USER MANUAL

Getting Started with HomeFree
User Guide Annotated Outline

Table of Contents

Chapter 1 Introducing HomeFree

1.1 Welcome to HomeFree

Contains a capsule description of HomeFree, summarizing the key features. For example:

> HomeFree enables two or more PCs to communicate without wires. With HomeFree, computers located in your home or small office can share your fastest Internet connection, share a printer, exchange files and play multi-player games. It can transmit data through walls and between floors of a typical home or apartment at distances up to 150 feet, and at speeds exceeding one megabit per second. HomeFree is a snap to install, easy to use, and very affordable.

1.2 About this User Guide

1.2.1 If you don't like to read manuals...

Contains pointers to Installation poster, Chapter 3, 4 and 5.

1.2.2 Summary of chapter contents

1.2.3 About the Installation poster

1.2.4 About the online documentation

1.3 What's in the box

1.3.1 This package includes:

- Two ISA HomeFree circuit cards (model xxx) or One ISA card and one PCMCIA card (model yyy) <<Is this correct?>>
- HomeFree Installation CD-ROM and Floppy Diskette
- HomeFree Installation poster
- HomeFree Quick Start Guide
- Product registration card and serial number
- <<Anything else???>>

1.3.2 If any Items are missing

If any items are missing, contact Customer Service.

1.4 System Requirements

1.4.1 Desktop Systems

- (Desktop system requirements list goes here)

1.4.2 Laptop Systems

- (Laptop system requirements list goes here)

1.5 Product Registration

This brief paragraph encourages users to either use the online registration (??) or to fill out and mail the registration card in the package.

Chapter 2 The Magic of Wireless Connectivity

The pre-eminent science fiction author, Arthur C. Clarke, once wrote: "Any sufficiently advanced technology is virtually indistinguishable from magic." HomeFree is such a technology. When you plug HomeFree transceiver cards into two computers and start beaming data from one end of your house to the other without any wires, it seems like magic.

Wireless is unquestionably the best technology for connecting PCs and peripherals in your home or small office. With HomeFree, there's no need to open walls to snake cables around your house. Simply plug a HomeFree card in each of your PCs, run the installer, and you're up and running! HomeFree integrates seamlessly with Windows 95 or Windows 98. Your computers will function the same as always, but with the added benefits of connectivity. You can locate your computers *anywhere* inside or outside your house, within a 150 foot radius— you can even take your laptop up in the tree house and stay connected.

2.1 What You Can Do with HomeFree

2.1.1 Share the Internet connection

One of the greatest benefits of HomeFree is that all the computers in your home can share a single Internet connection— no more need to get off the Internet so your kids can use it (or vice versa). Simply connect the computer with the fastest modem to the Internet, and all of your HomeFree computers can use *that* connection... at the same time! There's no need to install costly extra phone lines or extra modems. You can be checking your email while another family member is surfing the Web and still another is having a chat or playing a game, and none of you will even know that the others are connected.

2.1.2 Share printers

With HomeFree, any computer in the house can access any printer, even if it's is connected to a computer in a different room. You no longer have to buy a printer

for each of your computers. Likewise, the days of carrying floppy disks to the computer with the printer are over. You can be using your laptop in the backyard and send your work to a printer in the den. Just choose the Print command in any application, select a printer, and your output goes there— it's that easy!

2.1.3 Transfer files

With HomeFree, file sharing is easy, fast and reliable. You can share files between computers at the click of a mouse— no more copying files to floppy disks in order to transport them from one computer to another. Simply select the file you want to copy and choose the computer you want to send it to. Before you know it, the file's on its way.

2.1.4 Play games across computers

HomeFree adds a new dimension to PC gaming. Now, family members can compete head-to-head from different PCs in your home, or you can connect with a growing community of gamers on the Internet. HomeFree's high-speed data transfer rate delivers the performance that today's games require. This makes gaming far more exciting and enjoyable.

2.2 A word about Security

By design, HomeFree ensures that your data is secure. There's no need to worry when transferring your banking, investment, or other personal files between computers in your home. Each computer in your HomeFree communications system is assigned a unique name, and all data transmissions are encoded for specific receivers. In fact, HomeFree utilizes the same security techniques as digital cell phones for preventing your neighbors from inadvertently (or purposely) accessing your data.

Chapter 3 Installing HomeFree

<<This is a more detailed version of the installation instructions in the poster. > >

3.1 Getting Ready to Install

3.1.1 Terminology

- Network
- Browser
- ISP (Internet Service Provider)
- driver
- <<Others??>>

3.1.2 Pre-installation Checklist

Before installing HomeFree, go through the checklist below:

3.1.2.1 Check your printers

Make sure that any printers you want to use with HomeFree are connected to computers and functioning properly.

1. Connect your printer to the computer where you want it.
2. Install the printer software per the manufacturer's instructions.
3. Test the printer to be sure it is working.
4. Repeat this process for each of your printers.

3.1.2.2 Check your Internet connection

If you want HomeFree to provide shared access to the Internet, you must begin the HomeFree installation on a computer that has a working Internet connection.

Choose the computer that will provide your Internet connection. (Typically, this will be the computer with the fastest modem.)

Determine which of the following applies to you:

PROCEED with Installation!	STOP! Don't Install Yet.
If you've already set up Internet service on this computer, make sure the Internet connection is working properly:	If you haven't set up Internet service on this computer, do so now— before you begin installing HomeFree.
1. Phone line is plugged into the modem. 2. Modem (if external) is turned on. 3. Internet browser software is properly configured— i.e. you can send/receive email and surf the Web. If the Internet connection is working, skip to Section 3.3 and begin installing HomeFree on *this* computer.	The next section will help you determine what you need to do to set up your Internet connection on this computer.

3.1.3 Setting up an Internet Connection

If you haven't yet set up an Internet connection on the computer you chose, or if you are unsure about how to proceed, find the row in the table below that best describes your situation, and follow the instructions on the right side of that row.

If this is your situation...	Do this *before* installing HomeFree...
You currently have Internet connections installed on more than one computer	Choose the computer with the Internet connection you want to use (e.g. typically the one with the fastest modem). Be sure this connection is working properly, and then begin HomeFree installation on *this* computer.
You have an Internet connection installed on another computer, but you want to install it on a different computer.	Following the instructions provided by your ISP, set up a new Internet connection on the computer where you want it. Go through the checklist in Section 3.1.2 above.
You've signed up with an ISP, but you have not yet installed the browser software or established Internet service.	Choose the computer that you want to use to provide the shared Internet connection for HomeFree (typically, this will be the computer with the fastest modem). Following the instructions provided by your ISP, set up the Internet connection on this computer Go through the checklist in Section 3.1.2 above.
You do not yet have an ISP account, and you're not sure how to get one.	See Appendix A for instructions on opening a new ISP account using the HomeFree CD-ROM. Choose the computer that you want to use to provide the shared Internet connection for HomeFree (typically, this will be the computer with the fastest modem). Following the instructions provided on the CD-ROM, set up the Internet connection on this computer. Go through the checklist in Section 3.1.2 above.

3.2 Installing HomeFree

3.2.1 Go to the Internet Computer

♦ Important: If you want HomeFree to provide shared access to the Internet, you must install HomeFree on *this* computer first. If you're not going to access the Internet, you can start with any computer.

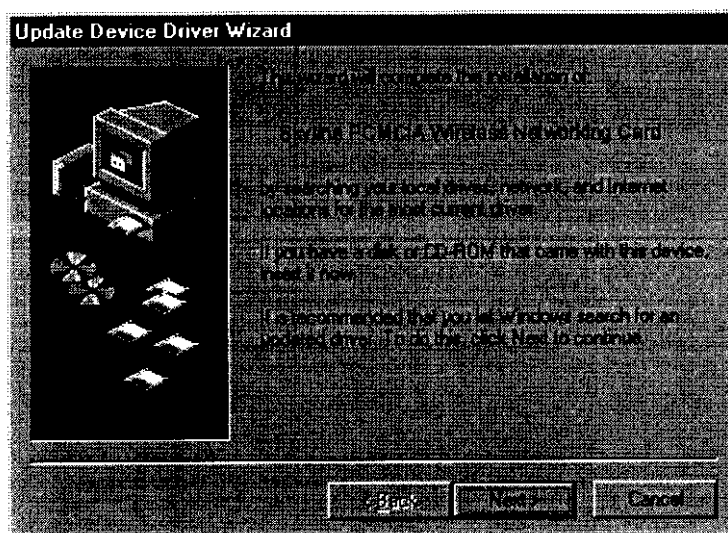### 3.2.2 Install the HomeFree hardware and start up the computer

<<The following table should be illustrated with graphics.>>

ISA Card Installation	PCMCIA Card Installation
1. Power down the computer	. If this computer is connected to a printer, power on the printer.
2. Open the case	. Plug the HomeFree card into an open PCMCIA slot.
3. Touch the chassis to ground yourself	
4. Unplug the computer	
5. Locate an empty ISA slot	
6. Install the HomeFree ISA card	
7. Close the case	
8. If this computer is connected to a printer, power on the printer.	
9. If this computer has an external modem, and if it's your connection to the Internet, power on the modem.	
10. Plug in the power cord	
11. Power on the computer.	

3.2.3 Install the HomeFree Software

3.2.3.1 Wait for the Update Device Driver dialog to appear

In the process of starting up, the Windows Plug & Play sensor will detect the HomeFree ISA or PCMCIA card you just installed, and it will automatically run the Update Device Driver Wizard to configure the new hardware.

The following dialog should appear on your screen:

> **Important:** If this wizard does not appear on your screen, **Do not proceed with the HomeFree software installation!**
>
> Windows has failed to detect the HomeFree hardware. Either this computer does not support Windows Plug & Play technology, or there is a problem with this HomeFree transceiver card. Please turn to the Installation Troubleshooting section at the end of this chapter to determine the problem and possible solutions.

3.2.3.2 Insert the HomeFree Installation Disk in the appropriate drive

Insert either the HomeFree CD-ROM or floppy disk into the appropriate drive.

Then, click Next > to finish the Windows Plug & Play hardware installation.

3.2.3.3 Follow the installer instructions on screen

When the Update Device Driver Wizard has completed the hardware installation, the HomeFree Installer takes over.

Follow the installer's on-screen prompts to complete the HomeFree software installation on this computer.

3.2.4 Repeat the installation on each of the other computers

When installation is complete on this computer, the Installer will ask if there are more computers to be set up.

If you indicate that there are more computers, you'll be asked to remove the installation CD-ROM or floppy and move to the next computer.

When you indicate that there are no more computers to set up, all of the computers will automatically re-boot simultaneously.

Installation of HomeFree is now complete.

3.3 Installation Troubleshooting

This section deals with problems that may arise during the HomeFree installation.

3.3.1 Diagnosing the problem

Some kind of troubleshooting tree for diagnosing installation problems goes here. The specifics are yet to be determined.

Chapter 4 Using HomeFree

4.1 About your HomeFree Connection

This section contains general notes about using HomeFree.

4.1.1 Overview of HomeFree

This section provides some general usage notes about HomeFree. It emphasizes that, for the most part, HomeFree works unobtrusively in the background. Your computer works the way it always did, but you now have the added advantage of connectivity between your computers.

4.1.2 Activating and de-activating HomeFree computers

This section explains what happens when you power off any computer connected to the HomeFree network. This includes the following cases:

- Internet connection powered off
- Computer with shared printer powered off
- Computer with no peripherals powered off

4.1.2.1 HomeFree and energy conservation modes

You may or may not be able to access a computer that is "sleeping" or in "hibernation" via HomeFree.

4.1.3 The HomeFree Activity Monitor

This section calls attention to the HomeFree activity monitor, located in the system tray on the desktop. It explains that this icon visually shows the user that HomeFree is hooked up and communicating with other computers on the network.

4.1.4 The HomeFree Maintenance Application

This section gives a general description of the HomeFree Maintenance Application, referring to the next chapter for details. It also shows the location of the Maintenance Utility (Start Menu → HomeFree Program Group) and notes that you can also access the HomeFree software by double-clicking on the HomeFree Activity Monitor icon in the system tray.

4.2 Sharing the Internet connection

4.2.1 About Internet sharing

This section gives an overview of Internet sharing. It explains the concept of having a single phone connection to the Internet which can be shared by multiple computers. It includes the following points:

- What you can do
- Avoiding Bottlenecks

4.2.1.1 A note about America Online

<<Note: The information regarding AOL and its use via HomeFree needs to be researched thoroughly. >>

4.2.2 Getting ready for Internet sharing

4.2.2.1 Install a browser on any computers that don't already have one.

◆ **Note:** The computer with the Internet connection should already have a browser, so you can skip it. If other computers already have browsers, the HomeFree Installer configured them, so you can skip them as well.

4.2.2.2 A copy of Netscape Communiator/Internet Explorer is included on the HomeFree CD-ROM. See Appendix B for instructions on installing a browser.

◆ **Note:** If you want to send and receive electronic mail (email) from a computer on which you just installed a browser, you'll need to follow the instructions of your Internet Service Provider for setting up email.

4.2.3 Accessing the Internet

Instructions for accessing the Internet go here.

4.3 Sharing printers

4.3.1 About printer sharing

This section provides a brief overview of the benefits and functionality of printer sharing.

4.3.2 Getting ready to print

4.3.2.1 Checklist for printer sharing goes here (e.g. printers must be connected, power on, and installed on the HomeFree network.)

4.3.2.2 Checking to see what printers are available (Printers control panel).

4.3.3 Printing a file

Instructions for printing a file go here.

4.4 Transferring files to another computer

4.4.1 About file transfer

This section provides a brief overview of the process of sharing files over the HomeFree network, including:

- The advantages of file sharing
- How to transfer files.
- Where transferred files are stored.

4.4.2 Transferring a file to another computer

Instructions for sending a file go here.

4.4.3 Retrieving a file sent to your computer

Instructions for retrieving a file go here.

4.4.4 Removing files sent to your computer

Instructions for removing files from the Transfer folder go here.

4.5 Playing games on multiple computers

4.5.1 About multi-player gaming

This section gives an overview of the multi-player computer gaming genre. It lists some general categories of multi-player games and describes some of the advantages and unique features provided my multi-player games. It also distinguishes between:

- Local competition
- Internet competition

4.5.2 Getting ready for multi-player gaming

Checklist for multi-player gaming goes here (e.g. game installed and configured for multiple players one each computer.)

4.5.3 Trying out a multi-player game

Instructions for installing and running the demo game included in the HomeFree go here.

Chapter 5 Updating your HomeFree Setup

5.1 Overview of maintenance functions

This section describes the conditions under which it is necessary to run the HomeFree maintenance application in order to update or reconfigure HomeFree in response to system changes. These conditions include:

- Adding a computer
- Adding or moving a printer
- Removing a computer or printer
- Changing the Internet connection or the ISP

5.2 Adding/Removing a computer

5.2.1 Adding a new computer

This section provides instructions for adding a new computer to the HomeFree network and updating the network settings accordingly. Here is a summary of the steps:

1. Setup the new computer following the manufacturer's instructions. Install the printer and other peripherals, and make sure the computer boots properly.

♦ **Note:** Most likely, you now have two computers with Internet connections— the old one on the HomeFree network and this new one that is not yet on HomeFree. After installing this new computer on HomeFree, go to the section entitled "Changing your Internet Connection" later in this chapter to make the new computer your shared Internet connection.

2. Boot each of your other computers, and run the HomeFree Maintenance Application on each one, as follows:

- On each HomeFree computer except the new one, run the HomeFree Maintenance Application. (Choose Start menu→Programs→HomeFree Maintenance Application. From the main menu in the maintenance application, choose Add New Computer.)

3. On the new computer, install the HomeFree hardware and software, following the instructions on the HomeFree Installation Poster or in Chapter 3 of this user guide.

4. When you start up the new computer, after installing the HomeFree ISA or PCMCIA card, the Update Device Driver Wizard should appear, as described in the installation instructions.

- Insert the HomeFree installation CD-ROM or floppy in the appropriate drive, and Click Next > to configure the HomeFree hardware. (If this screen does not appear, stop the installation and go to the Installation Troubleshooting section in Chapter 3.)

5. After the hardware has been configured, the HomeFree installer will take over. The installer will automatically sense that other computers already exist on the HomeFree network, and will configure the new computer appropriately.

6. When the HomeFree software installation is complete, the installer will ask if this is the last computer to be installed. Click Yes.

The new computer will re-boot automatically, and the HomeFree configuration settings will automatically be updated on all the computers.

◆ Note: If you want the new computer to provide the Internet connection for all the computers on your HomeFree network, set up the Internet service and browser on this computer, using the software and instructions provided by your ISP. Test the Internet connection to make sure it is working.

> Now, follow the instructions in the section, "Changing your Internet Connection," later in this chapter.

5.2.2 Removing a computer from your HomeFree network

There are two ways to remove a computer from the HomeFree network:

- Power off the computer
- Uninstall HomeFree from the computer

Powering off a computer temporarily removes it from the HomeFree network. Uninstalling HomeFree from a computer permanently removes it from the network. Following are some of the consequences of removing a computer from the HomeFree network:

- A computer that has been removed from the HomeFree network will still show up as a source or destination for transferring files, but you will get an error message if you attempt to send files to. it.

- If this computer is the Internet connection for HomeFree, Internet access will not be available. (Browsers will still run, but they will not be able to connect to the Internet.).

- If this computer has a printer attached, that printer will not be available. (Its icon will still appear in the Printers Control Panel, but if you try to print to it, the printer will automatically be switched to "off line" mode, and the file will be saved for printing at a later time.)

If the computer was powered off, all of these functions will resume normally when it is powered back on.

♦ **Note:** For many computers, the energy conserving "sleep" or "hibernation" mode is equivalent to powering off the computer in terms of its availability to the HomeFree network.

Instructions for uninstalling HomeFree from a computer are included in Chapter 6.

5.3 Adding, Moving, or Removing a Printer

This section provides instructions for changing the HomeFree printer configuration. Changes that require updating HomeFree include adding a new printer, moving a printer to a different computer, and removing a printer.

5.3.1 Adding a new printer

Here are the steps for adding a new printer and incorporating it into the HomeFree network:

1. Follow manufacturer's instructions for setting up and installing a local printer to a computer.
2. Boot all of the computers on your HomeFree network.
3. Run the HomeFree Maintenance Utility on each computer. (Choose Start menu→Programs→HomeFree Maintenance Application. Choose Printers from the main menu, and then choose Add New Printer.)

5.3.2 Removing a printer

If you remove a printer from your HomeFree network, its icon will still appear in the Printers Control Panel on each computer. You can manually remove these icons on each computer by following the Windows instructions for removing a printer.

1. Choose Start→Settings→Printers to open the Printers Control Panel.
2. Right click on icon of the printer to be removed
3. Choose Delete Printer from pop-up menu
4. If Windows asks if you want to remove files that were only used by this printer, answer "Yes."
5. Repeat steps 1-3 on each computer.

5.3.3 Moving a printer to a different computer

If you move a printer from one computer to another, you'll need to run the HomeFree Maintenance Utility in order to re-configure HomeFree for the new printer location. Here are the steps:

1. Boot all of the computers on your HomeFree network.
2. Manually remove the printer from each computer, following the instructions in the previous section, "Removing a printer."
3. Install the printer on a different computer following the instructions in the section, "Adding a new printer," above.

5.4 Changing the Internet Connection

5.4.1 Why change the Internet connection?

There are three main reasons why you might need to change your Internet connection:

1. You added a new computer that will become the Internet connection.

♦ **Note:** In this case, you must add the new computer to the HomeFree network *first* (See "Adding a New Computer" earlier in this chapter) and then change the Internet connection, as indicated below.

2. You want to remove the computer with the Internet connection, and you must assign a different computer as the Internet connection.

♦ **Note:** In this case, you must change the Internet connection *before* removing the computer in order to avoid losing access to the Internet.

3. You decide to change the Internet connection among the existing computers (e.g., after upgrading a modem).

5.4.2 Steps for changing the Internet connection

Here are the steps for changing the Internet connection:

1. Go to the computer that you want to be the new Internet connection.
2. Choose Start menu→Settings→Control Panels, and double-click the HomeFree icon.
3. .Choose Change Internet Connection from the main menu.
4. Follow the on-screen instructions for changing the Internet connection (Note: These steps still under development)

Chapter 6 Uninstalling HomeFree

Uninstalling HomeFree on a computer permanently removes that computer from the HomeFree network. This section describes the consequences of uninstalling HomeFree from a computer and provides instructions for how to uninstall HomeFree.

6.1 Consequences of uninstalling HomeFree from a computer

This section describes the consequences to be aware of before uninstalling HomeFree from a computer that was part of a HomeFree network.

6.1.1 Uninstalling HomeFree from a computer that provided the Internet connection

If you still want to access the Internet from other computers via HomeFree, you should first *change* your Internet connection before uninstalling HomeFree on this computer. See the section, *Changing your Internet Connection*, in Chapter 5 for instructions.

6.1.2 Uninstalling HomeFree from a computer with a shared printer

If you uninstall HomeFree from a computer that had a shared printer attached, that printer will no longer be available over HomeFree (although its icon will still appear in the Printer Control Panels on each of the other computers). Follow the instructions in Chapter 5 for removing or moving a printer.

6.2 Instructions for Uninstalling HomeFree from a computer

This section provides instructions for uninstalling HomeFree from one computer.

6.3 Deleting Transfer Folders on a computer that has been removed from HomeFree

If a computer is permanently removed from a HomeFree network, its Transfer folders will still exist on the desktops of all the other computers on the network. These now defunct folder icons can be misleading, and you'll get an error message if you try to transfer files to them. You can avoid any confusion by manually deleting these folders from the desktop of each of the remaining computers on the HomeFree network.

Chapter 7 Getting Help

7.1 Types of help available

This section describes the various types of help and customer service that are available to HomeFree users.

7.1.1 This user guide

7.1.2 Online documentation on CD-ROM, with updates on Diamond Multimedia, Inc. Web site

7.1.3 FAQ list on CD-ROM, with updates on a Web site

7.1.4 Automated troubleshooting on the CD-ROM

7.1.5 Customer Service/Technical Support

7.2 Support Options

7.2.1 Fax Back System

7.2.2 Customer Support

7.2.3 Technical Support

7.3 Before you call Customer Support...

7.3.1 Troubleshooting form

7.4 Ways to Contact Us

7.4.1 email

7.4.2 Web Site

7.4.3 Fax back system

7.4.4 Telephone support

7.4.4.1 Sales Department

7.4.4.2 Customer Suppor

7.4.4.3 Technical Support

Chapter 8   - FCC

8.1 Radio and Television Interference

This equipment has been tested and found to comply with the limits of a Class B digital device, pursuant to Part 15 of the FCC Rules. These limits are designed to provide reasonable protection against harmful interference in a residential installation. This equipment generates, uses and can radiate radio frequency energy and, if not installed and used in accordance with the instructions, may cause harmful interference to radio communications.

However, there is no guarantee that interference will not occur in a particular installation. If this equipment does cause harmful interference to radio or television reception, which can be determined by turning the equipment off and on, the user is encouraged to try to correct the interference by one or more of the following measures:

♦ Reorient or relocate the receiving antenna.

♦ Increase the separation between the equipment and receiver.

♦ Connect the equipment into an outlet on a circuit different from that to which the receiver is connected.

♦ Consult the dealer or an experienced radio/TV technician for help.

Modifications to this device not expressly approved by the manufacturer could void the user's authority to operate this device.

Appendix A. Setting Up an Internet Service Account

<<Assuming that Diamond Multimedia, Inc. MM plans to include an Internet sign up kit on the HomeFree CD-ROM, this appendix contains instructions for setting up the new Internet account. This setup would probably require a credit card and would include installing a browser, going online, and activating a new ISP account.>>

Appendix B. Installing an Internet Browser

<<Assuming that Diamond Multimedia, Inc. MM plans to include one or more Internet browsers on the CD-ROM, this appendix would provide instructions for installing a browser on any computer in the HomeFree network that doesn't already have one.>>