Cookies

COLLABORATORS			
	TITLE : Cookies		
ACTION	*NAME*	*DATE*	*SIGNATURE*
WRITTEN BY		October 9, 2022	

REVISION HISTORY			
NUMBER	DATE	DESCRIPTION	NAME

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Cookies

1.1 Cookies 4.5

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                                          Cookies 4.5
                        by
              Stephen Williams
                                     Release date: October 28, 1997


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```

1.2 Cookies 4.5 Introduction

```
              What is Cookies?

Cookies is a fortune cookie engine, which can be run from Shell
(and behave a bit like the Unix "fortune" command) or from the
Workbench (and produce output in ReqTools requesters).
```

How to install Cookies

Just drag the Cookies and Cookies.dat icons to where-ever you want to
put the program. Both files should be placed in the same directory.
Cookies works fine off either floppy or hard disk.

In addition, if you want to use the program from Workbench, the
reqtools.library must be installed in LIBS: Cookies needs version 38
or above of reqtools.library. This version has been included in the
archive. If you already have reqtools.library v38 or above installed,
do *not* reinstall from this version; the supplied version is quite
old, and is AmigaOS 1.3 compatible.

Cookies.dat (the file containing the fortunes themselves) is easily
customizable. It can be compressed using XPK or PowerPacker, provided
the appropriate decompression libraries are installed. powerpacker.library
is included in this distribution. See the
                section on Cookies.dat
                 for
details.

Next section:
                Shell Usage

1.3 Cookies 4.5 Usage from Shell

                Previous section:
                Introduction
                How to use Cookies from Shell

Format for AmigaOS 1.3:   Cookies [WINDOW]
Template for AmigaOS 1.3: Cookies WINDOW/S

Format for AmigaOS 2.00+:   Cookies [<File>] [WINDOW] [SPECIFIC <nn>]
Template for AmigaOS 2.00+: Cookies COOKIEFILE,WINDOW/S,SP=SPECIFIC/N/K

The simplest usage is to just type "cookies" at the Shell prompt.
Cookies will pick a fortune, display it in the Shell window, and exit.
This behaviour is good for putting in your s:Shell-Startup, or
whatever config file your Shell uses.

Cookies looks for Cookies.dat in different places, depending on which
version of AmigaOS you are using. Under AmigaOS 2.00 or above,
Cookies expects Cookies.dat to be in the same directory as itself; eg
if you installed Cookies into sys:Utilities/ then Cookies.dat must
also be placed in this directory. NB: this is different behaviour
to previous versions of Cookies.

Under AmigaOS 1.x, Cookies expects Cookies.dat to be in whichever
directory was the Shell's current directory when Cookies was run. So
if you'd installed Cookies and Cookies.dat in SYS:Utilities/ then
you'd have to CD to sys:Utilities/ before running Cookies. It is

possible to place Cookies and Cookies.dat in different directories if
you really want; just CD to the directory in which Cookies.dat is
placed before running. This behaviour is the same as previous
versions of Cookies.

Cookies can take one switch from the Shell: WINDOW. It instructs the
program to act as if it has been run from
                Workbench
                . So you could do
something like
  run <NIL: >NIL: cookies window
in your Startup-Sequence and have it run every time you boot up.

If you run Cookies from the Shell without WINDOW mode on, it won't
attempt to open reqtools.library, as the requester functions are not
needed just for writing to the Shell. So if you can't/don't/won't
install reqtools.library, you can still use Cookies.

As illustrated in the templates above, users of AmigaOS release 2.00 or
greater get two extra command line options. Users of AmigaOS 1.x may
want to
                skip this part
                .

The SPECIFIC option may be used to pick a specific cookie. For example
  cookies specific 255
or
  cookies specific=255
will display cookie number 255.
SPECIFIC may be abbreviated to SP.

The COOKIEFILE argument may be used to specify a cookie file to use
other than 'Cookies.dat'. Eg
  cookies hd1:Jokes/Funnies.dat
will pick a cookie from 'Funnies.dat', in the directory hd1:Jokes/.
If no path is given, the file is assumed to be in the current
directory.

Next section:
                Workbench Usage

1.4 Cookies 4.5 Usage from Workbench

                Previous section:
                Shell Usage
                How to use Cookies from Workbench

Just double click on the icon. The program will check that
Cookies.dat is in the same directory, and will refuse to run if it
isn't. Assuming reqtools.library can be accessed, Cookies will
display a random message from the text file in a requester.

The Cookies requester has four buttons along the bottom; these are:

```
ANOTHER   SPECIFIC   ABOUT   QUIT
```

Clicking ANOTHER will pick another cookie at random and display it.

By clicking SPECIFIC, you can pick a cookie from the file to display.
It will open a window with a prompt in; you then enter the cookie
number that you want. For example, if Cookies.dat contains 100
cookies, you can enter a number from 1 to 100. So, if you have a
lucky number, you can see which cookie it corresponds to!

Clicking ABOUT opens the obligatory information requester.

Clicking QUIT err... quits.

You can run Cookies from your WBStartup drawer. Just drag its icon
into the drawer, along with Cookies.dat. WARNING: if you do this, you
must delete Cookies.dat's icon using the Shell. To recap: to run the
program from WBStartup, the following three files have to go in the
drawer:
  Cookies
  Cookies.info
  Cookies.dat
NOT Cookies.dat.info. This will cause problems! Also, make sure
that Cookies.info has the DONOTWAIT tooltype set.

AmigaOS 2.00+ users get to use multiple cookie files. If you shift-
click a cookie file when loading Cookies, it will use this file
instead of Cookies.dat. You can set the default tool of a cookie file
to Cookies if you want. So you could have two cookie files, eg
Proverbs.dat and Jokes.dat, each with a project icon, and set the
default tool of both of them to Cookies.

Next section:
               Tooltypes

1.5   Cookies 4.5 Tooltypes

               Previous section:
               Workbench Usage
               Tooltypes

Cookies only reads the Tooltypes array under AmigaOS 2.00 or above, so
1.x users may as well
               skip this part
                 .

Cookies responds to three tooltypes:

COOKIEFILE

If you want to use a cookie file other than 'Cookies.dat' by default,
you do so using this tooltype. For example, if your cookie file is
called 'Jokes.dat', you can tell Cookies to use this by setting

```
  COOKIEFILE=Jokes.dat
```
If no path is given, Cookies assumes that the file is in the same
directory as Cookies.
If you compress your Cookies.dat, and want to call it Cookies.dat.pp
or something, you must set
```
  COOKIEFILE=Cookies.dat.pp
```
though this seems a bit pointless to me; just call it Cookies.dat and
remember that you compressed it :-)
This tooltype is always read, whether Cookies is started from Shell or
Workbench.

NOCENTRE

If this tooltype is set, Cookies will not centre cookies in its
requesters. Note to Americans: I'm from the UK, hence the spelling of
NOCENTRE. NOCENTER won't work :-)

TOPAZ

If this tooltype is set, Cookies will use the Topaz-8 font in its
requesters instead of the screen font. This is so that people with a
wide screen font don't have to put up with long cookies running off
the right hand side of the requesters.
Under AmigaOS 1.x, the 8-point system font is always used.

Next section:
                Customization

1.6   Customizing Cookies 4.5

                Previous section:
                Tooltypes
                Adding to Cookies.dat

You put the messages one by one in the file, with a blank line between
each one, and the cursor stopping on a blank line at the end of the
file. For example, a legal (but short) Cookies.dat would be:

No matter where you go, there you are.

"Doctor, Doctor, I've broken my arm in three places."
"Then you shouldn't go to those places"

Life, don't talk to me about life...
#

(The hash symbol represents where the cursor finishes up in the
editor. There are no lines after this). The above file contains
three cookies; the first and third have one line each; the second has
two lines. Examine the included Cookies.dat to get to know the file
format; it really is easy. Once you've got to grips with it (which
should take all of two seconds), you can add more cookies to it. I
keep mine in alphabetical order; this is not compulsory.

Because a blank line is used to separate cookies within the file, if
you want a blank line in the middle of a cookie then you must use a
blank line with a single space on it. It'll look blank to the user,
but will not be treated as blank by Cookies.

NOTE to users of Cookies 0.42 or earlier: you can simply rename your
existing Cookies.txt file as Cookies.dat. The formats are the same.

You may have some cookie files from other programs in which cookies
are separated by '%%' on a single line. This format is very common,
and I decided that it was time that Cookies should be able to make use
of these files. I have written a little utility called
                CookieConvert
                ,
which converts '%%' format files into Cookies format. CookieConvert
is for Shell only, and runs under any AmigaOS. It's included in this
archive.

Cookies.dat.deutsch

A Cookies.dat containing cookies in German has been supplied to me by

                Gernod Schomberg
                , and is included in this package as
Cookies.dat.deutsch. If you wish to use this, then remove the English
Cookies.dat and rename Cookies.dat.deutsch as Cookies.dat.

If anyone else has any Cookies.dat files in other languages, please
send them to
                me
                , so I can distribute them with the next release of
Cookies.

Compressing Cookies.dat

Cookies will open and use xpkmaster.library and/or powerpacker.library
if they are available. Thus you can compress your cookies with
PowerPacker or any XPK sub-library you have installed. Cookies will
not complain if it doesn't find xpkmaster.library or powerpacker.library,
but of course it won't handle compressed Cookies.dat's properly if you
don't install them. The supplied Cookies.dat is not compressed.

If you decided to compress your Cookies.dat, please do not append a
.pp or .xpk suffix to the file. Cookies expects its standard data
file to be called Cookies.dat, and nothing else. If you really object
to this, you can change it with a
                tooltype
                 (AmigaOS 2.00+ only).

powerpacker.library is included in the Cookies distribution. XPK is
available from Aminet (have a look in util/pack or util/libs, it's
there somewhere). If you want to compress your Cookies.dat but do not
have a compressor, why not download my UnSquish package from Aminet
(under util/pack). Although UnSquish is a decompressor, a

PowerPacker-compatible compressor is included as part of the package.
You'll need AmigaOS release 2.00 or greater to make use of this software.

Next section:
            Limitations

1.7 Cookies 4.5 Bugs and Limitations

            Previous section:
            Customization
            Bugs and Limitations

Cookies.dat is limited to 65,535 cookies. This should not be a problem
for most people :-)

Unlike versions 4.3 and earlier, Cookies 4.5 cannot stream Cookies.dat
from disk. It has to be loaded completely into memory. This is to make
my life easier, and to make the operation of Cookies faster. Also, I
consider it unlikely that anyone will have so large a cookie file and so
little memory to make this a problem.

Attempting to load a compressed Cookies.dat if the decompression
software is not installed will result in a lot of garbage being echoed
to your Shell or appearing in your requester. Solution: don't
compress your Cookies.dat if you don't have the relevant decompression
libraries installed ;-)

Under AmigaOS 1.x, Cookies is missing quite a few features:
· Tooltypes array not read;
· Shift-clicked cookies files not supported;
· Cookies cannot be the default tool of a cookie file with a project icon;
· Fewer Shell options.
I'm sorry about this. All these features are much easier to implement
under AmigaOS 2.00+. But with so little 1.x-friendly software being
written nowadays, you've really got no right to complain to me :-)
I'm putting in more effort than most people just to make Cookies
usable at all under 1.x.

Cookies has been tested under AmigaOS 1.3, 2.04, 3.0 and 3.1. It
performed admirably.

Next section:
            CookieConvert

1.8 Using '%%' cookie files with Cookies 4.5

            Previous section:
            Limitations

```
                    CookieConvert
```

Format: CookieConvert <infile> <outfile>

CookieConvert converts '%%' cookie files into Cookies format. Eg
  cookieconvert funnies.fortunes funnies.dat
will convert the '%%' format file "funnies.fortunes" into a Cookies
format file "funnies.dat". The output file will be totally
overwritten by CookieConvert; if you want to append to an existing
cookie file, you'll have to do that by hand.

CookieConvert is rather inelegant, but does the job nicely.

Next section:
                    Acknowledgements

1.9   Cookies 4.5 Acknowledgements

```
                    Previous section:
                    CookieConvert
                    Acknowledgements
```

Many of the cookies in the supplied Cookies.dat are taken from the
file "fortune.txt", from the example fortune cookie source from the
NorthC distribution by Steve Hawtin. I removed the rude ones and
added some more. I also changed the file format to make it easier (I
think :-) to process. My program code is not based in any way on
Steve's; it is my own work.

The rest of the cookies are taken from various sources, including the
Unix "fortune" database installed on the University of Warwick's Unix
network.

I'd like to thank my band of beta-testers:
  Dave Hardenbrook
  Indy2 on #amiga (sorry, I don't know your real name :^)
  Dave Manley (DaveM on ANet #amiga)
  Gernod Schomberg
  Ash Thomas (Dr_Ash on ANet #amiga)
  Chris Underwood
  Glen Watts (Flabio on ANet #amiga)

Without their help, Cookies would contain more bugs than James Bond's
hotel room.

Gernod gets an extra thankyou for supplying the German
                    Cookies.dat
                      ,
and the German version of this guide. Dankeschön, Gernod :-)

I'd like to say a quick hello to Stéphane Payet, who liked Cookies
4.3, and sent me a postcard saying so. Hi Stéphane :-) I hope you
like this version even more :-)

Next section:
                    Program History

1.10 Cookies 4.5 Program History

                    Previous section:
                    Acknowledgements
                    Program History

- Cookies 0.1 -> 0.32c
· Ancient, unrecognizable versions.

- Cookies 0.4 (26.4.96, beta release)
· First Reqtools version. Now opens a nice window with buttons and stuff.
· 'About' feature added.

- Cookies 0.41 (3.5.96, public release)
· 'Specific' feature added.
· Now can print a cookie straight to Shell window, doesn't need reqtools
  for this.

- Cookies 0.42 (12.6.96, beta release)
· Now buffers the entire Cookies.txt file into RAM if sufficient mem is
  available. This speeds up searching incredibly.

- Cookies 0.43 (19.9.96, beta release)
· Powerpacker support added.
· Cookies.txt renamed Cookies.dat, in recognition that it might be a
  Powerpacker data file, not a text file, and so .txt might be a
  misleading identifier, or something.

- Cookies 4.3 (<date not recorded>, public release)
· Functionally identical to v0.43, but renumbered in keeping with
  standard Amiga software numbering schemes.

- Cookies 4.4ß1 (27.3.97, beta release)
· XPK support added.
· Search algorithm greatly optimized.
· TOPAZ tooltype added.
· Streaming from disk removed.
· All restrictions on cookie length removed.

- Cookies 4.4 (3.7.97, public release)
· Public release of 4.4ß1.
· Hailing text changed from "Thought for the day (number n)" to
  "Cookie number n"; seems more appropriate.
· Some small optimizations made.

- Cookies 4.5ß1 (19.8.97, beta release)
· Cookies 0.4 up to 4.4 had a big problem with ReqTools crashing under
  certain (extreme) circumstances. I stumbled across the problem by
  accident; turns out it wasn't my fault, the ReqTools header I've been

using all this time was broken. I fixed the header and the problem
went away. Sheesh. That'll teach me to use includes without checking
them first :^)
· Big optimizations made to preprocessing/search routines.
  Preprocessor rewritten entirely in assembler; search code optimized
  with assembler. Both routines now much faster (seemingly instantaneous
  on my 030/50 with 696 cookies).
· NOCENTRE and COOKIEFILE tooltypes added.
· Support for multiple cookie files added.
· SPECIFIC Shell option added.
· CookieConvert utility written.

– Cookies 4.5 (28.10.97, public release)
· Public release of 4.5ß1
· Note for techies (everyone else can ignore this one):
    Cookies used to need intuition.library opening for one function call.
    Opening intuition.library just for one call seemed to be a waste of
    effort, so Cookies now uses ReqToolsBase–>IntuitionBase rather than
    opening the library itself. This seems to work fine. It's also
    documented as being okay in the ReqTools programmer documentation.
    However if I shouldn't be doing this, then tell me :–)
    This also highlighted another problem with the ReqTools headers I've
    been using. Someone had declared the first entry in ReqToolsBase
    as being a pointer to struct Library, when it should be the complete
    struct (not a pointer to one). Whoever translated the ReqTools
    interface into HS Pascal made a _real_ mess of it :–/ (I'm currently
    translating the NewIcons V4 interface into Pascal and Modula–2.
    Hopefully, I'll get it right :–)
· Some small cleanups made.

Next section:
                Legal Matters

1.11   Cookies 4.5 Legal Matters

                Previous section:
                Program History
                Legal Matters

powerpacker.library is © of Nico Francois.
reqtools.library is © of Nico François and Magnus Holmgren.
xpkmaster.library is © of Urban Müller and Bryan Ford.

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This version of Cookies is a freeware public release. The author is

satisfied that it is reasonably bug-free and stable. It may be
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magazine cover (disks|CDs). If you distribute Cookies, please be sure
to include the whole distribution, including both English and German
guides and data files.

Cookies.dat may be altered/added to freely, and altered versions may
be distributed. No profit may be made from altered versions of
Cookies.dat.

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1.12   Cookies 4.5's Author

How to contact the author

Send snail-mail to:

  Stephen Williams,
  9, Helmsley Way,
  Spalding,
  Lincolnshire,
  PE12 6BG,
  England.

During University term time, contact me by:

  email: S.Williams@warwick.ac.uk
  IRC: Steffan on ANet #amiga
  (This account expires in June 1998)

Other software by Stephen Williams

UnSquish 2.0 (Aminet util/pack/UnSquish.lha)

  A universal decruncher. It uses xfdmaster.library, and so supports
  most common (and not so common) compressors. It has both Shell
  and Workbench interfaces; the Workbench functionality includes
  drag-and-drop for superb ease of use. A PowerPacker-compatible
  data cruncher is also included.

Condition: Green! (Aminet mods/med/condgreen.lha)

  A happy little 4-channel MED module.

Switch 1.1 (Aminet util/misc/Switch.lha)

  An Intuition based metric conversion utility, which can be used
  to convert between most common metric and British measures.

Zeller 1.0 (Aminet util/time/Zeller.lha)

A perpetual calendar, capable of displaying and printing the calendar
for any month between January AD1700 and December AD2100.

File 1.0 (Aminet util/misc/File.lha)

An Amiga version of the Unix "file" command, which uses FileID.library
to identify most file types. It also offers a drag and drop interface
when started from Workbench.