multi-column "Programs" menu in Windows 98/ME/2000

If you click on **Start \ Programs** in **Windows 95** you will get a view of all the Program Groups on your PC. If there are a lot of Program Groups and they cannot all fit into 1 column, Windows 95 simply creates a second column of Program Groups, and a third column if needed etc., etc. This view is known as a "**Multi-column Programs menu**" view, as shown below :



In **Windows 98/ME/2000** things are significantly different. By default, once you have too many Program Groups to fit into one column, little scroll arrows appear at the top and bottom of that first and only column and all subsequent program groups are only displayed through scrolling that first and only column, e.g. when you click on the scroll arrows, that first and only column moves up or down accordingly, allowing you to see more Program Groups.

Most users find this "silliness" **extremely irritating and un-user friendly** – Microsoft call it a "feature" !!

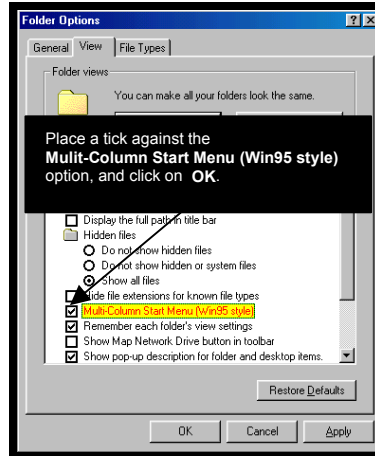
In Windows 98 there is no in-built way of disabling that feature. However, so many users complained about it, Microsoft saw the errors of its ways and made multi-columns the default in both Windows ME and Windows 2000, unless you upgraded to ME/2000 from Windows 98, in which case it defaults to the setting you had in Windows 98 (single column).

**This document will guide you through enabling a Multi-columns Program Menu for Windows 98, Windows ME (Millennium Edition), and Windows 2000.**

### Windows 98

- Close **all** applications.
- Go to [www.ATWLIBRARIES.com](http://www.ATWLIBRARIES.com) and then the **Windows Miscellaneous** section, and then download onto your desktop the file called : **"Win98\_Start\_Menu\_Multi\_Columns.reg"** and which you will find below this very document. This file contains instructions that will modify your Windows 98 environment and will install into Windows 98 the ability to have a multi-column Programs menu.
- Double-click on **"Win98\_Start\_Menu\_Multi\_Columns.reg"**.
- When you are prompted to confirm modifications to the Windows 98 Registry, click on **Yes**.
- Reboot the PC.
- Start **Windows Explorer**.
- Click on the **View \ Folder Options** menu option.

- Position yourself on the **View** tab, as shown below :



- Place a tick against the **Multi-Column Start Menu (Win95 Style)** option.

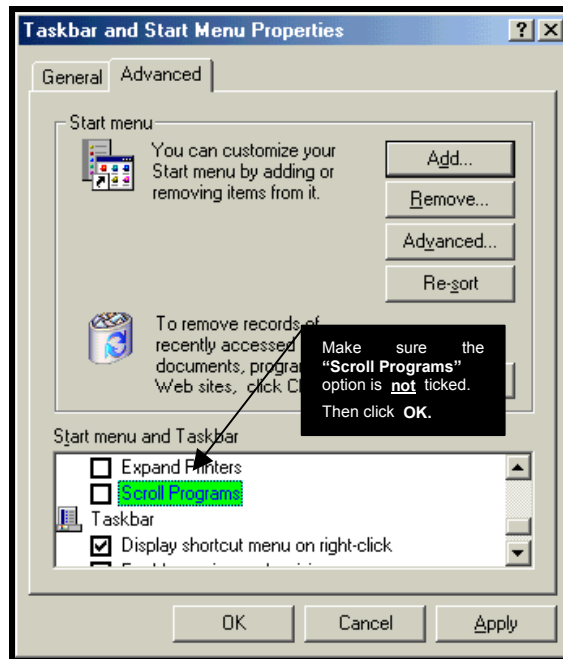
- Click **OK**.

- That's it, you're done.**

*If **unsorted** menus also frustrate you, then turn to the last section of this document to learn how to also make sure that your **Start menu** and your **Program Menu** are sorted in alphabetical order.*

## Windows ME

- Click on **Start \ Settings \ Task Bar & Start Menu**.
- Click on the **Advanced** tab.
- In the bottom section of the *TaskBar & Start Menu Properties* area, locate the **Scroll Programs** option, and make sure it is **not** ticked.

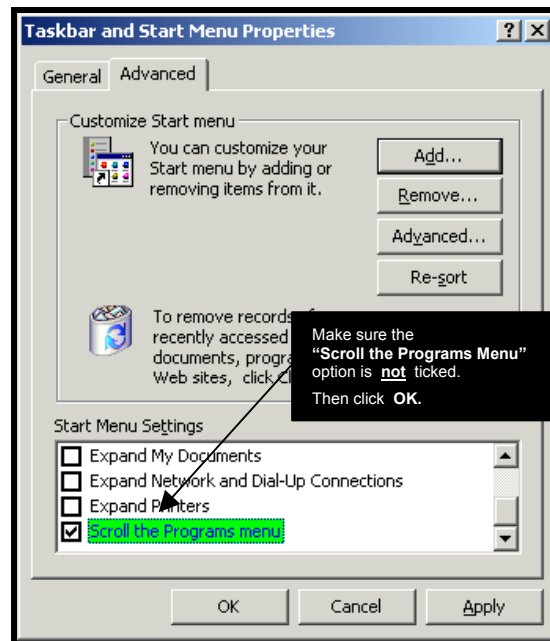


- Click on **OK**.
- Restart your PC.
- That's it. You're done.**

*If unsorted menus also frustrate you, then turn to the last section of this document to learn how to also make sure that your **Start menu** and your **Program Menu** are sorted in alphabetical order.*

## Windows 2000

- Click on **Start \ Settings \ Task Bar & Start Menu**.
- Position yourself on the **Advanced** tab.
- In the section labelled Start Menu Settings, locate the **Scroll the Programs menu** setting, and make sure it is **NOT** ticked.



- Click on **OK**.
- Restart your PC.
- That's it. You're done.**

### Sorting the Start or Programs menus

Another frustrating "feature" of Windows 98/ME/2000 is how the Start and Programs menus are never **sorted alphabetically automatically** in the same way that they used to be in Windows 95. It is a total waste of time as, often, the end-user scans the Start or Programs Menu from top to bottom, and initially thinks what he is looking for is not there only to then realise that, as a result of recent software installations, the menu is not in the normal *alphabetical order* that the whole world works on (except for Microsoft it would seem) !

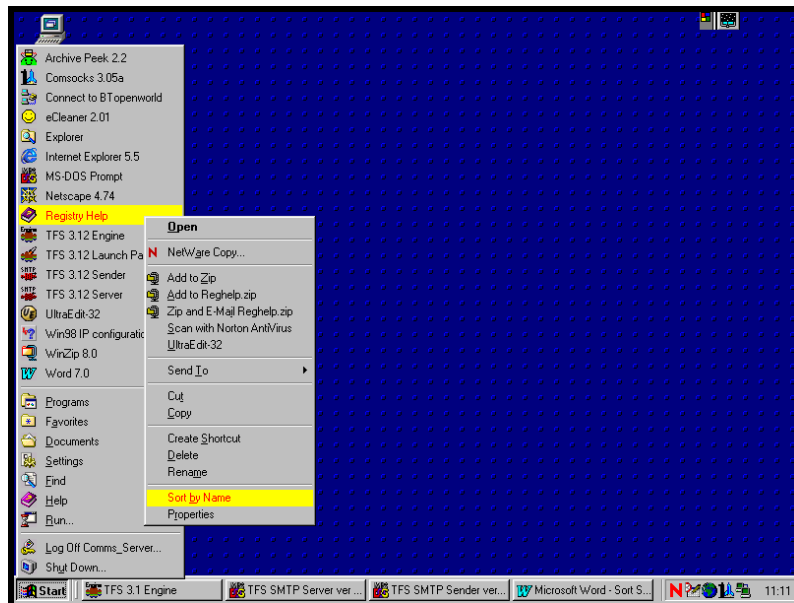
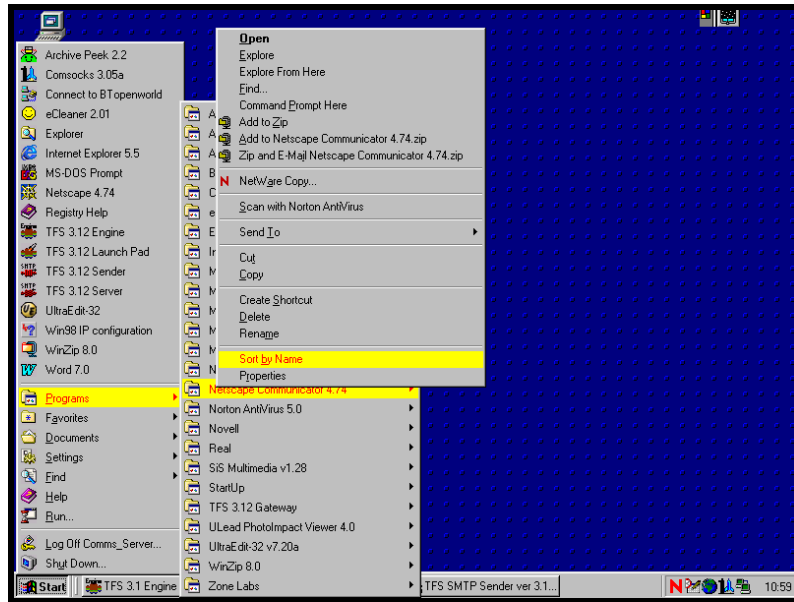
If you are part of the majority of users who finds this frustrating, here is how you sort the menu :

- Bring up the menu that you want to sort.
- Right-click** anywhere within that menu.



Click on the **Sort by Name** option towards the bottom of the right-click menu that comes up, as shown in the examples below :

*Note, if you are running the original version of **Windows 98** with **Internet Explorer 4** then you will not get the **Sort by Name** menu option. To get it you will need to upgrade Internet Explorer to version 5.01 or later.*



That's it. You're done.

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