

HowTo

Introduction

Be sure to visit the new *Winning at the Track* Online handicapping service. The website pages of HorseRacingUSA.com explains all the details. All of these steps have been eliminated with the new interactive program.

Note: The Classic, version of WATT does not include the WATTwin version of the entire stand-alone program - just the two basic DOS-based programs.

Handicapping with the original **Winning at the Track (WATT)** stand-alone programs involve two easy steps:

1. Create a WATT Race File that can be used by both DATABASE and WATTdos.

To make the WATT race file, you can manually type data from *the Daily Racing Form* or you can use the DATABASE Transfer program. To run the Transfer program, type TRANSFER at the [C:\TRACK >](#) prompt or run the "transfer.exe" file in Windows. For the computer novice, it is easier to use the DOS prompt use DOS at [C:\TRACK>](#).

2. Use the WATT Race File that you create to handicap the races.

To use the **WATTdos** program, type the word DESKTOP at the [C:\TRACK >](#) prompt.

OR

Run the "desktop.exe" file in Windows. It is easier to type DESKTOP at [C:\TRACK>](#).

Creating a WATT Race File

Your primary instructions for creating files are in a PDF file called **DATABASE.pdf**.

To create a WATT race file using the **DATABASE Transfer**, three steps are involved:

1. Download a data (.ZIP) file from Bloodstock Research (BRIS) into [C:\TRACK >](#).

The file to be downloaded from BRIS is the Single File Past Performance (the "k" file).

2. Decompress (open or "unzip") the .ZIP file that has been received from BRIS.

Use WinZip or the PKUNZIP program (PKUNZIP.EXE) to open the file. Type the word PKUNZIP (space) + whatever zip file name you want to open. After it is opened, the DRF file is entered into the Transfer program. The new file has a "DRF" extension.

3. Use the **DATABASE Transfer** program to decide what data you want in or what you want deleted. It is usually a good idea to review the data that is used in the new file.

To run the Transfer program, type TRANSFER at the DOS prompt or run the "transfer.exe" file in Windows. It is faster and easier to type TRANSFER at C:\TRACK>.

Enter the Bloodstock DRF file into the DATABASE. Next, name the new WATT race file that is being created (see **Database** pdf file). We suggest using the date plus the track symbol. Do not attempt to enter the Bris zip file (DRF file, only)

Using a WATT Race File

A WATT Race File must be created (either typed manually or by using the DATABASE) before handicapping with the Classic version of WATT.

We suggest using the **WATTdos** program to put the finishing touches (notes, etc.) on the new race file. Click the **WATTdos** icon (instructions next section) and type the word DESKTOP.

In the **WATTdos** version, use the "Go To" feature located on the Race Card menu. Also, use the **Help** section. It is quite thorough.

How to make a TRACK directory (folder)

On the newer machines, DOS (referred to as "command.com") is usually found in "Accessories." Click START, click PROGRAMS, click ACCESSORIES and then double click on COMMAND.COM (or MS-DOS).

When the black window appears (C:\Windows>), type CD\ (hit Enter) to obtain the "root directory" of the C: drive.

Next, at the C:\> prompt, type this ... MD TRACK (hit Enter). This will **M**ake the new **D**irectory, TRACK. You can create a TRACK directory (folder) using Windows, too -- either way works. Just be sure that your path is **C:\TRACK >**. The new folder does not belong in your "Documents" folder, for example.

Users note:

On most Windows 95/98 machines the Command.com file is found in the "Windows" directory (folder).

(The path is ... **C:\Windows\command.com**)

With Windows XP, Vista and Win7 it is usually found in the System32 subdirectory of Windows. With the more recent Win7 and Win8 operating systems, a 64-bit chip is used, the freeware program, DOS-box is needed. Go to DOSbox.com.

(The path is ... **C:\Windows\System32\command.com**)

How to make an icon for the C:\TRACK prompt

1. Place your cursor on the Windows desktop and right click.
2. Go to "New," then go to "Shortcut" (left click and box will appear)
3. In the empty box (COMMAND LINE or LOCATION), type one of the following:

Make the "command line" read one of these (depending on your machine):

- C:\Command.com
- C:\Windows\Command.com
- C:\Windows\System32\Command.com

In most cases, it will be C:\Windows\System32\Command.com.

4. Click "Next." Then, name your DOS prompt (we suggest you call it [WATTdos](#)). When you are done, click "Finish."
5. Right click on your new icon and go to "Properties," then go to "Program."
6. Remove everything from the WORKING LINE.
7. In the empty WORKING LINE, type this: C:\TRACK (click "Apply" and "OK")

Now, when you double click on the [WATTdos](#) icon, you will see a DOS prompt of TRACK ([C:\TRACK >](#)). At the prompt you type either DESKTOP or TRANSFER.

How to use the **WATTdos** program and the **DATABASE**

See the [Database.pdf](#) file attached.

The WATTdos and DATABASE are both DOS-based programs and they are used at the C:\TRACK > prompt ...

1. First, download a BRIS (.ZIP) file into your TRACK directory.
2. Open the ZIP file by typing PKUNZIP (space) (+ zip file name) at the TRACK prompt.
3. Type the word **TRANSFER** at the prompt and then enter the BRIS (DRF) file. Next, give your new WATT file a name (see below).
4. Once the WATT file is made to your satisfaction (i.e., all unwanted data is omitted), exit the Transfer program by using "WATT File Save." See the **DATABASE.pdf** file.
5. Enter the **WATTdos** program by typing the word **DESKTOP**. Next, enter the Race File Name of the file that you created with the DATABASE. (Also note: You can enter various segments of WATTdos by typing HANDICAP or PACE or GRAPHICS, but the "Go To" feature within the program eliminates the need to do so).

Example ... If you plan to visit Santa Anita on March 6, 2015:

1. Download the BRIS (zip file) into your TRACK directory from BRISnet.com.

For example: A BRIS "Single File" for today's races at Santa Anita would be called SAX0306k.ZIP

If the BRIS Single File comes to you with any other name, you have downloaded the wrong file.

2. Use the PKUNZIP program to open (decompress) the BRIS zip file.

At C:\TRACK> type this ... PKUNZIP SAX0306k.ZIP

This will open the file. You now have the DRF file your Transfer program needs to make the new WATT file. This DRF has the name ... **SAX0306.DRF**

3. Type TRANSFER and enter two things...

First, enter the BRIS file (.DRF) name ... **SAX0306.DRF** (your data source file from BRIS)

Second, enter the name of the WATT file you are creating ... **3-6-15.SA**
(This is the file name you will use later in your WATTwin and WATTdos programs). No need to use zeros. This way the file will be easier to find later.

Inside the DATABASE Transfer program you can pull out any data and make the WATT file to your liking (always follow the menu). With the Classic version, no more than 10 races in a file and no more than 15 horses in any given race. There are no limits with the WATT online version.

4. Inside the Transfer program you create the new WATT file by hitting "W" (WATT File Save) to save the new file.

Hit the Enter key if the track (SA) is correct. (It usually is)

Be sure the file name appears as you want it to be, and then hit the Enter key to save the file.

Once you are more familiar with the Transfer program, you will want to make the file with a little care. YOU have control over the data! Be directed by the menu at the bottom of the program.

You are now ready to exit the Transfer program and use the file. We recommend that you enter the WATTdos program first (type DESKTOP). Make the final "touch up" changes (e.g., adding "Notes" to each name line), then hit "Calc" and the SAVE key. Once the final file is to your liking, the new WATT race file is ready to be used by both WATTwin and WATTdos for handicapping.

How to download files

There are many ways to obtain files from your e-mails or from websites. The best and most reliable way is to right click the file and then "Save Target As."

The computer will ask if you want the file opened or saved (you want it saved).

At the top of the screen a small box will appear showing your target location (also known as the "Save In" box). Here, you make certain that the file to be saved is going to the proper location.

If you want to save a file to your TRACK folder, click the little arrow to the right of the "Save In" box. Go to "Local C" and then highlight the yellow folder that says TRACK.

Click "Open" then click "Save."

If you pay attention to the "path" (e.g., C:\TRACK) you will never lose a file. If a file is ever lost, you can use the Windows "Find" or "Search" functions to find its location.

Do you have a question?

You can call the publisher at: (954) 573-7236

Or

Send an e-mail to JBLittle@BellSouth.net

Note:

Be sure to visit the new *Winning at the Track* Online handicapping service. The Home Page of HorseRacingUSA.com explains all the details. All of the steps noted in this document have been removed with the new interactive program.