

microsoft.public.office.misc: Re: Launch new Office2K3 App Instance by default?

## Re: Launch new Office2K3 App Instance by default?

**Source:** <http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Office/microsoft.public.office.misc/2004-12/2219.html>

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**Date:** 12/24/04

Date: Thu, 23 Dec 2004 21:33:03 -0600

Actually the SDI (Single Document Interface) was introduced in Office 2003 so it's been around for a few versions. :-)

Note SDI doesn't start a new instance of the application, IOW there aren't multiple occurrences of the application running, such as Winword.exe, instead there is a single application instance but each document will display as a single task on the Windows Taskbar. Prior to Office 2000 if there were multiple tasks then there were indeed multiple instances of the application running and using resources. Which, btw, in past versions you could modify this behavior and use the same instance for multiple files instead of starting new instances of the application.

In any event, to control how each document displays in the Windows Taskbar, go to Tools/Options/View and located the "Windows in Taskbar" option.

I'm also wondering if you are using Windows XP and are encountering the "Group similar taskbar buttons" feature. If you find when clicking a task a menu opens for you to select a specific file then right-click an empty area of the Windows Taskbar and select "Properties". On the Taskbar tab turn off "Group similar taskbar buttons".

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Please post all follow-up questions to the newsgroup. Requests for assistance by email can not be acknowledged.

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Beth Melton

Microsoft Office MVP

Word FAQ: <http://mvps.org/word>

TechTrax eZine: <http://mousetrax.com/techtrax/>

MVP FAQ site: <http://mvps.org/>

"TSU" <[TSU@discussions.microsoft.com](mailto:TSU@discussions.microsoft.com)> wrote in message news:648576DB-20B6-431A-892C-26679ADA7147@microsoft.com...

> New Office default behavior which is different from all preceding is  
> if an  
> Office App is now already open, if you doubleclick on a file or  
> click on a  
> tray icon, the existing instance will display the default view.  
> Traditional

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> behavior going all the way back to Office 5 (Win3.1) is to launch a  
> new  
> application instance. This is important if you need to view multiple  
> works  
> but don't have ample screen display space... tiling is completely  
> out of the  
> question and switching "windows" within an instance is too  
> cumbersome, both  
> require <many> clicks to switch when multiple instances supports not  
> only  
> single click switching but more versatile use of display space.  
> Also, for  
> whatever reason sometimes the different "windows" of work aren't  
> enumerated  
> so I can't switch without closing.  
>  
> This is a <major> Productivity issue, is there a way to change the  
> default  
> behavior to launch another application instance rather than a window  
> within  
> an existing instance?  
>  
> TIA,  
>  
> Tony Su