

My Personal Minion

User Manual

V1.0

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1. Requirements

For My Personal Minion, the following computer requirements must be met:

Operating System: Microsoft Windows XP operating system (64bit version not supported)

Processor: Intel® Pentium® 4 1 ghz or equivalent

RAM: 256mb

Hard Drive: 100mb free space

Sound: Sound device with microphone input

Microphone (preferably noise cancelling)

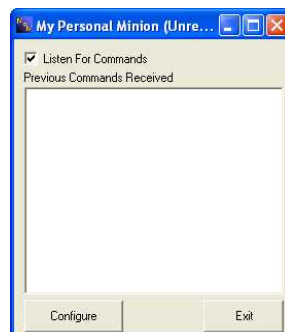
Microsoft .NET Framework 2.0 or an internet connection to download it (the installer will prompt you if it is not installed).

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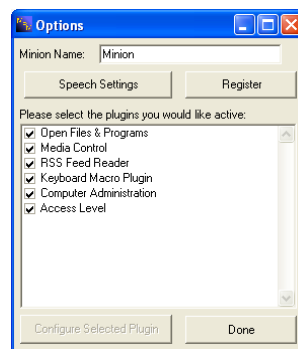
2. Setup

Here you will be shown how to get My Personal Minion configured to respond correctly and accurately to your orders.

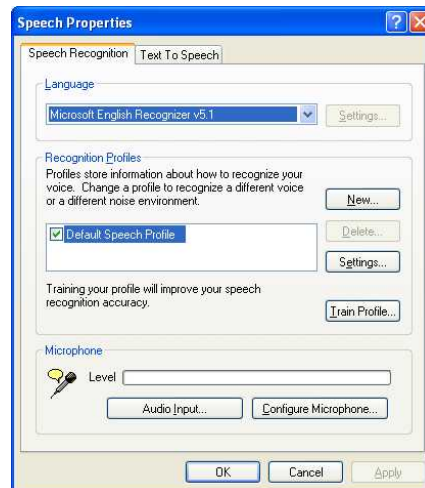
Start off by opening My Personal Minion. You should be presented with the following screen:



Press Configure and you will be presented with the following screen:

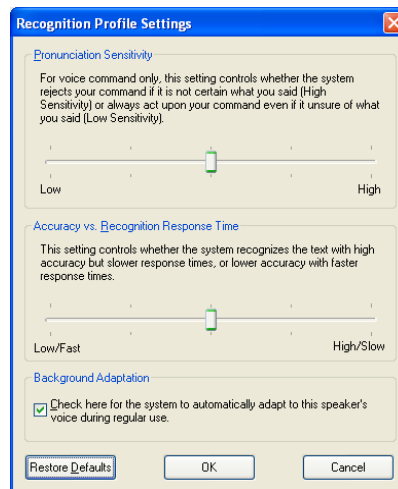


Press the “Speech Settings” button and you will be presented with the following screen:



2.1 Initial Recognition Training

From the “Speech Settings” dialog, you can train the profile. Select a profile, then press “Train Profile” At this point, a menu will come up and walk you through the training wizard. Performing training more than once provides very good recognition accuracy when the options in “settings” (pictured below) are fine tuned.

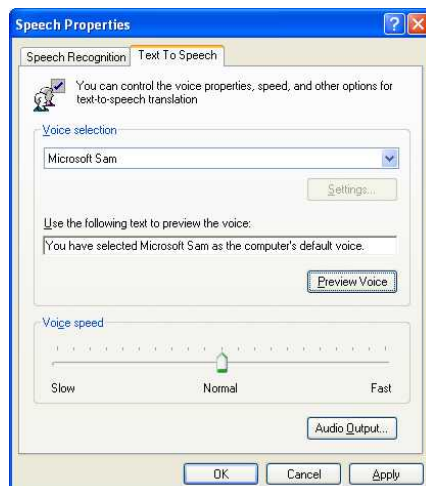


Adjusting the Pronunciation Sensitivity and Accuracy vs. Recognition Response Time will allow you to fine tune the recognition for optimal recognition, providing good response accuracy with minimal false positives (incorrect recognition of a phrase).

Training and setting adjustment will not take effect until My Personal Minion is restarted.

2.2 Text To Speech configuration

To configure “Text To Speech” or My Personal Minion's voice, go to “Speech Properties” again, and this time switch to the “Text To Speech” tab at the top.



You may select a different voice from here. Additional voices can be purchased. More information regarding additional voices here:

<http://www.microsoft.com/speech/evaluation/thirdparty/engines.msp>

Adjusting voice speed can also help improve voice clarity.

2.3 Choosing a name for your minion

Changing “Minion Name” will allow you to call your computer something different. A name is required. If you choose a name that isn't being recognised properly, try spelling it phonetically. Such as “minion” could be changed to “min yon”.

3. Registering

To register My Personal Minion please go to <http://www.mypersonalminion.com>

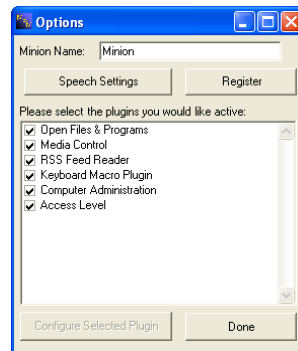
If you already have a registration code, press the “Register” button in the options menu.



Enter the information provided to you exactly as it appears. Once you are done, press “OK” and everything should be fine. If it fails, please double check all information, for accuracy (including capital letters). If you are still having issues please contact me at support@mypersonalminion.com

4. Plugins

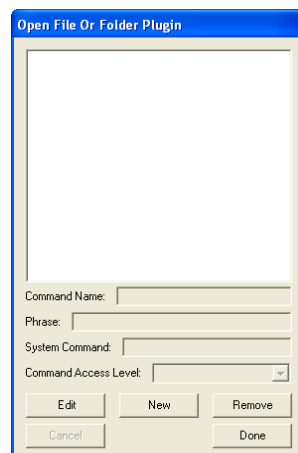
This section will discuss briefly how to use the following plugins.



Unticking a plugin will disable the plugin. This means none of the plugins commands will work. To re-enable a plugin, simply tick the plugin again.

To configure a plugin, select the plugin in the list, and then press “Configure Selected Plugin”. Some plugins do not have options available, so when the plugin is selected, “Configure Selected Plugin” will not be enabled.

4.1 Open Files & Programs



This is the plugin configuration dialog.

When finished configuring the plugin, press “Done”.

4.1.1 Creating an entry

Press “New”

Type in a command name, this is the human readable name for the entry.

You can modify the phrase if you would like, this option is here incase the recognition has troubles with the word, you can enter some phonetic spelling to make it easier to recognise.

The “System Command” is the command that will be executed. This is most “shell command's”. The easiest way to obtain the command to open a program is to right click a shortcut to the program (any within the start menu will work), and go to properties. Then copy and paste the “target” text. Unfortunately, if the command contains environment variables, it may not work. A solution to this may be released at a later date.

Changing “Command Access Level” allows you to change the permission level required to execute the command. Permission level is modified with “Access Control” when activated. This has no effect if the “Access Control” plugin is disabled.

When finished, press “New” again, and the entry will be created.

To cancel creation, press cancel.

4.1.2 Editing an existing entry

To edit an existing entry, select an entry from the list and press “Edit”. Use the field information from “Creating an entry” to edit it.

When finished, press “Edit” again, and the entry will be modified.

To cancel editing, press cancel.

4.1.3 Removing an entry

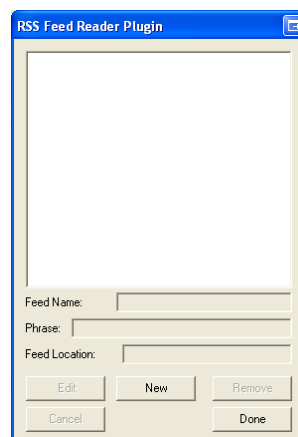
To remove an entry, select the desired entry from the list and press “Remove”.

4.1.4 Using the commands

For every entry in the list a command will be available requiring the phrase “*insert minion name* open *insert program/file phrase*”

4.2 RSS Feed Reader

This plugin will read off rss based news feeds to you.



This is the plugin configuration dialog.

When finished configuring the plugin, press “Done”.

4.2.1 Creating an entry

Press “New”

Type in a feed name, this is the human readable name for the entry.

You can modify the phrase if you would like, this option is here incase the recognition has troubles with the word, you can enter some phonetic spelling to make it easier to recognise.

Feed Location is the location of the RSS feed. RSS feeds can be obtained from many websites. The feed locations usually end in “.xml” although they can differ.

When finished, press “New” again, and the entry will be created.

To cancel creation, press cancel.

4.2.2 Editing an existing entry

To edit an existing entry, select an entry from the list and press “Edit”. Use the field information from “Creating an entry” to edit it.

When finished, press “Edit” again, and the entry will be modified.

To cancel editing, press cancel.

4.2.3 Removing an entry

To remove an entry, select the desired entry from the list and press “Remove”.

4.2.4 Using the commands

For every entry in the list a command will be available requiring the phrase “*insert minion name* latest *insert feed phrase* headlines”

4.3 Media Control

This plugin allows you to control playback of media. This simulates keypresses of the so called “media keys” present on most modern keyboards, although, your keyboard doesn't require these keys for this plugin to work. A lot of programs by default respond to these keys, and many that don't by default can be set up to respond without much hassle, although please refer to the programs documentation for information regarding specific program configurations.

4.3.1 Using the commands

All of the following commands need to be preceeded by the current minion name.

The following commands are available:

- Play
- Pause
- Stop
- Next track

- Previous track.

4.4 Access Control

This plugin allows you to alter the access level the current speaker has. This is extremely useful for protecting against false positives. For instance, say your minion name is “computer” and you are watching a sci fi series, and a character says “Computer, reboot”, well, you don't want your minion responding to that.

So, with this, we can set 3 access levels:

- None
- Basic
- Administrative

The only default commands that work in “none” are:

- Enable administrative commands
- Enable basic commands
- current access level

By default all commands within the “Administration Control” plugin all require administrative access. It's recommended that the administration control plugin is disabled if this plugin is disabled, to prevent pranks by passers accidental recognition of certain sci-fi shows.

4.4.1 Using the commands

All commands need to be preceeded by the current minion name. The following commands are available:

- Disable all commands
- enable basic commands
- enable administrative commands
- disable administrative commands
- current access level

Most of the commands are self explanatory. Current access level reads out the current access level.

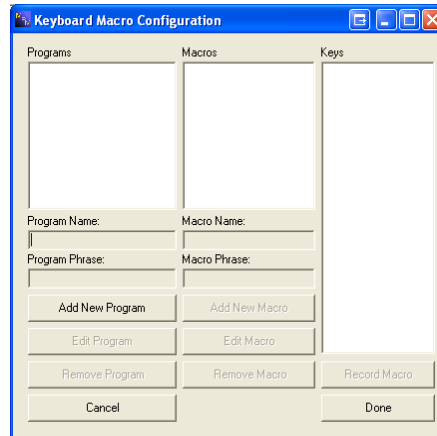
4.5 Administration Control

This plugin allows you to reboot or shutdown the computer. Available commands are:

- *minion name* Shutdown computer
- *minion name* reboot computer

4.6 Keyboard Macro's

This plugin allows you to record and playback a series of key presses. **Warning:** this can be a confusing module to configure. You may need to configure this plugin several times to get the desired result



4.6.1 Creating a new program profile

Press “Add New Program”

Enter a program name. This is a human readable name of the program.

Enter a program phrase. This should contain phonetic spelling if speech recognition is having trouble.

Press “Add New Program” again to complete the process.

If you would like to cancel the process, press “Cancel”.

4.6.2 Editing a program profile

Select the program profile you'd like to edit.

Press “Edit Program”.

Change the program name and/or phrase.

Press “Edit Program” again to complete the process.

If you would like to cancel the process, press “Cancel”.

4.6.3 Creating a new macro

Press “Add New Macro”

Enter a macro name. This is a human readable name of the macro.

Enter a macro phrase. This should contain phonetic spelling if speech recognition is having trouble. **Warning:** There is no pre-fix or post-fix phrase for macro's. PLEASE be careful in choosing phrases for this. Ensure that you do not duplicate the phrases used by other plugins or even other macro's.

Press “Add New Macro” again to complete the process.

If you would like to cancel the process, press “Cancel”.

4.6.4 Editing a macro

Press “Edit Macro”

Edit macro name and macro phrase according to information in “Creating a new macro”.

Press “Edit Macro” again to complete the process.

If you would like to cancel the process, press “Cancel”.

4.6.5 Recording a macro

Select the macro you would like to record for.

Press the “Record Macro” button and you will be presented with this window:



Press keys in the order in which you want them pressed.

Avoid the following keys:

- Start menu
- Alt
- Menu

If you need these buttons recorded, please tick and untick the check boxes to the right with the mouse as appropriate.

When you are finished recording, press “Done”.

4.6.6 Using the commands

To activate a program profile, the command is:

“Enable <PROGRAM PHRASE> macro's”

To disable a program profile, the command is:

“Disable <PROGRAM PHRASE> macro's”

To perform a macro, the program profile must first be activated, if this is the case the command will be the macro phrase. There is no pre-fix or post-fix.