

**thxplay**

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# Chapter 1

## thxplay

### 1.1 thxplay.doc

```
--overview--
thxFree()
thxGetNumSongs()
thxGetVolume()
thxInit()
thxNoteFX()
thxPause()
thxPlay()
thxPlayNote()
thxPlaytime()
thxSetSong()
thxSetVolume()
thxSignalEnd()
thxSongEnded()
thxStop()
thxStopNote()
thxSyncByte()
thxWind()
```

### 1.2 thxplay.library/--overview--

#### PURPOSE

To provide an interface to the THX2 player.

#### OVERVIEW

THX2 is a 'chip' music tracker by Martin Wodok (Dexter/Abyss). It comes with a rather cumbersome binary replayer, so you may play THX2 songs in your own programs. This provides an easy and powerful interface to the THX2 player, providing a wide range of functions.

- Allocation: thxInit(), thxFree()
  - Playing: thxPlay(), thxStop(), thxPause(), thxWind()
  - Volume: thxGetVolume(), thxSetVolume()
  - Multisong: thxGetNumSongs(), thxSetSong()
  - Sound FX: thxPlayNote(), thxStopNote(), thxNoteFX()
-

```
- Misc:      thxSignalEnd(), thxSongEnded(), thxSyncByte(),
             thxPlaytime()
```

You need to read a THX song in from disk or 'incbin' it. You should load it into PUBLIC memory, however it does not have to be CHIP memory.

The music play is, as you would expect, interrupt-driven, and asynchronous. This interface automatically provides fallback support for a VSYNC based replayer if it cannot allocate a CIA timer.

The interface is 68000 compatible, optimised versions for the 68020 and better are also included.

#### NOTE

This interface was initially developed as an Amiga E module. With a little extra effort, it is also available as a runtime shared library. Therefore, it operates a simple mechanism in thxInit() and thxFree() to ensure only one task at any time is using the library. See the notes of thxInit() for more information about this.

Also note that all examples are given in Amiga E code.

Synopsis is given as 3 lines: the assembler/register synopsis, the C prototype, and the E synopsis.

#### EXAMPLE

More thorough examples are included with the distribution. This is an example in Amiga E, using the E module thx-play.m.

```
MODULE 'tools/thx-play', 'tools/file'
PROC main()
  DEF mod
  IF mod := loadfile(arg, 0, MEMF_PUBLIC)
    IF thxInit(mod)=0
      thxPlay()
      REPEAT; WaitTOF(); UNTIL CtrlC() OR thxSongEnded()
      thxStop()

      thxFree()
    ENDIF
    freefile(mod)
  ENDIF
ENDPROC
```

Here is the same example, but using the shared thxplay.library. Note that Amiga E forces library functions to have capitalised names, and that we must use OpenLibrary() and CloseLibrary().

```
MODULE 'thxplay', 'tools/file'
PROC main()
  DEF mod
  IF thxplaybase := OpenLibrary('thxplay.library', 5)
    IF mod := loadfile(arg, 0, MEMF_PUBLIC)
      IF ThxInit(mod) = 0
        ThxPlay()
        REPEAT; WaitTOF(); UNTIL CtrlC() OR ThxSongEnded()
```

```
        ThxStop()

        ThxFree()
    ENDIF
    freefile(mod)
ENDIF
    CloseLibrary(thxplaybase)
ENDIF
ENDPROC
```

### 1.3 thxplay.library/thxFree

#### NAME

thxFree -- free resources held by player.

#### SYNOPSIS

```
void thxFree()

void thxFree(void);

thxFree()
```

#### FUNCTION

Stops any THX module playing and frees resources used by the player. You can call this whether thxInit() succeeded or not.

#### SEE ALSO

thxInit()

### 1.4 thxplay.library/thxGetNumSongs

#### NAME

thxGetNumSongs -- get number of subsongs.

#### SYNOPSIS

```
songs = thxGetNumSongs()
DO

UWORD thxGetNumSongs(void);

songs := thxGetNumSongs()
```

#### FUNCTION

Returns the number of subsongs in the module, if any. You can use the thxSetSong() function to play one of the subsongs, if that's possible.

#### RESULT

songs - 0 if there are no subsongs (only the main song), otherwise returns the number of subsongs.

---

SEE ALSO  
thxSetSong()

## 1.5 thxplay.library/thxGetVolume

NAME  
thxGetVolume -- get master volume.

SYNOPSIS  
volume = thxGetVolume()  
  
UBYTE thxGetVolume(void);  
  
volume := thxGetVolume()

FUNCTION  
Returns the current master volume value. Does not stop play.

RESULT  
volume - current volume setting from 0 (silent) to 64 (loudest)

SEE ALSO  
thxSetVolume()

## 1.6 thxplay.library/thxInit

NAME  
thxInit -- initialise player and module.

SYNOPSIS  
error = thxInit(module)  
D0                   A0  
  
ULONG thxInit(APTR);  
  
error := thxInit(module)

FUNCTION  
Initialises the player (if needed) and initializes the module. You may also call thxInit(NIL) to initialise the player but not the module. Does not start to play the module until you call thxPlay(). You must call this each time you want to play a different module. The allocations made for the player are made only the first time you call thxInit(), no matter how many modules you want. If allocations fail, they will be automatically freed.

INPUTS  
module - pointer to a THX module or NIL

RESULT  
error - zero means all went OK, any other value means failure.

---

## NOTE

In the library version of this interface, `thxInit()` and `thxFree()` use a task ownership system – to begin with, nobody ‘owns’ THX. The first task to call `thxInit()` will then ‘own’ THX, and successive calls to `thxInit()` and `thxFree()` will only succeed for this task. When this task calls `thxFree()`, the owner goes back to nobody, and now other tasks are free to use THX.

This is the only arbitration used by the interface. All other calls may be called from any task at all. Please respect this arbitration mechanism and avoid calling other THX functions unless `thxInit()` has succeeded for you. You must call `thxFree()` from the same task that called `thxInit()`.

## SEE ALSO

`thxFree()`, `thxPlay()`

## 1.7 thxplay.library/thxNoteFX

## NAME

`thxNoteFX` -- perform FX command on user-specified channel.

## SYNOPSIS

```
void thxNoteFX(channel, command, parameter)
               D0:2      D1:4      D2
```

```
void thxNoteFX(UBYTE, UBYTE, UBYTE);
```

```
thxNoteFX(channel, command, parameter)
```

## FUNCTION

Performs an effect command on the particular channel. You can call this at any time, even before you play the note, if you want the note to start off with an initial effect. See THX Sound System’s documentation for the full list of commands and their parameters.

## INPUTS

`channel` – The channel affected  
`command` – the effect command, eg `$C` is the Set Volume command.  
`parameter` – the parameter to the command, eg `$40` is full volume.

## NOTE

No validation of the command or its parameter is done. Beware feeding wrong or out of range values. Range for command is `$0` to `$F`, parameter is `$00` to `$FF`.

## SEE ALSO

`thxPlayNote()`

## 1.8 thxplay.library/thxPause

---



## NAME

thxPause -- pause play of a song.

## SYNOPSIS

```
void thxPause()
```

```
void thxPause(void);
```

```
thxPause()
```

## FUNCTION

Pauses the playing module. Call thxPlay() to continue play again.

## SEE ALSO

thxPlay()

## 1.9 thxplay.library/thxPlay

## NAME

thxPlay -- start playing the song.

## SYNOPSIS

```
void thxPlay()
```

```
void thxPlay(void);
```

```
thxPlay()
```

## FUNCTION

Starts playing the module. If the module has just been initialised or stopped, or the subsong has just been changed, then play will start at the beginning of the song/subsong. Otherwise, it will continue from where it was paused.

## SEE ALSO

thxStop(), thxPause()

## 1.10 thxplay.library/thxPlayNote

## NAME

thxPlayNote -- start playing a user-specified note.

## SYNOPSIS

```
void thxPlayNote(channel, note, instrument)
                D0:2    D1    D2
```

```
void thxPlayNote(UBYTE, UBYTE, UBYTE);
```

```
thxPlayNote(channel, note, instrument)
```

## FUNCTION

Plays one of the instruments in the THX module at a particular note on a particular channel. It is up to you to ensure that the channel you play the note on is empty and so will not interfere with the note being played. This function is to allow you to play your own notes during THX play, for example as part of a game as sound effects. The note played is subject to the same conditions as the song itself, such as the global volume control. In addition, you can apply 'FX' commands to the note. In effect, what is happening when you call `thxPlayNote()` is that the 'track data' for the chosen channel being played is overwritten (not the module itself, just the sound output). It is overwritten on the first line by your specified instrument with note and FX, then on consecutive lines by the 'blank' note and instrument. This 'overwriting' stops only when you call `thxStopNote()`, or stop the module naturally.

#### INPUTS

`channel` - The channel on which the note is played, from 0 to 3.  
`note` - The halfnote (pitch) at which the instrument is to be played, from 1 (C-1) to 60 (B-5).  
`instrument` - an instrument from the song, from 1-63. You should know which instrument you want to play!

#### EXAMPLE

`thxPlayNote(2, 8, 12)` is equivalent to this in THX Sound System's tracker view:

```
---00000 | ---00000 | G-112000 | ---00000
---00000 | ---00000 | ---00000 | ---00000
---00000 | ---00000 | ---00000 | ---00000
[...]
```

#### SEE ALSO

`thxStopNote()`, `thxNoteFX()`

## 1.11 thxplay.library/thxPlaytime

#### NAME

`thxPlaytime` -- get current playtime of song.

#### SYNOPSIS

```
seconds [, ticks, tickspd] = thxPlaytime()
D0          D1          D2
```

```
ULONG thxGetSyncByte(void);
```

```
seconds, ticks, tickspd := thxPlaytime()
```

#### FUNCTION

Gets the current playtime into the play of a currently playing song.

#### RESULT

`seconds` - the number of seconds elapsed since the start of the song.  
it is calculated from the following two results  
`ticks` - number of internal clock ticks.  
`tickspd` - the speed of internal clock ticks in Hz.

## BUGS

Will wrap at 65536 seconds. Also, due to a bug in the replayer, will wrap at 65536 `_ticks_` first. This will hopefully be fixed, but the seconds limit probably will not be.

## NOTE

Most C compilers will be unable to get the ticks and tickspd results. Too bad. They're not that important.

## 1.12 thxplay.library/thxSetSong

## NAME

`thxSetSong -- set song to be played.`

## SYNOPSIS

```
thxSetSong(song)
    D0
```

```
void thxSetSong(UWORD);
```

```
thxSetSong(song)
```

## FUNCTION

Sets which song to play, if a module contains more than one song. Most modules only contain one song, but some modules contain sub-songs as well as the main one. You can use this function to specify which one should be played. If you call this function and there is already a song playing, it will be stopped first.

## INPUTS

song - 0 to set the main song to be played, any other number will change to that subsong, if it exists. Otherwise, no change will be made (other than the stoppage).

## NOTE

It is up to you to start playing the module again.

## SEE ALSO

`thxGetNumSongs()`

## 1.13 thxplay.library/thxSetVolume

## NAME

`thxSetVolume -- set master volume.`

## SYNOPSIS

```
void thxSetVolume(volume)
    D0
```

```
void thxSetVolume(UBYTE);
```

---

```
thxSetVolume(volume)
```

#### FUNCTION

Sets the master volume. Does not stop play.

#### INPUTS

volume - from 0 (silent) to 64 (loudest)

#### NOTE

This function can take up to two frames to take an audible effect. If the song is paused, will not take effect until unpaused.

#### SEE ALSO

thxGetVolume()

## 1.14 thxplay.library/thxSignalEnd

#### NAME

thxSignalEnd -- Signal() when song ends.

#### SYNOPSIS

```
thxSignalEnd(task, signalset)
           A0      D0
```

```
void thxSignalEnd(struct Task *, ULONG);
```

```
thxSignalEnd(task, signalset)
```

#### FUNCTION

Asks THX to send the signalset to the specified task when the song ends. If songend occurs and the signal is sent, it will not be sent again unless you call thxSignalEnd() again to reload the trigger. The signal will also be cancelled if you call thxStop() directly, or indirectly through thxSetSong() or thxFree().

#### NOTE

The detection of songend is crap (sorry Dexter :^)

#### INPUTS

task - pointer to a task or process structure, simply use FindTask(NIL) to send to yourself.  
 signalset - a 32bit set of signals, to be sent to task when songend occurs.

#### EXAMPLE

thxSignalEnd(FindTask(NIL), SIGBREAKF\_CTRL\_C) will send you a CTRL-C when the song ends.

#### SEE ALSO

thxSongEnded(), exec.library/Signal()

## 1.15 thxplay.library/thxSongEnded

---

```
thxSongEnded -- detect if song has ended.
```

#### SYNOPSIS

```
songended = thxSongEnded()  
D0
```

```
BOOL thxSongEnded(void);
```

```
songended := thxSongEnded()
```

#### FUNCTION

Returns nonzero value if the player has detected the end of a song and is now looping.

#### NOTE

The detection of songend is crap (sorry Dexter :^)

#### RESULT

songended - nonzero if song is now looping, zero otherwise.

#### SEE ALSO

```
thxSignalEnd()
```

## 1.16 thxplay.library/thxStop

#### NAME

```
thxStop -- stop playing a song/module.
```

#### SYNOPSIS

```
void thxStop()
```

```
void thxStop(void);
```

```
thxStop()
```

#### FUNCTION

Stops the module. Can be restarted from the beginning again with `thxPlay()`.

#### SEE ALSO

```
thxPlay(), thxFree()
```

## 1.17 thxplay.library/thxStopNote

#### NAME

```
thxStopNote -- stop playing user-specified note.
```

#### SYNOPSIS

```
void thxStopNote(channel)  
D0:2
```

```
void thxStopNote(UBYTE);
```

```
thxStopNote(channel)
```

#### FUNCTION

Stops anything you started with `thxPlayNote()`. Please be aware that notes which don't fade away on their own will first need to be silenced with `thxNoteFX($C, $00)`, or such

#### SEE ALSO

```
thxPlayNote()
```

## 1.18 thxplay.library/thxSyncByte

#### NAME

```
thxSyncByte -- get sync byte value.
```

#### SYNOPSIS

```
syncvalue = thxGetSyncByte()  
D0
```

```
UBYTE thxGetSyncByte(void);
```

```
syncvalue := thxGetSyncByte()
```

#### FUNCTION

Gets the current setting of the 'external timing' byte, which can be set to any byte value at any moment in time during play of the song BY the song itself, using the '8' command in the tracker. This function is here to allow you to mark specific events in the music with the '8' command and a value, then wait until calling `thxSyncByte()` returns that value. The returned value doesn't change until another '8' command in the song changes it.

#### NOTE

Be very careful not to busy-wait on a new value if there is the possibility the song is paused or not playing.

#### RESULT

```
syncvalue - current value of the sync byte.
```

## 1.19 thxplay.library/thxWind

#### NAME

```
thxWind -- wind the song forward or back.
```

#### SYNOPSIS

```
void thxWind(direction)  
D0
```

```
void thxWind(UBYTE);
```

---

```
thxWind(direction)
```

#### FUNCTION

Advances forward or backwards through the song by a specified number of positions. Please use the value 1 to skip forward and -1 to skip back, for future compatibility.

#### INPUTS

direction - if 1, winds on to the next position.  
            if -1, winds back to the previous position,  
            if 0, ignored.

#### NOTE

Be wary of stepping beyond the end of a song. Also note this function only takes effect only once a frame.