

## Returning back to DOS on exiting Windows 95

The following tip will only work with **AT** motherboards by virtue of the fact that most modern motherboards, ATX boards, will automatically switch off on shutdown, with Windows 95 never actually displaying the final *"It is now safe to turn off your computer"* screen. AT motherboards, on the other hand, cannot be switched off through software.

Windows 95 need not always return to the *"It is now safe to turn off your computer"* screen when you shut down. Should you wish to, you can configure your Windows 95 system to return to the DOS prompt on Shut-Down.

Firstly, a bit of basics : you can only return to DOS on exit of Windows 95 if **COMMAND.COM** is loaded before **WIN.COM** at start-up. As you may know, a Windows 95 system can be configured with or without an AUTOEXEC.BAT file. If your Windows 95 PC is configured without an AUTOEXEC.BAT file, then COMMAND.COM will not be loaded. If your Windows 95 PC is configured with an AUTOEXEC.BAT file, then COMMAND.COM is loaded at start-up.

On start-up, WIN.COM loads the Windows 95 Graphical User Interface (GUI) and transfers control to it. On Shut Down, control reverts to WIN.COM which displays a bitmap file, **C:\WINDOWS\LOGOS.SYS**, that states that it is OK to turn off your PC. It then continues executing in a tight loop that swallows all keystrokes, thereby giving the impression that all you can do at that stage is reboot your PC with Ctrl-Alt-Del.

Thus, to return to DOS on shut down from Windows 95, all you need do is rename the bitmap file (to LOGOS.SYS.OLD to use a safe meaningful name). On not finding that file, WIN.COM displays a text message and returns to COMMAND.COM which displays the familiar DOS prompt.

**As simple as that .....**

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