

What is Abandonware

Abandonware refers to **software**, primarily **video games**, that have been abandoned by their original developers and are no longer actively supported or sold. This means they are typically not available for purchase through conventional means and may be distributed for free on warez websites.

The copyright for abandonware has not lapsed, the copyright holder may not be enforcing their rights, leading to a lack of official support or update.

Classic DOS and Windows GUI Applications

Application	Type	Last Major Era
Lotus Approach	Database	Windows 95/98
Lotus 1-2-3	Spreadsheet	DOS / Windows
WordPerfect	Office	DOS / Windows
WordStar	Office	DOS
FoxPro	Database	DOS / Windows
dBASE IV	Database	DOS
Q&A	Database	DOS
Alpha Four	Database	DOS
Microsoft Works	Office	Windows
Norton Commander for Windows	Utility	Windows 3.x
Visual Basic 3.0	Development	Windows 3.x

DOS-Based Office Software Still Worth Trying

Word Processing

- WordPerfect 5.1
- WordPerfect 6.2
- WordStar 4.0
- Microsoft Word for DOS

Spreadsheets

- Lotus 1-2-3
- Microsoft Multiplan

Databases

- Lotus Approach
- FoxBASE
- FoxPro
- dBASE IV

These titles are among the most commonly preserved legacy business applications.

Applications Still Used by Enthusiasts

Users in software communities still mention:

- Picasa
- Winamp
- NoteTab Pro
- Dexpot

These are discontinued or lightly maintained but remain functional on many modern systems.

Safe Sources for Vintage Software

WinWorldPC — Large archive of vintage operating systems and applications.

Vetusware — Extensive collection of DOS, Windows, and database software.

OldVersion.com — Older versions of Windows applications.

FreeDOS Project — Free DOS-compatible operating system for running legacy software.