MacFind Manual v2.1 by Paul Bowlay (cat@aic.net.au)

COLLABORATORS

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Chapter 1

MacFind Manual v2.1 by Paul Bowlay (cat@aic.net.a

1.1   Contents

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                      ***  M A C F I N D  ***
                             v2.1

                      INSTRUCTION MANUAL
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       II.   Disclaimer        Don't go suing me now!
      III.   FreeWare/Legal    Don't go changing nothing!
       IV.   Requirements      What your Amiga needs.
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      VII.   Searching Names   Explanation of the options.
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       IX.   Searching Dates   Explanation of the options.
        X.   Searching Notes   Explanation of the options.
       XI.   Making Aliases    How to use them correctly.

      XII.   The Author        Who I am and how to contact me.

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1.2   The Author

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>>> THE AUTHOR

The author of this document and the programs is Paul Bowlay.  You can only
contact me via E-Mail, so those of you without E-Mail access will have to
rely on a friend or a public-access Internet terminal (eg: try your local
library) to contact me.

E-Mail address: cat@aic.net.au
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You may also want to visit my Web Site, where you can always download the
latest versions of my software.

URL location: http://www.aic.net.au/~cat/

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1.3   Disclaimer

>>> DISCLAIMER

The program provided in this archive, MacFind, does not come with any
warranty of any kind! It seems to be bug-free and shouldn't cause data
loss or damage to any Amiga system.

However, the author would like to protect himself (just a precaution) and
therefore makes this statement:

"By using MacFind, the user agrees to take no legal actions against the
author, both now and in the future, in the event that data loss or damage
is suffered as a direct/indirect result of using said program."

You don't have to agree with the above statement, but once you start it,
then your agreement is confirmed! :)

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1.4   ShareWare/Legal

>>> SHAREWARE / LEGAL

MacFind is FreeWare, meaning that you can distribute it anywhere that you
wish, as long as you don't change it! In addition, no commercial (ie: any
profit-making venture) distribution is permitted, except on Aminet CD's.

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1.5   Introduction

>>> INTRODUCTION

MacFind is a program for searching your hard drive (or CD-ROMs) for files.
Surely you must have had times when you wondered exactly where a certain
file is? Well, wonder no more! :)

Okay, there are literally dozens of file-finding programs out there on
Aminet, so why should you use MacFind instead of those? Well, hopefully
because it's the most user-friendly. I've had a play with most of those
other programs and they all do one thing: suck. :) How I wished that a
program would search for files in the classic way that the Macintosh does!

There's an old saying: If you want something done, do it yourself. So I
did, and MacFind was born.

It lets you search for files with the brilliant user-friendliness that Mac
users have enjoyed for soooooo long. Basically, you tell MacFind in plain
English what the file is, and where to start looking, and then you sit back
and relax while it hunts it down like a dog.

Other reasons to use MacFind instead of something else? Take your pick:

 · Doesn't use MUI!
 · Doesn't use the CLI (this is user-friendly, remember?)
 · Doesn't need other external libraries (eg: BGUI.library)
 · Allows search data to be entered in plain English
 · Optionally creates a text file of all search matches
 · It's totally FREE and no payment is required!

Weigh up those benefits with other search engines, and I'm sure you'll
agree that they pale in comparison. Enjoy! :)

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1.6 Requirements

>>> REQUIREMENTS

MacFind requires the following items to run:

 · Any Amiga running Workbench 2.04 or higher
 · ReqTools.library (click here for more info)

No further requirements for MacFind are necessary.

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1.7 Compatibility

>>> COMPATIBILITY

Firstly, I'll assume you've read the requirements section...? Good!

Okay, MacFind has only been tested on one Amiga, since that's all the
the author has access to. It has the following configuration:

 · Amiga 1200, Workbench 3.1, AGA Chipset, 68020, 2 MB Chip, 4 MB Fast.

Thus, the author can absolutely, positively, guarantee without question
that MacFind will run on such a system. :)

Anyway, if the program crashes on your system, try the following:

· Ensure ReqTools.library is installed on your original Workbench disk.
· Boot from your original Workbench disk.
· Run the offending program.

The program should now run without hassle. It does on the author's Amiga,
when he performs the same three steps as above. If you still encounter
problems, then I'm afraid it's not due to the program, but definitely due
to something else you have installed which is clashing with it.

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1.8 ReqTools.library

>>> WHAT THE HECK IS "REQTOOLS.LIBRARY" ?

ReqTools.library is what you might consider a "system enhancer" for your
Amiga. Basically, it's a file that many programs use that enable them to
provide "requesters" of all shapes and sizes. In fact, it's so popular
that you might already have it installed in your system!

If you run MacFind and get an error message saying that ReqTools.library
is not installed, then unfortunately you don't have it yet. You'll have to
download it from Aminet: its name is ReqToolsUsr.lha and it's found in the
util/libs directory. Install it as soon as possible, because a great deal
of Amiga software makes use of it these days.

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1.9 Basic Usage

>>> BASIC USAGE OF MAC FIND

Double-click the MacFind icon and a small window will open on the centre of
the screen. It resembles (partially) the Mac's Find window, except that
it's a bit more sophisticated. If you read the window like a book, you'll
notice in the top-half that it says:

Using <drive> as the path, find files whose <name> <includes> <match>.

You can't get more plain English than that! :) The words in brackets are
are what you can change to streamline your search. This is how:

<drive>
 This is the drive you want to search. Just click the disk-gadget to the
 right of the word Using and you'll be presented with a requester asking
 you to specify a drive and/or directory. Alternatively, you can directly
 enter the device/path by clicking in the text box next to it.

<name>
 This is a cycle-gadget that lets you search for files by name, size, date,
 or note (also known as comment).

```
<includes>
 This is a powerful cycle-gadget that lets you really get your hands dirty
 with your search!  :)  It cycles between these search types: Includes,
 Excludes, Starts With, Ends With, Is < Than, Is > Than, Is, Is Not.

<match>
 This is where you specify exactly what you want to find.
```

In the bottom-half of the window are 4 tick gadgets. These are your search
preference gadgets and can aid to your searches dramatically. Here is an
explanation of what each does:

```
Create A List Of Matches
 If ticked, a text file will be created in RAM: called "MacFind.txt" that
 is a list of all matches found.  You can copy this list to somewhere
 permanent on your hard drive if desired, for later perusal.

View All Matches Found
 If ticked, a full-screen window will open when the search begins, and all
 matches found will be listed in it.  This prevents the hassle of referring
 to the above-mentioned RAM: listing if that bothers you, especially if you
 know that only a small range of files (say 10-20) will be matched.  The
 window, unfortunately, can't be scrolled backwards, as this would increase
 memory usage due to the need for a buffer, as well as the fact that you
 can already choose to save a list in RAM: if that need arises.

Don't Stop At Each Match
 If ticked, MacFind won't bother you with a "Match Found!" requester each
 time a match occurs.  However, this prevents the making of aliases...

Obey Case Sensitivity
 If ticked, a match will only be generated if the file's name or note is
 exactly the same case as the search data.
```

Basically, all you do to perform a search is specify the type of search
(name, size, date, note), followed by the path, and lastly the data to be
found. If you alter the path or data, a new search will begin immediately,
saving you the hassle of clicking the Scan! gadget. If you alter the
type or method of search, you will have to click Scan! to initiate it.

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1.10   Searching Names Or Notes

```
>>> SEARCHING NAMES OR NOTES
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The explanations that follow assume that you have set the path to be
searched and have selected one of the following eight search methods.
These methods will now be explained.

```
Includes
 Any file name/note that contains the match data is found.

Excludes
 Any file name/note that doesn't contain the match data is found.
```

Starts With
 Any file name/note that starts with the match data is found.

Ends With
 Any file name/note that ends with the match data is found.

Is < Than
 Any file name/note whose first letter is lower than the first letter of
 the match data is found. This allows alphabetical searches. Be aware
 that such searches are affected by case sensitivity.

Is > Than
 Any file name/note whose first letter is higher than the first letter of
 the match data is found. This allows alphabetical searches. Be aware
 that such searches are affected by case sensitivity.

Is
 Any file name/note that is exactly the same as the match data is found.

Is Not
 Any file name/note that is not exactly the same as the match data is
 found.

==

1.11   Searching Sizes

>>> SEARCHING SIZES

The explanations that follow assume that you have set the path to be
searched and have selected one of the following eight search methods.
These methods will now be explained.

Includes
 Any file size that contains the match size is found. For example, if you
 searched for 136, then a file size of 9745136 would be found, but 9745
 would not.

Excludes
 Any file size that doesn't contain the match data is found. For example,
 if you searched for 136, then a file size of 9745 would be found, but
 9745136 would not.

Starts With
 Any file size that starts with the match data is found. For example, if
 you searched for 136, then a file size of 1369745 would be found, but
 9745136 would not.

Ends With
 Any file size that ends with the match data is found. For example, if you
 searched for 136, then a file size of 9745136 would be found, but 1369745
 would not.

Is < Than

```
 Any file size that is lower than the match data value is found.

 Is > Than
  Any file size that is higher than the match data value is found.

 Is
  Any file size that is exactly the same as the match data value is found.

 Is Not
  Any file size that is not exactly the same as the match data value is
  found.


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1.12   Searching Dates

```
>>> SEARCHING DATES

The explanations that follow assume that you have set the path to be
searched and have selected one of the following eight search methods.
These methods will now be explained.

 Includes
  Any file date that contains the match data is found.  For example, if you
  searched for 1997, then any file created in 1997 would be found.

 Excludes
  Any file date that doesn't contain the match data is found.  For example,
  if you searched for 1997, then any file not created in 1997 would be
  found.

 Starts With
  NOTE: This option only checks for day matches, and not months or years.
  Any file date that starts with the match data is found.  For example, if
  you searched for 20, then any file created on the 20th of any month would
  be found.

 Ends With
  NOTE: This option only checks for year matches, and not days or months.
  Any file date that ends with the match data is found.  For example, if you
  searched for 1997, then any file created in 1997 would be found.

 Is < Than
  NOTE: A match format of dd/mm/yyyy must be used for this option.
  Any file date that is lower than the match data is found.  For example, if
  you searched for 20/05/1997, then any file created before that date will
  be found.

 Is > Than
  NOTE: A match format of dd/mm/yyyy must be used for this option.
  Any file date that is higher than the match data is found.  For example,
  if you searched for 20/05/1997, then any file created after that date
  will be found.

 Is
```

```
  NOTE: A match format of dd/mm/yyyy must be used for this option.
  Any file date that is exactly the same as the match data is found.

 Is Not
  NOTE: A match format of dd/mm/yyyy must be used for this option.
  Any file date that is not exactly the same as the match data is found.


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1.13 Making Aliases

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 >>> MAKING ALIASES


 When a match is found, you may notice an option to make an alias for it.
 This option is only presented when the match is an executable file, that
 is, a file that can be run from Workbench or the CLI.

 If you elect to make an alias for it, an icon will be created in the Ram
 Disk with the name of the file.  This icon is the alias, and it works in
 the same way as the Macintosh's aliases.  If you open the Ram Disk and
 double-click the alias icon, the found file will be run as if you opened
 all the drawers to it and double-clicked it from there.  This saves a lot
 of time in running something that is hidden deep down in your hard drive.
 Even the ToolTypes of the original icon are supported; but... if the file
 requires CLI options then these unfortunately won't be emulated.

 Aliases in the Ram Disk are obviously lost when you reboot or turn off your
 Amiga, so drag them to a convenient place on your hard drive if you wish to
 keep them for future use.  :)

 For an alias to work correctly, you need to have a program called WBRun
 installed on your Amiga.  This consists of two files called WBRun and
 param.library which must be in SYS:C and SYS:Libs respectively.  If you
 don't already have these installed, you can double-click the Install WBRun
 icon and they will be installed immediately for you.  In addition, you'll
 need to have a file called IconX in your SYS:C directory, but that should
 already be there because it's a part of Workbench.

 Anyway, once they're installed, you will be able to use aliases to your
 heart's content!  :)  One last note: If you ever want to know where the
 original file exists on your hard drive (that the alias represents), just
 click once on the alias and select Information from the Icon menu.  You'll
 see the original path and file name are stored in the Comment box for your
 referral.


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