

## Re: Windows distribution suggestions?

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*Source:* <http://coding.derkeiler.com/Archive/Python/comp.lang.python/2005-05/msg02397.html>

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  - *Date:* Tue, 17 May 2005 20:21:45 +0200
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Paul Rubin wrote:

> My app contains three different programs (say alice.py, bob.py, and  
> carol.py) that need to be independently launchable, and a dozen or so  
> other .py files that get imported into those first three. What I'd  
> really really like is to make a single installer called (say)  
> "app.exe". Launching app.exe should completely install Python, unpack  
> all the necessary modules, and make three icons (alice, bob, carol) on  
> the desktop.

It's not clear to me whether you really want to install a full version of Python on the target machine; py2exe and Co. incorporate the minimum subset of Python and ship this each time you make a distribution. So Python is not installed on the target machine on its own.

In principle, it is possible to create an installer that first installs Python (with entries in the start menu and all), and then installs your own application.

If this is what you want, I would personally go with .msi instead of using .exe. It can do "nested installs", where you can launch the standard python-2.4.msi from your own MSI file. It also supports "patch updates", where you replace the files that have changed on the target machine, through a patch MSI.

The tricky part is to find a good authoring tool for .msi. I would personally use my own Python library, but that requires to dig into the MSI details.

Regards,  
Martin

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- *References:*
  - ◆ [Windows distribution suggestions?](#)
    - ◇ *From:* Paul Rubin
- *Prev by Date:* [Re: OSx 10.4 lacks pythonIDE?](#)

Re: Windows distribution suggestions?

- Next by Date: [\*Re: os.popen vs os.system\*](#)
- Previous by thread: [\*Re: Windows distribution suggestions?\*](#)
- Next by thread: [\*Embed Python\*](#)
- Index(es):
  - ◆ [\*Date\*](#)
  - ◆ [\*Thread\*](#)