

**vDos** derived from the excellent freeware project **DOSBox**.

It has been greatly modified to make it more suitable for DOS business applications.

- vDos will only function with **Windows** operating systems (XP up to Windows 10, 32 and 64-bits).
  - If you intend to use it for **gaming**: **Don't**, use DOSBox instead!
  - vDos facilitates most DOS applications, an occasional exception is mostly due to the limited support for protected mode operations. Or the DOS program replacing the keyboard interrupt.
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To get a quick impression, start the vDos desktop shortcut. This should launch the freeware DataPerfect Testdrive program. Play with it to confirm vDos is working correctly on your system and exit it (F7). If some extended ASCII characters don't display as you expect: you can fix this in the config.txt file.

Specific vDos key combinations:

- [Alt][Enter] switches to and from (semi) full screen mode.
- [Win]+F11 decreases, [Win]+F12 increases the font and window size.
- [Win][Ctrl]+C copies the window to a file, opened by the default Windows program for text files.
- [Win][Ctrl]+V pastes the Windows clipboard into the DOS keyboard.
- [Win][Ctrl]+mouse click starts selecting a rectangle block of text. Drag the mouse and release the mouse button, the selected text is now in the Window clipboard.

Go on and start your application:

- **Autoexec.txt** is the equivalent of the DOS autoexec.bat and holds all commands to start it.
- **Config.txt** has options to configure vDos later on, these are commented in that file
- It should be fairly easy to adjust these two files to your needs.

If you have more DOS applications and folders for them with different configurations, you don't have to copy all of vDos files to those locations.

- Only config.txt and autoexec.txt are needed there.
- Create a shortcut to the vDos executable and give it some sensible name.
- Set the "Start in" property of the shortcut to the folder of the application.

vDos detects and starts Windows programs directly. No need for cmd/start, this can get in the way with programs already modified to run in Windows 32-bit. Remove the cmd/start prefixes or create a dummy cmd/start (.bat) batch file.

Printing:

- vDos by default utilizes the versatile **DOSPrinter** program for printing to Windows devices, mail recipients, PDF or RTF (Word) documents.
  - Spend some time at the DOSPrinter.pdf file if you want to fine-tune your hardcopies.
  - DOSPrinter however is shareware, you'll get occasionally a copyright notice on your output.
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- The origin of this software (DOSBox/vDos) must not be misrepresented; you must not claim that you wrote the original software.
  - You must make available all files needed to compile it into your version.
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I'm still surprised that many using and devoted to DOS programs. DOS is supposed to be dead? Perhaps 90% of the DOS program developers time was dedicated to functionality. In Windows this goes into creating a fancy looking interface?

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