

Downloading Files

Most of the files available on FTP sites are programs, although you will also find text, graphics, video, and music files. In addition, you can find upgrades and patches for commercial software. You can also find the latest driver software for many peripherals, such as video cards and printers. The files you'll find are usually *public domain files*, *freeware*, or *shareware*.

Public domain files have no copyright, and no restrictions on what you or anyone else can do with them. Freeware files are usually copyrighted, but are donated by their designers. You can copy and distribute them freely as long as you include the designer's copyright notice. Shareware files are files you can download and try for a while. If you like what you see and want to continue using the program, you are expected to send a specified fee to the author. In return for this registration fee, the author might provide support, extra documentation, and updates.

After you've connected to an FTP site, downloading a file is a matter of navigating to the correct subdirectory and clicking the icon for the desired file. The files you are most likely to download will be image, music, or video files, compressed programs, and ready-to-run programs. By default, if you download a text file, Navigator simply displays it on your screen. However, if you want to save the file after having read it, you can use the Save As command from the File menu.

Navigator recognizes three download possibilities:

- The download file is an executable program with an `.exe` extension. Navigator displays the Save As dialog box so you can specify a download folder, and then displays the Saving Location dialog box, as shown in Figure 2-13, to inform you of the download status.

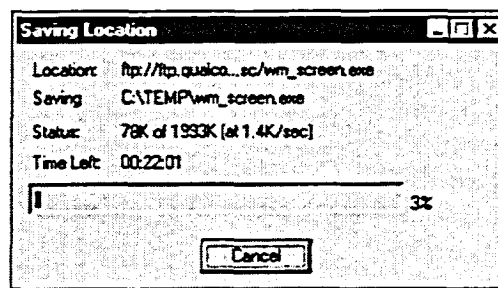


Figure 2-13: *The Saving Location Dialog Box*

- The download file extension indicates it is a file that Navigator knows how to open. Navigator or a helper application or Netscape *plug-in* might be able to play or run the file. Plug-ins are programs invoked by Netscape