

English

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Chapter 1

English

1.1 MirrorCopy V1.4 © 1998-99 Jan Hendrik Schulz

MirrorCopy

© 1998-99 Jan Hendrik Schulz
Version 1.4 (21.9.1999)

Introduction

What is it? And Why?

Requirements

Required hard- and software

Legal

Please read this!

Installation

How to install MirrorCopy?

Usage

And how to use it?

Known Bugs

History

What's new since the last version?

Future

What is planed for the future?

Author

How to contact the author?

Thanks to

1.2 Introduction

Introduction

MirrorCopy is a shell filecopy command, which is able to create and update an exact copy (mirror) of all the files and subdirectories^{^1} (including there contents) located in a source directory.

I

use it to

maintain a mirror copy of my system partition on a bootable ZIP disk. That way I not only have a backup of my system partition, I can even boot directly off this backup (if I need to) and have all the tools etc available I'm used to.

The main features of MirrorCopy are:

- The destination directory will contain exactly the same files and subdirectories^{^1} as the source directory - and nothing more!
- The attributes (date, comment and protection flags) of the files and subdirectories^{^2} in the destination directory are set exactly to the same values as in the source directory.
- MirrorCopy takes care of what the destination directory allready contains:
 - only those files are copied, that need to be copied.
 - only those subdirectories are created, that need to be created^{^1}
 - only those files and subdirectories^{^1} are removed from the destination directory, that need to be removed.
 This is very usefull if you don't want to create a mirror copy, but if you want to update an allready existing mirror copy.
- MirrorCopy can keep deleted or overwritten files in special 'deleted-/old-files' directories (see usage)
- The contents of the source directory is not changed in any way! Not even the protection flags (like the archive flag) are changed.

The result of a programm call like:

```
MirrorCopy source:dir/path/ dest:dir/path/ ALL
```

is about^{^2} the same as if you would execute the following two commands:

```
Delete dest:dir/path/#? ALL FORCE
Copy source:dir/path/#? dest:dir/path/ ALL CLONE
```

But using MirrorCopy is faster, especialy if the contents of the source and the destination directories are allready nearly the same.

OK, but how does MirrorCopy exactly work? MirrorCopy compares the two directories and:

- copies a file found in the source directory into the destination directory, if in the destination directory:
 - no file with the same name exists yet.
 - a file with the same name exists, but with different date and/or different size³. (The old file is overwritten or moved to the
 OLDDIR
 directory.)
 - no file, but a directory with the same name exists. (The directory and everything it contains is deleted or moved to the
 DELDIR
 .)
- creates a subdirectory, found in the source directory, inside the destination directory, if no subdirectory with that name exists in the destination directory yet¹. If a file with that name exists in the destination directory it is deleted or moved to the
 DELDIR
 .)
- removes files and subdirectories¹ from the destination directory, that do not exist (anymore) in the source directory. The files and subdirectories (including there contents) are deleted or moved to the
 DELDIR
 .
- sets the attributes of files and subdirectories¹ in the destination directory to the same values as in the source directory if needed.

- 1) The subdirectories are ignored, if the
 ALL
 keyword isn't used.
- 2) The standard Copy command (even if used with the CLONE keyword) doesn't set the attributes of subdirectories correctly, but MirrorCopy does !
- 3) To determine if two files with the same name are identical, the sizes and the dates of the files are compared. If both files do have the same size and the same date (and of course the same name) it is very likely that they are identical. That is, of course, not 100% sure, but under normal conditions it is always true. The only way to know it for sure would be, to compare the contents of the files, but than it would be faster to simply copy all files.

1.3 Requirements

Requirements

There are no special requirements. (At least not that I know...)

1.4 Legal

Legal

This version of MirrorCopy is freeware. Redistributing of MirrorCopy is only allowed, if all files are included and unchanged. It's not allowed to make any profit in any way by redistributing MirrorCopy. Including MirrorCopy on CD-ROMs is allowed as long as the CD-ROM costs not more than 15 EUR or 20 US\$. Before including MirrorCopy on coverdisks you have to ask me to get a written permission.

MirrorCopy is © copyright 1998-99 Jan Hendrik Schulz

MirrorCopy is provided as-is, without warranty of any kind. You are using MirrorCopy on your own risk. I'm in no way responsible for any damage or data loose, which may result in any way, directly or indirectly out of the usage of, or the impossibility to use MirrorCopy.

1.5 Installation

Installation

The installation is very simple. Just copy the program to an appropriate place (e.g. 'C:')

And it wouldn't be wrong to keep this guide somewhere where you can find it if you'll need it.

1.6 Usage

Usage

MirrorCopy must be run from a shell. The following shell arguments are available:

FROM/A

The source directory with the files you want to make a mirror copy of. You have to give a directory here, not the name of a single file and not a pattern.

The contents of this directory is not changed in any way.

TO/A

The destination directory where the mirror copy should be created in.

The contents of this directory will be changed like explained in the

introduction

.

ALL/S

Without this keyword, MirrorCopy will ignore subdirectories and will copy/delete only files found directly inside the FROM/TO directory.

BUF/K/N

With BUF you can change the size of the memory buffer used for coping. A larger buffer might increase the copy speed. The size is set in KBytes and the default size is 64 KBytes (BUF=64).

DELDIR/K

If you want to keep the files and directories, MirrorCopy would usually delete from the TO directory, you can use this keyword to specify a directory where MirrorCopy should move those files and directories to instead.

MirrorCopy will create the necessary subdirectories inside this directory to keep the files with the same (relative) path inside this directory as they were relative to the TO directory.

Currently this directory must be on the same volume as the TO directory, because for speed reasons MirrorCopy moves the files and directories to the new location by renaming them - and it's not possible to rename across volumes.

OLDDIR/K

Like DELDIR but to keep the old version of those files, which are replaced (overwritten) with a new version of the same file (or a file with the same name).

You can specify the same directory for DELDIR and OLDDIR if you want. If you use "and" as the DELDIR or OLDDIR, it uses the same directory as the other one. Thus you can write something like:

```
DELDIR and OLDDIR=name/of/the/dir
```

DATE/S

This keyword is only usefull in combination with DELDIR and/or OLDDIR. It tells MirrorCopy to create a subdirectory with a name made of the current date inside the DELDIR/OLDDIR directory and use that subdirectory as DELDIR/OLDDIR directory. This way you can keep the files of different MirrorCopy runs in different directories - especial usefull if you have files that change often.

The name of the date-subdirectory looks like this: yyyy-mm-dd_Xxx with:

```
yyyy the four digit year
mm  the two digit month
dd  the two digit day
```


Xxx the first three characters of the day name

This way, by sorting the directories by name, they are sorted by date as well.

NODEL/S

If this keyword is used, files and directories inside the TO directory are not deleted (or moved to the DELDIR) if possible. But even with NODEL, files or directories are deleted (or moved to the DELDIR) if an object of different kind (file <-> dir) exists inside the FROM directory, which couldn't be copied to the TO directory otherwise!

VERBOSE/S

Enables additional output about what's going on. With VERBOSE you'll see what files are copied, moved, deleted etc.

STAT/S

Enables a statistic with the number of files and directories that where copied/deleted/created/etc.

QUIET/S

Disables the shell output, except error messages and all the output enabled with the VERBOSE and STAT keywords, if they are used.

1.7 Known Bugs

Known Bugs

No known bugs. But if you found a bug, please send me a bugreport! (Do not rely on someone else doing it! Thanks!)

1.8 History

History

version 1.4 (21.9.1999)

- New NODEL keyword, to tell MirrorCopy not to remove old files and directories from the destination directory

version 1.3 (18.9.1999)

- DELDIR/OLDDIR handling improved:
 - It is now possible to use directories who are inside the destination directory.
 - Some checks are performed to make sure the specified directories are valid.
 - To use the same directory for both, DELDIR and OLDDIR, it's now

possible to write: DELDIR and OLDDIR=name/of/the/dir
or: OLDDIR and DELDIR=name/of/the/dir

- QUIET and VERBOSE keywords changed and new STAT keyword added to allow better control of the output.
- Correct shell errorcodes are returned now, to allow e.g. the usage in scripts with error handling.
- Some minor internal changes.

version 1.2 (1.6.1999)

- Enforcer/CyberGuard hits removed.

version 1.1 (5.5.1999)

- Minor bugfix.

version 1.0 (3.3.1999)

- First public release.

1.9 Future

Future

If you have any ideas, why not send
me
an email!?

1.10 Author

Author

Snail-Mail: Jan Hendrik Schulz
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22049 Hamburg
Germany

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IMPORTANT NOTE:

If you expect an answer via snail-mail, please send me enough money
or (german!) stamps to cover my costs.

1.11 Thanks to

Thanks to

Wouter van Oortmerssen for AmigaE
