AHelp

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AHelp ii

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AHelp

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Chapter 1

AHelp

1.1 AHelp V1.2

AHelp V1.2

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Freeware Release (25.04.99)

(C) 1997-99 Andreas Falkenhahn

Introduction
What this program is good for

System requirements What you need

Copyright & Distribution info The boring stuff

Installation
Please use the script

Using AHelp
It's as easy as possible

Visual Prefs Users
Important information. Read it!

About the author Something about me

Greetings and thanks
Some greetings

History
Program's history

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1.2 Visual Prefs users

The Falconer figured out some AHelp crashes in conjunction with Visual Prefs. As I do not run patches like Visual Prefs and didn't have any problems with AHelp it seems to be a bug in Visual Prefs....

But as there are many Visual Prefs users out there I added the tooltype VISUALPREFS which you can set if you're using Visual Prefs. The tooltype disables Window resizing then because this does not work with Visual Prefs.

1.3 Installation

To install AHelp simply doubleclick the "Install" script. Please do not install AHelp by hand because the Installer will create a configuration file for you which should be present.

If there any problems, please contact $$\operatorname{\textsc{me}}$$

1.4 Introduction

Let's have a short visit to the past...

...Commodore introduced the HELP: assign in 1992 but it seems that they forgot to include a program which allows easy access to the documents stored in that path...

And now here's AHelp. This program does this job as good as possible. AHelp runs as a commodity fully in the background. Simply press HELP (or an other HotKey defined by you) and a nice GUI appears. You can select now between all documents stored in HELP: (or a drawer of your choice).

From version 1.2 on AHelp has also some kind of little directory browser implemented. You can browse through all the directories on your harddisk.

Additionally there are different options you can choose in the Prefs Program. Simply have a look at usage

1.5 Copyright

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 $\,$ AHelp is (C) Copyright 1997-99 by Andreas Falkenhahn. Artworks were done by The Falconer.

This program is Freeware. Everyone can copy it but it must neither be selled for more than 5DM (\$3 US-Dollars) nor be modified. If you bought it for more report me the dealer you got it from.

AHelp must be distributed with all files on the disk. Please don't spread it as a DMS Archive, only as a complete disk or LHA/LZX archive.

I don't accede any liability if AHelp has something damaged. It was compfortable

tested

and at me nothing dangerous happened.

1.6 Über den Autor

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If you have any problems with AHelp, found bugs or have suggestions please email or write to me.

Feedback is needed very much in those hard times. Please consider sending me a mail if you use AHelp.

AHelp was developed on my:

A1200, 68040 40mhz, 2x CD-ROM, 2x drives, 18MB Ram, OS3.1

AHelp was also tested on The Falconer's system:

A4000, 68040 25mhz, 20MB Ram, Cybervision 64, OS3.1

1.7 Greetings

Note: This section is badly outdated. Last updated in november 97....

Greetings fly to:

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Excalibur / Airsoft Gandalf of Infinity WF King

The Falconer (thanxxx for the icons)

A. v. K. Wusel Atlan

Rick t. R.

Jennes

Marty McFly

Noke Artificial Bytes

Roadrunner

H.W.

Dodger

Pearl

Titanic

Olli

Steffen

Phil

Rave of Bizarre arts Antibrain of Bizarre arts

Willi Hillenbrand Tazz / Animators

Jones

Rich

Dr. Retro

Cyberbit

Mr. P

Dirk

Erich

Marcel

Marco

Joggy Baer

Richie

Chris

Michael

1.8 System requirements

To use AHelp you need at least an Amiga or WinUAE with harddisk and at least Workbench 2.04.

AHelp also requires guigfx.library and render.library by Timm S. Müller aswell as reqtools.library by Nico Francois. You can get them on Aminet.

If you want to view HTML documentations you need openurl.library by Troels Walsted Hansen. You can get this library on Aminet either.

Amigaguide.library is also necessary but it's delivered with the Workbench so everyone should have it.

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1.9 Usage

The main program: AHelp

To start AHelp, doubleclick the icon and press HELP (or your defined HotKey).

Now a nice GUI appears. If you click on an entry in the ListView gadget the document/guide will be viewed.

About will show some information about the program and exit will -> no, I don't need to explain this.

If you want the GUI iconify, press ESC (or your defined IconifyKey). If you've selected this, an AppIcon will appear. Doubleclick it and AHelp will PopUp. You can always PopUp AHelp with HELP (or your defined HotKey).

The prefs program: AHelp Prefs

Note: You can also set all options in the tooltypes of AHelp. If you do so you do not need to use the preferences program!

To start AHelp Prefs, doubleclick the icon.

Now a GUI appears. You can select now between different options. First you can define the HotKey (default is HELP), the IconifyKey (default is ESC).

Additionally you can set the path where the documents are (default is HELP:, but there can be other language-oriented like HELP:deutsch/ or HELP:nederlands/ etc.) and the document/guide viewer. I advise you to use Sys:Utilities/MultiView because it views nearly everything. The parameter AHelp will call is only: 1> ViewProg Document.doc. If your viewer needs other parameters contact

me

and I'll see what to do.

Then you can select between some miscenalleous options:

- 1) Close gadget ends AHelp: If you activate, you can quit AHelp by hitting the close gadget. Otherwise AHelp will iconify when you hit it.
- 2) Add AppIcon when iconify: This will add an AppIcon when you want the GUI to iconify. You can now click the AppIcon or press the HotKey for a popup. Otherwise you must hit the HotKey.
- 3) PopUp at start: If you activate this option, the GUI will popup when you start AHelp. Otherwise...
- 4) Iconify at start: This will AHelp force to hide the GUI at

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start. You can popup it with the HotKey or the AppIcon.

Save will save the options in the AHelp icon. If you really *HATE* the prefs program you can edit the options in the tooltypes of AHelp.

Cancel will NOT save the selected options and use the old. The same effect will be when you hit the close gadget.

About will show some information about the program.

1.10 History

V1.2: (Freeware Release Version)

- · Updated Installation script
- · Updated AmigaGuide® documentation
- new tooltype: VISUALPREFS. Set it if you use Visual Prefs and experience problems with AHelp
- · added fontsensitivity code to AHelp Preferences program
- $\boldsymbol{\cdot}$ turned MUI interface in a fully fontsensitive and resizable gadtools GUI
- added locale.library and a german catalog aswell as the developer files
- added nice logo to the GUI which is automatically remapped to Workbench palette (this job is done by guigfx.library)
- · relayouted the GUI
- \cdot GUI is now controllable by keyboard either
- \cdot some visual changes
- · added support for HTML files (this job is done by openurl.library)
- normal documentations are now viewed with amigaguide.library instead of Sys:Utilities/Multiview...
- · alot of code optimizations
- · turned listview into a little directory browser
- · recoded commodity/app handler
- AHelp is now added to the Tools menu of the Workbench when it's iconified

V1.1: (Internal Beta)

MUI version

V1.0: (Freeware Release Version)

- · AHelp Prefs V1.0
- · runs as a commodity
- · MWB icons (done by The Falconer)
- · reqtools.library (© Niço François) support
- · Install script
- · AmigaGuide® Documentation

Future plans:

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Not much....If you miss something in AHelp please contact me!

And always remember...The future is still unwritten...