MICROSOFT WINDOWS – DOES A FILE EXTENSION ALWAYS POINT TO A GIVEN PROGRAM?

Answer: No.

Are there exceptions to the Extension = File Type under Windows?
Answer: Many.

With no official registry of file types there is absolutely no control over which program may claim which extension.

Also, some programs allow you the freedom to name a file anything you want so long as you place them in a particular *directory/folder*.

While there is no "*creator information*" in **Windows/DOS** files aka the **Macintosh**, a few programs attempt to analyze the structure of a file and if that structure is recognized open the file. You can demonstrate this latter by an experiment with Microsoft *Word* (under **Windows XP** only)...

- Start *Word*.
- Type a bit of text.
- Save the file with a strange extension in an easily found directory (e.g., **\My Documents\TEST.ASEVES**).
- Exit *Word*.
- Look in **My Documents**. You should see a file names **TEST.ASEVES.DOC** with a *Word* icon.
- Right click on the file and rename it by removing the **.DOC** extension so the file name is now *TEST.ASEVES*. [**Note**: If you can't rename the file with a different extension make certain that common file extensions are set to show.]
- You will be asked if you really want to do that. Confirm the change.
- Windows will change the icon to the icon used for files **Windows** does not recognize.
- Double click on the file and watch as **Word** magically starts and opens the file (*even after a restart*).

By this you can see that **Microsoft** is starting to build code similar to **Apple**'s creator information into their operating systems. (*Of course, for now it only seems to work with some **Microsoft** products*).

27/02/2012
Total Chars: 1349

heelpbook LOOKING FOR ANSWERS AND SOLUTIONS

Page 1
Total Words: 288
HeelpBook (www.heelpbook.net)