Welcome to the Balloon Calculator®!!

You have purchased the most sophisticated piece of software for the balloon industry.

The Balloon Calculator® program was designed to take the hassle out of bidding on jobs.

Because the Balloon Calculator® was written by a person in the balloon industry it has some unique features.

I wanted this program to help me in my daily tasks and to help me train my employees on how to accurately and quickly bid on a balloon decorating job.

We hope you will be very happy with the program.

Written by Gary Ledbetter
10/09/03

Installing the Balloon Calculator®

1. Insert the CD into the CD-ROM drive
2. Wait a few moments. If the install screen doesn't appear then go to step 3.
3. Open "My Computer" from the Windows desktop, double click on the icon for your CD-ROM drive and double click on the BALLOONCALCULATOR5.exe and the program will start installing.
4. Follow the instructions for installation.
5. You will have 10 days to use the program before it stops working
6. Obtain your Unlock code before the 10 days expires.
7. See **Registering the Program** on page 60.

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The Balloon Calculator® Introduction

Click on the **Balloon Calculator®** icon on your desktop and let's begin.

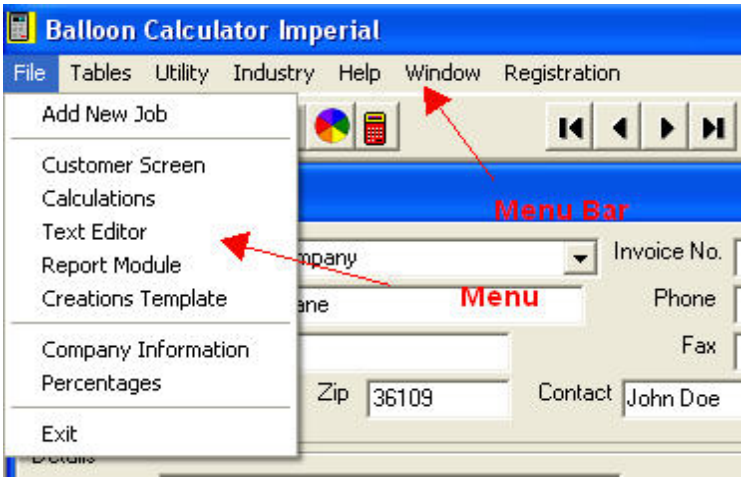
Once the program is up and running you can begin.

The Menu Bar

The Menu Bar contains the menu categories across the top of the screen.

Clicking on a category opens a drop down menu which contains a number of selections.

Click on a selection to activate it.



From here you can select "Add New Job" to begin a job.

When starting a new job it would be "Click on FILE\Add New Job".

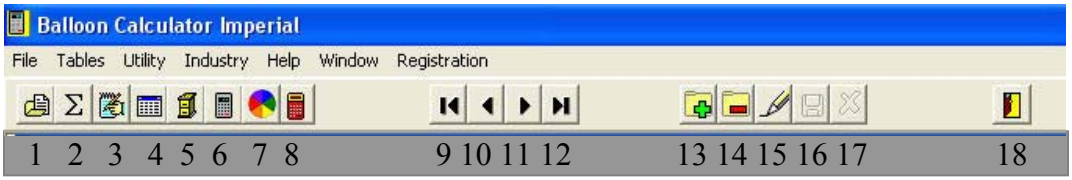
Getting Help

When you need help press the **F1** button and the help file will open to the location necessary to help you.

If you can not find the help you need you may check the **FAQ** file at www.dynamitemagicandballoons.com or send us an e-mail explaining the problem to gllmagic@aol.com or you can call Technical help at 334 270-1234 ask for Gary.

The Balloon Calculator® Introduction

Below are the speed buttons that allow you to make menu selections fast.



These buttons allow you to select menu items much quicker.

Speed Buttons

1. The Customer Screen
2. The Calculations Screen
3. Text Editor
4. Look Up Tables
5. Creations Template
6. Math Calculator
7. Color Wheel
8. Conversion Calculator

Navigator Bar

9. Moves you to the first job
10. Moves you back to the previous job
11. Moves you forward to the next job
12. Moves you to the last job

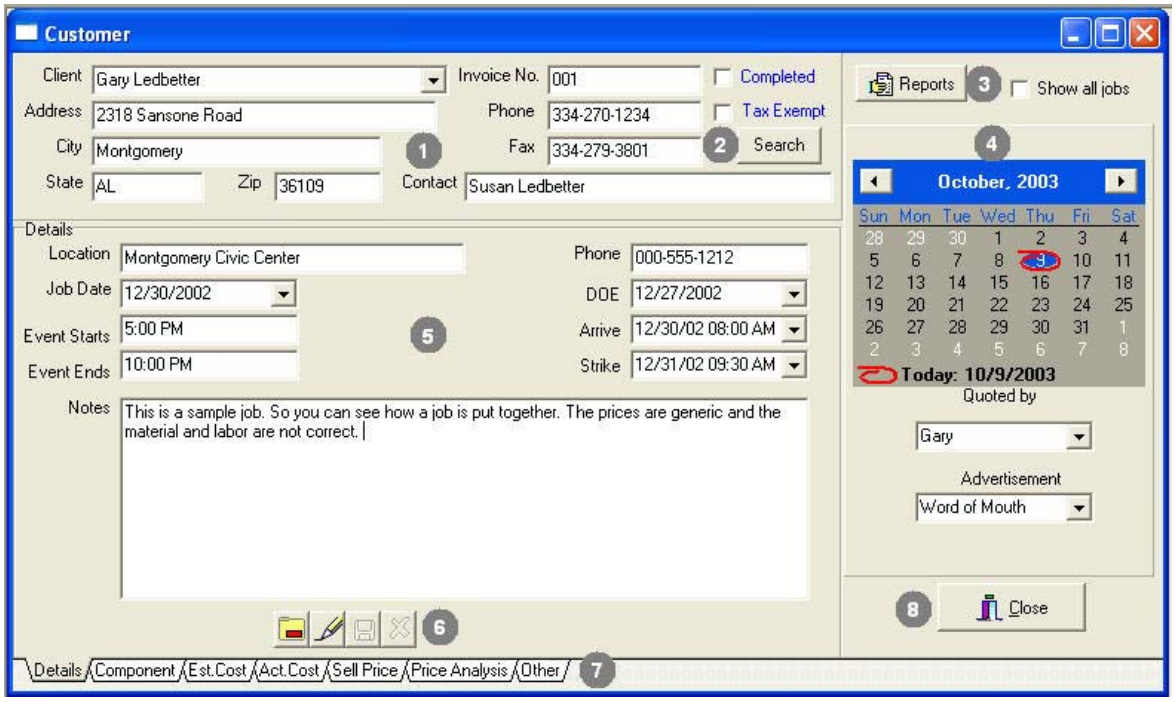
Edit Bar

13. Creates a new job
14. Deletes the current job
15. Indicates the current job is being edited
16. Saves the current job, click here when its blue to save changes
17. Cancels changes to the current job
18. Exits the program

The Balloon Calculator® Introduction

Note that the **Balloon Calculator**® does not start up with a new job. It opens showing an existing job.

Take a moment to familiarize yourself with the different sections of the **Balloon Calculator**® Customer job screen.



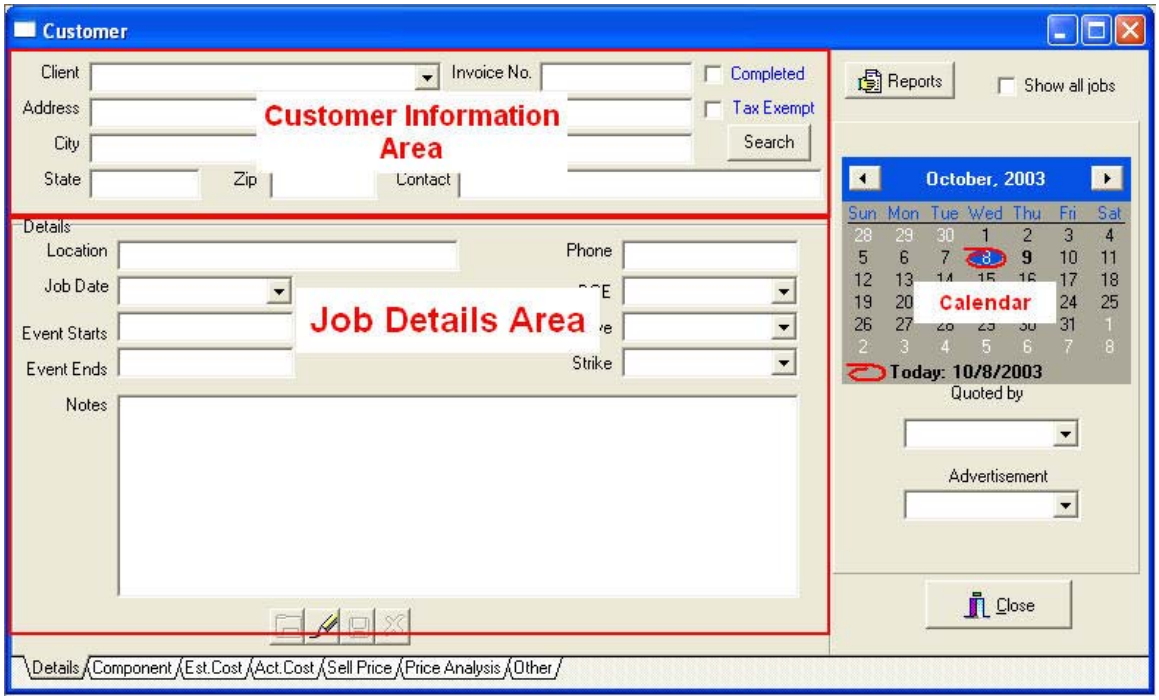
1. Customer information area.
2. Search button allows you to search for jobs.
3. Reports button allows you to print reports about the current job.
4. Handy calendar
5. Details area were you enter job information.
6. Navigation buttons
7. Screen tabs
8. Close button closes the window.

Moving around in the **Balloon Calcul**ator® is easy. Use the **TAB** key instead of the **ENTER** key or use the mouse to click to where you want to be.

Customer Screen

This is where the job starts.

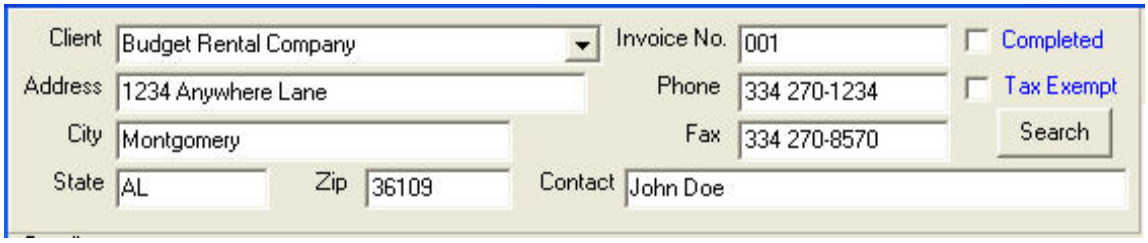
The **Customer** screen is divided into two main areas - the Customer Information Area and the Job Details Area.



Customer Information Area

Information entered here is saved with the job, but can also be saved to your customer database. Once saved, that information can be used on other jobs.

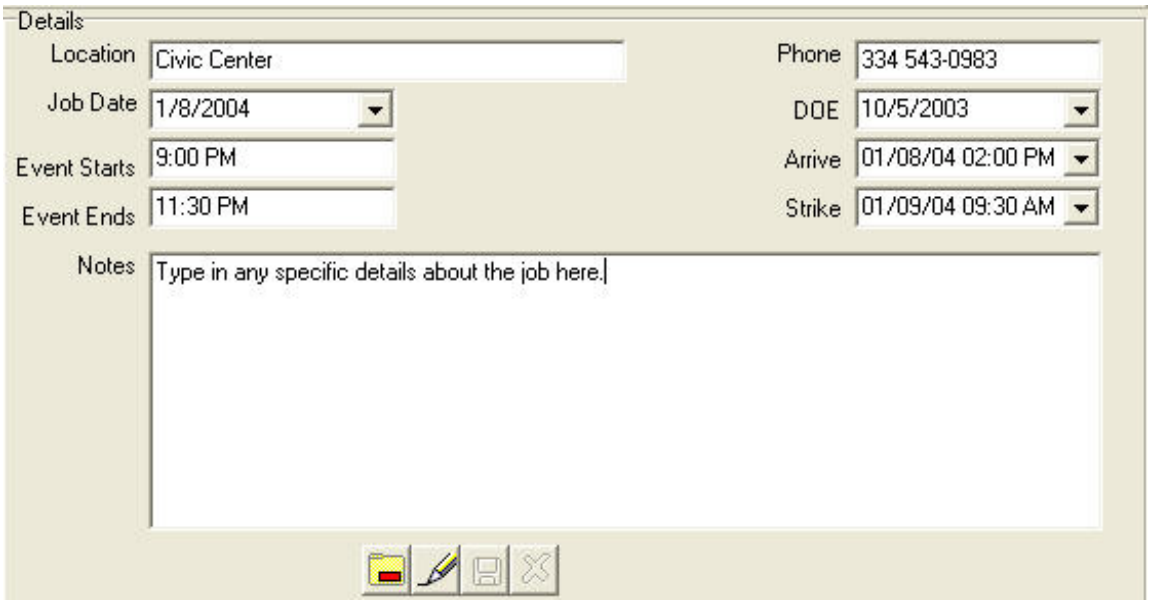
After saving the information, any changes made on this screen will not affect the customer database.



Job Details Area

Here you can list the details for the job, not each component.

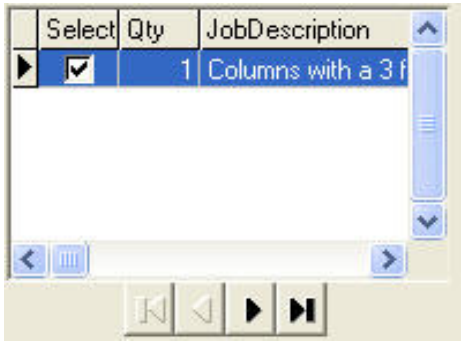
You can list event times, setup and tear down times. There is a memo field for notes about the job.



The Date fields can be entered by typing the date or using the arrow keys. You can click on the drop down arrows and select the date from a pop up calendar.

Selection Box

This box lets you select the component to make it current. You can also double click on a component to bring up the Image Viewer to add pictures to each component. This is explained on page 33.



Balloon Calculator® Job Tutorial

This is a sample job. This tutorial will take you through an actual job step by step.

FIRST
The job consists of 4 components and each component is priced separately.

SECOND
After calculating the number of balloons needed you will enter in the materials and labor. You will then use this information to generate a suggested selling price for each component.

THIRD
Once suggested selling price is established you will adjust the price to allow for perceived value.

FINALLY
You will be able to look at the job as a whole and see the selling price for the entire job.

NOTE:
If you change the percentages before entering in the tutorial the program will not reflect the screen shots that are in the tutorial. To get the tutorial to match the program you will have to reset your percentage to 30% Overhead, 25% Profit, and 9 % sales tax.

After you have completed the tutorial you need to set the percentages for overhead and profit, and sales tax for your business. This is described on page 31.

Customer Information

Customer name
Budget Rental Company
John Doe
1234 Anywhere Lane
Montgomery, AL 36108

Phone # 334 234-1234
Fax # 334 343-5643

Job Details

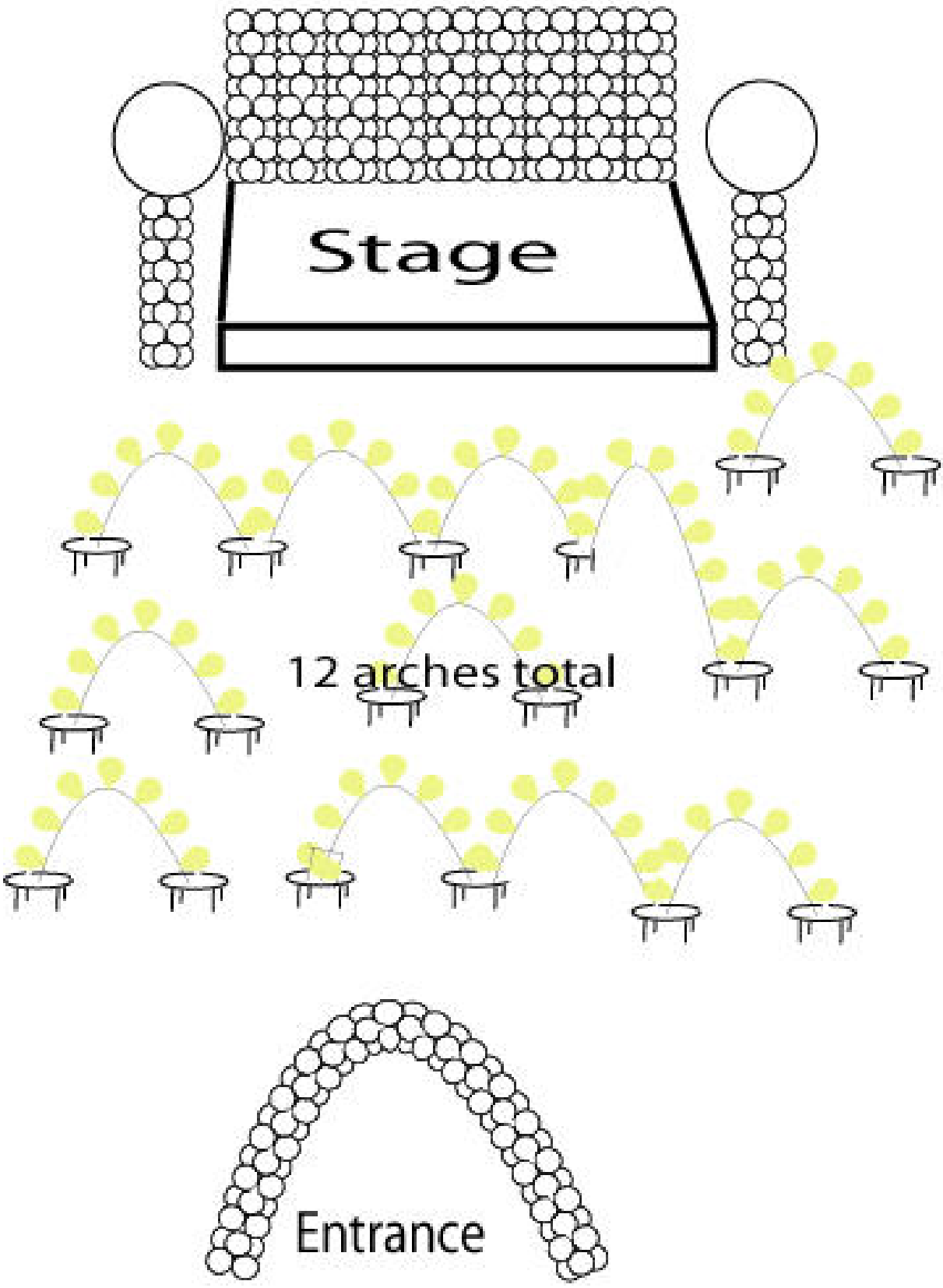
Job Location Civic Center **Phone #** 334 543-098
Job date 01/08/04 **Event starts** 9:00 PM **Ends** 11:30 PM
Arrive 01/08 /04 2:00 PM **Strike** 01/09/04 9:30 AM

Notes Type in any job specific details here.
Quoted Type in your name here.
Advertise Type in "newspaper" here.

Components

1. Stage
   2 - 4 cluster columns using balloons sized to 11" helium filled
   8 ft tall with a 3 ft on top
   Use red balloons
2. Entrance way
   1 - 4 cluster arch using balloons sized to 11" helium filled
   Arch is 12 ft wide 16 ft tall
   Use red and white balloons
3. Tables
   12 - single balloon arches bouncing from table to table balloons sized to 11" arch
   Arches are10 ft tall and 12 ft wide.
   Use red and white balloons
4. Behind Stage
   Precision wall
   16 ft wide and 8 ft tall.
   Using 11" and 9'' balloons sized to 10" and 8".
   Air filled ruby red balloons.

Other charges to customer.
Hotel bill $75.00
Travel fee $25.00

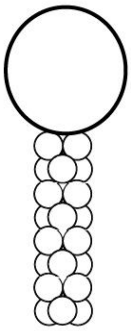


Pictures of each component are on the next page.

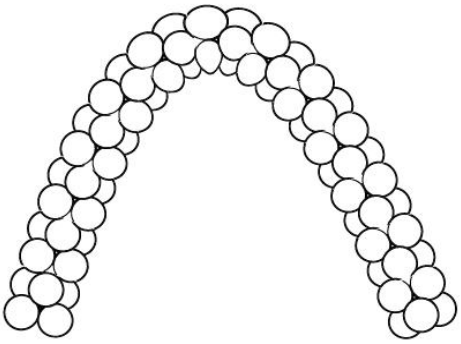
Drawings of each component

Drawings are not to scale.

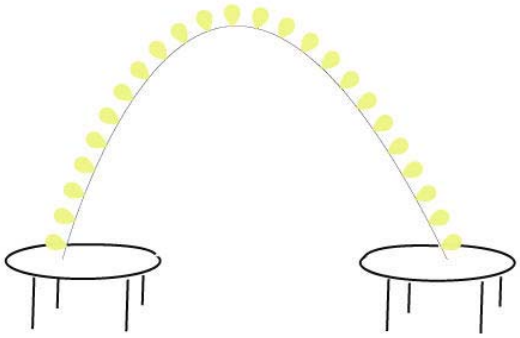
Component 1



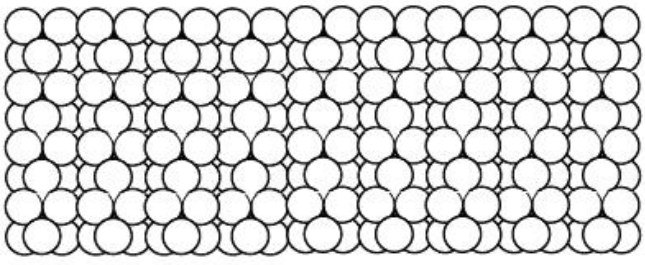
Component 2



Component 3



Component 4



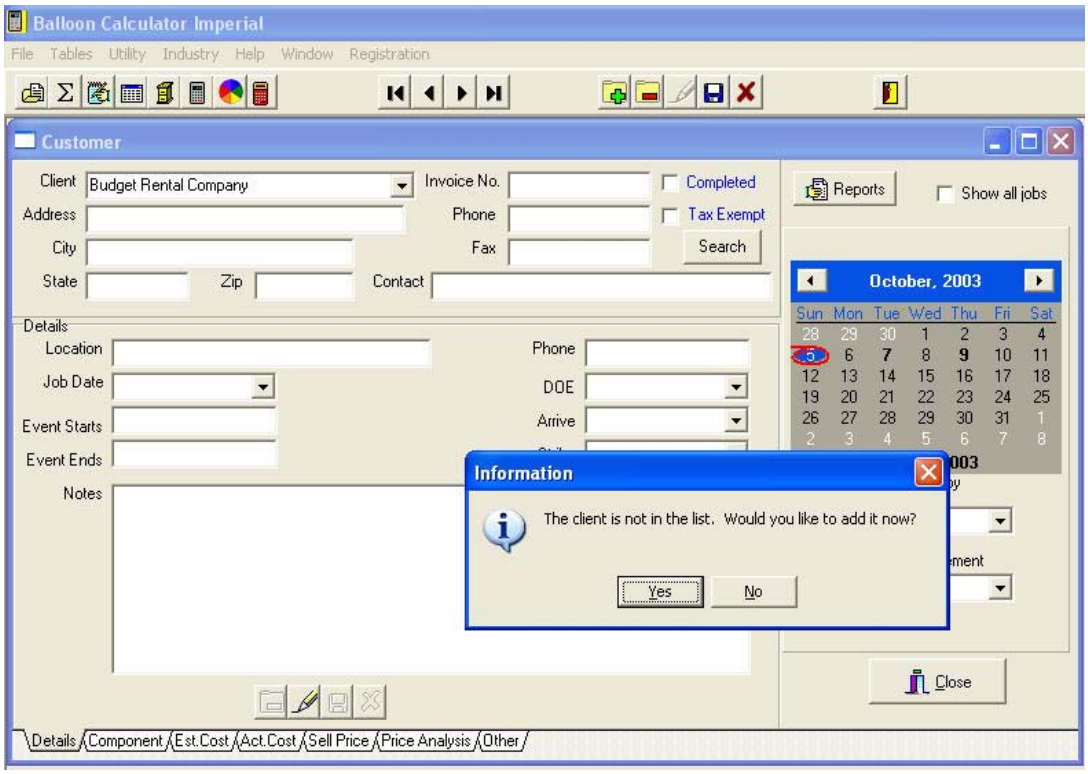
NOTE

Drawing for component 4 does not show that the balloons alternate in size. The balloons are not the sized as shown.

How to start a new job.

Click on FILE/ADD NEW JOB

Type in the customer information. Click “Yes” with the mouse to add this customer to your database.



Type in information about the job under the “Details” section.

TIPS

You can use your arrow keys to change the dates and times or you can type them in using the numeric keys.

You can click on the date boxes with the arrows to bring up a calendar and you can select a date by clicking on it.

Adding the first component.

We are going to calculate the cost of one column. This will only include the materials and labor costs for one column. We will change the quantity of columns on the **Sell Price** tab.

Click on the **Component** tab at the bottom of the screen.

Click "Add" button to add a new component.

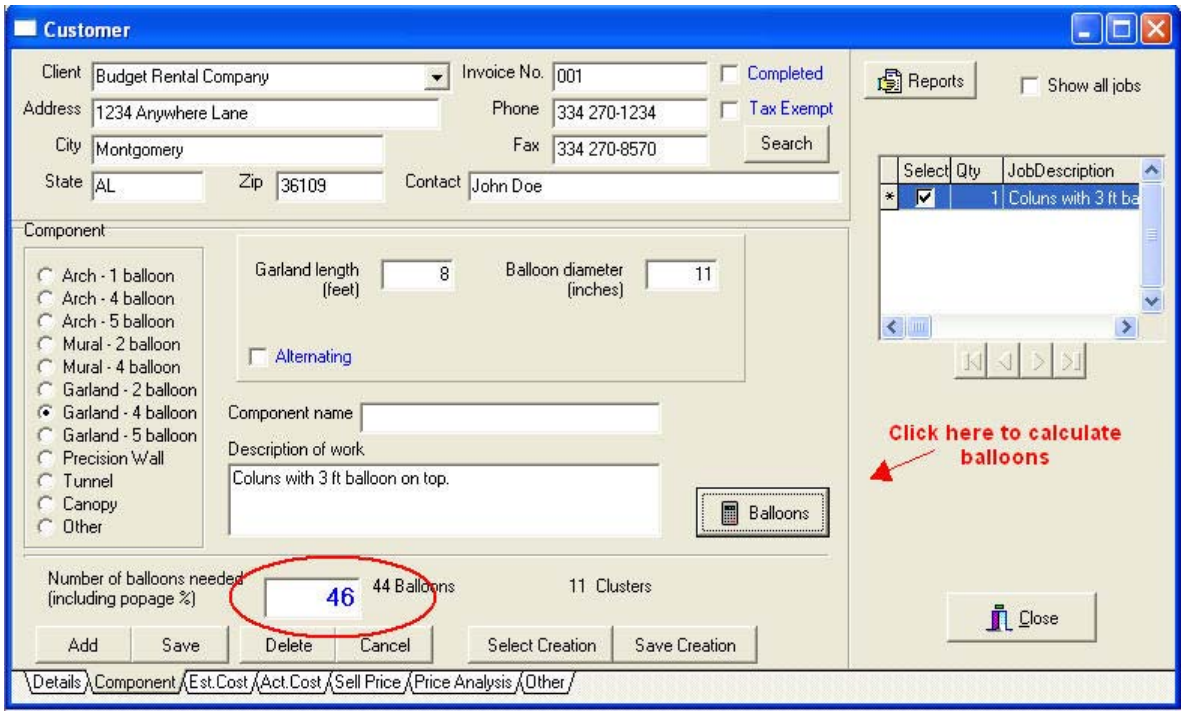
In the Description of work box type "Columns with 3 ft balloon on top".

Select **Garland – 4 balloon** in the component box to determine the number of balloons for the column.

Enter in 8 for the garland length and 11 for the size of the inflated balloon.
Click on the "Balloons" button to calculate the number of balloons needed.
You should get a total of 46 balloons one column.

Click the "Save" button

Your screen should look like this.

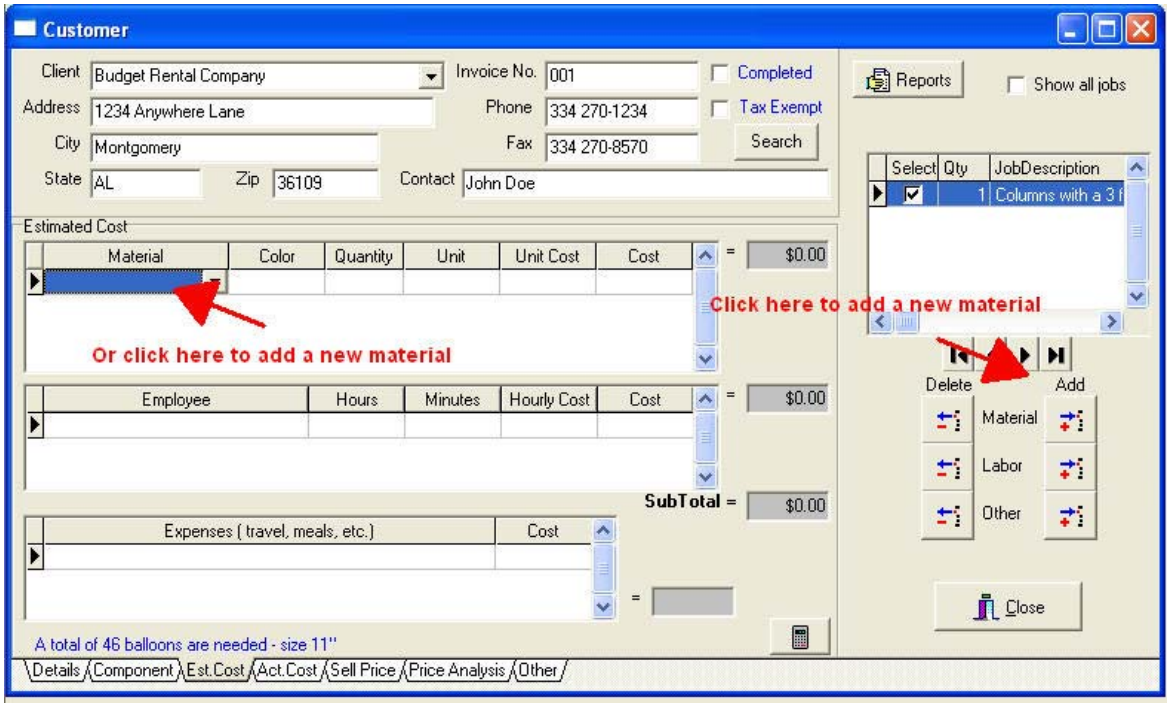


Adding Materials to a component.

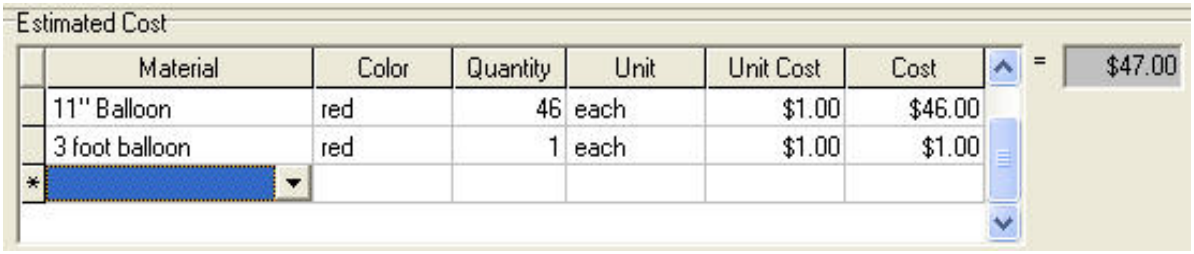
Click the **Est. Cost** tab at the bottom of the screen.

MATERIAL GRID
Enter in the balloons and helium required in the materials grid.

To enter in a new material you can select the new material button at the lower right of the screen or you can click in the material grid.



Enter in 46 - 11” balloons. Enter in 1 – 3 ft balloon. Tab to the next line.



TIP
Be sure to tab all the way to the next new material so the program will save the last material you entered.

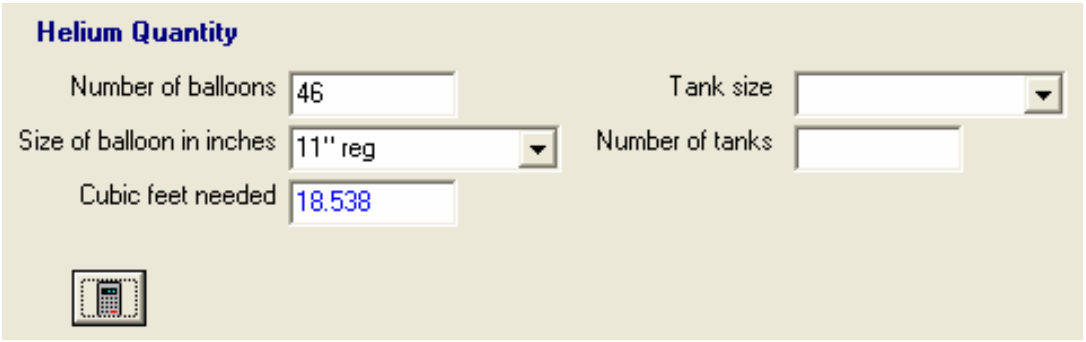
If you start typing “1” notice the program jumps to “11 Balloon” when it is on the item you want you can just hit the tab button to select that item.

Determining the helium needed for this component.

To determine the amount of helium required click on FILE/CALCULATIONS.

On the right side of the screen in the Helium Quantity box, enter in the number of balloons and select 11" reg. under the size of the balloon.

Click the "calculator" button to see how many cubic feet of helium is needed.

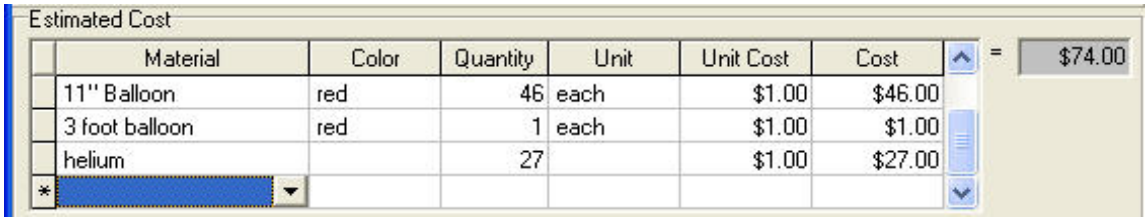


Repeat this to find the helium needed for a 3 foot balloon inflated to 2.5 ft.
8 cubic feet is needed, so we need a total of 19+8 = 27 cubic feet.

Close this screen by clicking the "Close" button.

Enter in helium in the materials grid.

Your Material Grid should look like this.



For this tutorial we will not enter in monoline and such but in an actual job you should enter in all of your materials.

TIP

You can enter in your material names anyway you like. For instance an 11", 16", and 36" balloon may be typed in as follows.

Balloon -11		11 - balloon
Balloon – 16	or	16 - balloon
Balloon – 36		36 – balloon

Use whichever is easiest for you to remember.

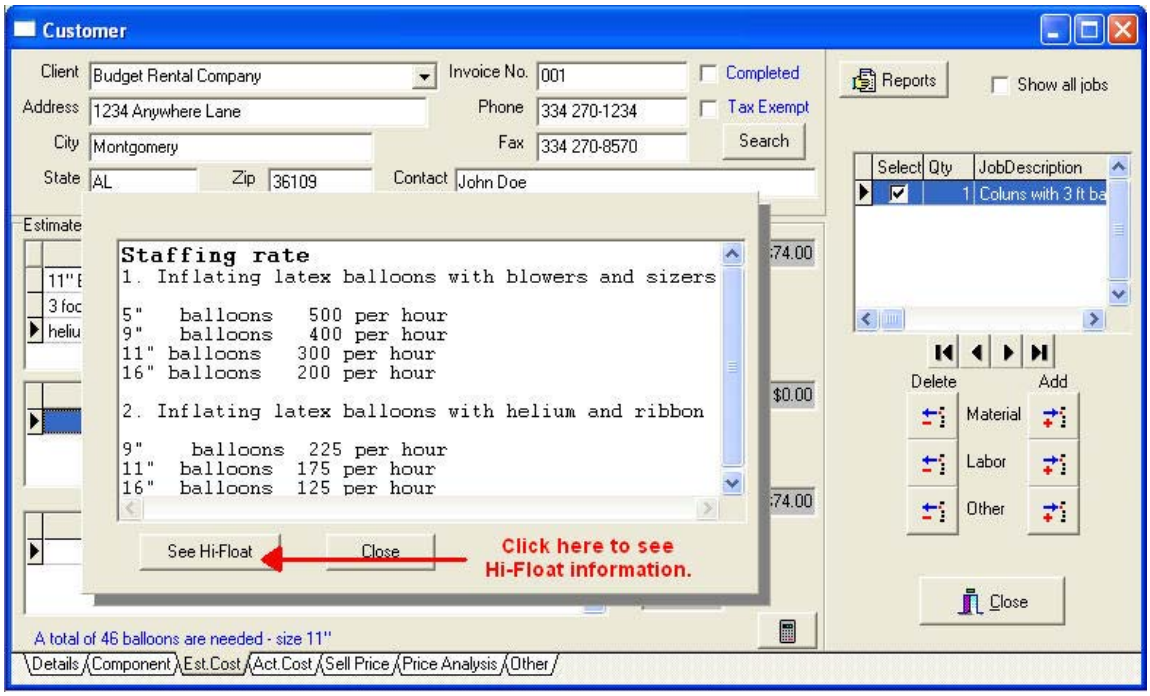
Adding Labor to the job.
LABOR GRID

To enter in the labor you can select the new labor button at the lower right of the screen or you can click in the labor grid. It works the same was as the materials grid.

Enter in your best estimate for the time to construct this component.

Select designer and type in 1 hour and 15 minutes

TIP: You can click on the labor header (where it says Employee and see suggested labor times and Hi-Float information.

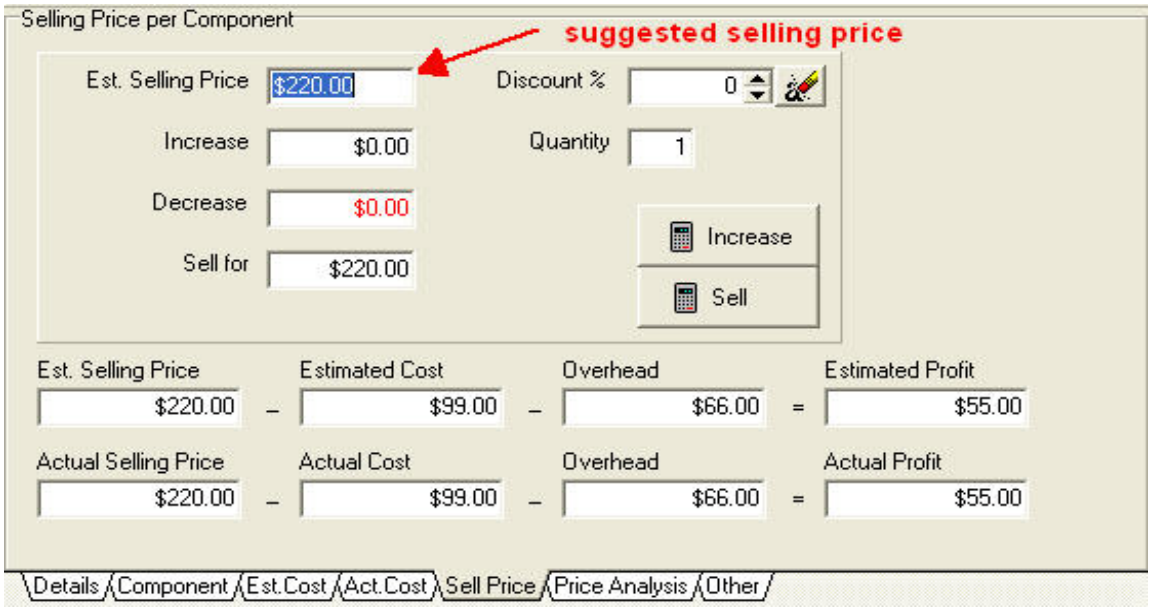


Your labor times are your best guess at how long it will take you or your staff to do a particular job or part of a job.

You can click on the **Act.Cost** tab and see that your estimated costs have been written your actual costs for you. You will want to change this after you have finished the job to reflect the actual job costs.

Determining the selling price of the first component.

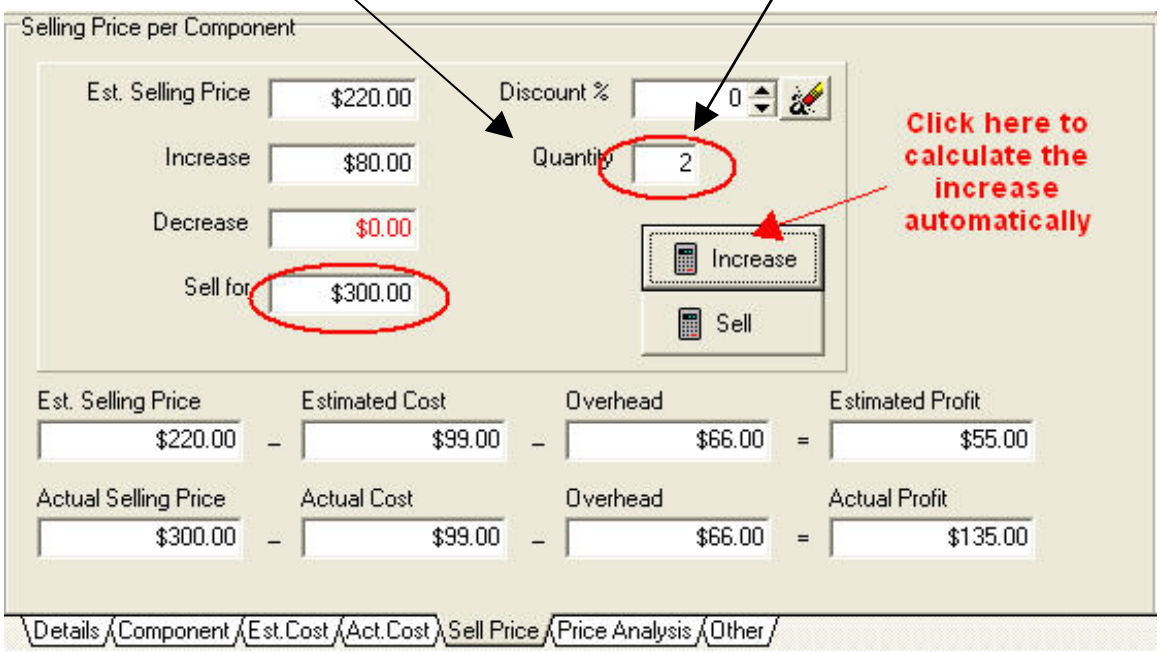
Click on the **Sell Price** tab at the bottom of the page.
Here you can see the suggested selling price.



This is the minimum amount you should sell this component at if your estimation is correct. Now you may add your perceived value.

If you know you can sell this component for $300.00 then enter it in the "Sell for" box. Click the "Increase" button and the program automatically calculates the increase for you.

Notice the Quantity defaults to 1. Since we need 2 columns change this to 2.



Adding the Second Component

Click on the **Component** tab at the bottom of the screen.

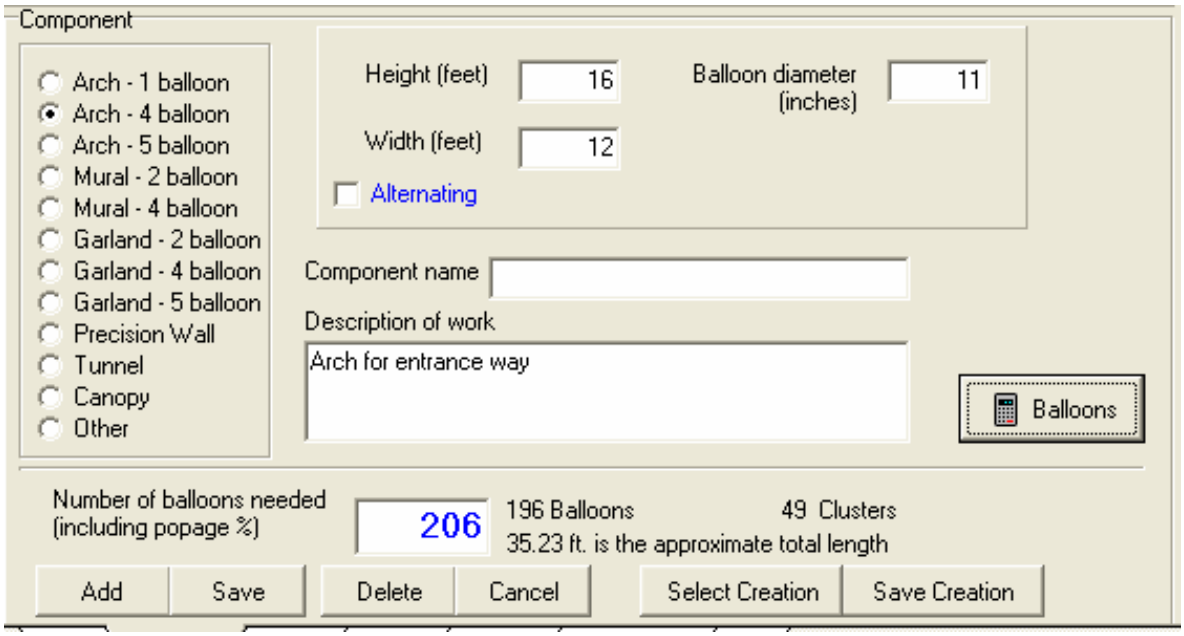
Click the “Add” button to add a component.

Under description enter “Arch for entrance way” and select the 4 balloon arch.

Enter in height and width of the arch.

Enter in the size of the balloons.

Click the “Balloons” button to calculate the number of balloons needed.



Note: There are two amounts for the number of balloons. The program calculates the exact number of balloons needed for the component and it calculates the number of balloons including some balloons for poppage. The bold number in blue is the number you should use for bidding your jobs.

Adding Materials to the second component.

Click the **Est. Cost** tab. to enter in the materials

Since the balloons are red and white you need to enter in half red and half white.

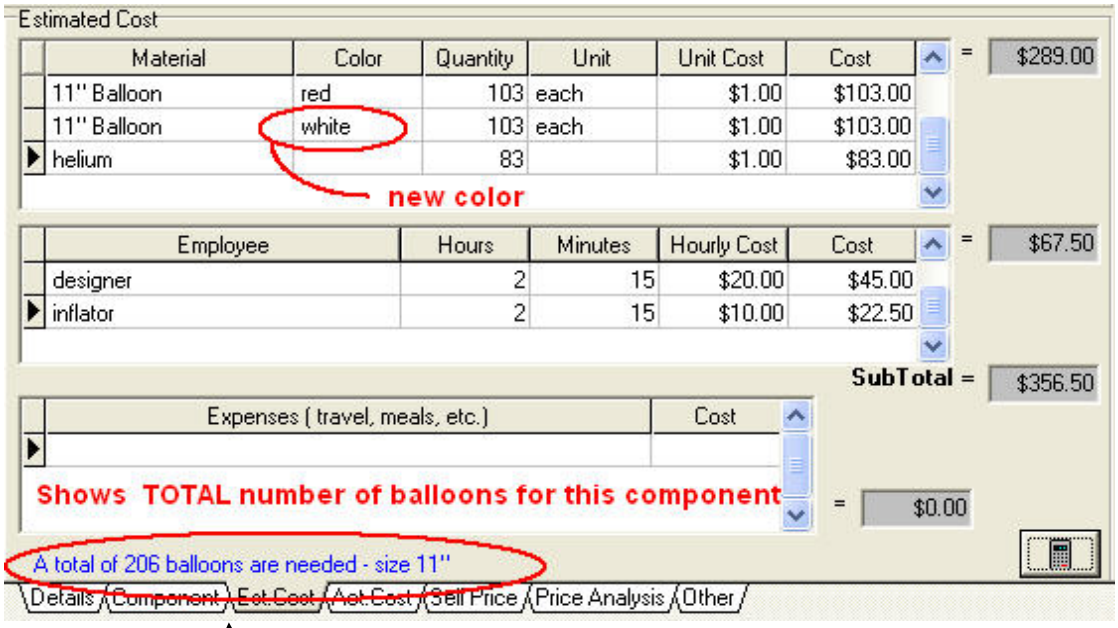
Select Yes when asked if you want to add the color "white" to your database.

Calculate the helium the same ways as in component 1.
You should get 83 cubic feet.

Enter in the balloons and helium amounts in the Material Grid.

Adding Labor to the second component.

Enter in the Labor Grid
Designer 2 hours 15 minutes
Inflator 2 hours 15 minutes

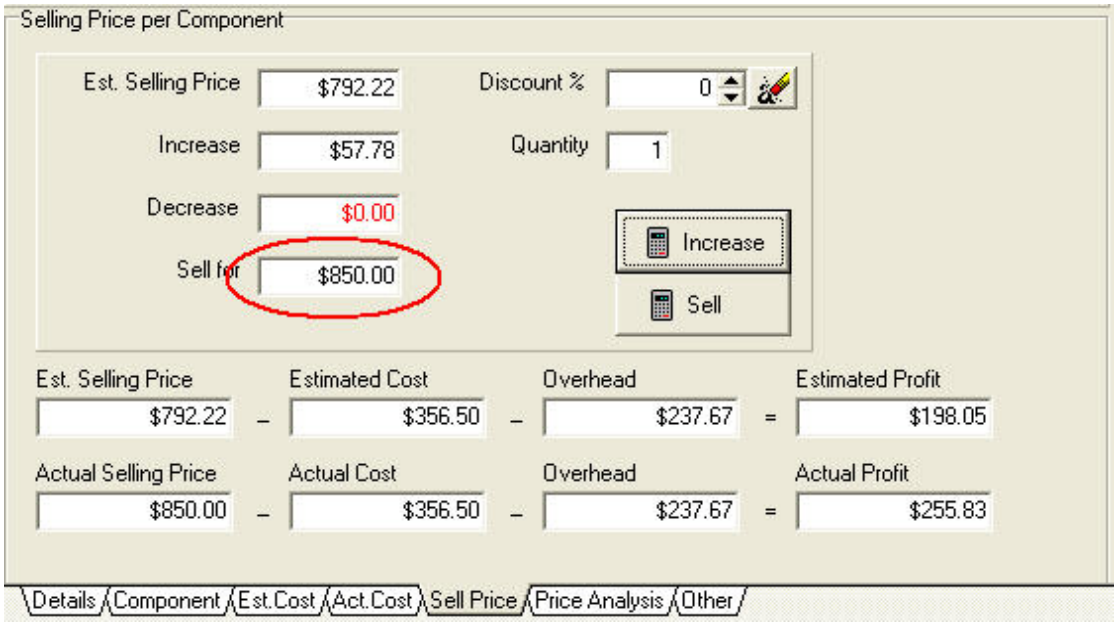


Notice we can still see the number of balloons we need for this component.

Determining the selling price of the second component.

Click the **Sell Price** tab.

Adjust your "Sell for" to $850.00 and click the "Increase" button.



TIP
You can actually type in any amount you want to in the Increase box and click on the "Sell" button and it will add the **Est. Selling Price** and the **Increase** amount. You can enter in a discount in the **Decrease** box and this will be subtracted from the selling price. By clicking on the "pencil icon" button next to the Discount % box you can reset everything.

At the bottom of the screen you can see your estimated profit and your actual profit for this component. The two amounts will be the same until you go back and enter in the actual materials and labor you used in the job. This should be done after every job.

By entering in the actual materials and labor from each job, you will be able to determine if your estimating abilities are improving.

Adding the Third Component

Click the **Component** tab to enter in the third component.

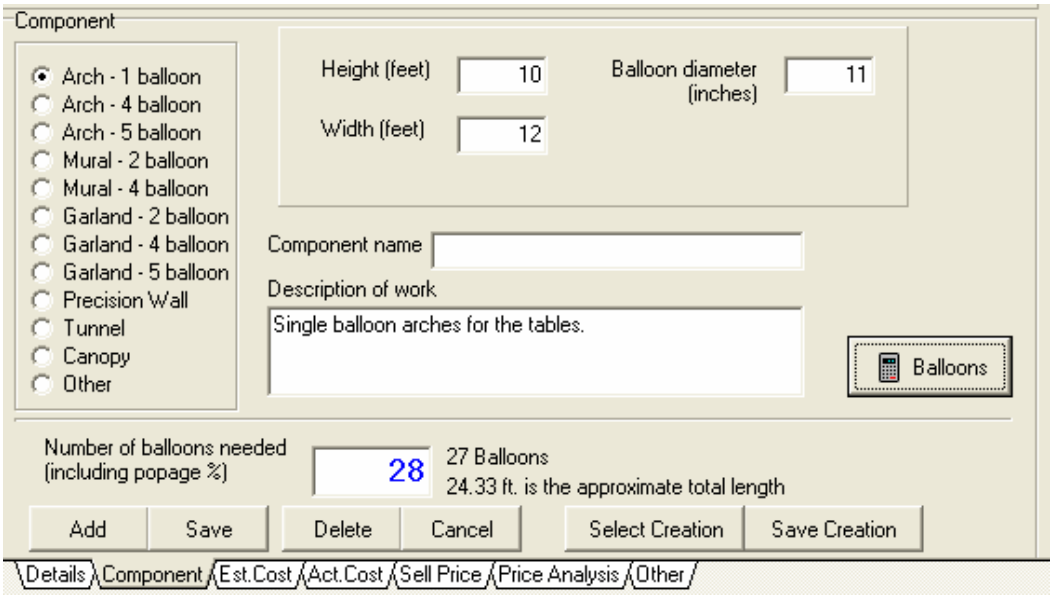
Click the "Add" button then add the third component.

Under Description type "single balloon arches for the tables"

Select 1 balloon arch and enter in 10 feet high and 12 feet wide and 11" for balloon size.

Remember we are calculating the materials and labor time for one arch. When we get to the Sell Price tab we will enter in the number of arches we need for this job.

Click the "Balloons" button to calculate the number of balloons needed.



Note: The Arch – 1 balloon is the same as a "single balloon" arch or a "string of pearls" arch.

Adding Materials and labor to the third component.

Click the **Est. cost** tab at the bottom of the screen.

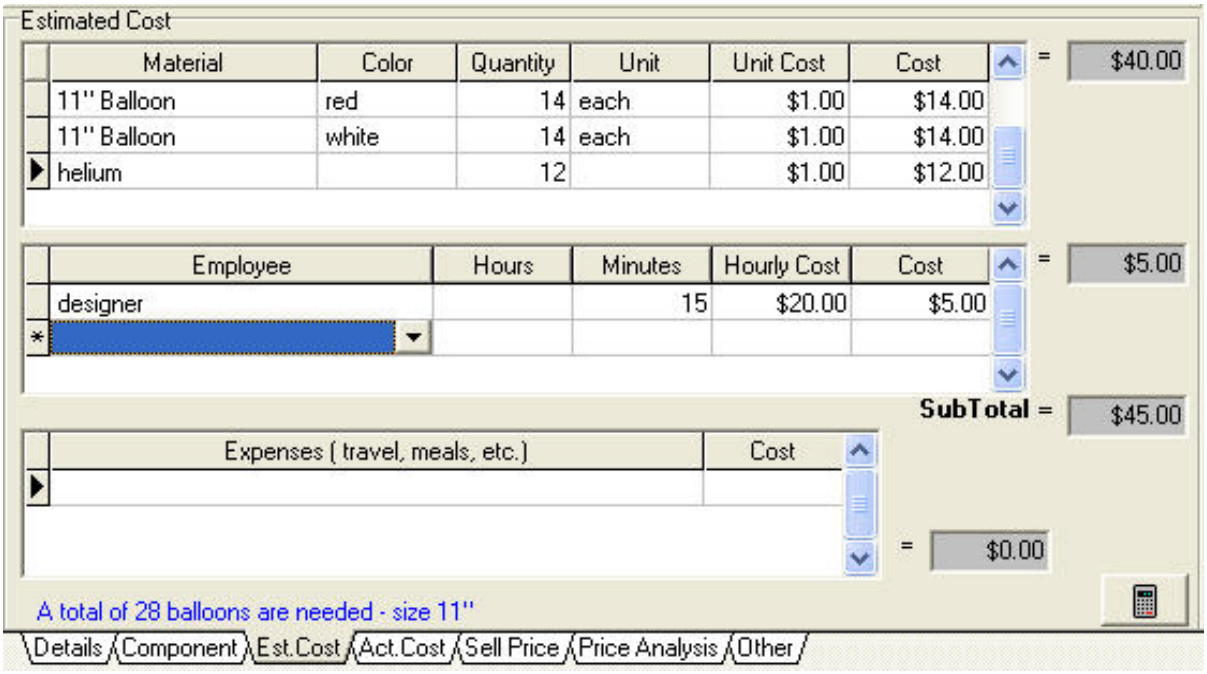
In the **Materials Grid** enter in the balloons. Notice "white" now appears in the drop down box. This is because we saved it to the database.

Remember the balloons are red and white alternating.

Calculate the helium. You should get 11.28. Round it up to 12 cubic feet.

Enter in the **Labor Grid**

Designer 15 minutes



Remember your labor time is for one arch only.

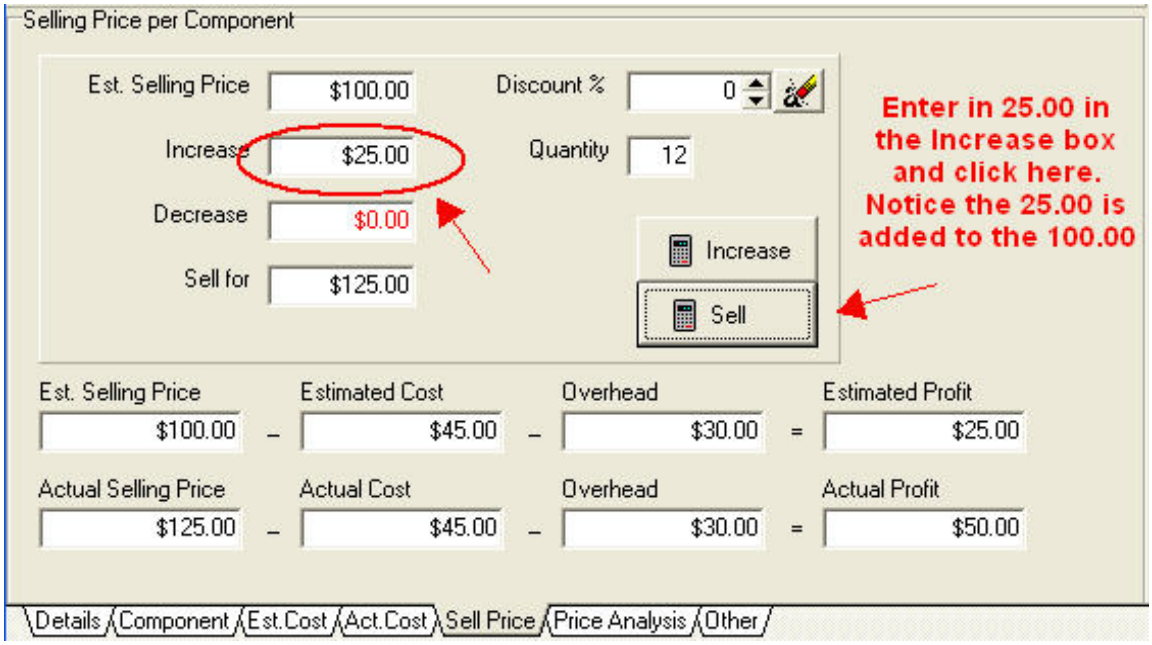
Determining the selling price of the third component.

Click the **Sell Price** tab at the bottom of the screen.

Enter in $25.00 in the Increase box.

Click the “Sell” button to calculate the “Sell for” price of $125.00

Since we want 12 arches change the quantity to 12.



Adding the Fourth Component

Click the **Component** tab to enter in component number 4.

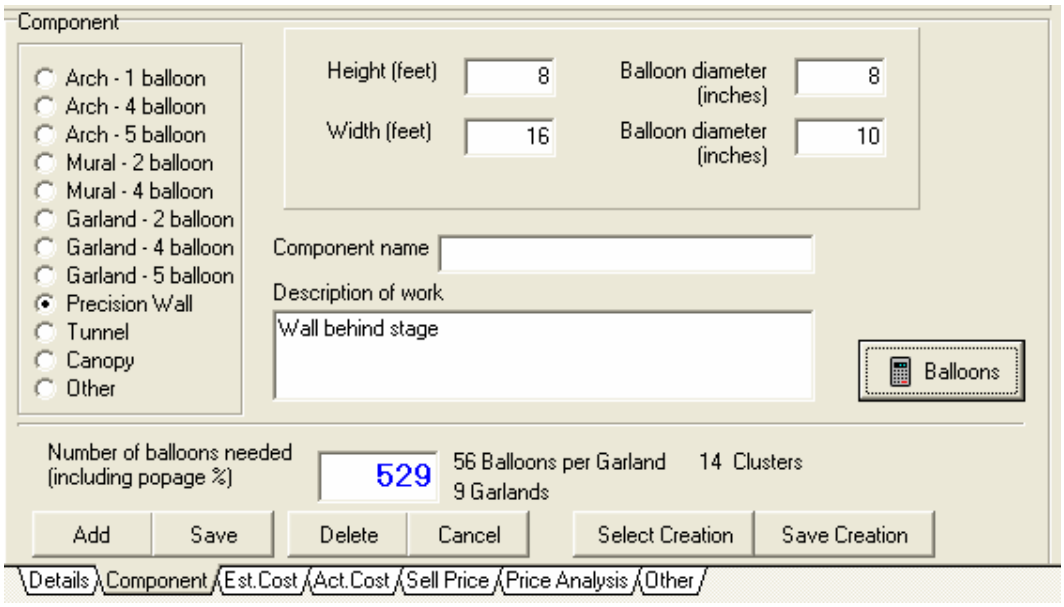
Click “Add” to add the next component.

Under description type “Wall behind the stage”

Click on “Precision wall”.

Enter in 16 feet wide and 8 feet tall and balloon sizes 8 and 10 inches.

Click the “Balloons” button to calculate the number of balloons needed.



TIP
We can also see that we will be making 9 garlands of balloons and each garland consists of 14 clusters of balloon. This will make it easier to construct.

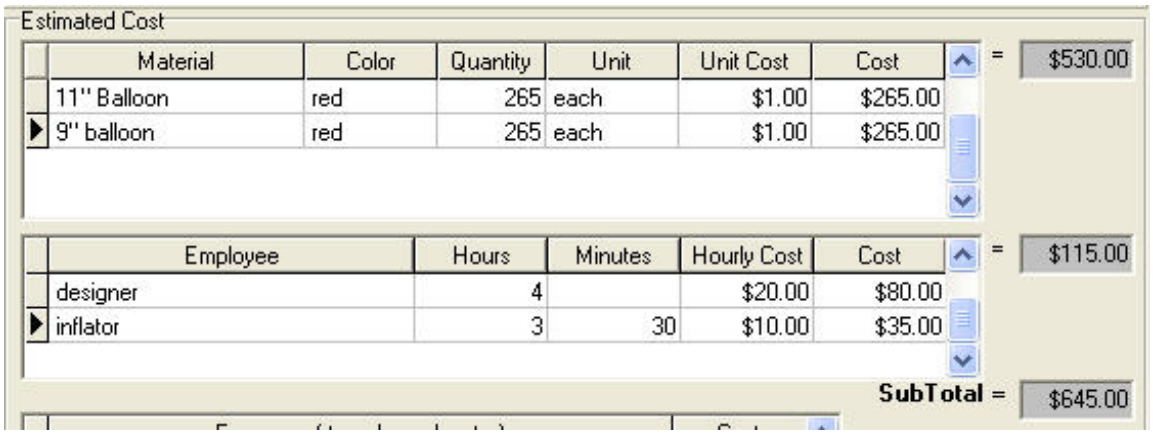
Adding Materials and labor to the fourth component.

Click the **Est. cost** tab at the bottom of the screen.

In the **Material Grid** enter in the materials.

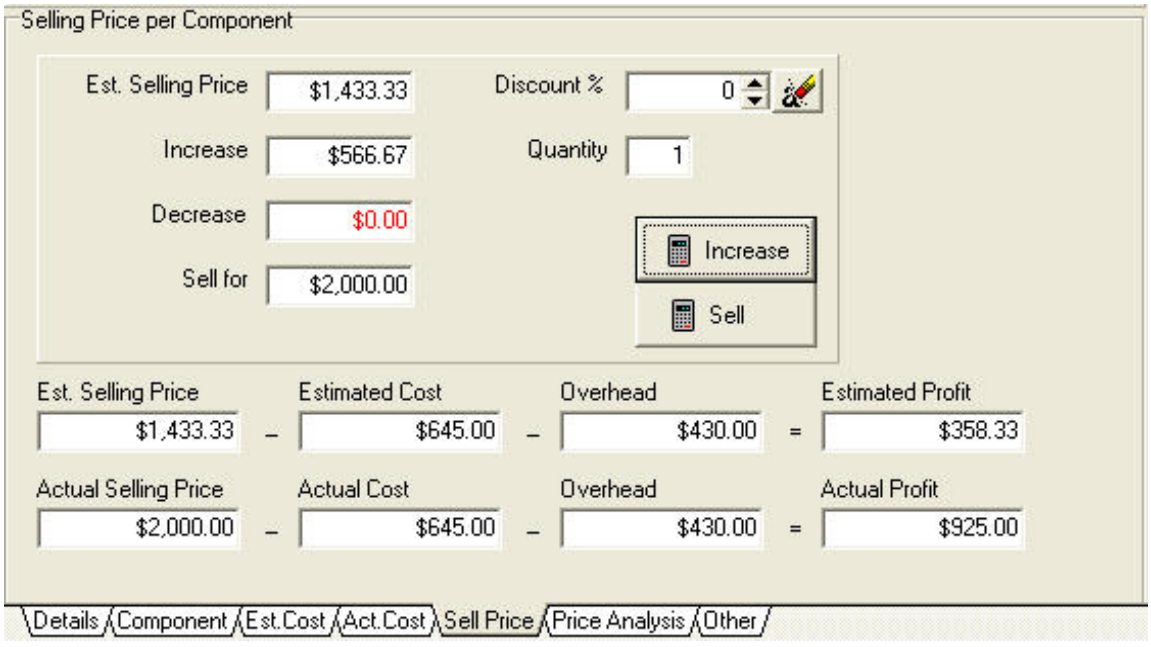
We are going to use 9 and 11 inch balloons so half of the balloon total will be 9" and half will be 11".

In the **Labor Grid** enter in
Designer 4 hours
Inflator 3 hours 30 minutes



Determining the Selling Price for the fourth Component

Click the **Sell Price** tab and adjust the sell price to $ 2,000.00



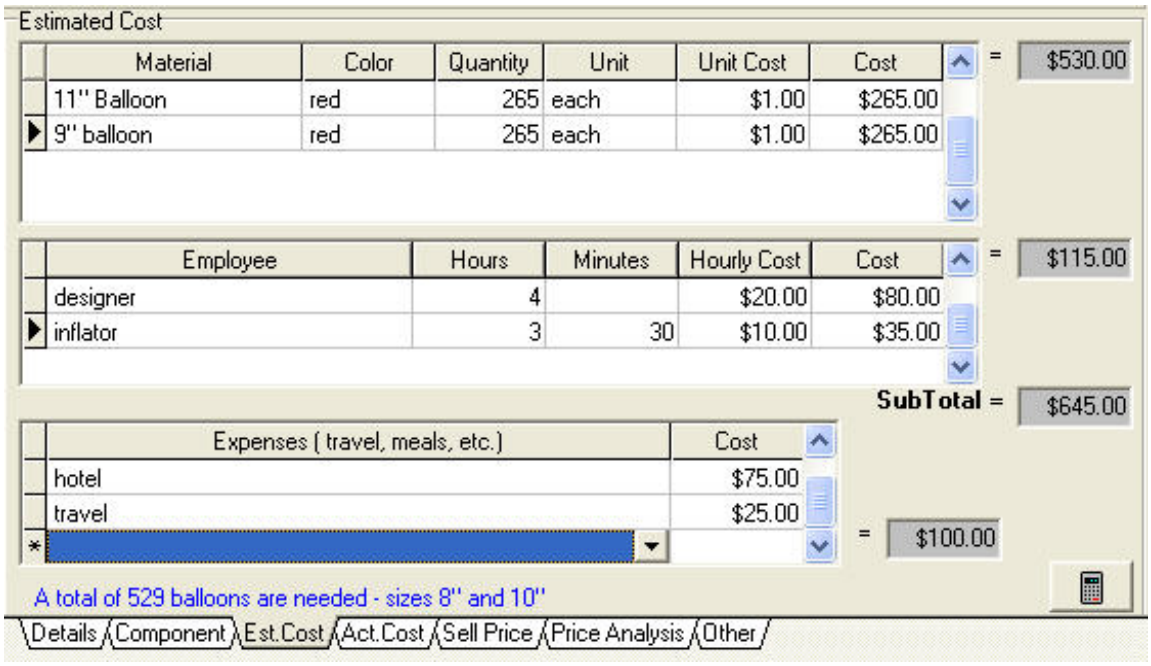
Adding Costs associated with this job

Now that we have finished entering in the components we can go back in and add some other costs to the job, like the hotel bill and the travel.

Click on the **Est. cost** tab at the bottom of the screen.

In the **Expenses Grid** enter in “hotel” at a cost of $75.00

On the next line add in “travel” at a cost of $25.00.



When entering in your expenses, you can add “travel” and “hotel” to your database if you wish. The price is not saved with the item because it will usually vary from job to job.

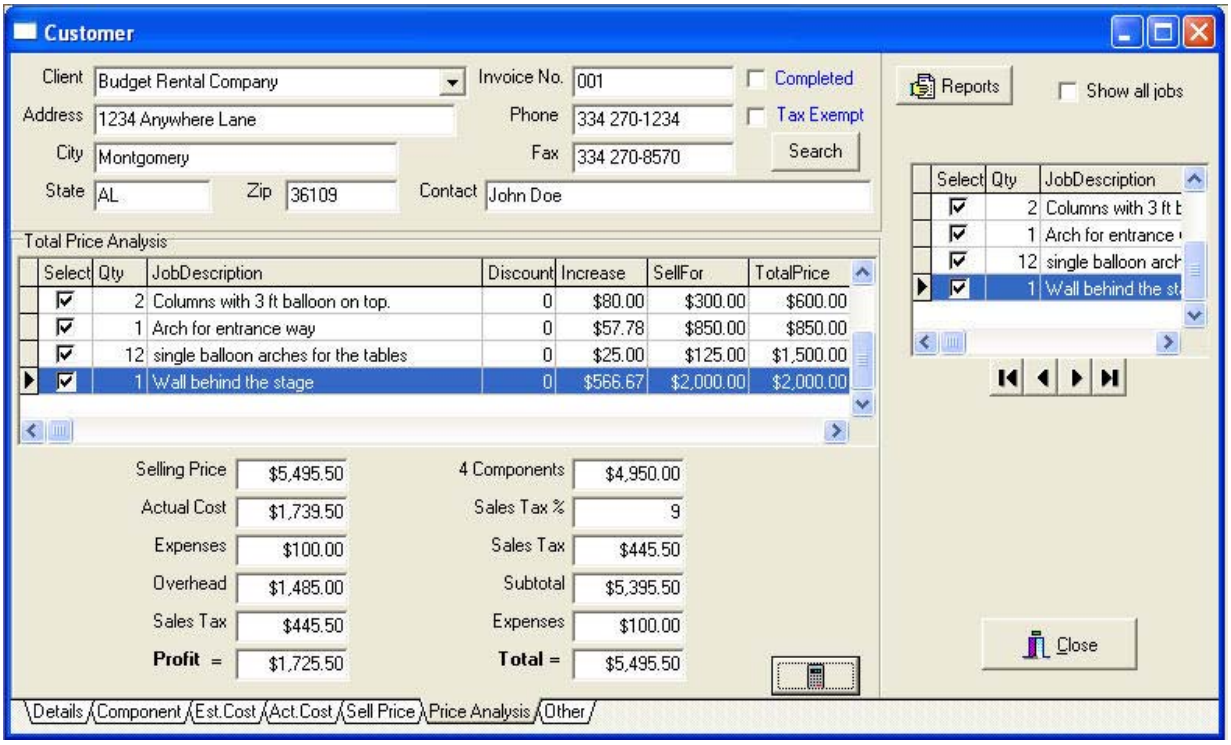
Congratulations you have just entered in your first job estimate. Now we will look at the total job.

Analyzing the completed job.

Click on the **Price Analysis** tab at the bottom of the screen.

Here you can see the entire job. We have 4 components for this job. The individual prices are posted as well as the extended prices of each component.

At the bottom of the screen you can see the entire cost of the job and you can see your profit on this job.

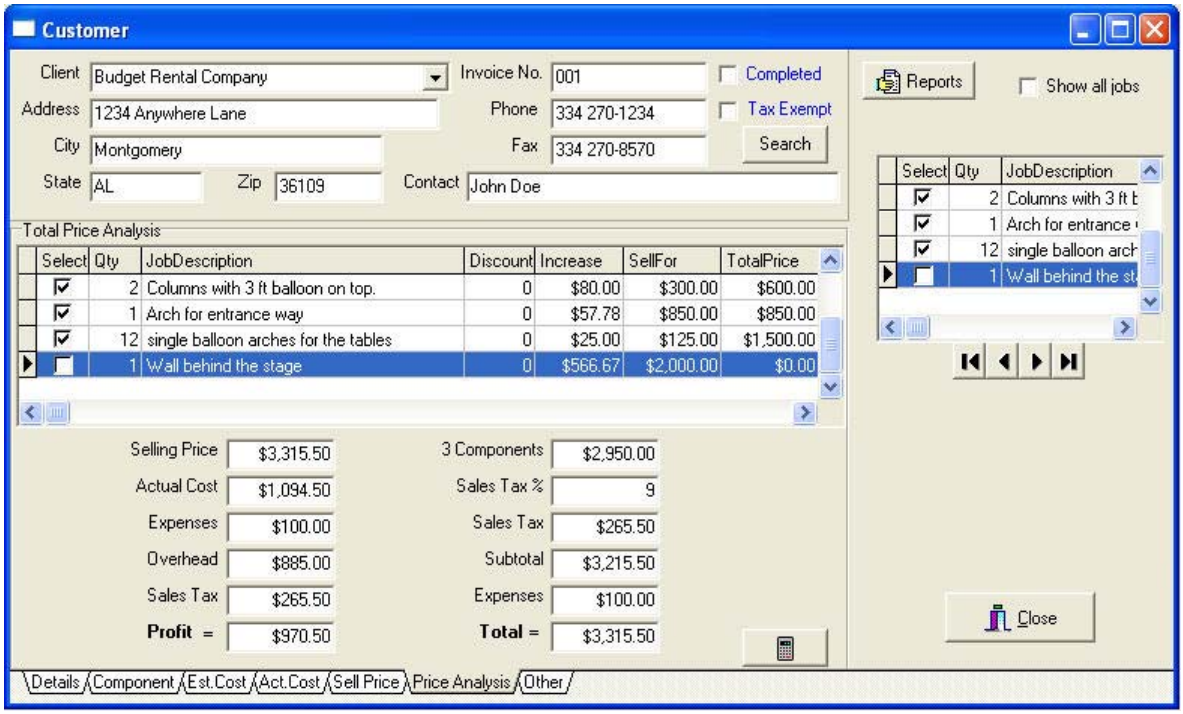


The job is broken down so you can see the individual pricing. You can see that the total job cost for the 4 components is $5,495.50. You can also see that if everything goes according to plan we will profit an estimated $1,727.50 from the job.

If the customer decides they do not want a particular component you can remove that component by turning it off.

Let's turn off the last component, the precision wall.

Click on the check box to the left of this component to turn it off. This will zero out the component but will not remove it from the job just in case you need to add it back in the future.



Notice that now it says we only have 3 components and we have a new total. The materials for the precision wall are still filed away with the job but are not counted. That way we can turn the component back on and we don't have to enter in all the materials again.

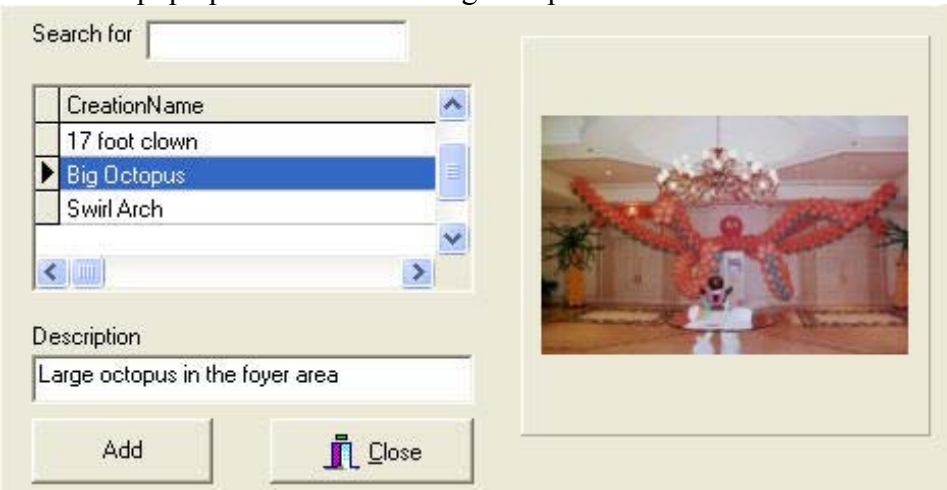
Let's add one more component to this job.
First, let's turn the precision wall back on.

Adding a Creation to a Job.

We are going to select a pre-made creation to add to our job.

Click on the **Component** tab and now click on the "Select Creation "button.

From the pop up box select the "Big Octopus"

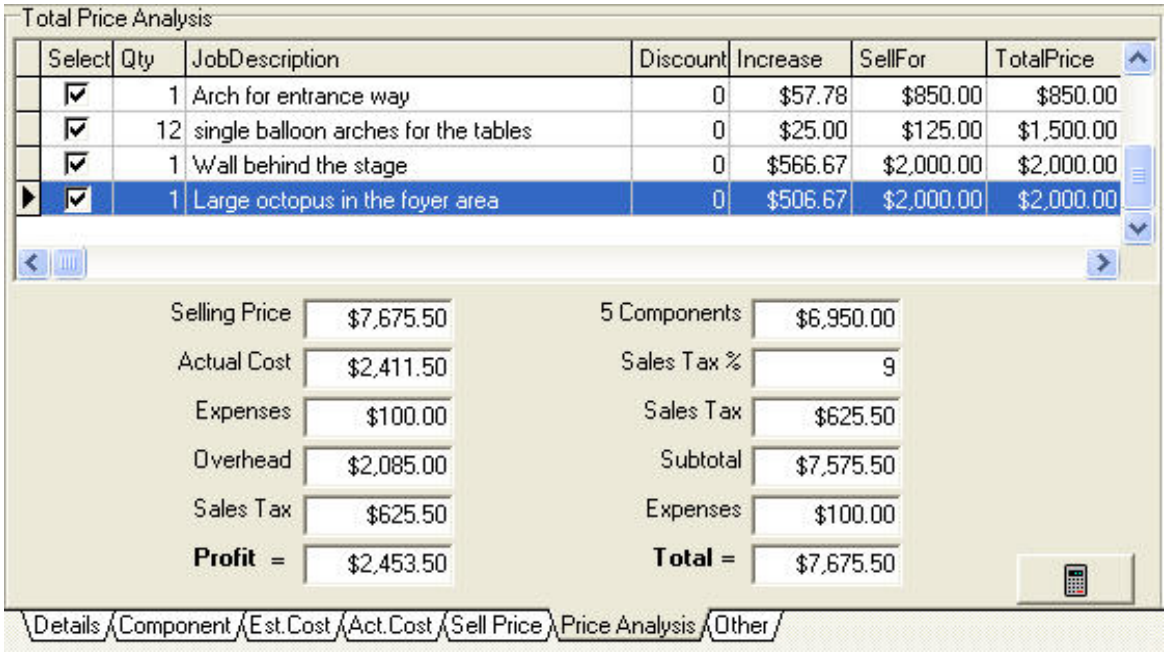


Click the "Add" button and now the Big Octopus has been added to your job.

Click on the **Est. cost** tab and you can see the materials and labor.

Click on the **Sell Price** tab and you can see the pricing of this component.

Click on the **Price Analysis** tab and you can see the job cost has changed to reflect the new component.



Making a component into a creation

Let's make one of the components we just entered into a creation so we can use it in other jobs.

First make sure you are on the **Component** tab, if you are not just click on the **Component** tab at the bottom of the screen.

On the right side of the screen you can see each component listed in a **Selection box**. You can switch between components by clicking on the component in the **Selection box** or by clicking on the navigator buttons underneath the **Selection box** or by clicking on a component and using the arrow keys.

Click on the first component and we will make it into a creation.

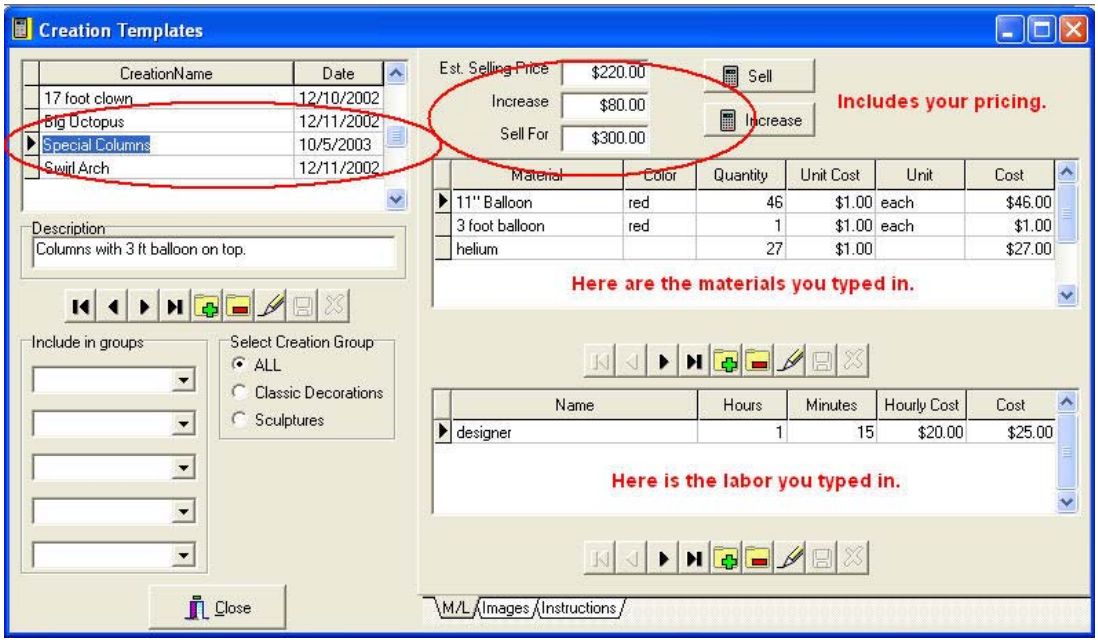
Click on the "Save Creation" button on the **Component** screen.

Enter in "Special Columns" for the name and click "OK".

You have just made your first creation.

Viewing the Creations, even the one you just made.

To see the creation you made click on FILE/Creations Template



TIP
This list of pre-made components allows you to insert a creation into your job by selecting the "Select Creation" button on the **Component** screen.

You can turn your components into a creation for later use by selecting the "Save Creation" button on the **Component** tab.

CONGRATULATONS

You have just completed the tutorial. You should have an understanding of how the program works. If not, delete the job you entered and start over. Once you understand how this works you will need to customize the program for your business.

Deleting components

To delete a component you must be on the **Component** screen. Select the component to delete and click on the "Delete" button.

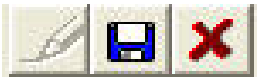
Deleting an entire job

You cannot delete the job until you have deleted all of the components associated with that job. So on the **Component** screen delete all the components and then delete the job by clicking on the minus folder at the top of the screen.

Entering in your Company Information

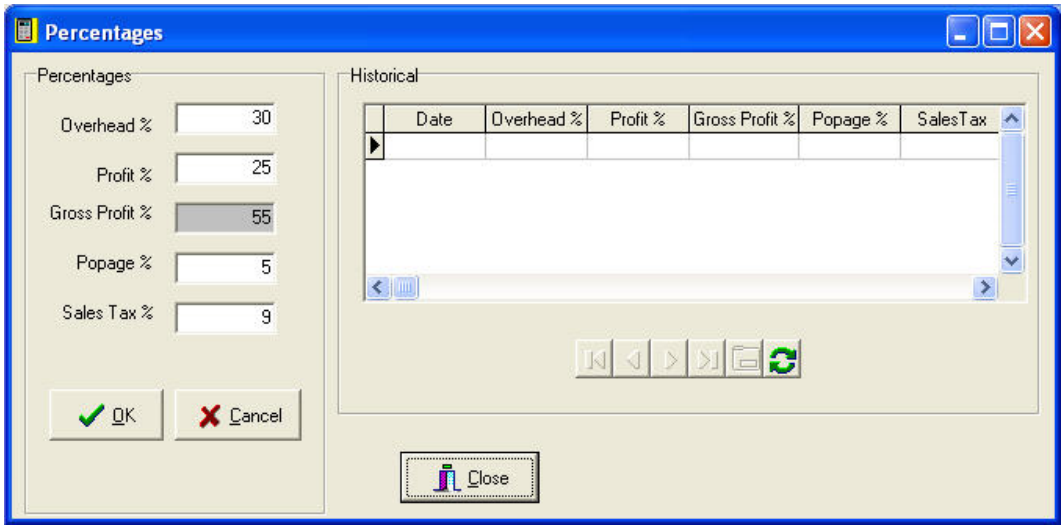
Access this screen by clicking on File/Company Info
Enter in the information shown. This is used for the reports.

Be sure to save your information by clicking on the save icon.



Changing the percentages

Select this window by clicking on FILE\Percentages
Enter in the percentages that apply to your business**.**



Overhead and Profit %

Gross profit %

Gross profit % = Overhead % + Profit %

Overhead %

Overhead is the cost of running your business and expenses incurred as a result of being in business.

Examples of overhead are business owner's salary, advertising, marketing, rent utilities, and insurance.

The Overhead % is based on the sales volume of a business.

Starting out you may have to estimate your sales volume until a more accurate figure can be established.

To find your overhead % - Take your annual expenses and divide them by your sales in the same period.

For more information on overhead % for your business see your accountant.

Profit %
Profit is the money your company makes from doing a job. Profit is the money that's left over after everybody is paid. You have to determine how much of a percentage of the annual sales you want to make as a profit.

Sales tax %
Enter in your sales tax.

Poppage
The poppage is the amount of balloons to allow for with some of them popping. Usually between 2 - 5 %.

Adding pictures to your components.

To add pictures to your components, go the **Component** screen

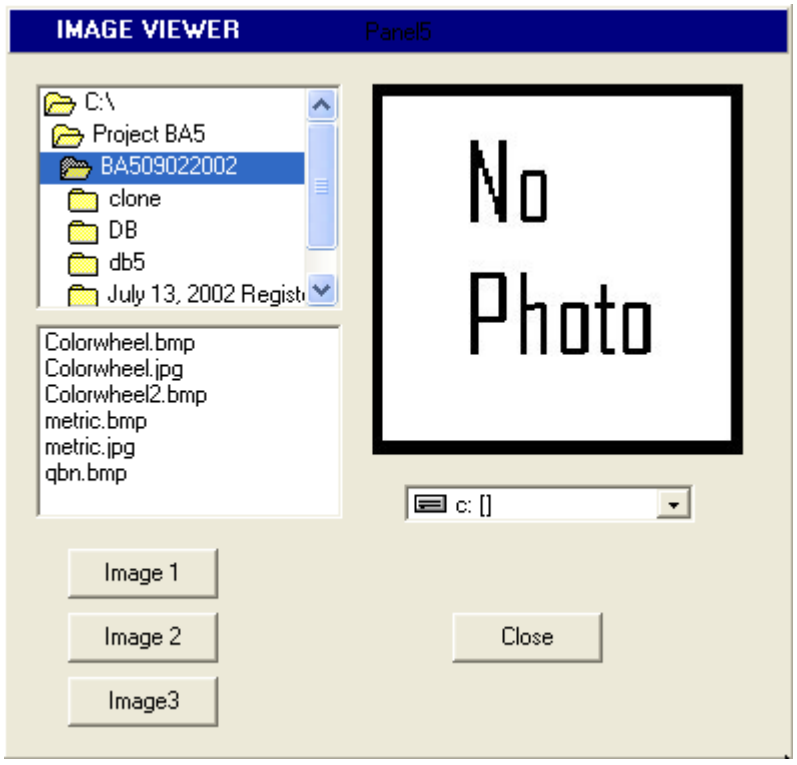
Double click on the component in the "Selection box" you want to add pictures to.

A panel will pop up that allows you to select up to three images.

Click on the "Select Images" button and a screen pops up allowing you to select the picture you want to use.

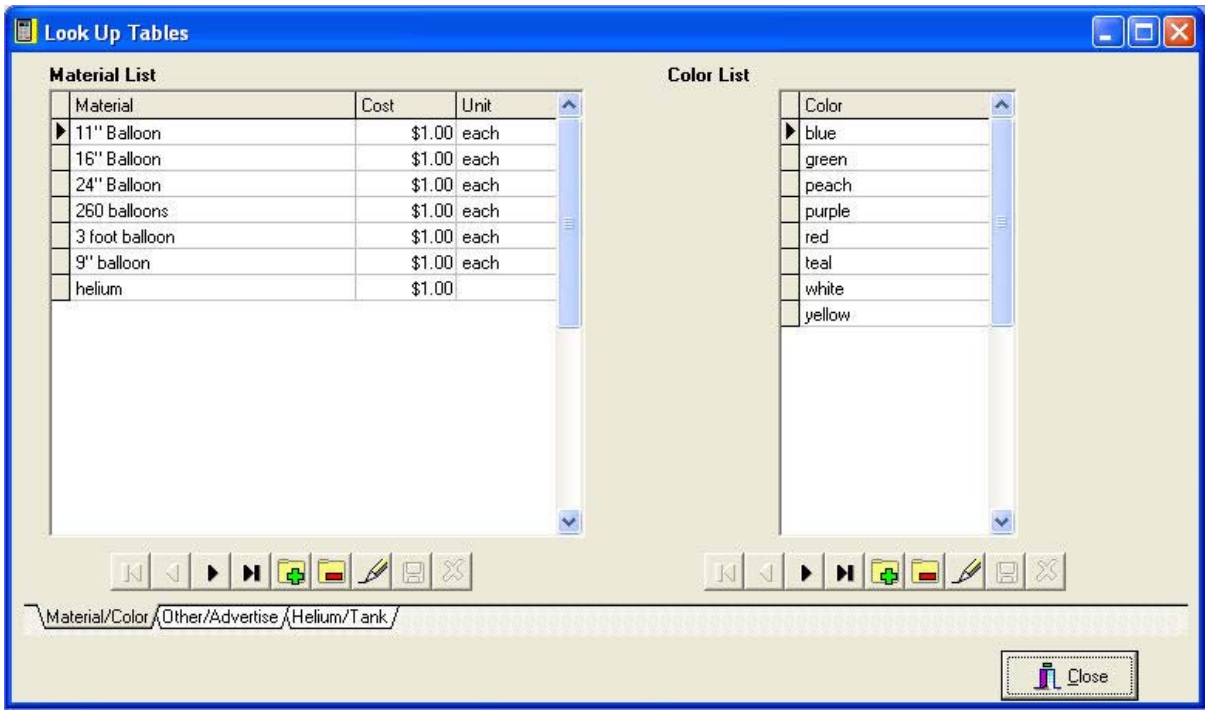
Only bitmaps and jpeg files will show in the box.

You can select either and the **Balloon Calculator**® will automatically save the images into the appropriate directory as a jpeg, which takes up less space.



Viewing your database

You can view your database tables by selecting TABLES/LOOKUP TABLES.

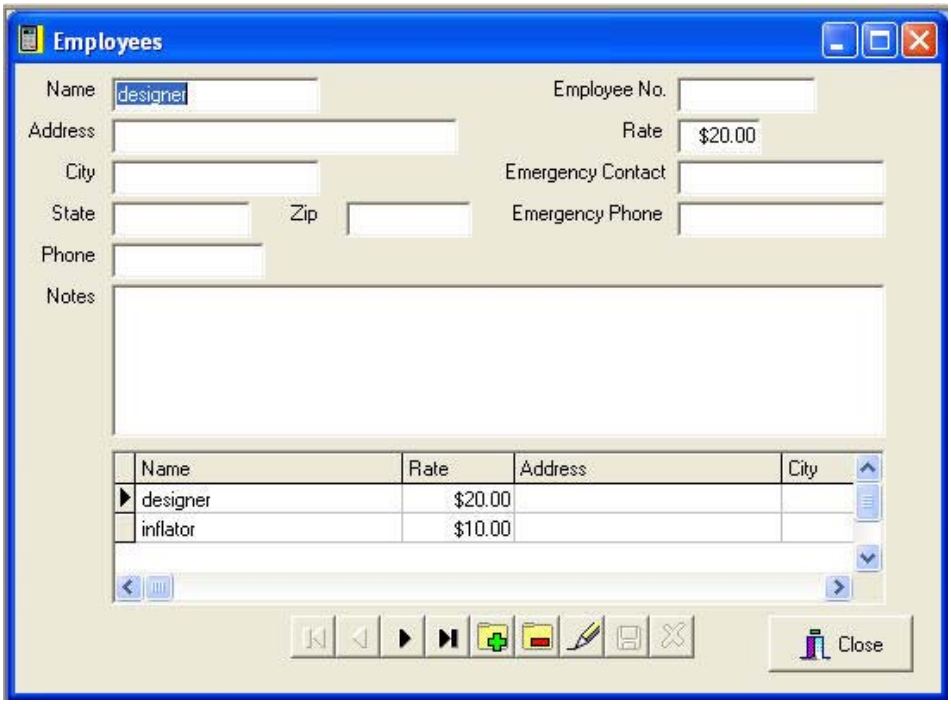


You can view other tables by selecting the tabs at the bottom of the screen.

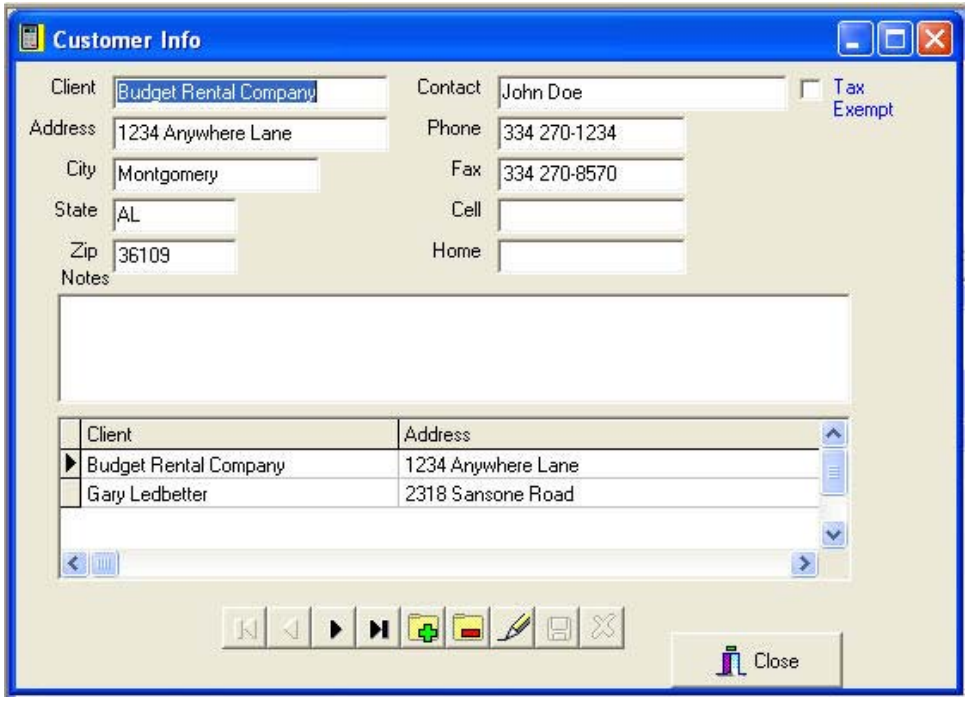
You can add or delete items from the different tables. Adding, deleting, or editing tables here changes the dropdown boxes on other screens. For example, if you delete “white” from the color list it will not display in the dropdown color list in the material grids. If you add a color it will be displayed on the dropdown list.

The **Employees Screen** is used to add, delete, change or complete employee information.

The minimum amount of information, name and pay rate can be added during estimating without the need to go to this screen.

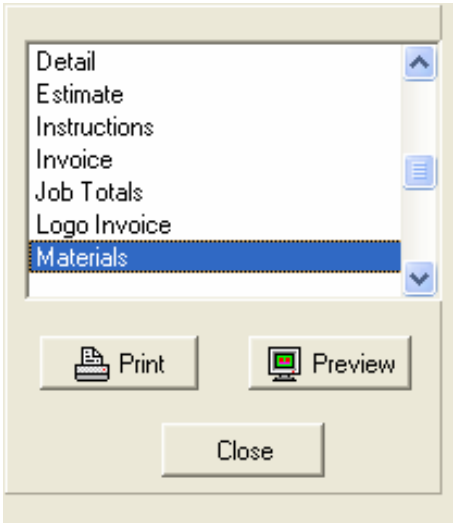


The **Customer Information Screen** works the same as the **Employee screen**. The only thing required for estimating is the client name.



REPORTS

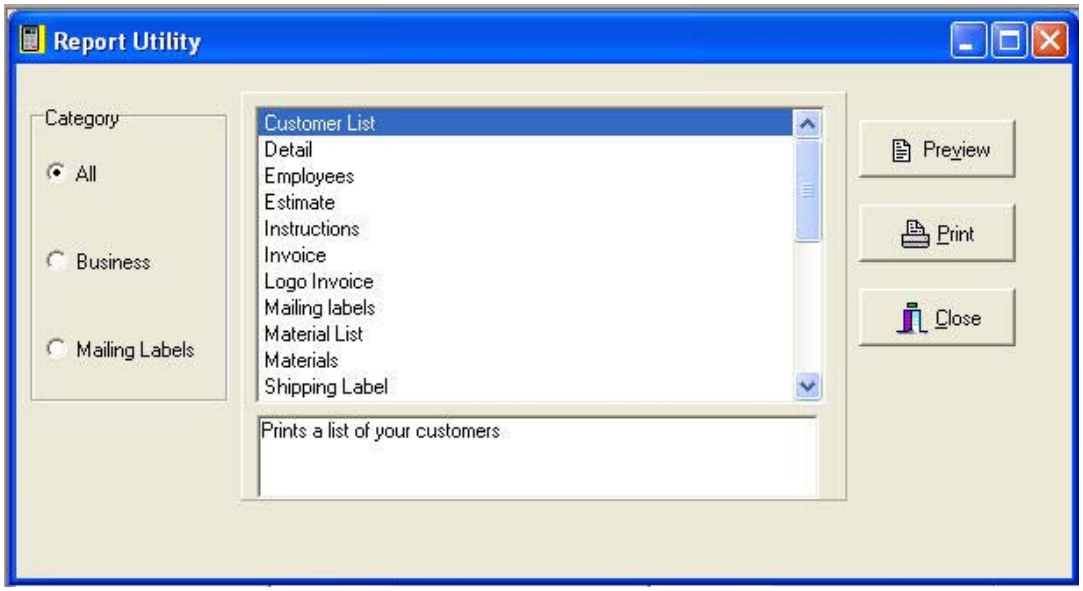
Reports can be generated by clicking on the reports button and selecting the report you need.



Each of the above reports is job specific. The report is only for the job currently selected.

Other reports can be found by selecting
FILE/REPORT MODULE

Here you can select reports that print out mailing labels and such.

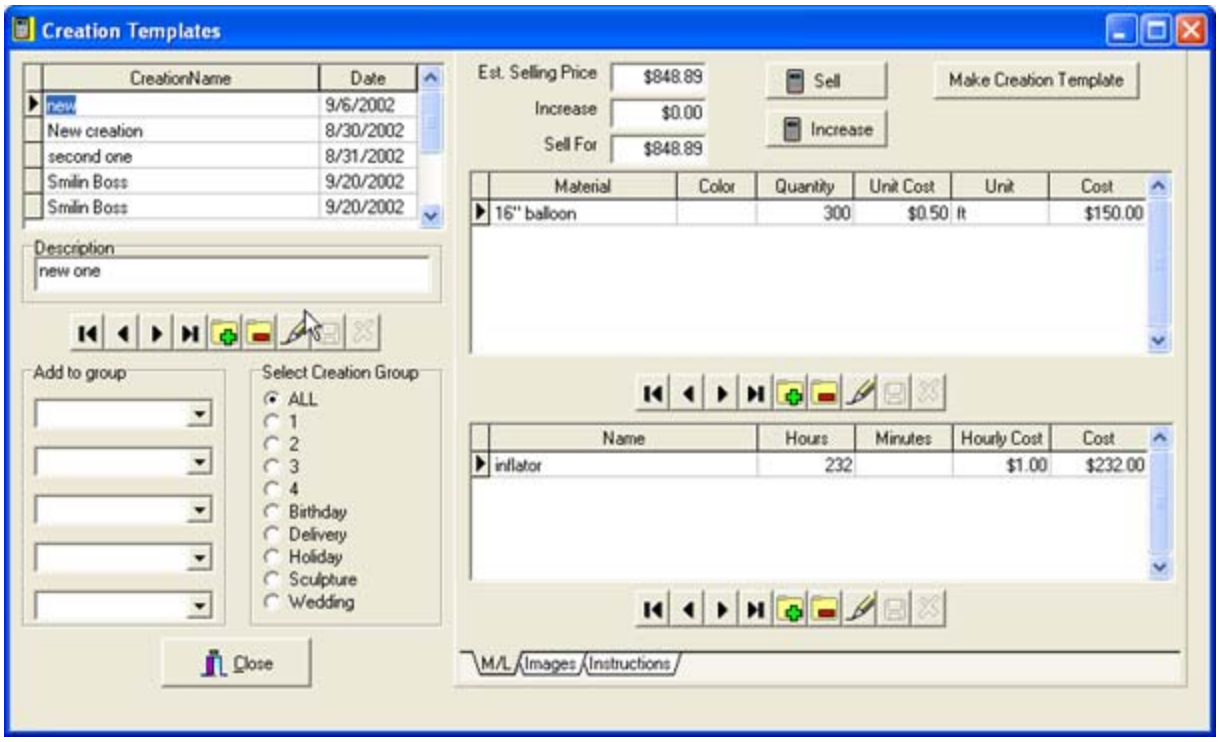


CREATIONS

The creation template is a way of saving your components so you can use them in other jobs.

This will eliminate a lot on reentering of data and make your estimating much quicker.

You can access this screen by clicking File/Creation template. Here you can make changes to your creations.



NOTE: When you save a creation from the component screen, you are saving the ACTUAL Screen data and the SELLING PRICE screen data. You can insert a picture in the directory and be able to see your creation when you are selecting it.

New Creations

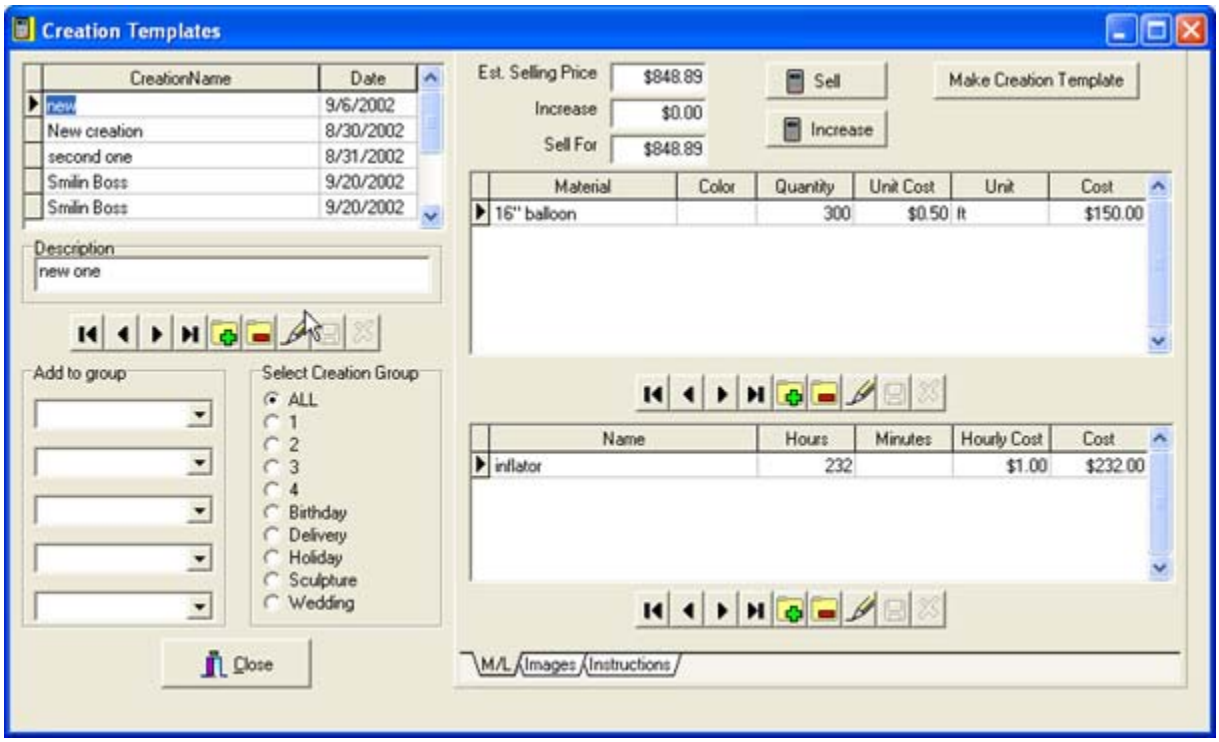
You can make your own creations at the **Creation Template** screen

First Click on the plus sign in the navigator bar and type in the name of the creation.

The date is automatically inserted for you. Next add material and labor just as you would on the component screen.

One of the major improvements is that you can click on the images tab and select up to three different pictures of your new creation.

You can even add your own instructions.

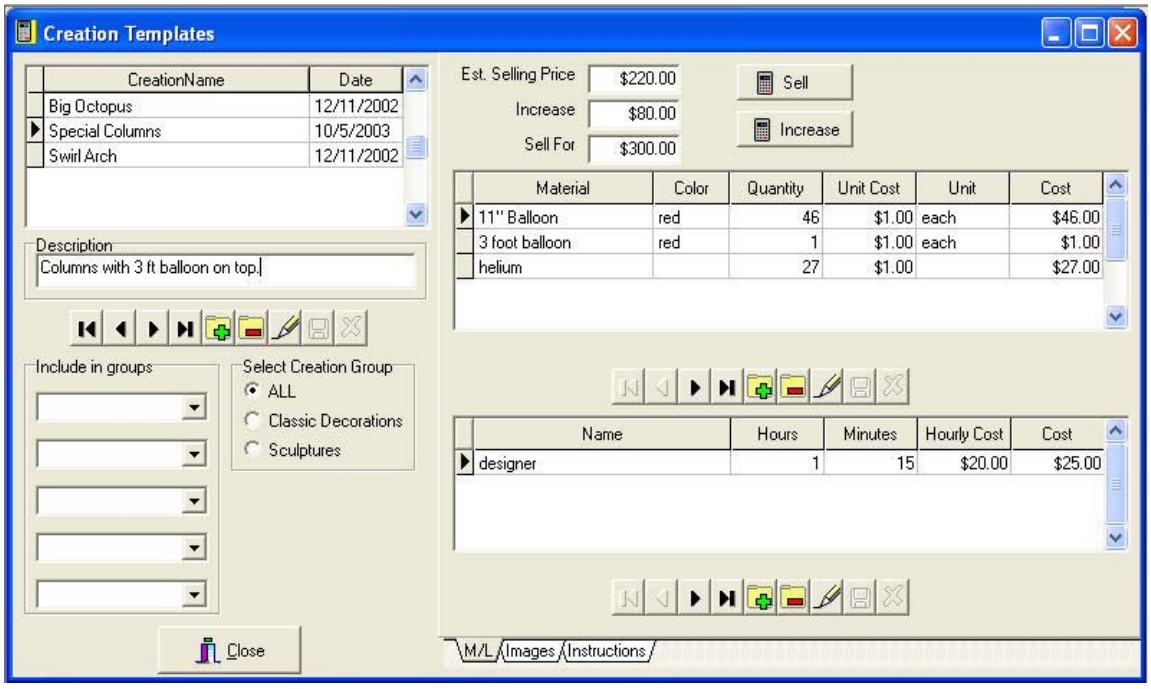


Be sure to save your work by clicking on the blue disk icon.

The Materials tab.

Here you can enter in the materials and labor for your own creations or change creations that you already have.

You can change the prices in the boxes shown.



The Images tab

On the images tab you can select up to three different pictures for your creation.

The pictures can show the creation in three different stages.

This is so that you can remember how to make it or show someone else how to make it.

The program uses either bitmap pictures or jpeg pictures.

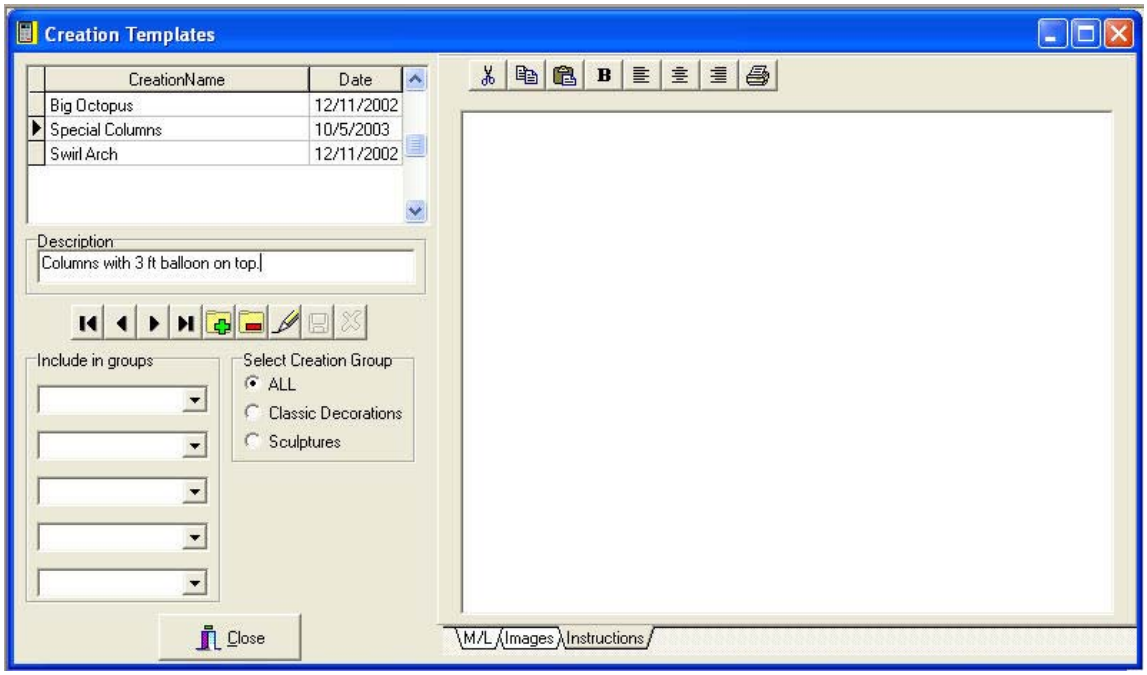
You can create your own images in other programs and the **Balloon Calculator®** will be able to use them as long as they are saved in the above format.

The Instructions tab

This tab displays the instructions for making the creation.

You can print the instructions out.

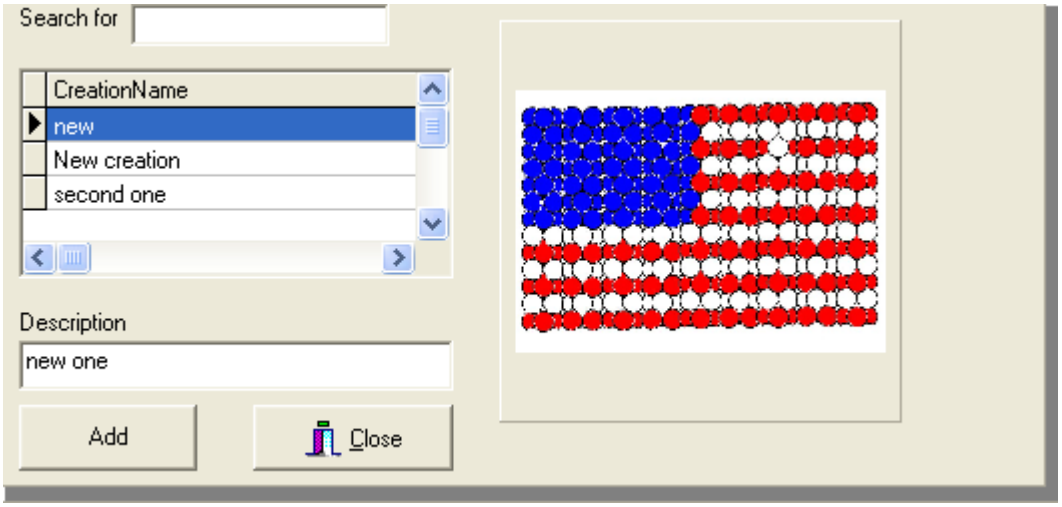
You can type directly into the memo box and it will save what you type.



Adding creations to your job.

Click on the "Select Creation" button on the **Component** screen.

Select the creation you want then click on the "Add" button.



Adding Pictures to your creations.

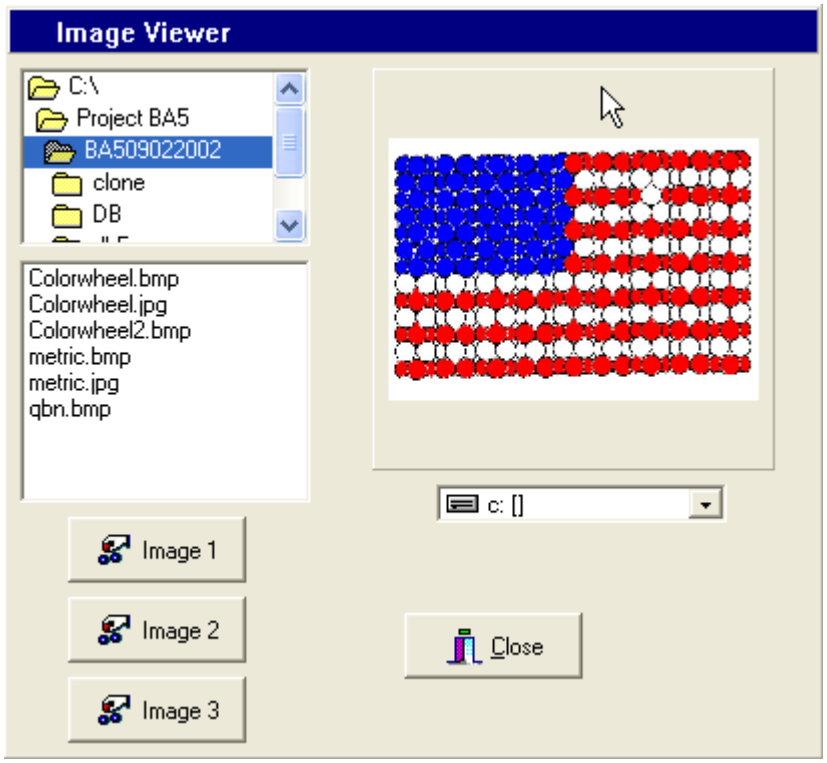
Adding pictures to your creations is easy to do.

Click on the **Images** tab.

Click on the "Select Images" button and a screen pops up allowing you to select the picture you want to use.

Only bitmaps and jpeg files will show in the box.

You can select either and the **Balloon Calculator**® will automatically save the images into the appropriate directory as a jpeg, which takes up less space.



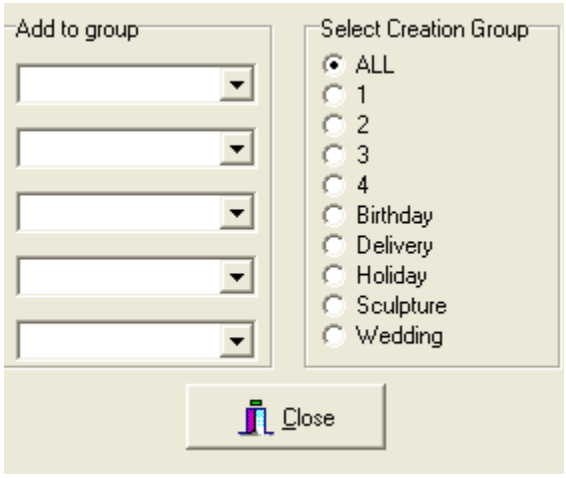
Organizing your Creations

You can place each creation into 5 different categories. You can have up to 10 different categories listed.

You can remove a creation from a category by double clicking the category box.

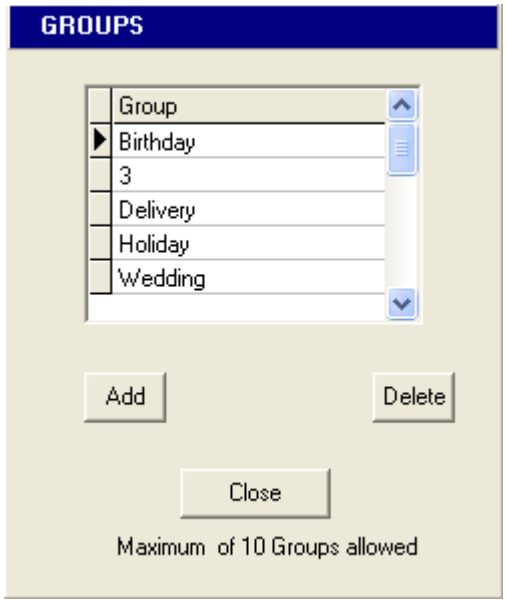
Click on the **Select Creation Group** box to show only the creations in that group.

So if you only wanted to see the creations that are “sculptures” the select **Sculpture** in the **Select Creation Group** box



By pressing the **F8** button while on the **Creations Template** screen the panel for creating groups is made available.

You can add or delete groups except for the ALL category.



Downloadable Creations

Creations are available for download at www.dynamitemagicandballoons.com.

New creations are being added every month.

You can download Seasonal creations that contain instructions, pictures and materials list. Everything to get you started.

Each creation is a self installing .exe .

After downloading the creation file from the internet, run the .exe and the information will be placed in your databases.

Once the creation is in your database you will need to change the material and labor prices to fit your business.

You can leave the materials as listed and change the prices or you can reselect the equivalent of the item from your database.

For instance if the material is listed in the creation as a 5" balloon you can click on this material and enter in your listing of a 5" balloon and the program will bring in your pricing for you.

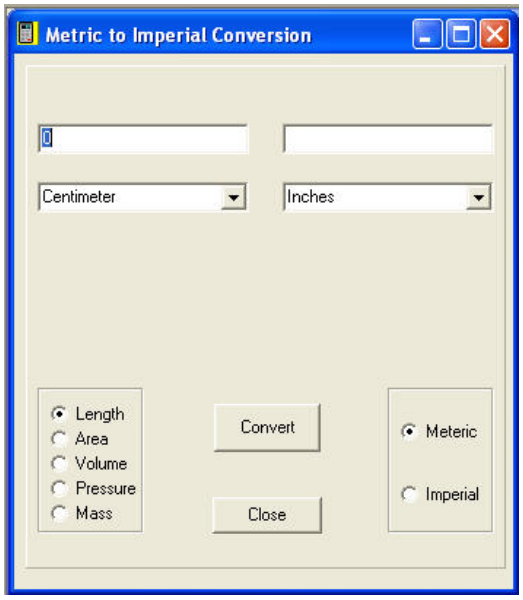
Once done you will have a creation customized just for you.

Calculator

The program has a built in calculator. Click on the "Calculator" icon.

Conversion Calculator

The Conversion Calculator allows you to convert metric to imperial or imperial to metric.



Net Factor

By pressing **F8** while on the **Percentages Screen** the "net factor" box will become visible.

The "net factor" is used to change the way the program calculates balloons for nets.

Because different people pack their nets differently than others you can actually customize it for yourself.

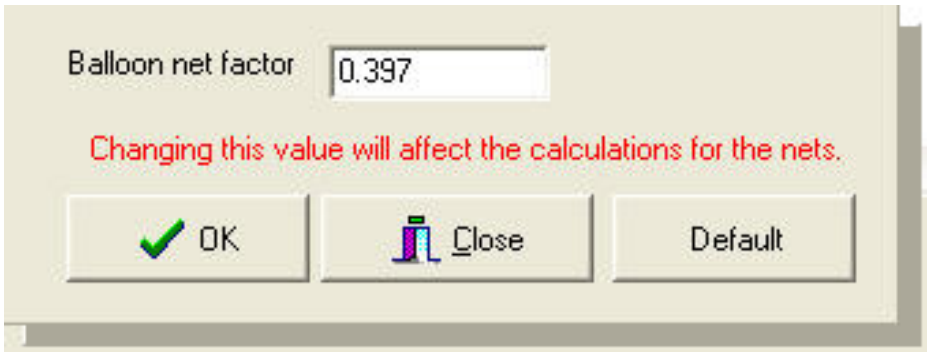


Image Viewer

The image viewer is designed to allow you to search in your directories for a particular picture.

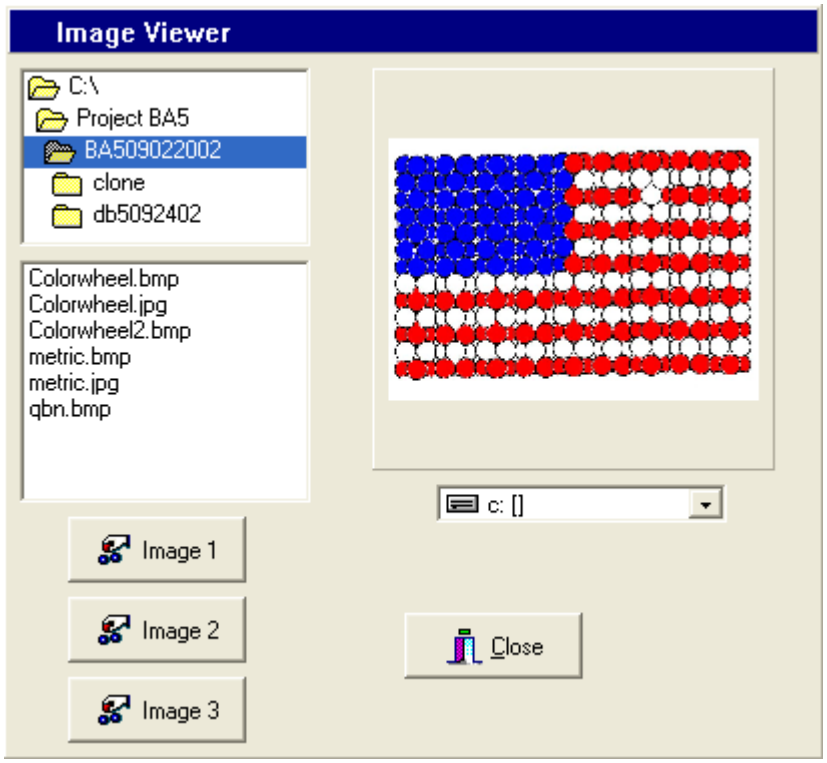
When you click on the picture an image of it will appear in the image viewer box.

If this is the image you are looking for then click the image button that you wish to assign this image to and it will put the image in the correct place.

To remove an image, simply select the blank.jpg or select another picture.

The image viewer will convert the image to a jpeg image and copy it to the images folder in your default **Balloon Calculator®** directory.

If for some reason this image gets deleted then the image cannot be display and it will default back to the default "No Picture" jpeg.



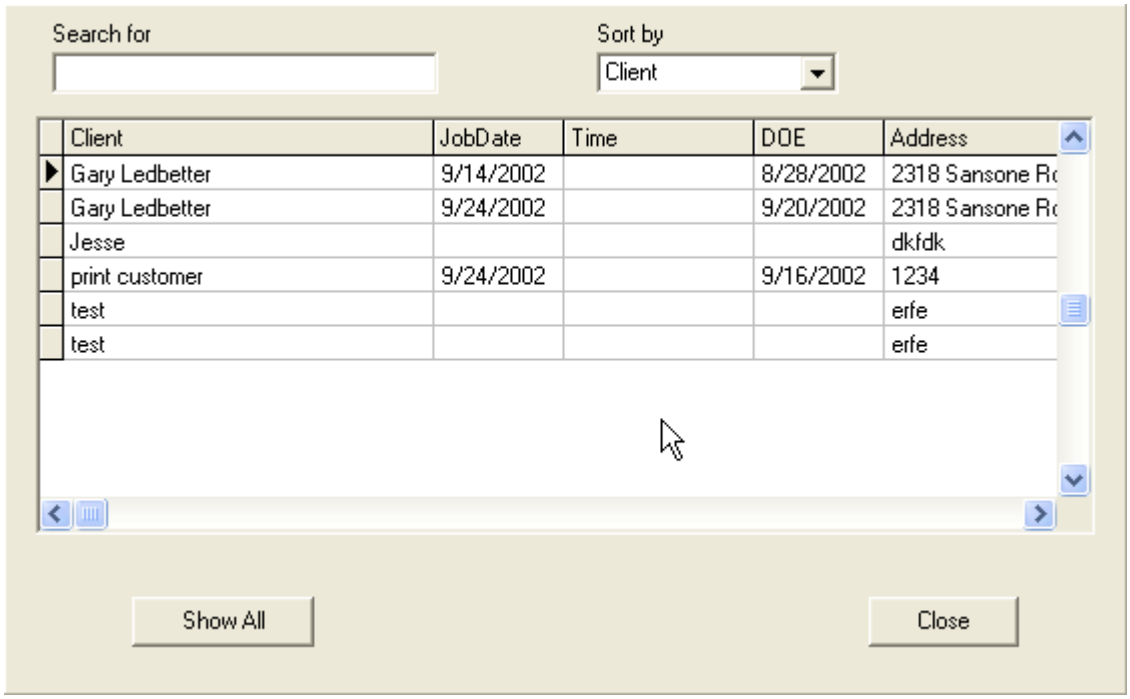
Searching

When you click on the search button you get the following screen.

To facilitate your search you can sort the jobs by name date or invoice number.

Changes made in this grid are saved.

When you find the job you are searching for click on it and that makes it the active job so when you close this screen you will be on that job.



NOTE:
Because of the way the search function works, the invoices are sorted by the first number then the second number.

This basically means that 10 will sort before 2 because all the 1's are sorted first followed by the 2's etc.

Until I find a way around this be aware of how it works.

Calculations

Other calculations can be made by selecting FILE/CALCULATIONS and selecting the different tabs at the bottom of the screen.

Helium Lift

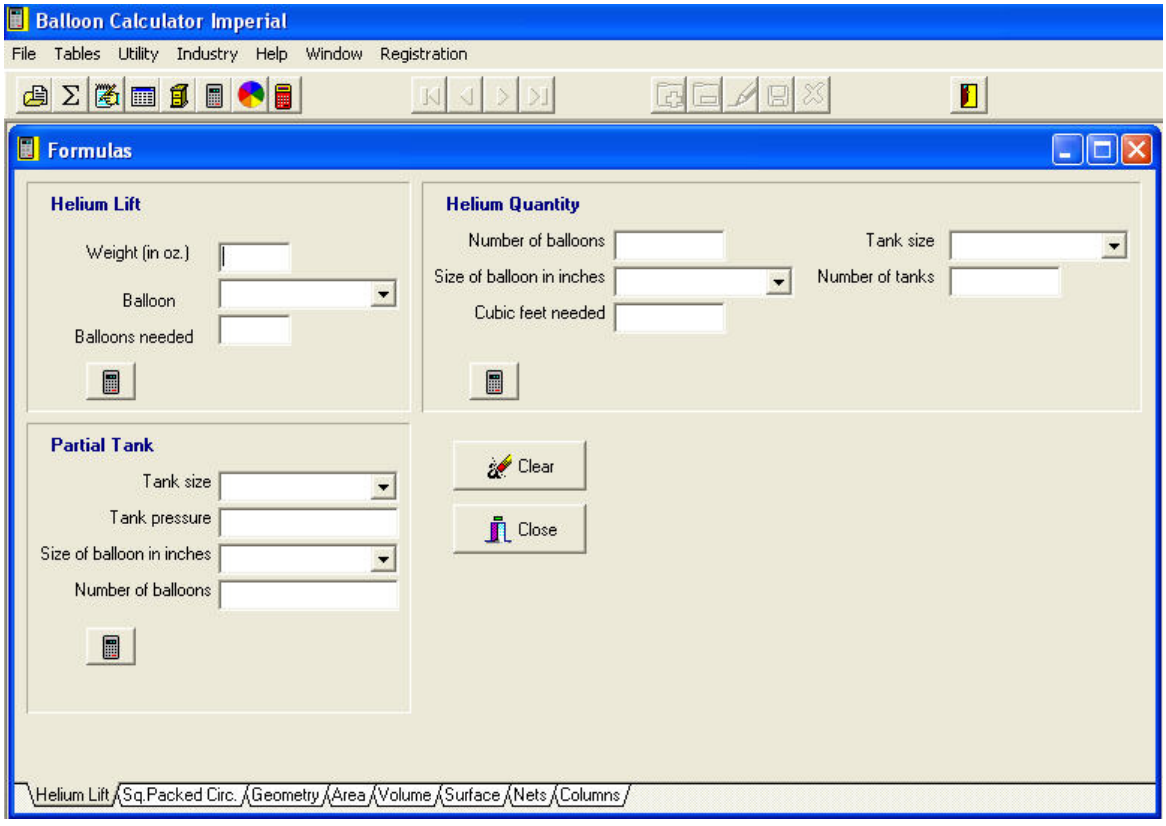
This screen is for calculating the amount of helium needed in different situations.

1. Calculating how many balloons it will take to lift an object.

2. Calculating the number of balloons from a partial tank

3. Calculating the amount of helium needed for a number of balloons

4. Calculating the number of tanks needed.



Example 1

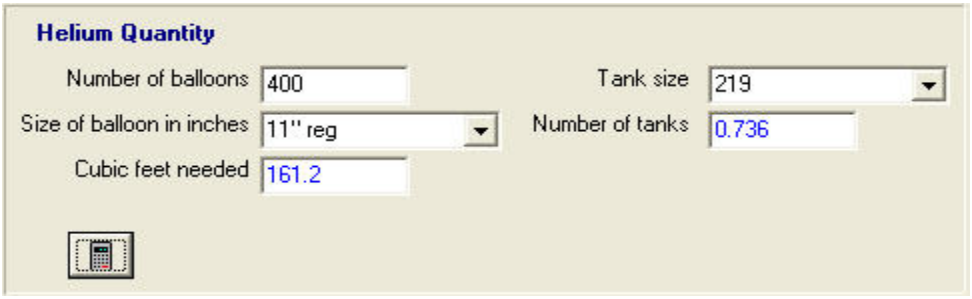
Suppose you wanted to know how much helium you needed for 400 - 11" balloons and you were using size 219 cubic feet tanks.

Enter in the number of balloons you have (400)

Select the size from the drop down box. (11")

Select the tank size (219)

Click on the calculate button and you see you need 161.2 cubic feet and .736 tanks.



Example 2

Suppose you have 3 of the 219 size tanks and you want to blow up some 16" balloons.

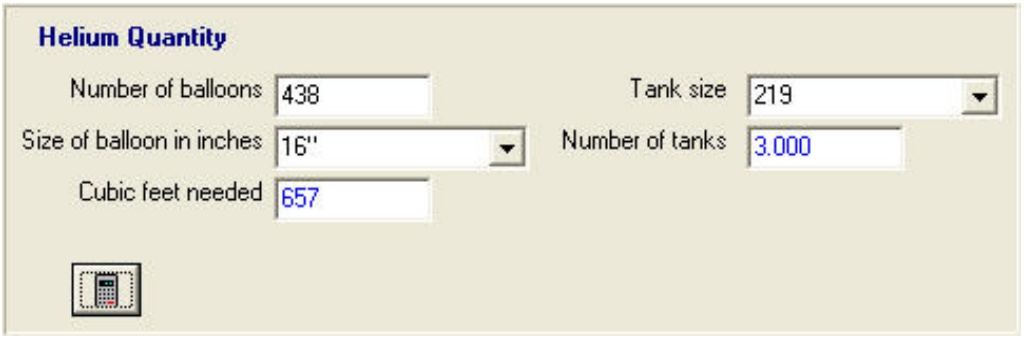
How many could you blow up?

Enter in the number of tanks. (3)

Select the size. (219)

Select the size of the balloons. (16")

Click on the calculator button and you can see you should be able to get about 438 16" balloons.



Sq. Packed Circle

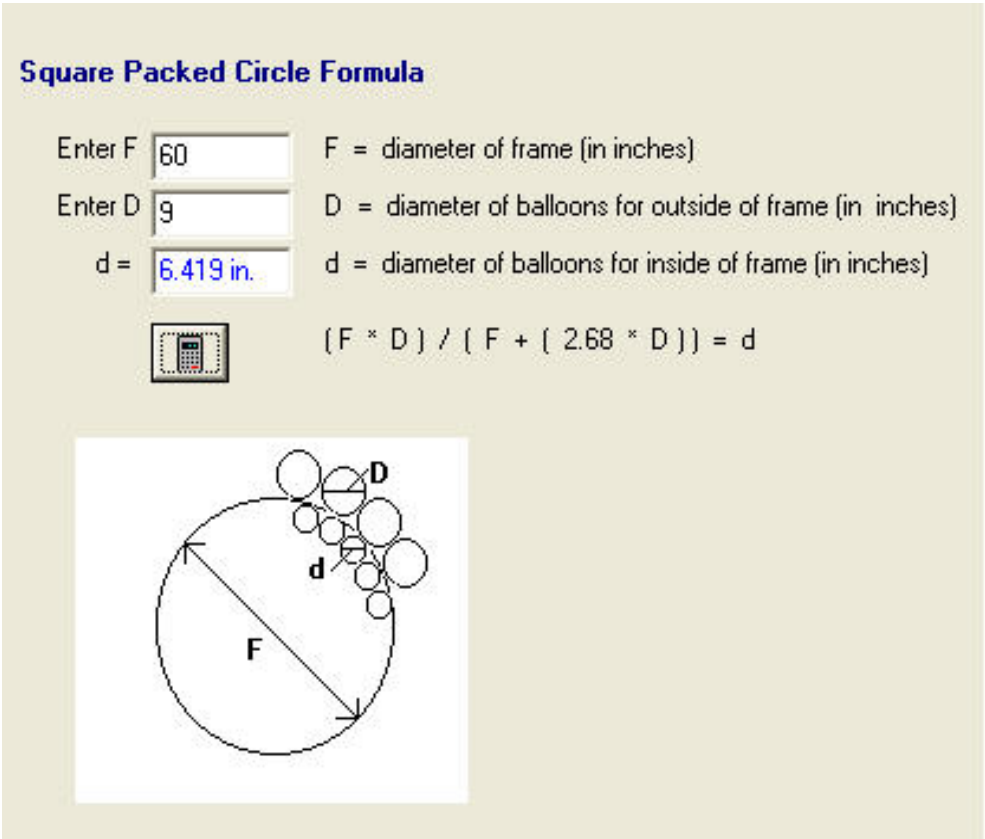
If you need to make a round garland. Using the square pack technique and sizing the balloons on the duplet different sizes an automatic circle results. The choice for the outside balloon is an arbitrary choice made by the decorator and the program will calculate the size of the inside balloon. The size of the calculated balloon can be changed by varying the size of the outside balloon and recalculating.

Example

If you need a garland circle that was 5 feet in diameter and you chose the outside balloon to be 9 inches in diameter.

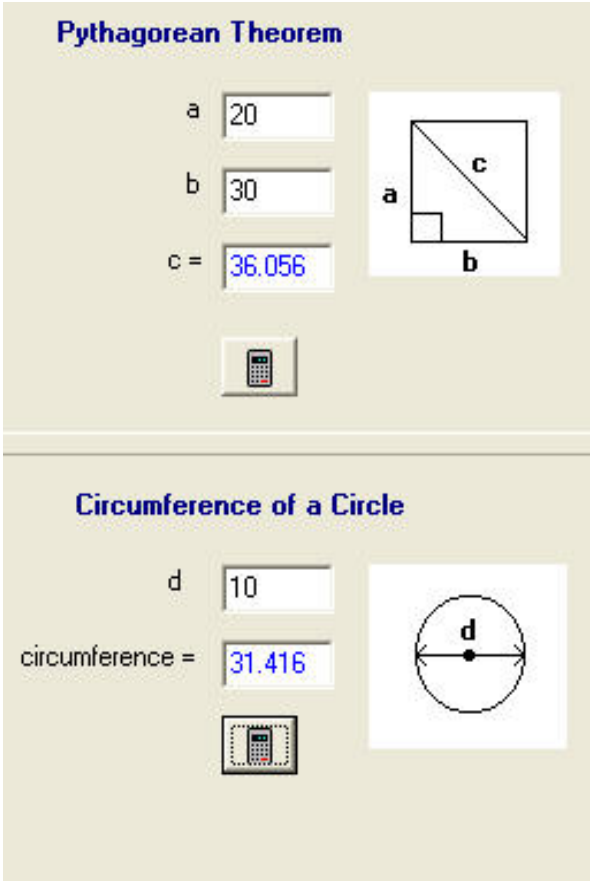
Enter in the information and click on the calculate button and the answer is displayed for the inside balloon.

The inside balloon would need to be about 6.5 inches.



Geometry

Use this screen to find the diagonal across a room or box or to find the distance around a circle.



Example

If a room is 20 feet wide and 30 feet long then the diagonal is 36 feet.

Example

If you have a circle that is 10 feet across then the distance around that circle is 31.4 feet

Area

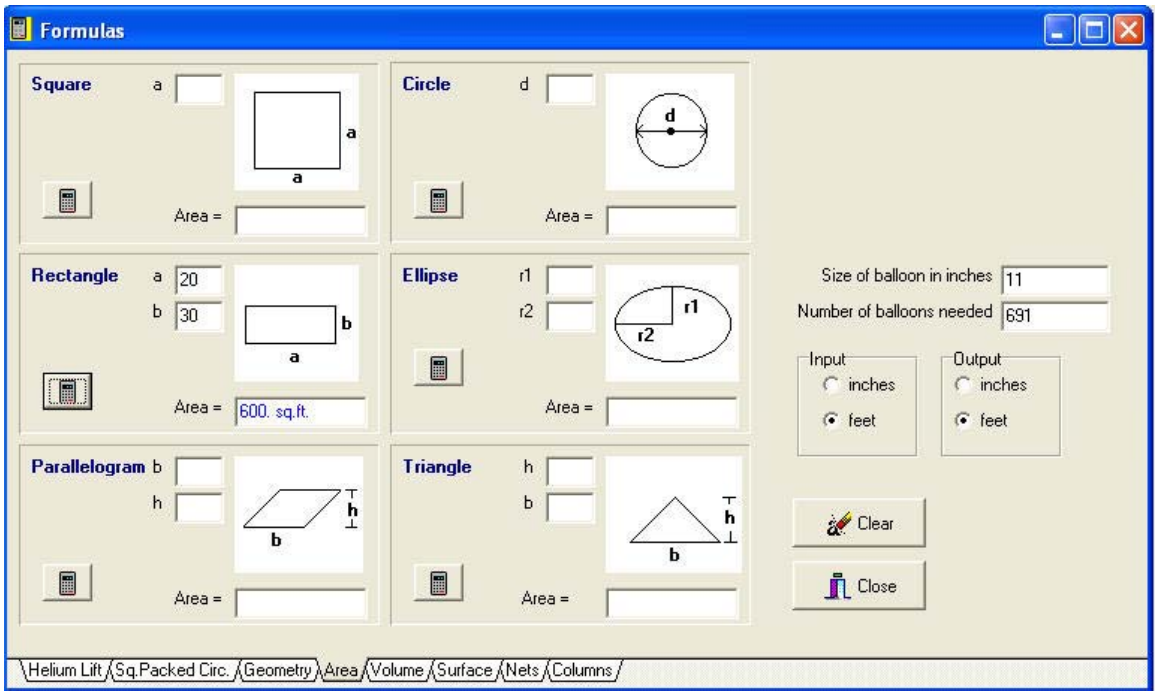
To Find the area of an object enter in the dimensions as shown and click on the calculate button.

You may specify the dimensions in inches or feet by clicking on the appropriate button.

Example

If you wish to know the number of balloons to cover an area, enter in the diameter of the balloon and the number needed is calculated.

If the ceiling is 20 feet by 30 feet and you blew up the balloons to 11” diameter then you need 691 balloons to cover the ceiling.



NOTE:
You must indicate that you using feet for the input and you want feet for the output. Just click on the appropriate button.

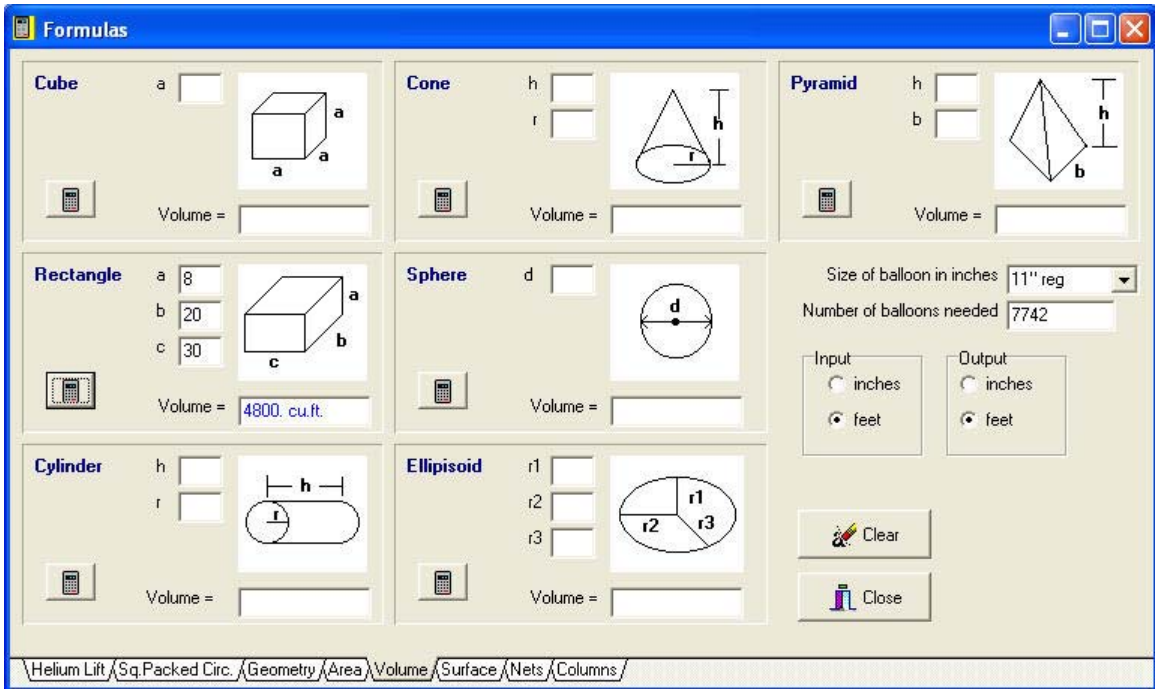
Volume

To find the volume of an object enter in the dimensions as shown and click the calculate button. You may specify the input and output dimensions.

Example

If you want to know how many inflated balloons will fit in the object enter in the diameter of the inflated balloon in inches and the number of balloons is calculated.

If a room is 8 feet tall and 20 feet wide and 30 feet long and you use 11" balloons you need 7742 balloons to fill this room.



NOTE:
You must indicate that you are using feet for the input and you want feet for the output. Just click on the appropriate button.

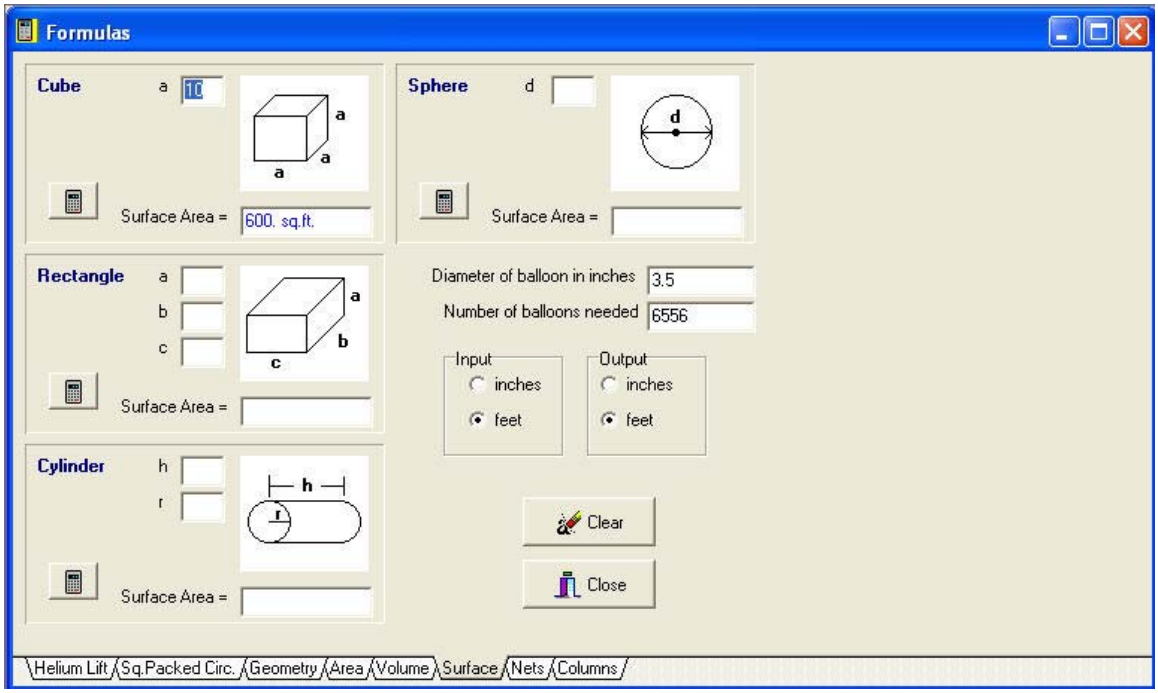
Surface

Use this screen to find the surface area of an object.

To find out the number of balloons needed to cover an object, enter in the diameter of the balloon in inches and click on the calculate button.

Example

If you are covering a box that is 10 feet square and you are covering it with balloons that are 3.5” in diameter then you need 6556 balloons.



Note:
You must indicate that you are using feet for the input and you want feet for the output. Just click on the appropriate button.

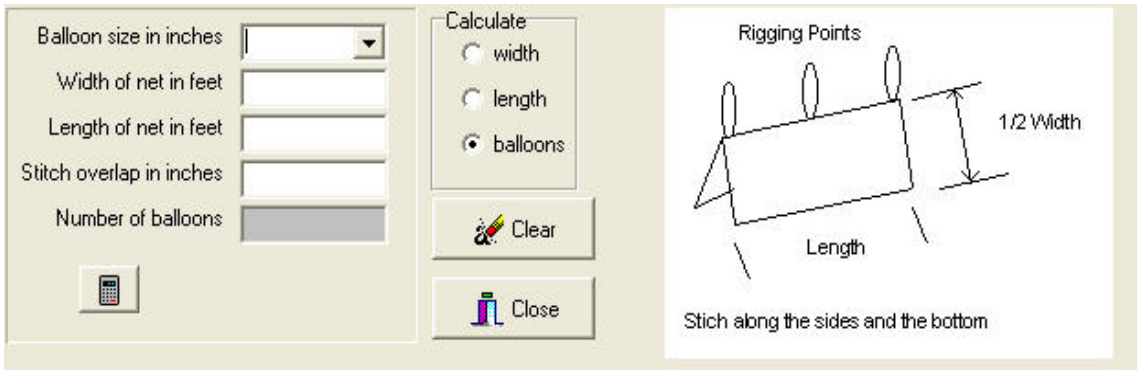
Nets

To find the size of a net to hold a number of balloons use this screen.

You can also find the length, width or the number of balloons by clicking on the button in the Calculate box and entering in the needed information.

The number of actual balloons that will fit may vary due to how tightly you pack them into the net.

There is a packing factor that you can change to adjust to your method of packing. Its use is explained elsewhere.



Example 1

Suppose you wanted to know the size net you would need for 2500 9" balloons.

The length of your net material is 17 feet wide and 100 feet long.

So you need to calculate the LENGTH of the net.

Select the length button under the Calculate Grid.

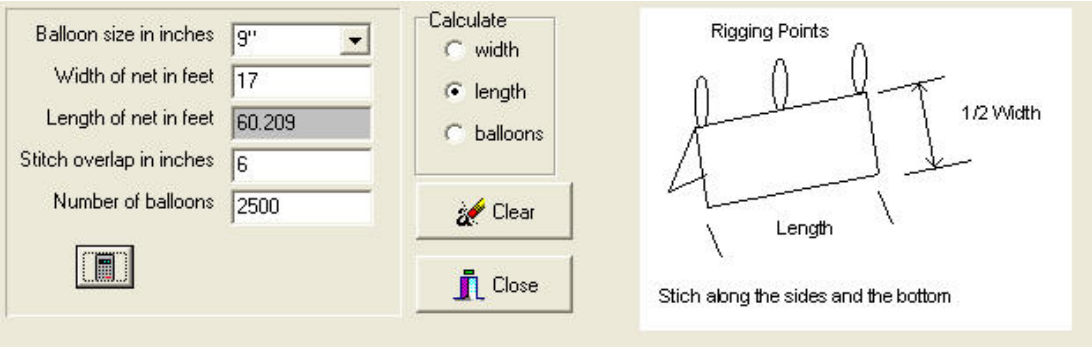
Select the size of balloon in this case 9".

Enter in the width of the net.

Enter the stitch overlap. Normally 6 inches is suggested.

Enter in the number of balloons (2500)

Now click on the calculator button and you will see that your net needs to be approximately 60 feet long.



Example 2

Suppose you wanted to know how many 11" balloons will fit in a net that is 15 feet wide by 17 feet long.

So you need to calculate BALLOONS

Select the balloons button in the Calculate Grid.

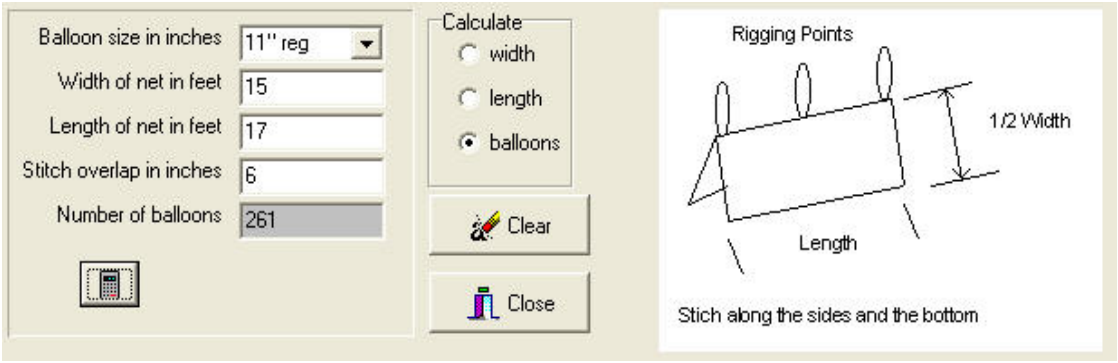
Select the size of the balloon (11")

Enter in the width of the net.

Enter in the length of the net.

NOTE - The length and the width are not interchangeable. You must enter in the width and the length in the proper place and fold the net the same way or the amount of balloons that fit in the net will be different.

Enter the stitch overlap. Normally 6 inches is suggested.
Now click on the calculator button and you will see that your net will hold approximately 260 balloons.

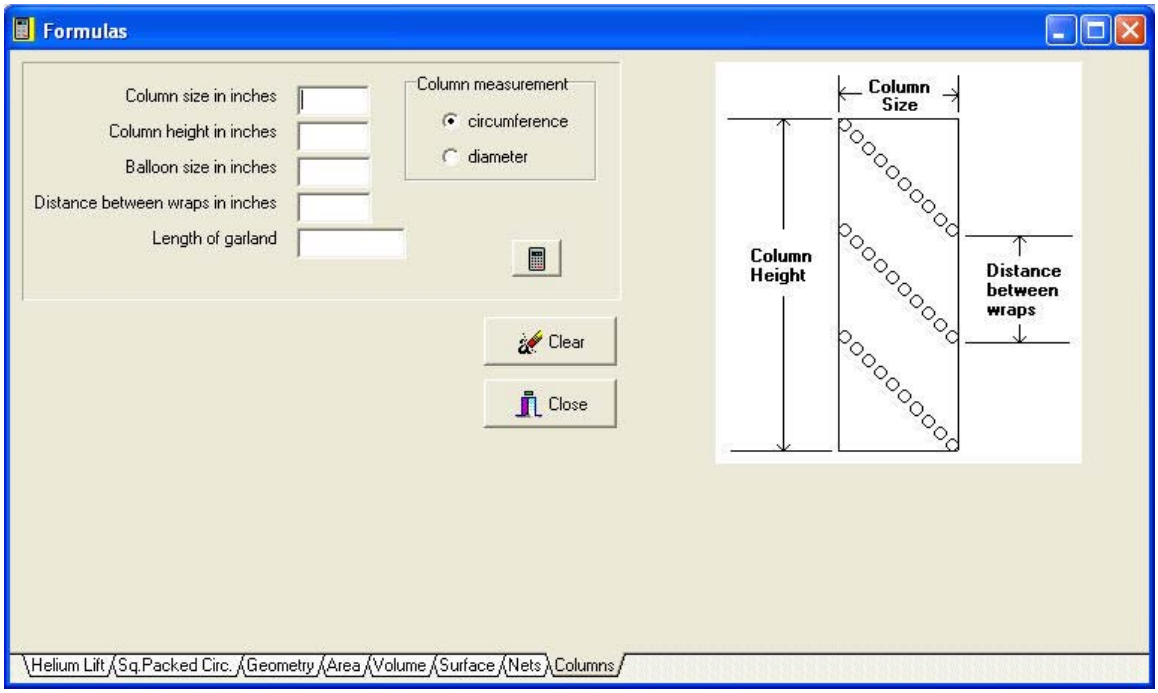


Columns

To find the length of a garland to be wrapped around a column enter in the information on this screen.

A button for Column measurement was made so you can either measure the column around or across.

After you know the length of the garland needed you can use that information to calculate the number of balloons needed.



Example

Suppose you have a column that is 24 inches across (24 inch diameter)

The column is 8 feet tall and you will to size the balloon to 4 inches and the wrap needs to be 24 inches apart.

First select the diameter button in the “Column Measurement” box.

Enter in the column measurement in inches (24)

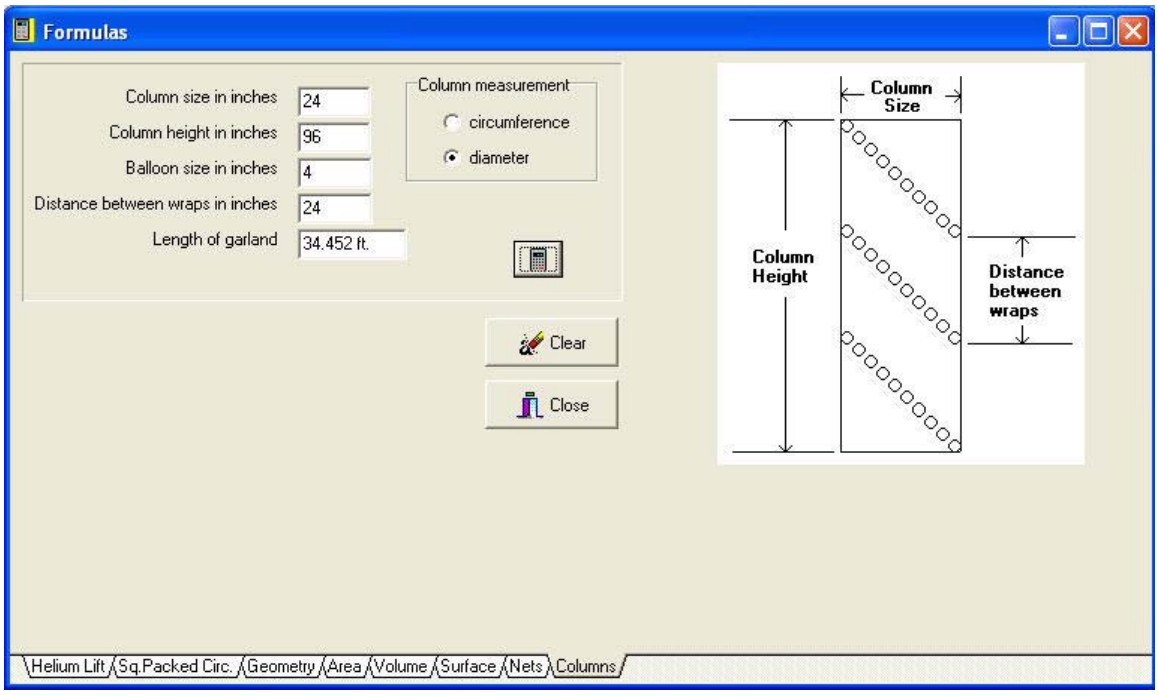
Enter in the column height in inches (12 x 8 = 96)

Enter in size of the inflated balloons diameter (4 inches)

Enter in the distance apart that you want the wraps (24 inches)

Click on the calculate button and you can see that you need a garland that is approximately 34.452 feet long.

To find the number of balloons needed you would need to go to the component screen and use the length just found in the garland formula.



Special Circumstances

Each job is saved with the current percentages.

That way, if you change your percentages in the future it will not alter past jobs.

However, if you need to change a past job to your current percentages you can.

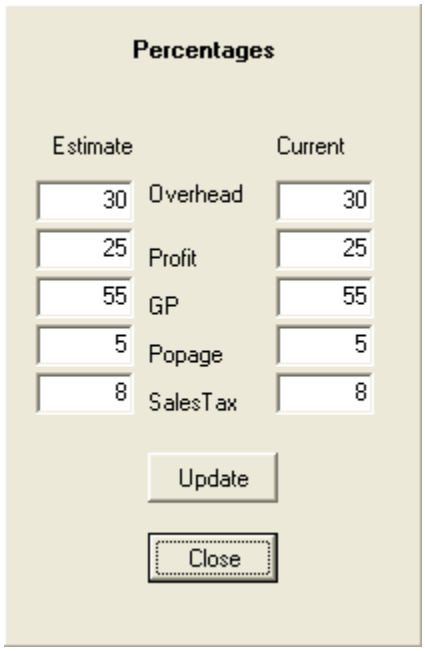
Be extremely careful because this will change your prices.

By pressing the **Ctrl + U** while on the **Details** Screen a pop up box will appear.

This box shows the past percentages and the present percentages.

By clicking the update button your past job will be evaluated using your current percentages.

Remember this will change the prices in your job.



The picture shown above the ESTIMATE and CURRENT are the same because we did not alter the percentages after we did the job. You can see what percentages are saved with a job by pressing **Ctrl + U**

To register the program

When you install the program on a computer, the program generates a unique code based on that computer. The program it set to expire 10 days after it is installed. You must submit the generated code to Dynamite Magic & Balloons and you will receive a permanent unlock code.

You will see the generated code every time the program is activated until it is registered or expired. Once the program is registered then you will no longer see it. The registration code can be found by clicking **REGISTRATION** at the top of the screen.

You can register the program by calling 334 270-1234 or by
Emailing the code to gllmagic@aol.com

This is the easiest way

Or by going to the web site
www.dynamitemagicandballoons.com and clicking on the **Balloon Calculator®** registration page.