



# TECHNOLOGYTNT

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## Multitask with PentaWare from PentaSuite

By Niki Taylor



PentaSuite from PentaWare offers a variety of features for beginning, intermediate, and advanced users. The first feature, PentaZip, allows users to compress files. There's a preview screen for whatever file is chosen. ZIP Wizard gives users the option of compressing or extracting files. PentaSFX produces self-extracting files. Pentascript Wizard allows users to create, maintain, and run scripts. There's also a scheduler. The PentaZip and ZIP Wizard were easy to use. I was able to compress files into Zip files and extract files from Zip files. The company's website is: [http://www.pentazip.com/pw/PentaSuite\\_introduction.htm](http://www.pentazip.com/pw/PentaSuite_introduction.htm).

The next feature is the Viewer. This includes the PentaBrowser, a browser like Windows Explorer with thumbnail support and PentaWare links. When I tried to open PentaBrowser in Windows XP, there was a problem with accessing it, causing error messages to pop up. PentaView lets users edit graphic files and word documents. Users can utilize PentaCollector to edit, compress, or mail files. The PentaCollector was good with photo editing. It kept sending me to the Paint Program, but the photo I was editing disappeared, and I didn't understand the need for it. PentaCollector is definitely for those interested in digital photography. PentaConverter changes files to other formats. For example, it can change JPG to PDF. PentaAlbum produces photoalbums in HTML and PDF. Last in the Viewer feature, PentaWhiteBoard saves movie frames (AVI, MPG, MOV) as common graphics files (Adobe PDF, JPEG 2000, and more). Here users can make HTML pages or PDF pages with thumbnail views of the images.

The third feature is Encryption. PentaSend has PGP strong encryption (PentaPGP) and can send PGP files via CD/DVD, FTP, or email. The file can also be decrypted and uploaded or downloaded.

The fourth feature is CD/DVD burning through PentaDVD. PentaSuite supports CD-R, CD-RW, DVD-R, DVD+R, DVD-RW, and DVD+RW. Multi-volume CDs and DVDs are also supported.

PentaPDF generates PDFs. It can convert Word DOC, RTF, HTML, TXT, and graphics supported by Adobe PDF format. I was able to successfully convert a TXT file to PDF. The process was quick and I was able to easily view the PDF in Acrobat Reader. As a writer, I have tried to convert my documents to PDF using free online programs, but to no avail. After so much hassle, I was pleased to finally find an easy conversion program in PentaSuite.

Last is PentaFTP (File Transfer Protocol), which transfers files through FTP. It includes normal and SSL (secure socket layer) connections. PentaFTP lets users access, upload, and download files on other computers. This has email with remote links and Zip+Upload.

The Tools section includes PentaRename. This can rename single files or batches of files at once. The Options and Website section lists a link to the PentaWare website. In addition, there are Advanced Options and About sections. The Help Files offer help with every feature from PentaZip Help to PDF Conversion Help.

PentaSuite can support graphics such as JPEG 2000, Paint Shop Pro Image, GIF, JPG, and more. It supports multimedia files such as AVI, MOV, MPG, and WAV. The digital photography support includes Canon Raw Format (CRW), Kodak professional digital camera, and more. Documents and texts supported are DOC, RTF, HTML, PDF, and Text. Email formats supported are UUencode, MIME-64, XXencode, and BinHex. There are sixteen different compression formats, such as ZIP, ZIP64, and ARC. PentaSuite needs 128MB RAM, 64MB Hard disk, Mouse, and Windows 98 Second Edition, NT, Me, 2000 Pro, or Windows XP (Home or Professional).

Overall, I found the Zip and PDF conversion features most useful. PentaSuite is ideal for those who have to manage both graphics and text files.

### Pricing:

PentaSuite Full-Single User-Electronic License \$99.95

PentaSuite-5 user-Multi-User License \$370

PentaSuite-10 user-Multi-User License \$570

PentaSuite-15 user-Multi-User License \$860