

Using an Iomega ZIP drive

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<i>ACTION</i>	<i>NAME</i>	<i>DATE</i>	<i>SIGNATURE</i>
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Chapter 1

Using an Iomega ZIP drive

1.1 Dummy Guide For The Iomega ZIP Drive

A Dummy Guide For The Iomega ZIP Drive
+
Macintosh/IBM formatted Iomega ZIP Mountlists
=====

V1.2

by
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[*]
Introduction

[*]
Connecting an IOMEGA ZIP drive

[*]
Installing the mountlists

[*]
Mounting a PC/Macintosh ZIP drive

[*]
Reading/Writing a PC/Macintosh formatted ZIP disk

[*]
Using a ZIP with a Squirrel SCSI card

[*]
Formatting your first Amiga ZIP disk

!!!! computer, so don't buy one !!!

Before turning on your computer, make sure to set correctly the ID number and the termination on the ZIP drive (if the ZIP is the only external SCSI unit that you have attached, turn `_ON_` the termination!).

When turning on the Amiga and the ZIP drive, it's possible that your Amiga will not boot and the SCSI led (the red one) of the ZIP drive is on: it means that you have 2 SCSI units that are using the same ID: simply turn of the computer and the ZIP and change the ZIP's SCSI ID. (you can set it to 5 or 6).

1.4 Using the mountlists

Using the mountlists:

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Simply copy the mountlists (including the icon file;-) to the `Devs/DOSDrivers` or the `Storage/DOSDrivers` directory of your boot disk. (if you don't like the MagicWB-like icons, simply change them;-)

If you are still using a 1.2 or 1.3 Workbench, you have to edit your `Devs/Mountlist` file and insert here the ZIP mountlists.

It's obvious that you have to have CrossDOS and/or CrossMAC installed to use these mountlists!

- CrossDOS is shipped with any new Amiga and with any Amiga equipped with the Workbench 2.1 or better.

If you like, you can buy a Professional version of CrossDos (CrossDos 6.0); with it it's more easy to set-up a PC ZIP disk and it's a lot faster too when reading/writing a disk.

- CrossMAC is a commercial product, you can buy it from any good Amiga shop!

1.5 Mounting a PC/Macintosh ZIP drive

Mounting a PC/Macintosh ZIP drive:

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You have 2 choices:

- * open a SHELL window and type:

Using Ami-FileSafe with a ZIP disk:

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If you have bought the Ami-FileSave filesystem, it's a good idea trying it with a ZIP disk.

After formatting an AFS ZIP disk, you will have 88MB of free storage (a normal FFS ZIP disk has 95MB free space).

Obviously, the speed of the AFS ZIP disk will depend from your SCSI controller, but the gain will be in the 200-500KB/S range.

If your SCSI controller support RDB that aren't in OFS or FFS format, you can boot directly from an AFS ZIP disk, otherwise you have to use a mountlist to mount the AFS formatted partition.

1.10 Strange problems?

Strange problems?

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Recently I've changed my old Amiga 2000 with a A3000 model and so my ZIP drive is now connected to a A2091 SCSI controller (before I had a SUPRA WordSync controller).

The first time I've used a ZIP disk with my new A3000, I noticed that reading/writing to it was a lot slower than with my old controller: I was reading/writing the ZIP disk with a 150/200KB transfer rate!!

After a lot of time and countless efforts, I finally found a solution:

when you format a new ZIP disk using HDToolBox (or an equivalent program), you can find a "Supports reselection" button in the "Change Drive Type" -> "Define New..." option, if you leave this option ON, then your ZIP disk will be very very slow when reading/writing; if you turn OFF this option you'll obtain a 800-900KB transfer rate!!

So, TURN OFF THE "Supports reselection" OPTION!!!!

I don't know if this problem is valid only for the A3000 SCSI controller, but if you have a ZIP drive that is very slow, then try this solution!

If you have a lot of read/write errors when using your ZIP drive, try changing the SCSI cable between the ZIP and the SCSI controller.

1.11 Other usefull (?) ZIP stuff

Other usefull (?) ZIP stuff/tips:

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- To speedup a bit your ZIP drive, you can add more buffers to it with the AddBuffers (directory C:) SHELL command. A good value is 150-200 buffers. If you use a mountlist to mount a ZIP disk, you can directly change there the buffers number.
- If you have problems formatting the Tools disk that came with your Zip drive, it's because it's password protected from writing/formatting. You can unlock it with the password:

```
APlaceForYourStuff
or
APlaceForMyStuff
```

- To mount/unmount a ZIP partition you can use the very usefull SCSIMounter utility: aminet/disk/misc/SCSIMounter203.lha
- You can find a lot of beautiful disk icons for the ZIP disks on Aminet: simply search the Aminet INDEX file with a "ZIP" keyword. (Exe: KipsZip.lha, MWBZipIcon.lha, ZIP-Icons.lha)
- There are at least 2 commercial packages for the Iomega ZIP drives, one from Hisoft and other from ??? (sorry, but I don't remember the other firm name;-). With these you can easily format, eject, lock, unlock, password protect a ZIP disk.
- If you don't want to pay for a commercial product, you can just download the ZipTool utility from Aminet, programmed by Oliver Hitz. With it you can lock, unlock, password protect and eject a ZIP disk.
- If you still have problems with a PC formatted ZIP disk, try the excellent utility MountDos100.lha, Aminet directory disk/misc.

1.12 Who wrote all this?

Who wrote all this?

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You can send all the money that you want, email messages, cakes, Amiga hardware, postcards, Amiga software, keyfiles, new or used cars, airplane tickets, winning lottery tickets, Playboy subscriptions, ZIP disks, AMINET CDs, SIMM modules:

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1.13 HISTORY

History:

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1.0 First release. (Mountlists only)

1.1 Added a more usefull README file.

1.2 Now this manual is in AmigaGuide format.
More misc ZIP stuff.
Added a few Squirrel tips.
Solution added for a specific A3000 problem.
I've changed my email address.