

Chapter 117

perlos2

Perl under OS/2, DOS, Win0.3*, Win0.95 and WinNT.

117.1 SYNOPSIS

One can read this document in the following formats:

```
man perlos2
view perl perlos2
explorer perlos2.html
info perlos2
```

to list some (not all may be available simultaneously), or it may be read *as is*: either as *README.os2*, or *pod/perlos2.pod*.

To read the *.INF* version of documentation (**very** recommended) outside of OS/2, one needs an IBM's reader (may be available on IBM ftp sites (?) (URL anyone?)) or shipped with PC DOS 7.0 and IBM's Visual Age C++ 3.5.

A copy of a Win* viewer is contained in the "Just add OS/2 Warp" package

```
ftp://ftp.software.ibm.com/ps/products/os2/tools/jaow/jaow.zip
```

in `?:\JUST_ADD\view.exe`. This gives one an access to EMX's *.INF* docs as well (text form is available in */emx/doc* in EMX's distribution). There is also a different viewer named `xview`.

Note that if you have *lynx.exe* or *netscape.exe* installed, you can follow WWW links from this document in *.INF* format. If you have EMX docs installed correctly, you can follow library links (you need to have `view emxbook` working by setting `EMXBOOK` environment variable as it is described in EMX docs).

117.2 DESCRIPTION

117.2.1 Target

The target is to make OS/2 one of the best supported platform for using/building/developing Perl and *Perl applications*, as well as make Perl the best language to use under OS/2. The secondary target is to try to make this work under DOS and Win* as well (but not **too** hard).

The current state is quite close to this target. Known limitations:

- Some *nix programs use `fork()` a lot; with the mostly useful flavors of perl for OS/2 (there are several built simultaneously) this is supported; but some flavors do not support this (e.g., when Perl is called from inside REXX). Using `fork()` after *using* dynamically loading extensions would not work with *very* old versions of EMX.