

MSDOS

Dave Lomax

COLLABORATORS

	<i>TITLE :</i> MSDOS		
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REVISION HISTORY

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Chapter 1

MSDOS

1.1 main

MSDOS® For AmigaDOS, ©1995 Dave Lomax

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Legal Stuff.. yawn

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Please support SHAREWARE :-)

1.2 msdos_disclaimer

Disclaimer

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You use "MSDOS For AmigaDOS" at your own risk, and although nothing could possibly go wrong if it is used correctly, the Author accepts no responsibility for damage to Hardware, Software or Themselves!! :-)

I've spend loads of time putting together this nice package, after I first wrote it for my wonderful machine, so if you use it ==please== send me a small donation to support my efforts :-)

This package is Shareware, so if you send me a donation, of £5 or more you'll receive the any newer versions of the package. See

Address

Liscence agreement

~~~~~

In using this program, you agree to the terms stated.
Please register if you use it often.

If after 3 months, you are still using it, either register or remove it from your system.

1.3 msdos_introduction

Introduction

~~~~~

This is a CLI/Shell only Utility and isn't really for the beginner, but then again, any one who has to suffer the company of PC's, really.

If you use a PC at work, running MSDOS and come home to a wonderful Amiga running AmigaDOS, you will appreciate the differences between the two operating systems.

So how does it work?

When you Install "MSDOS® For AmigaDOS®", you create a directory in which to place your MS-DOS commands, this can be anywhere you like, preferably on your boot disk.

"MSDOS® For AmigaDOS®" is for Shell use only certainly not Workbench, nor is it a commodity. It is a collection of AmigaDOS® Aliases which are made resident upon startup. These aliases work by creating temporary substitutes for AmigaDOS commands. So when you type DEL at the Shell, it really runs the AmigaDOS delete instruction. Like this, this package will save you loads of time when working in a Shell. Some commands cannot work as ALIAS'es so they are script (batch) files instead. The script files allow interactive usage of MS-DOS commands such as DELTREE which is a command AmigaDOS® lacks that allows you to delete an entire directory tree (The AmigaDOS® equivalent is Delete <name> all quiet).

What is MSDOS for AmigaDOS?

Quite simply- it allows you to use MSDOS commands on your AMIGA, most

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of which are conveniently shorter and there are a few extra commands.

Here's some features:

- Enables the use of commands like Del, Deltree, Pause, DOSKey, etc.
- No need to alter existing Workbench commands
- Works with RESIDENT commands too! (One or two, like DELTREE don't)
- Takes up VERY LITTLE RAM!
- Fully AmigaDOS 2+ compatible, & works on ANY device (irrelevant!).
- Completely invisible- AmigaDOS commands still work as well!
- Doesn't echo commands. It's "QUIET" like MSDOS
- Can use \* wildcard!
- Also allows you to use . as current directory and .. as parent
- Double click an MS-DOS icon, and get an MS-DOS supporting DosShell
- Use A: and B:, instead of boring old DF0: and DF1:

If you are a regular user of both MS-DOS and AmigaDOS, then this is for you. MSDOS for AmigaDOS DOES NOT erase any current AmigaDOS commands, it simply ADDS MS-DOS ones to the system using very cunning ALIASES and BATCH files. This means that, for example you could use DEL or DELETE if you wanted to delete a file.

Here's a quick example of how MS-DOS --CAN-- be shorter than AmigaDOS:

| Operation                | AmigaDOS                                | MS-DOS Equiv'  |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------------------|----------------|
| Delete all files         | Delete #?                               | Del.           |
| Delete *.info files      | Delete #?.info                          | Del *.info     |
| Delete a directory       | Delete <name> all<br>Delete <name>.info | DelTree <name> |
| CD to These_Are_The_Docs | CD These_Are_The_Docs                   | QCD These      |
| Format a disk            | Format drive df0: name<br>Empty noicons | Format A:      |

N.B. The '\*' wildcard will only work if a program such as QMouse, Yak or WildStar is being ran in the background, more about this later. On my (This allows you to use \* in place of #?, meaning all files)

Yak, is included in this archive, but you will need to install it using the Install scripts from Workbench. Note it isn't the original [huge] archive, so I'd encourage you to get the original. You'll find it on Aminet in: Aminet/util/cdity/yak.... It's an excellent multi-purpose commodity, and I thank the authors Gaël Marziou and Philippe Bastiani, and I hope what I've done is okay :-)

Also, you may use . and/or .. for current directory and parent directories respectively, as in UNIX/MS-DOS after you've installed Yak, which will patch the DosCalls. You CAN also do "Del." because I made a separate command to do this. NB: Although . and .. will work for Current directory and Parent directories respectively, if you have installed Yak, you CANNOT do "Del ." << There must be NO SPACE between "Del" and "." DOS doesn't allow you to literally remove the entire Current Directory :-) Use "Del." which removes the contents of the directory!

More details on these DOS patches later!

Like MS-DOS, All commands I have implemented are "quiet". This means that

they do not say anything in response unless there was an error.

For example:

|                     |                  |
|---------------------|------------------|
| AmigaDOS            | MS-DOS           |
| H:> Delete Test.Txt | H:> Del Test.Txt |
| Test.Txt Deleted    | H:>              |
| H:>                 |                  |

Notice how MS-DOS tells you nothing, as usual. Well now, your Amiga can be quiet too, without bothering to add that annoying "quiet" parameter on the end!

## 1.4 msdos\_installation

### Installation

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System requirements

The package was written on an A1230HD/68030/68882/50MHz running KS 3.1 and Workbench 40.29. (Yes, it is fast! But feel free to donate any 68060 boards!!! :-))

You NEED at least Workbench 2.xx and you need Commodore's installer (supplied). You also, ideally, need to be able to view Guide@ files, so use AmigaGuide@, or something like that. AmigaGuide@ is included.

The Installer allows you to create a drawer, anywhere you like, to put MSDOS@ For AmigaDOS@ into. So you COULD run it from floppy, but a hard drive is VERY VERY strongly recommended.

The default drawer to install to will be SYSTEM, but wherever you choose to put it, a drawer will automatically be created called MS-DOS.

*** IMPORTANT *** You need 400K bytes of free disk space!!!!
(Now do you see why the HD is recommended!?)

It doesn't use all of this space, when Yak has been Installed and the original removed.

To Install the program, boot from your boot disk :-)) and double click the Install icon. When It's all done, reboot.

This uses Commodores Installer so it should work okay. It is rather nice ya know...

If anyone has any big problems, please write and let me know and I'll de-bug it and send you a fixed version

(donation permitting :-))

Extras

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Workbench Support (well, a little bit)

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You can start an MS-DOS DosShell, from workbench, by opening the drawer called MSDOS, from wherever you installed it (Try SYS:System) and double clicking on the nice pretty MS-DOS icon.

Wildstar (\* = #?)

To take advantage of the '\*' wildstar character, you need to run a program that patches the DosCalls such as Yak (included!).

This allows you to refer to all files in DOS, as "\*", rather than the previous "#?", which was a bit annoying. So, whereas before you'd have to enter:

```
Delete #?.info
```

Now, you only need to enter:

```
DEL *.info                                (Deletes icon files)
```

So are you going to register or what!!!?

UNIX directory pipes (. = "" and .. = /)

To take advantage of UNIX/MSDOS directories such as:

```
.. <Parent directory>
. <Current directory>
```

you will need to run Yak, included in this archive!

N.B. You should still use AmigaDOS paths in the same way, unless you use Slashpatch feature as well, not recommended, because it's confusing!

So whereas before you would have needed to enter, say:

```
Copy from Work:#?.PIC to ""
```

Now, you only need to enter:

```
COPY Work:*.PIC .                        (to copy all .PIC files from Work:
                                          to the current directory)
```

```
DF0: and DF1: business
```

```
~~~~~
```

So you're sick of using DF0: and DF1: all the time, eh!!? Well, now you can refer to your drives as A: and B: respectively.

Yep, whereas before, you might enter:

```
Delete DF0:#?.info
```

Now, you only need enter:

```
DEL A:*.info (Deletes icon files from A:)
```

Just like MS-DOS :-)

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CrossDOS support

~~~~~

If you have CrossDOS@, you can literally read PC MS-DOS disks. BUT! You won't be able to use A: and B:, because it will be configured to PC0: & PC1:, which is a bit of a bummer. Or is it!? If you get your hands on a useful utility called MultiFileSystem, you can use A: and B: with as many disk formats as you like. Well, almost :-) You can find MFS on Aminet: AmiNet/Disk/Misc/MFS... I recommend this, too!

This would enable you to bung an MS-DOS disk into say, "Drive A" and do A: to change the current directory to PC Drive A.

If you installed Yak, you can even do stuff like Del \*.BAT and delete all "BAT" files!! (If you really wanted to!).

In Fact, "MSDOS@ For AmigaDOS@" Doesn't care what filesystem it operates on! I was just pointing out that the commands work on MS-DOS disks just as well!

## 1.5 msdos\_commands

Commands

~~~~~

Okay, I've installed it, I've re-booted and opened a SHELL, now what?

Well, here's a list of some AmigaDOS and their new MS-DOS equivalents:

| MS-DOS                                                                          | AmigaDOS                                      |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| A:                                                                              | Cd (DF0:)                                     |
| B:                                                                              | Cd (DF1:)                                     |
| Attrib <filename> <protection>                                                  | Protect <filename> <protection>               |
| Backup <drive> <filename>                                                       | DMS Read <filename> from <drive> CMODE HEAVY2 |
| Buffers <drive> [buffers]                                                       | AddBuffers <drive> [buffers]                  |
| Call <filename>                                                                 | Execute <filename>                            |
| Cd\                                                                             | Cd /                                          |
| Cd/                                                                             | Cd /                                          |
| Cd..                                                                            | Cd /                                          |
| ChDir [dir]                                                                     | Cd [dir]                                      |
| ChkDsk                                                                          | DiskDoctor (?)                                |
| Choice <prompt>                                                                 | Ask <prompt>                                  |
| Cls                                                                             | Echo "<CTRL L>" or Amiga Z on KingCON         |
| Country <keymapid>                                                              | Setmap <keymapid>                             |
| Date [date]                                                                     | Date [[date][time]]                           |
| DeFrag                                                                          | ReOrg *                                       |
| Del <filename>                                                                  | Delete <filename> quiet                       |
| Del.                                                                            | DEL.                                          |
| DelTree <dirname>                                                               | Delete <dirname> all quiet                    |
| DosVer                                                                          | {Shows MS-DOS version}                        |
| EdLin                                                                           | \$EDITOR                                      |
| Erase                                                                           | Delete <filename> force quiet                 |
| Expand <arcname> <destination> [patt] LHA e,x <arcname> <destination/> [patt] * |                                               |
| Exit                                                                            | EndCLI >NIL:                                  |



Help

Usage: HELP [Command Name]  
HELP [Search Letter]

Help will describe the command that you specify in the command line, if it finds it in the 'HELP.LIBRARY'.

If a character is specified, help will search for all commands beginning with that letter.

That's all folks!!

## 1.6 msdos\_distribution

Distribution

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So just who cannav it!!!!?

Well, This package may be freely copied and distributed between users so long as:

- Any part of the program is NOT altered in ANY way
- No charge is made for copying (Makes the AMIGA the BEST comp'??)
- It is distributed as the original .lha archive package ONLY
- If you use it regular, send me a donation
- If you still use it after 3 months, register or delete it
  
- If you are a P.D. Library, and wish to place my utility on something, you WILL be able to, but PLEASE WRITE AND ASK ME FIRST- I might have a more recent version for you- and I'd like to know where it's going!!! (I've noticed ANCIENT versions of this floating around, please contact me, for any newer releases, etc)

So contact me!!! At THE  
ADDRESS  
Now!!

Hey Fred!! I love the compilation! You may include this, just notify me!!!

## 1.7 msdos\_future

Future

~~~~~

When I made MS-DOS for AmigaDOS, I simply grabbed the MS-DOS 6 User Guide and copied in all the commands from the index! So there may be some I have missed out! If you know of any suggestions, write to me.

See

AUTHOR

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## 1.8 msdos\_probs

Troubleshooting

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"I keep getting file not executable errors"

-----  
You did not preserve the file attributes. Delete everything and start over. Read the .readme file for this archive and use GuiArc or LHA e,x -a to extract it.

"Sounds great but I still don't know what I'm supposed to do"

-----  
I keep telling you! Install it, open a shell and try out the commands. To list all available commands type ListCommands and press ENTER. If you're a beginner, you won't be using the Shell so you'll have no use for this package.

"Does it support other filesystems and devices"

-----  
Very. Anything the SHELL could previously access still can, but this time you'll find it easier to explore things using QCD etc.

"Err, what's QCD?"

-----  
QCD stands for Quick Change Directory. Implemented as part of the Norton Utilities on the PC, you now have it on your amiga. For example suppose you want to CD to:

This\_Is\_A\_Very\_Long\_Directory\_Name\_(It\_Probably\_Wouldnt\_Fit) (dir)

This could be accomplished by either entering:

"CD This\_Is\_A\_Very\_Long\_Directory\_Name\_(It\_Probably\_Wouldnt\_Fit)" & ENTER.

Or alternatively using MSDOS@ For AmigaDOS@, (The PC method..)

"QCD This" & ENTER

Providing of course that there are no other directories beginning with "This".

QCD works by looking at the START of the directory name.

"When I restore or backup a disk to/from a file (respectively), it asks for the disk in df0: and not what I specified. WHY!!!"

-----  
Not my fault!!!! That's DMS's problem! Until he fixes that bug, you'll just have to use DF0:.

"Unix directory pipes don't work!"

-----

---

That's because you aren't running Yak, you silly sausage. Get it!!

"I've got CrossDOS, but I still can't access A: & B: instead of PC0: etc"

-----  
Go to Workbench, open SYS:Devs/DOSDrivers.

Rename PC0 and PC1.. to A and B respectively.

DO NOT rename PC2 to C if you have it. Call it something else, otherwise it will conflict with your AmigaDOS® command directory.

"When I use the \* character instead of #?, it hangs or says not found"

-----  
Firstly, you need to run a program such as Yak or DMouse, which gives you the WildStar facility. Install Yak, and when it's done, delete the original drawer. Bung Yak in your WBStartup, reboot, and voila, you can use \*

"But I AM Using Yak !!"

-----  
For some reason, if you specify \* just by itself, AmigaDOS® waits for input and it looks like the Shell has hung on you. It hasn't really. Break it with Ctrl + \ (The one by backspace). I don't think this happens with the nice version of Yak 2 by... Gaël Marziou and Philippe Bastiani.. cheers!

Sometimes, you cannot specify \* by itself. If you need to specify all files, use #?. But you CAN do \*.info or \*.bat etc, so long as it isn't by itself. Then again, it sometimes doesn't mind with the new version of Yak!

"When I enter HELP at the SHELL, it crashes nicely."

-----  
I didn't write "HELP", so naturally there's a bug!!!! ( << Hey is this guy big headed or what!?). Don't just type HELP by itself!!! You must tell it the command that you need help on, otherwise it crashes!!! If you need to know how to use it type HELP ? & press ENTER. Example: Help CD

\*\*\* If anyone thinks of any questions to add here, for me to answer, just write & register for a small donation, and I'll answer it!! \*\*\*

## 1.9 msdos\_history

History

~~~~~

v1.0 First idea, it was simply in my Shell-Startup!  
v1.1 Modification, more commands.  
v1.2 More commands, this time taken from the MSDOS6 User Guide.  
v1.3 Separated from my Shell-Startup  
v1.4 Modified the problem of it installing twice!  
v1.5 Added REMOVE option  
v1.6 Separate, new batch files for commands.  
v1.7 DelTree etc, becoming Interactive! (Are u sure, etc?!)

v1.8 Optimization  
v1.9 Made it display the DosVer upon startup!  
v2.0 First Release  
v2.1 Forgot to write the docs... done!!  
v2.2 Wrote the Installer, to make Commodore happy!  
v2.3 Tried & tested! Bug Found!! Fixed protection bits of MS-DOS executables! Copied HELP command! Gave the Installer a nice MagicWB icon! No longer uses PowerPacker.Library & There's a bit more on the Doc's side.  
v2.4 Missed off the FORMAT command as described in HELP.Library- Fixed! Also included Yak and updated some Docs..  
v2.5 Fixed REM command and added the use of A: and B: for devices such as AmigaDOS, Professional Format', DiskSpare and MS-DOS. Also included some UNIX commands. Reed the GuideFile!!!  
v2.6 Added the MS-DOS options for DIR. Now has pretty ANSI output and /w (wide) /a (all) etc options. Updated docs SLIGHTLY. Fixed the bug with XCOPY giving a requester, especially with ARQ installed. Now perfect! Well, almost :-)  
v2.7 I was working on this slightly improved version, but I'm changing it vastly, well sort-of. See v3.0  
v3.0 A few nice changes. You can now open an MS-DOS supporting Shell from Workbench, and I've upgraded the "Help" command to a newer version. Whoever the author is, ta. Now you don't need TWO programs to use UNIX dirs and \*, thanks to Yak, by Gaël Marziou and Philippe Bastiani. Ta!

## 1.10 msdos\_author

The Author

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Bugs, reports, comments, suggestions!!!?

WELCOME!! Please send me ANY of the above stuff so I can write better software and gimme a few exciting challenges! NOT!

Acknowledgements

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Testers

Chris Wildes, National Amiga Users Group  
Ross McLeod, West Kirby  
Paul Smith, Wallasey (<< Get a HD!!)

For bugfinding/blasting for me!!!!

Other Authors

~~~~~

Yak v1.58  
Gaël Marziou and Philippe Bastiani

DirFool

Chris Lawrence

Help

N. E. Body (I'm not sure who wrote this!)

Donations of any description are  
more than  
WELCOME!!

Write E-Mail style to:

cmsdloma@vax.livjm.ac.uk (Until 1999, not that man"kind" has that long)

Write Snail Mail style to:

Dave Lomax  
461 Poulton Road,  
Wallasey,  
Merseyside,  
L44 5SE.  
England.

Don't bother finding the number- we're X-Directory!!!!

Well, I thought it was a good DOS pun, anyway. TTFN.

Enjoy!!! ..Dave..

```
 ///
 ///
 _///
 \X// AMIGA - There Can Be Only One
```

## 1.11 yeah

This means PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE!!!

I need cash for development software to write better programs, at the moment, I don't have much in the way of Software!!

I'm desperate for a C++ compiler, but I can't afford it :-)

## 1.12 help

This is an AmigaGuide® Document. You should be using AmigaGuide or MultiView to view it. Simply click the buttons with the left mousebutton, and use the up/down cursor keys (or the right scrollbar + mouse) to scroll the pages up and down.

And anyway, if you don't know this by now, don't even think about MSDOS® For AmigaDos@!!

## 1.13 Index

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This is just a basic Index. I am yet to write an index that gives ↔ help on individual commands. I might enhance it, (Donation permitting)

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CrossDOS support!

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On-line help

PD Lib's & Fred ><>\textdegree{}

Report to the Author

Sad Jokes..

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