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## Window Sizer

By [Nishant Sivakumar](#)Posted: **6 Aug 2002**Updated: **7 Aug 2002**Views: **144,572**Bookmarked: **65 times**

A hot-key based program that lets you resize your current window to any size. Useful for web designers and GUI developers as it helps avoid frequent screen-resolution changes.

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### Overview

Window Sizer is a little program that I wrote when I was having to frequently change screen resolutions when testing web pages or GUI applications to make sure that they worked alright in other resolutions than my default one. Often we also had requests from clients with weird specifications like a maximum window size of 600 x 600 or something equally bizarre. Then I found that when I was editing CP articles I had to switch to 800 x 600 to make sure that the article looked fine in that resolution too. All this culminated in this little app that you see.

### Usage

Just run the app once, probably at windows startup. Just drag a short cut to the Start-Menu's Startup-folder. You'll see a green tree icon on your system tray. That's to let you know that Window Sizer is active. Now just make your window active by clicking on it and press CTRL-ALT-F12 which is the keyboard shortcut that brings up Window Sizer. Now you can choose one of the resolutions from the list box or use a custom resolution, and then click on Resize to resize the window to that size. If you close the Window Sizer window the program won't exit, it simply hides itself. The resolution list in the list box will never exceed your screen resolution. Thus if you are on 800 x 600, don't expect to see 720 x 720 in the list box. But you can type what you feel like into the Custom size text boxes at your own risk of course. You can exit the program by right clicking on the task tray and choosing Exit.

### Technical details

Basically we use `GetForegroundWindow()` to get the current window. This usually works better than `GetActiveWindow()` on XP and 2K because they have some kind of funny option that when set prevents windows from taking over the focus. This means we end up with crazy situations where the foreground window may not be the active window and vice versa. Now we use `MoveWindow()` to resize the window. If the resizing gets the window out of screen, we center the window on the screen. We also remove the `WS_MAXIMIZE` if it is set because otherwise the OS will not know that the window has been un-maximized. Initially I had over-looked such a contingency and had experienced some weird side effects.

### Conclusion

I'd like to thank [David Wulff](#) and [Roger Wright](#) for doing some quick testing for me. It was okay when I alone was using it, but when I thought of CP-ing it, I wanted some external testing and these two gentlemen helped me by testing out the application. Of course there might be a few bugs left for all I know. But I am hoping on getting some quality feedback and suggestions as usual.

## Updates

- Aug 08 2002 - Added an MSI Installer

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## About the Author

### Nishant Sivakumar



Member

Nish (short for Nishant) is a real nice guy who has been writing code since 1990 when he first got his hands on an 8088 with 640 KB RAM. Originally from sunny Trivandrum in India, he has been living in various places over the past few years and often thinks it's time he settled down somewhere.

Nish has been a Microsoft Visual C++ MVP since October, 2002 - awfully nice of Microsoft, he thinks. He maintains an MVP tips and tricks web site - [www.voidnish.com](http://www.voidnish.com) where you can find a consolidated list of his articles, writings and ideas on VC++, MFC, .NET and C++/CLI. Oh, and you might want to check out his blog on C++/CLI, MFC, .NET and a lot of other stuff - [blog.voidnish.com](http://blog.voidnish.com).

Nish loves reading Science Fiction, P G Wodehouse and Agatha Christie, and also fancies himself to be a decent writer of sorts. He has authored a romantic comedy [Summer Love and Some more Cricket](#) as well as a programming book - [Extending MFC applications with the .NET Framework](#).

Nish's latest book [C++/CLI in Action](#) published by Manning Publications is now available for purchase. You can read more about the book on his blog.

Despite his wife's attempts to get him into cooking, his best effort so far has been a badly done omelette. Some day, he hopes to be a good cook, and to cook a tasty dinner for his wife.

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