

xxxxxx Hi there! xxxxxx

The purpose of this program is to enable the UN-protecting of Microsoft Basic programs. It is hoped that the users of this program bear in mind that the authors' intent in the distribution of UN.COM is that it be used for the recovery of their own programs. Certain unscrupulous souls will undoubtedly try to 'rip off' commercial software if they can reasonably do so, and programs such as this can certainly be used for such ends.

In spite of the such possible abuses, UN is being released, for the following reasons:

- 1 - Programs such as this have been on the market for almost one year (as of 06/81) from several sources. Presumably, you honest folk are the last to hear about or obtain such things. Outlaw powerful programs and only the Outlaws... (Ugh, I didn't really say that, did I? Oh well...)
- 2 - The release of Bascom, version 5.3, appears to signal the end of the nefarious royalty requirement, as the run time package is now being sold seperately, and doesn't have to be linked with the compiled (read 'protected') programs. (And for the lowest possible end user cost, don't forget about the reliable and speedy Fortran and BDS C compilers)
- 3 - It's nice to demonstrate that low cost doesn't imply lower performance. UN.COM has several advantages over the higher priced spreads.
 - A - It works with all versions of MBASIC 5.x tested to date.
 - B - Once invoked, it remains permanently active, until the user deactivates UN, or until the next cold boot. (You don't have to load MBASIC 20 times in order to examine 20 protected programs.)
 - C - Large programs which barely fit in memory can be debugged without the awkwardness of saving the program, and then having to reload both the interpreter and the program. This is possible because UN modifies only the system, and occupies no TPA space. (Type 'PRINT FRE(I)' to see if several thousand bytes of program space have been lost.)
 - D - The licensing terms are modest. The end user agrees that HE/SHE will make no more than 600 copies for their own personal use, and that no limit is placed on the number of copies distributed elsewhere.
 - E - If because of your systems' peculiarities UN.COM doesn't work, you haven't lost much...

And now for the rules of the game...

To invoke UN.COM, type 'UN DO'

To deactivate UN.COM, type 'UN NO'

To UN-protect a program, first get it into memory with the 'LOAD' command, and then type ^U (control-U). The program is now unprotected and may be listed or saved.

UN.COM now performs more extensive error checking and works under both CP/M and CDOS.

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Honk if you %!\$#*& ZOSO.

Bye - B.R.N. 07/12/81