

WinZip v. 9.0

Why & What's New?

Art McRowe, ACPCUG

New In WinZip 9.0



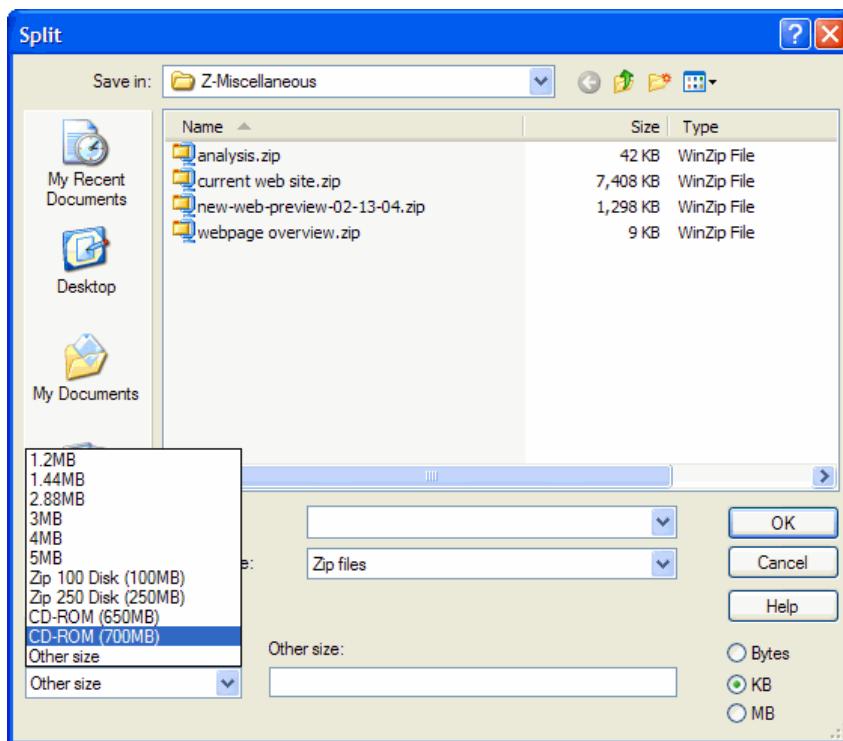
- Improvements in WinZip 9.0 concentrate on its core functionality: compression, capacity, and a new, advanced data-encryption capability. Using WinZip 9.0, you can compress more data, compress it better, and protect your sensitive documents with far greater security.

WinZip 9.0



- ***Advanced encryption***
- WinZip 9.0 supports 128- and 256-bit key AES encryption, which provide much greater cryptographic security than the traditional Zip 2.0 encryption method used in earlier versions of WinZip.

WinZip 9.0



- Can't span any CD
- Can span floppies
- Virtually unlimited file size to one disk
- First time command line option is not a beta program!
- Command line option is still a separate, but free, download!

What is “Zipping”?

- Zipping a file(s) is a lossless compression meaning everything is recovered exactly the way it went into a ZIP file.
- Zipping works best on text and spreadsheet files.
- Graphics not good. Lossy compression works better for music (MP3) and pictures (jpg and gif). Mp3, jpg, etc don't compress well under zip – nothing left.

Digression about Zip

- Back in early DOS days, file compression was ruled by SEA with its ARC file compression.
- **Phil Katz** developed a rip-off of ARC and lost a lawsuit to SEA. Over a few weeks, he wrote a new program called ZIP using a similar algorithm but very tight code.

Genius of Phil Katz

- Founded PKWare using PKZip
- Dedicated format to public domain!
- Free non-commercial use made overnight success. Saved money at 300 baud!
- Enough commercial money to be successful. A nice place to work in Milwaukee!

The Fall of Phil Katz

- Very late jumping on the Windows OS bandwagon! Late on long file names!
- Spawned WinZip actually using some public domain code but well adapted to Windows OS.
- P.K.'s home in plush Deerfield, WI left empty while he lived in apt's and became a drunk. He died in squalor in 2000.

Zip vs. WinZip (*and others*)

- WinZip always shareware – pay ca \$40 after trial period. Worked well and always got free upgrades!
- PKWare ZIP 2.04 last non-commercial freeware. But very good from command line (DOS). Still available, not from PKWare
- After Katz' death, his mother transformed it into a properly commercial company it is today. Everything costs any user after trial.

Today

- Zip from PKWare and Zip from WinZip are **NOW** incompatible **when high quality encryption is used!**
- Both claim better e-mail integration.
- Both have multiple levels of compression.
- PCMag rates PKWare over WinZip narrowly for speed at highest compression.

My Personal Take

- WinZip is easy to use – but I no longer have to pay to use it's improvements.
- I like using the command line version (amazingly similar to PKWare!) for zip up a large number of files. Great feature in both programs for going to another hard drive.
- **No spanning** of CD's in either makes a not complete backup solution!

Today

- Do **You** use encryption?
- How many of us use **batch files**?
- How many of us use **script files**?
- Neither, use a freebie from PCWorld or PCMag. Not as versatile