

An ID Timer that Happens on the 10s!

Rel. 1.2.2

Nov. 2024

What is it?

Just a simple 10-minute timer that will alert the user to ID every 10 minutes. That's it! The alert will happen on 10, 20, 30 minutes etc. past the hour. I wrote this for myself and some friends. I am releasing it for anyone to use but do so at your own risk. My intent was to produce an app that is very simple, not take up processor time of note and to only run it on Windows. Nothing else ...

At a high level, give me the low down ...

There are two indicators when the timer expires. First, a large colored (color can be changed) form pops up reminding you to ID. Second, an audio reminder will sound (if you have sound working on your machine). It can play a wave file instead of a system alert tone if you so choose.

First things first, you should enter your callsign just so you know who you are before telling everyone else. Hover your mouse pointer (not your mouse, that wouldn't work) over the word "Callsign", then double click with the left button. A screen will pop up to let you enter your callsign.

The time display uses the system clock of the machine the app is running on. Hover the mouse pointer over the time display and double click the clock itself. Continue to double click will cycle the time display through four options:

1. Local 24-hour format.
2. GMT 12-hour format.
3. Local 24-hour format.
4. GMT 24-hour format.

The clock never stops as long as the app is running. However, you can start and stop the timer by ... wait for it ... clicking either the "Start" or "Stop" button. The "Active" indicator will display "Stopped" when the alert is turned off.

The "Mode" button lets you select between "Auto" and "Manual". In the Auto mode, the alert screen will pop up to remind you it's time to ID and automatically close after 15 seconds. Manual mode requires the user to hover over the yellow form and left click the mouse once to make the form close. The form will stay open until the user closes it in manual mode.

You can turn off the audio completely if that sort of thing bothers you. I have a very sexy female voice tell me what a great looking guy I am and how she adores Ham Radio operators. But that's just me. It's up to you what you want it to say. Double click the left button on your mouse to open up the form. You have three options:

1. No audio. Just the visual yellow alert screen and no noise to hear.
2. A system beep. Very easy to listen to but short.
3. Play an audio file. I have tried it using .wav and .mp3 files. It might play other types of files but I did not test them.

An ID Timer that Happens on the 10s!

Rel. 1.2.2

Nov. 2024

AS for the “Alert Screen” button --- it simply pops up the Alert screen so you can position it wherever you like on your monitor. You can also change the size. Click anywhere on the screen to close the form. The program will remember where you placed it and what size it was. Simply roll your mouse wheel as you hover over the screen to change the color. A color picker will pop up allowing you to change the color and intensity. Roll the mouse again once you have selected your favorite color.

You can run the main program minimized in the tray and it should be fine. Occasionally you will hear the audio but the screen will not pop up. It has to do with how you minimized the main screen. If this happens, bring the main screen back up and close the alert screen prior to minimizing the main screen this time.

If for some reason the program goes totally bonkers, X out of it and restart it. That should clear it up. There is a configuration file named “On_the_Tens.ini” that you can delete to put everything back to the factory default. Yup, I call my basement, “The Factory”.

I recommend you do not place the folder in any protected folder on your system, i.e. “Program Files” or “Program Files (x86)” etc.

Unzip the files, double click on the application “On_the_Tens_V1_2.exe” to start the program.

An ID Timer that Happens on the 10s!

Rel. 1.2.2

Nov. 2024

Some screen shots to help ...

The main program is the parent object ... you close that one and everything else follows. The yellow Alert screen is generated when the main program is launched and thus sometimes it will display should you minimize the main program and then hover over it while it is in the tray.

Here is the main program window:

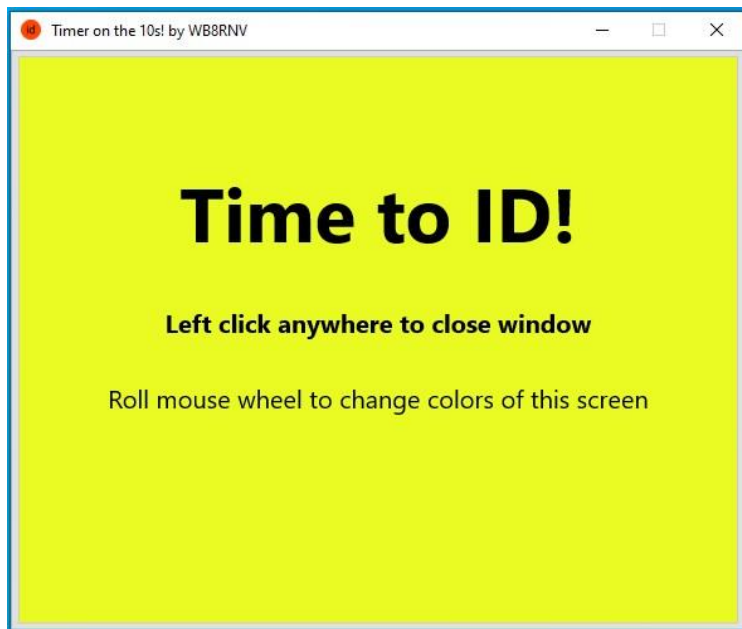


An ID Timer that Happens on the 10s!

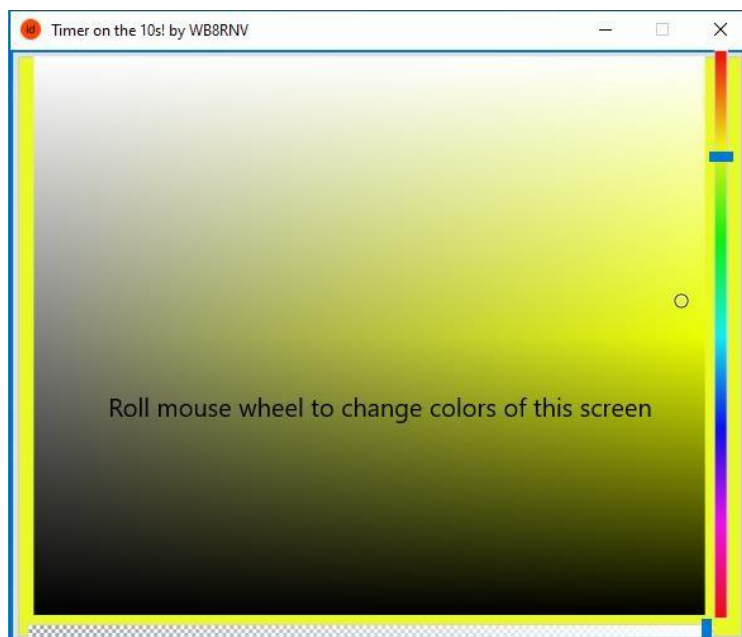
Rel. 1.2.2

Nov. 2024

This is the Alert screen:



And the Alert screen with the color picker pulled up:



An ID Timer that Happens on the 10s!

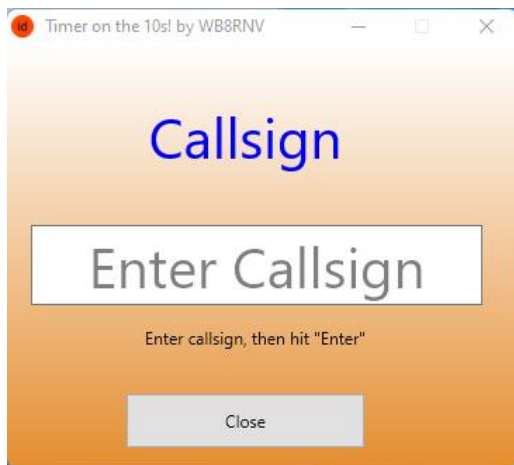
Rel. 1.2.2

Nov. 2024

Here is the Callsign screen where you can enter YOUR callsign:

Just remember to hit return after you enter your callsign. If you like what you see, close the form and that is that.

The color of the callsign in the main window can also have the color changed – just hover the mouse over the callsign and roll you mouse wheel. Pick your color and roll the mouse wheel again to save it.



And when you roll the mouse wheel while holding the mouse pointer over the “Callsign” ...



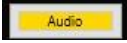
As for a legal wording ... you are completely on you own. I take no responsibility whatsoever for this program and what it does your computer. Let's face it, I'm a hack!

An ID Timer that Happens on the 10s!

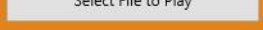
Rel. 1.2.2

Nov. 2024

And finally, the Audio selection screen:

Double click  to pull up the audio selection screen.



You can play any audio file on your computer by clicking  which will pull up this screen:



Search and select your audio program by clicking "Select Audio File To Play" ...

An ID Timer that Happens on the 10s!

Rel. 1.2.2

Nov. 2024

Once selected, you can play it or simply save it. Make sure you save it prior to clicking on "Close and Return". The screen will close and you will return to the ordinal file menu. MAKE SURE YOU CLICK "Play File" TO SAVE YOUR CHOICE!!!!

That is about it. Hope it helps you stay legal by announcing to the listening world who you are, every 10 minutes on the "Tens"!

'73 WB8RNV (Randy)

And the legal disclaimer ...

1. No guarantees about anything ... don't use it if you don't like it!
2. Run it at your own risk. I have no control over any copy of this program after it leaves my basement.
3. I am not taking feature requests nor am I taking bug fix requests.
4. This is not an installable program thus labeling it as "portable". Windows will alert you the first time you try to run it. It is up to you if you want to proceed past this point. I have no information that anyone ever tried to hack a copy but one never knows. As stated above, I am not taking any liability whatsoever regarding this program.