

QxlwinReader

Contrary to what its name may let suppose, this little program allows to you read aNd write, and to copy files to/from a qxl.win file to the native file system of a PC. To a lesser degree, this allows the same for Qubide image files. It is a Java program, so to use this software, you will need Java v. 7 (or higher) installed.

Description

The software shows two panels, which will display the contents of the source and destination. Above each panel is a text field showing the current directory or qxl.win/qubide file that this panel displays, a selection button (“...”) and an UP button (“↑”).

Using the software

The software is a java program and thus needs a java runtime environment. You should normally be able to double-click on the Jar file to get the program running.

A typical workflow is :

- 1 - Selecting the base directories /qxl.win files.
- 2 - Selecting the files to operate on.
- 3 - Doing the operation.
- 4 - Options

1 – Choosing the directories/files.

On the top of each panel, there is a small field with a button marked “ ... “ next to it. Use this button to select either a qxl.win file, or a native a directory on your computer. Use any of the two panels to display any content : you can mix and match as you like, and thus even copy from qxl.win file to qxl.win file.

The content of the file/directory will be displayed. If it is a qxl.win file, a small label “QL” will appear next to the “UP” button, or “PC” for a native directory, or “UB” for a Qubide image file.

2 – Selecting the files.

You navigate within the displayed contents by double-clicking on (sub) directories and using the UP button to move up one directory level. Select the files you want to operate on with the left mouse button.

3 – Doing the operation.

Once you selected the file(s), click with the right mouse button, or any mouse button that usually brings up a popup menu. The panel where you right-clicked will be the **source** of

the operation, the other panel will be the **destination**. It is possible to right-click even if no file is selected, then the operation will not do anything.

After a right click, you are offered the choice to:

Copy the file(s). This copies all selected files from the source to the destination, keeping the date of the source files (this is different to a typical QL copying operation).

Backup the file(s). This is like copy, but will only copy if the source file is newer than the destination file, or if the destination file doesn't exist.

Delete the file(s). This will delete all selected files on the source.

As a warning, please note that all operations may start as soon as you selected the corresponding choice. There will be no “are you sure?” confirmation request, unless you change the default options.

As soon as you choose the operation, it will be carried out.

If you selected one (or several) subdirectories, all of the files within that subdirectory will be operated on. Thus, if you select a subdirectory for deletion, this will delete all of the files and possible subdirectories in the selected source subdirectory. Copying or backing up whole subdirectories will create the necessary subdirectories on the destination.

4 - Options

There are four options in the “Options” menu:

Add dirnames to the left panel?

When displaying SMSQE files one normally displays the entire file name, i.e. a file named “file” in subdir “dir2” of subdir “dir1” on win1_ will usually be displayed as :
dir1_dir_2_file.

This is also the default behaviour of Qxlwinreader. Unticking this checkbox will only display the filename for files displayed in the left panel.

Add dirnames to the right panel?

Same for the right panel.

Confirmation request for delete?

By default, Qxlwinreader will not request confirmation before starting a delete operation. Here you can choose that such a confirmation request should be made. If you choose to have a confirmation request, please note that it will be proposed only ONCE per delete operation, and not for every file (if you have selected several files for deletion).

Confirmation request for copy/backup?

By default, Qxlwinreader will not request confirmation before starting a copy or backup operation. Here you can choose that such a confirmation request should be made. If you choose to have a confirmation request, please note that it will be proposed only ONCE per copy or backup operation, and not for every file (if you have selected several files for copy or backup).

Note : All options are saved to a file called qxlwinreader.ini in your home directory, and are read back in when the program is restarted.

Qubide support

There is also a (limited) support for Qubide image files. This is still **experimental** and you should make a backup of the Qubide image file before using this software on it. I have had only one Qubide image file to play with, so my deductions may have been wrong. That being said, I have no problems using this program on that image file.

Limitations: QxlwinReader can only deal with the first partition of a Qubide image file. Moreover, it can only deal with LBA image files, i.e. “disks” that were not cut up into heads, cylinders and tracks.

A thank you goes to Alain Haoui, who gave me valuable information on the layout of Qubide drives.