

DeflconsCompanion

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Chapter 1

DefIconsCompanion

1.1 DefIconsCompanion

DefIconsCompanion

a program by
Jonas Hultén

Copyright

What is it?

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How to use it

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Author

by the community
for the community

1.2 copyright

This program is copyright 2000 by Jonas Hultén. However, the program is freeware so you may copy it as much as you like as long as all files in the original archive are still there with no modifications.

I take no responsibility for any results caused by the direct or indirect use of this program. This software is provided "AS IS" and there is no warranty of any kind, so that you use this software at your own risk.

What is it?

1.3 whatisit

DefIconsCompanion is a program that will enable you to extend the DefIcons to bring up a popup menu with options when a file without an icon has been double clicked.

Features:

- Can start Shell programs and set the stack size
- Can start Workbench programs if you have OS3.5 or later
- The font type and size for the popup menu can be selected via tooltypes

System requirements

1.4 systemrequirements

To run DefIconsCompanion you need AmigaOS 2.0 or later. To start workbench programs you need OS3.5 or you can use WBLoad (check Aminet or magazine CDs).

It seems that DefIcons for OS2.0-3.1 tries to start the tool as a CLI-program which makes it kind of useless. To really see the power of this program you will need OS3.5 or later.

Installation

1.5 installation

Install the program by copying it (and its icon) where it can be found by the default path. I recommend 'SYS:System'. Edit its tooltypes if you wish

to alter the font used by the popup menu.

You may also want to copy the DefComp.cd somewhere on your harddrive in case you wish to translate the program to a language other than english.

How to use it

1.6 howtouseit

The idea behind DefIconsCompanion is that you create default icons (or use the predefined ones), change the default tools to 'SYS:System/DefComp' (it is important that you enter the full path here if DefComp should be able to read the FONT tooltype), insert a tooltype in every icon that tells DefIconsCompanion the type of the file. The tooltype is 'TYPE'. When you double click on a file that has no icon, DefComp will be started and the type will be recognized. Now DefIconsCompanion will look in 'S:DefProgs' for entries under that type. If there is just one entry, that file will be started. If there are many entries, a popup menu will let the user select which program should be started.

Here is an example of the 'S:DefProgs' file:

```
----- E x a m p l e -----
TYPE=8SVX
"Play" "Play16 %q%f%q"
TYPE=AMIGAGUIDE
"Show" WB "Multiview"
-----
```

The arguments for the TYPE row is "TYPE/A/K,FORCEMENU/S". The TYPE argument tells what filetype the next row(s) is associated with. If the TYPE matches the TYPE tooltype in a deficon (in ENVARC:sys/def_XXX.info) then the command below the TYPE row will be started when that icon is double clicked. If the FORCEMENU argument is given then a popup menu will show the programs associated with the type even if it is only one.

Both CLI commands and workbench programs can be started. The arguments for the command row is "TEXT/A,PROGRAM/A,STACKSIZE/K/N,WB/S,QUIET/S".

TEXT is the text that will be displayed in the popup menu. PROGRAM is the path and filename of the program that should be started. For CLI programs there are a couple of special character combinations that can be useful:

```
%f - The filename of the double clicked file.
%e - The filename without the extension. Useful when you want to convert
    files between formats.
%d - The path to the double clicked file.
%q - Quote character. Use this before and after the filename to allow
    spaces in the filename.
\ - inserts a return. This makes it possible to run several commands after
    each other.
```

STACKSIZE can be used to set the stack size for CLI commands and QUIET is used to force DefComp to not output anything - even if a command fails.

If the WB switch is used then stacksize will be ignored and PROGRAM will be started as a workbench program instead with the double clicked file as argument.

Here is an extensive example of a GifConverter.

```
----- E x a m p l e -----
TYPE=IFF
"Convert to GIF" "C:GifConvert %q%f%q %q%e.gif%q\C:Beep"
"Show" WB "Multiview"
-----
```

Double clicking an IFF file with the name "Pic.iff" will bring up a popup menu with two choices, to convert the picture to the GIF format or show it. If convert is selected, then the GifConverter will convert "Pic.iff" to "Pic.gif" and run the Beep command after that.

If you forget or ignore to set the TYPE tooltype in the deficons, then the program associated with the TYPE=UNKNOWN will be started.

New in DefComp 1.1 is that you can have default actions for all (or some) file types. If you enter TYPE=DEFAULT in S:DefProgs, the following commands will be displayed for all types until the next TYPE=DEFAULT.

```
----- E x a m p l e -----
TYPE=DEFAULT
"Delete" "Delete %q%f%q"
TYPE=8SVX
"Play" "Play16 %q%f%q"
TYPE=AMIGAGUIDE
"Show" WB "Multiview"
-----
```

Here, both sound files and amiga guides will have the delete action.

There are example S:DefProgs files for OS3.0 and OS3.5 in this distribution. Those show the possibilities with default actions. The OS3.5 version uses the Workbench ARexx port and this makes the window redraw after rename and delete actions (this is "impossible" in OS3.1 and lower).

The following tooltypes are valid for the DefIcon program:

FONTNAME - Changes the default font used in the popup menu. Defaults to Helvetica.font.

FONTSIZE/S - Changes the default font size used in the popup menu. Defaults to 15.

History

1.7 history

v1.1 (10.3.2001)

NOTED: The FONT tootype only works if the full path to DefComp is written in the icon.

FIXED: DefComp changed the system font to whatever was configured. Thanks to 'The Theorist' for the bug report.

FIXED: The path wasn't correctly handling trailing slashes.

ADDED: Support for default actions has been added. Thanks to Sinan Gürkan for the idea.

ADDED: A new argument to the command specification has been added. You can now use QUIET if you don't want the command to output anything. Before this, it was impossible to stop DefComp from reporting command errors.

ADDED: Turkish catalog written by Sinan Gürkan.

v1.0 (5.11.2000)

Initial release

Bugs

1.8 bugs

None known currently.

Author

1.9 author

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Bug reports can be sent to the same address.
