

## **DeskSave 8.1**

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DeskSave is a user-friendly tool to save and restore the icon layout of the desktop.

### Features:

- Saves the desktop icon layout according to user and screen resolution
- Restoring works properly, even if 'Auto Arrange' or 'Align to Grid' (Windows XP/Vista) is activated
- Accepts command line parameters
- Auto restore after resolution change, program start or resume from standby/hibernation
- Auto save at logoff
- Unicode support, layouts are saved UTF-8 encoded
- Starts with Windows, if desired
- Saves icon layouts to files
- Undo after restoration
- Provides backups of icon layouts
- Optional portable mode, leaves no traces on the system
- Supports multiple displays
- Supports English and German language
- Optional shell extension for the desktop, thereby easy access to functions without background process
- Very small size (DeskSave.exe: 78,5 KB, Shell extension: 79,5 KB)
- No setup routine, just unpack the archive and DeskSave is ready
- Easy deletion of all saved primary layouts, backups settings, DeskSave is completely removable
- Supports Windows 98, 2000, XP and Vista (32 bit)

## Installation/Uninstallation

Just unpack the archive **dsksave8.zip**, DeskSave.exe is ready immediately.

DeskSave can completely be removed from the computer with **Remove Traces**, see Options.

DeskSave can be run in two different modes:

- **Standard mode**: when starting **without** command line parameters, it creates a system tray icon by which its menu can be accessed.
- **Command line mode**: when starting **with** command line parameters, there will be no system tray icon and DeskSave terminates immediately after execution.

In addition, DeskSave optionally installs a shell extension so that its functions can be reached through the context menu of the desktop.

## Standard mode

By clicking the system tray icon the following menu is opened:

### Save layout

DeskSave can save **one** primary layout per screen resolution. A primary layout is saved to a .dsv file according to the user in [LOCAL\_APPDATA]/TBlauhut/DeskSave/Layouts. Additionally a desktop icon layout can be saved to a .dsv file at any other place.

- **Primary layout**

The desktop icon layout for the current screen resolution is saved as primary layout.

Before saving the layout, DeskSave creates a timestamped backup of the currently saved primary layout for later restoration in case of mistake.

**This menu item is enabled only, if the current desktop icon layout differs from the currently saved primary layout, i.e. the position of at least one icon must have changed or at least one icon must have been deleted or newly created.**

- **To file...**

Saves the desktop icon layout to a .dsv file.

### Restore layout

- **Primary layout**

If a layout was saved for the current screen resolution, each icon on the desktop for which position data can be found is moved to the saved position.

'Auto Arrange' and 'Align to Grid' (Windows XP/Vista) are turned off before restoration takes place. If desired, 'Align to Grid' is turned on again after restoration, whereby the icon layout may change again!

It is understood that 'Auto Arrange' is not turned on again!

Before restoring the layout, DeskSave creates a timestamped backup of the current desktop icon layout for later restoration in case of mistake.

In addition, if **Undo after restore** is activated, DeskSave allows immediately undoing the restoration.

**This menu item is enabled only, if a saved primary layout is available for the current screen resolution, and if the position of at least on icon on the desktop is different from the saved position.**

- **From file...**

Restores the desktop icon layout according to the selected .dsv file. Files exported by DeskSave 7.x can not be loaded by DeskSave 8.x. Such 7.x files can be converted into 8.x files by the DeskSave File Converter, which can be found on <http://www.desksave.de>.

## **Restore backup**

Allows returning to a previous icon layout in case the layout was mixed up by e.g. restoring from the wrong .dsv file.

In a submenu the ten most recently created layout backups can be found, ordered by time of creation.

There are two different types of backups:

- **S**

The backup was created before saving a primary layout and represents a previously saved primary layout.

- **R**

The backup was created before restoring the layout and represents a previously visible desktop icon layout.

**A menu item in the backup submenu is enabled only, if the position of at least on icon on the desktop is different from the position in the particular backup.**

## **Options**

The settings are saved to **Options.ini** [LOCAL\_APPDATA]/TBlauhut/DeskSave. (Except for the portable mode, see below)

### **Auto restore after**

DeskSave can automatically restore the primary layout when started, when Windows resumes from standby or hibernation and when screen resolution changes. There will **no** backup be created in these cases!

### **Confirmation before**

It is recommended to at least activate the confirmation before saving, in order not to overwrite a primary layout by mistake.

### **Vista: Icon size after restoration**

Defines the icon size after restoration. Available in Windows Vista only.

## Additional

- **Start with Windows**

DeskSave starts after Windows has booted up.

- **Undo after restore**

DeskSave allows undoing the restoration.

- **Notification after saving**

Self-explanatory, to be unchecked, if no user interaction is desired.

- **Save at logoff**

DeskSave automatically saves a new primary layout when the user logs off from the system.

- **No splash screen**

DeskSave does not show a splash screen at start.

- **Install/Uninstall shell extension**

If the shell extension is installed, DeskSave is accessible through the context menu of the desktop.

- **Remove traces**

Deletes all saved primary layouts, backups and settings. DeskSave terminates afterwards.

## Language

Choose between English or German.

## Command line mode

All actions invoked by command line parameters are executed **without** prior confirmation, no matter which settings have been made. If the settings are to be considered anyway, the parameter **/dlg** has to be passed as well.

After a successful execution 0 is returned as exit code.

DeskSave can be started with the following command line parameters:

### **/s**

Saves the desktop icon layout for the current screen resolution as primary layout. Does not create a system tray icon.

### **/r**

Restores the desktop icon layout according to the saved primary layout. Does not create a system tray icon.

### **/sf filename**

Saves the desktop icon layout to a .dsv file. Does not create a system tray icon.

### **/rf filename**

Restores the desktop icon layout according to a .dsv file. Does not create a system tray icon.

### **/t**

A system tray icon is created.

### **/nosplash**

DeskSave does not show a splash screen at start.

### **/port**

Starts DeskSave in portable mode. DeskSave does not leave any traces on the system, which may e.g. be useful when starting from a USB flash drive. Settings are saved to **Options.ini** in the directory from which DeskSave was started, provided that there is write permission for this directory.

The batch file **DeskSavePortable.bat** can be used to easily start DeskSave in portable mode, command line parameters can also be passed to this batch file.

Examples:

**DeskSave /s** saves the desktop icon layout as primary layout without confirmation

**DeskSave /s /dlg** as above, with confirmation

**DeskSave /rf MyLayout.dsv** restores the desktop icon layout according to MyLayout.dsv

**DeskSave /rf MyLayout.dsv /port** as above, however without leaving traces on the system

**DeskSave /nosplash /port** starts without splash screen in portable mode with system tray icon

## **Shell extension**

Administrator privileges are **not** necessary to use DeskSave, except for **installing** or **uninstalling** the shell extension. Once the shell extension is turned on, it works **without** administrator privileges!

The shell extension integrates the DeskSave menu into the desktop's context menu, which is accessed by right click on the desktop's background.

The options dialog reached from the shell extension is reduced to the appropriate options.

If only DeskSave's shell extension is used (i.e. no system tray icon is visible), auto restore at resolution change of course does not work!

**In order to make the shell extension work, the DeskSaveShellEx.dll has to be in the same directory as DeskSave.exe, which is the case after the archive is unpacked. The DSRegShellEx.exe, which is needed to install and uninstall the shell extension, is required there, too.**

## Miscellaneous

In order to transfer all primary layouts, backups and settings from one computer to another one, the directory [LOCAL\_APPDATA]/TBlauhut/DeskSave has to be copied. In an English version of Windows XP this can be C:\Documents and Settings\username\Local Settings\Application Data.

In Windows 98/ME there is no directory [LOCAL\_APPDATA], DeskSave uses [APPDATA] here.

There is a known issue, for which at the moment there is no solution:

If prior to restoration the icons were auto arranged or arranged by name, type etc., they will at first be positioned correctly, but after a desktop refresh or booting up, Windows will move them back to the old, automatically assigned places. There is a workaround for this problem:

After restoration, use the mouse to move at least one icon, then all icon positions are fixed again.

The following files can be found in the archive **dsksave8.zip**:

DeskSave.exe	- the actual application
DeskSaveShellEx.dll	- the shell extension
DSRegShellEx.exe	- used by DeskSave.exe to install/uninstall the shell extension
DeskSavePortable.bat	- Batch file for portable mode
dsksave_pad.xml	- Information about DeskSave
ReadMe.pdf	- English manual
LiesMich.pdf	- German manual
License.pdf	- English license terms
Lizenz.pdf	- German license terms

**DeskSave 8.0 is freeware and may be used and copied free of charge.**

**For detailed licensing information see 'License.pdf'!**

Thorsten Blauhut

info@DeskSave.de

<http://www.DeskSave.de>