

MainPrefs

COLLABORATORS

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

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Chapter 1

MainPrefs

1.1 MainPrefs Online-Manual

----- MainPrefs V1.0 -----

Introduction

Requirements

Installation and deinstallation

Usage

Problems

What is missing

Contact

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1.2 Introduction

Introduction

MainPrefs is a program to configure your system under OS3.5; it concerns preference programs (for example `sys:prefs/Palette`), environment variables (for example `env:Language`) and important config files (for example `s:User-Startup`), offering a fast and easy to use platform that ist not included in OS3.5.

Changing important environment variables may lead to unpredictable problems. You should also be cautious when editing the file `"s:startup-sequence"`. Change only the preferences you really know!

Another aim of programming MainPrefs was to test the Reaction GUI. There is

no source code in this archive, but if you contact me, I can send you the file (don't await many commentaries!).

1.3 Requirements

Requirements

You only need Amiga OS 3.5.

Older versions are not supported, as the implementation is based on Reaction.

I could not test if MainPrefs runs under ClassAct.

1.4 Installation

Installation and deinstallation

The install script MainPrefs.install installs all the required files.

As alternative, you can copy the MainPrefs directory to some place on your harddisk; then replace the file MainPrefs.guide by the English documentation docs/MainPrefsE.guide.

To deinstall the program just delete the program directory.

1.5 Usage

Usage

Workbench start:

To start the program double-click on the icon "MainPrefs".
Tooltypes are not yet supported.

Shell start:

```
mainprefs  
or  
run <>NIL: mainprefs
```

Arguments are not yet supported.

The appearing window offers three possibilities:

Run programs

Change variables

Edit files
The menu consists of

Help

Change Editor

Save Preferences

About

Quit

1.6 Programs

Programs

You can add standard system preference programs or little tools like Intellifont in this List.

Start a program by a double-click on its name.

Add another program by clicking on

Add

remove the highlighted program by clicking

Remove

(of course it is not deleted from harddisk!).

further info

Save preferences

1.7 Variables

Variables

The ENV directory contains all global environment variables. Some preferences are only changeable by changing these variables.

Clicking on directories (which have the value <DIR>), including the parent directory "..", leads to all available variables and lets you change them.

Click on a variable. The variables value appears beneath the list and can be edited by keyboard. Press Return to end editing. Till now nothing has happened.

But if you press "Use", this value will be used till the next reboot. "Save" will make the value the standard for this variable that will be assigned to the variable after the boot procedure (the old value is

destroyed!).

"Preference" shows the standard value for this variable (the string saved in the directory ENVARC:), which can then be used changed or unchanged.

Caution:

Not all files in ENV: are editable environment variables. MainPrefs just drops all files longer than 256 bytes.

Changing important environment variables may lead to unpredictable problems.

1.8 Files

Files

Files like the known startup files "s:startup-sequenz" and "s:user-startup" can be inserted here to change them fast and easy.

But you can also add any textfile used to specify properties of a part of your system.

To edit a file just double-click on the related name.

Add a file by clicking on

Add

remove the currently highlighted file by clicking on

Remove

(of course it will not be deleted from your harddisk!).

The used editor can be chosen in the menu item

Editor

Of course you should be cautious when changing "s:startup-sequence".

Change only the preferences you really know!

further info

Save Preferences

1.9 Help

Help

This manual appears.

Should a question stay unanswered, contact myself.

further info

Support address

1.10 Editor

Change Editor

In the appearing file requester you can choose a text editor, used to edit the

Preference files

The standard editor is "c:ed".

The chosen editor will be invoked each time you click on a file, given the filename as argument.

1.11 Preferences

Save preferences

The actual programs and files and the chosen editor are saved in the file "MainPrefs.prefs" in the MainPrefs directory which can also be edited manually. The next you start the program these preferences are immediately available.

The environment variables are not saved.

You can delete the preferences simply by deleting the file "MainPrefs.prefs".

1.12 About

About

The number of the current version and the date of the last change will appear.

1.13 Quit

Quit

As alternative to clicking the windows close gadget this item allows leaving the program.

A requester beware you of too hasty actions.

1.14 Add

Add

When you click at this button a filerequester opens in which you can find and choose the file you want to add. A double-click or pressing "Add" will add the highlighted file.

Now a windows opens allowing to insert a title which will be shown in the list. Enter a string and press Return; the new entry will now be inserted.

To save changes to the list permanently, choose the menu item

Save preferences

.

further info

Remove

1.15 Remove

Remove

When a list entry has been chosen with the mouse, pressing "Remove" will remove this entry from the list (not deleting it from harddisk!).

To save changes to the list permanently, choose the menu item

Save preferences

.

further info

Add

1.16 Problems

Problems

- Starting prefs programs by Workbench (especially using tooltypes) is not yet possible. Therefore some prefs programs will not be started (for example TurboPrefs).

1.17 What is missing

What is missing:

- making assigns
-

- start by Workbench and use AREXX scripts
- possibly commodities

1.18 Contact

Contact

Martin R. Elsner
Müsener Str. 46
57223 Kreuztal

Email address: mainprefs@martin-elsner.de
Homepage: <http://www.martin-elsner.de/>
(here you find the actual version)