

**Envelope**

<b>COLLABORATORS</b>
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	<i>TITLE :</i> Envelope		
<i>ACTION</i>	<i>NAME</i>	<i>DATE</i>	<i>SIGNATURE</i>
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# Chapter 1

## Envelope

### 1.1 Envelope Guide

Envelope Printer Guide

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Version 1.13

12th May 1998

WARNING : READ THE DISCLAIMER BEFORE USE

Introduction  
Disclaimer  
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Requirements  
Usage  
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The Author

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### 1.2 Introduction

Introduction

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Over Christmas 1996, my typewriter became terminally ill. The only thing I used my typewriter for was to address envelopes. So until I could get a new typewriter in the New Year, I decided to use my computer and printer. However, I very quickly got tired of loading a word processor just to type

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out an address (especially if I was low on memory and had to quit what I was doing at the time).

So I decided to write a quick program that would print out the addresses for me, thus Envelope was born.

Envelope is very simple. It prints addresses onto envelopes. It is also small program.

Envelope fully functions as a commodity.

Envelope is also fully font-sensitive and font-selectable.

## 1.3 Disclaimer

I M P O R T A N T

Although I have tested the program thoroughly and although the program code is very simple, this software is supplied with no form of warranty or guarantee whatsoever. USE IT AT YOUR OWN RISK

This does not only apply to crashing a machine with important work being done on it, but also if an important envelope is misaddressed. In the end you must check any envelope as soon as it is printed for any errors. I will not be held responsible for any losses incurred by an important envelope getting lost in the post because it was misaddressed.

YOU HAVE BEEN WARNED!!!

## 1.4 Licence

Licence  
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You are free to copy, distribute etc. Envelope as long as the archive is not modified in any way and all files are kept intact and no charge other than reasonable disk copying charges is made.

## 1.5 Requirements

Requirements  
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Machine  
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Envelope was programmed and tested on a A4000, so should run on an A1200 without any problems.

Furthermore Envelope should run on any machine with Kickstart 37+

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(AmigaDos v2 or higher), but since I do not have one of these to hand I have been unable to test this for sure. If there are any problems then please contact the Author .

Envelope will not run on AmigaDos v1.3 or lower

Envelope is fully font sensitive. If the font requested does not fit onto the screen, then Topaz/8 will be used.

#### Memory

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Envelope is designed to use as little memory as possible, so it can if need be remain in memory permanently.

However, one thing to remember is that because Envelope uses the standard printer device, then this will consume approximately 40K when opened if no other program has used the printer device.

If memory is low and an error occurs (such as trying to open the main window when there is not enough memory) then Envelope will quit completely. This 'feature' was originally a bug, but I decided to leave it in because if memory is that low, then you will need to quit out of something anyway.

## 1.6 Usage

#### Usage

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Envelope can be started from either Workbench or CLI. See Tooltypes

You will be presented with a requester which will open on the default public screen (almost always Workbench). This screen will also be brought to the front.

There are six string gadget into which you should type the name and address of the person you wish the envelope to be addresses to (although you can type whatever you like for that matter).

There is a checkbox below these. If you have not set a sender's address in the Preferences then this will be ghosted and you don't need TO worry about it. If you have entered these details, then the state of the checkbox dictates whether the sender's address will be printed.

There are five gadgets at the bottom. They are fairly self-explanatory but just in case:-

SEARCH - This will search the address book for anything contained in the first line of the main address. Simply press the button again for subsequent searches.

PRINT - This prints the data contained in the string gadgets onto an envelope. Envelope first re-initialises the printer, then performs six linefeeds, prints the appropriate data in Boldface,

then performs a Form Feed to eject the envelope.  
Envelope currently indents the address 33 spaces.

PREFS - This will open a preferences window. See Preferences

It was a bit of a crush making sure that it fitted onto a 640\*200 NTSC screen (does anyone use this mode), but on larger screens Envelope will increase the spacing, thus improving the look.

BOOK - This opens the address book window. From here you can keep commonly used addresses.

QUIT - Quits

## 1.7 Tooltypes

Tooltypes

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These are the Tooltypes allowed. If a Tooltype is in brackets, then it is in effect 'switched off' and is ignored by Envelope (the same is true for all programs).

For CLI startup, simply use the keywords below in the command line.

You may run more than one version of Envelope at once. So you could have different Tooltypes set for different versions.

CX\_HOTKEY      The Hotkey combination to open the window. If this is not set it will default to 'ctrl lalt e'.

CX\_POPUP        If this is set to YES, then the requester will 'popup' when first loaded. If set to NO, then Envelope will hide in the background until the hotkey is pressed or called as a commodity. Default is YES.

CX\_PRIORITY     Set the priority of the commodity within the commodities broker. This is not the same as the TOOLPRI Tooltype however.

TOOLPRI         The programs priority. Defaults to 0 and I wouldn't mess around with it too much.

PREFSFILE       Where Envelope should look for it's preferences file. If this is not set, Envelope will look in ENV: then PROGDIR:

## 1.8 Preferences

Preferences

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You can open the preferences window by clicking on the Prefs button in the main window. You can also edit the preferences by loading the PrefsFile into a text editor.

#### Sender Information

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Sender            Here you can enter six lines of the Sender's Address. No other lines will be added, so you may wish to put "Sender:" on the first line.

Style            Select the print style for the Sender's Address

Xpos            The position of the Sender's Address  
Ypos

Print            This controls the state of the Print Sender's Address checkbox in the main window.

#### Main Information

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Style            Select the print style for the Main address

Xpos            The position of the main address. Try not to include silly values so that the Sender's Address is printed on the same line.  
Ypos

#### Other Information

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Init1            See Custom initialisation for more details  
Init2

Device           By default Envelope prints to PRT: However, you can select a different device, say PRT2:

Window Title    You can change the main window title here. This is useful if you have different versions of Envelope for different sized envelopes, different sender's addresses (business & personal) etc. By setting a different title, you can easily tell which is which.

Addresses        The filename of the address book to use.

Screen Font     Check this gadget if you wish to have the screen font. Otherwise click on the Choose button (you will have to uncheck the checkbox first).

If a window can't be opened because the font you have chosen is too large, then Envelope will revert to Topaz/8. Although this shouldn't happen with the main window, it could happen with the preferences window on smaller screens

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with larger fonts. Who said you needed MUI for font sensitive requesters ;-)

#### Buttons

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- Use - Updates the settings and then closes the prefs window.
- Save - Updates the settings, saves them, then closes the prefs window
- Test - Updates the settings, but keep the prefs window open. Ideal for tweaking some settings.
- Cancel - Closes the prefs window, and reverts the settings back to what they were when the prefs window was opened.

## 1.9 PrefsFile

#### Preferences File

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You can, if you wish, edit the preferences by loading the preferences file into a text editor). These are the keywords that it currently supports. To temporarily "turn off" a command, simply put any character before it, like an asterisk (e.g. "\*FONT topaz" will be ignored). Note, that Envelope will completely remove these lines when saving it's own preferences.

FONT	If you do not wish to use the default screen font, you may type in the name of another font in here. It must be in the format "times.font 11" (without the quotes). The font name must include .font, followed by one space and then the font size.
ADDRESSX ADDRESSY	Where to position the main address. These used to be called LEFTEDGE and LINEFEEDS.
SENDERX SENDERY	As above, but for the Sender's Address.
WINTITLE	The main window title.
INIT1 INIT2	Initialisation data. Same as the equivalent commands in the preferences window.
PRINTSENDER	Controls the state of the checkbox in the main window. If set to YES, the checkbox will be checked, but you can still print the sender's address by selecting the checkbox before printing. You must set some senderline data however
SENDERSTYLE ADDRSTYLE	Four options are allowed. NORMAL, BOLD, ITALIC, CONDENSED. You can mix them together eg BOLDITALIC, but NORMAL

will clear all styles. ADDRSTYLE is the main address style and SENDERSTYLE is the Sender's Address.

SENDERLINE1    The lines of the address of the sender.  
2, 3, 4 etc

DEVICE        By default Envelope prints to PRT: However, you can select a different device, say PRT2:

ADDRESSBOOK   The filename of the address book to be used.

## 1.10 Address Book

Address Book  
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You can maintain an address book of commonly used addresses.

Buttons  
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Add        Adds a new entry to the address book

<<        Moves backwards by one entry

>>        Moves forwards by one entry

Delete     Deletes the current entry

Get        Gets the address in the main window and places it in the current address entry

Put        Puts the information in the address entry into the main window address.

Save       Saves the address book.

Menus  
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Open       Opens a new address book.

Save As    Saves the current address book under a different name

Restore    Restores the current entry

Sort       Sorts the address book. Only sorts on the first name.

Envelope stores the address files using a TSV method. This means that it should be possible to generate files from existing database programs

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fairly easily. Here's the process.

Envelope reads for a TAB between each field and a Carriage Return to move to the next field. Only six fields are allowed. All others are ignored.

## 1.11 Custom Initialisation Codes

This section covers the Init1 and Init2.

With these two gadgets you can control extra data sent to the printer. For instance, if you wish to print in a different colour, or print in Landscape mode, or any other printer specific code.

Init1 is sent to the printer BEFORE anything is printed and Init2 is sent to the printer at the end. As a general rule, you should use Init2 to cancel any settings made in Init1.

To find out the codes, you will have to look through your printers manual. You need the code sequence to switch an option on (which you put in Init1) and the sequence to turn the option off (which you put in Init2). Only decimal figures are allowed. No binary or Hex.

If you wanted to use Landscape mode you would do the following

Put "27, 38, 108, 49, 79" in Init1 (to turn Landscape on)  
Then put "27, 38, 108, 48, 79" in Init2 (to turn Landscape off)

Experiment and see what happens. Whilst experimenting, remember to switch your printer off after every attempt to clear any settings you may not have cancelled. If you get find any useful codes, send them to me and I can include a preset for other users.

Presets

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Here are the currently defined presets

Keyword	Code Sequence	Function
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HP_LandscapeOn	27,38,108,49,79	Turns on Landscape printing
HP_LandscapeOff	27,38,108,48,79	Turns off Landscape printing

## 1.12 Arexx

Arexx

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Envelope supports Arexx. The default port name is ENVELOPE.1, the second ENVELOPE.2 and so on. Up to nine different programs can be run at once.

These are the supported functions

```
PUTADDRESS <line> <text>    ie  PUTADDRESS 1 "Nelson Mandela"
```

```
HIDE          Hides the Interface
SHOW          Shows the Interface
PRINT         Prints the envelope
QUIT          Have a Guess !!
```

```
OPENPREFS     Opens prefs window. No harm will be done if already open.
CLOSEPREFS    Closes prefs window. No harm will be done if not open.
USEPREFS      Closes prefs window, but keeps any changes (but doesn't save)
SAVEPREFS     Saves current preferences
```

You can also adjust all of the settings from Arexx. To do this just prefix the keywords in the PrefsFile with SET. eg

```
SETLINEFEEDS 16                Sets the linefeeds to 16
SETWINTITLE  "Arexx Window Title"  Sets the window title
SETFONT xhelvetica.font 11        Changes the font
```

The SET commands will not have any effect if the preferences window is open however and will return a Warn to the Arexx sender, so it's best to perform a CLOSEPREFS first.

One thing to remember is that Arexx converts characters to upper case unless you enclose the in quotes. So although the top example would still work without the quotes it would end up as NELSON MANDELA instead of Nelson Mandela

## 1.13 Bugs

Bugs

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- I can't test the HPLANDSCAPE function since I don't have one of these printers. Let me know how it works.
- I've had reports of Envelope ejecting a blank envelope on systems running Turboprint. Again, since I don't have Turboprint it could be difficult to track down. If you are running Turboprint without this problem, please let me know. I've had reports that the spool options can cause some problems.

If something does go wrong then please contact the Author

Try to send as much information as you can about your system (machine WB, KS, patches etc). And remember to include the version of Envelope you are running.

## 1.14 History

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26/01/98    Version 1.10

- Source code completely transferred from AmigaE to ANSI C. You may note that the executable is some 4K smaller than the previous version (and this version has the extra enhancements below).
- Envelope will now look for PROGDIR:Envelope.prefs instead of PROGDIR:!Envelope.prefs (slip of the finger when typing in the path :) Envelope will also rename any files for some users that spotted this and renamed the prefs files themselves.
- Hiding the interface now saves the data in the address fields for the next time it is opened.
- Changing the Window Title just refreshes the main window instead of closing and re-opening the window.
- Envelope will automatically correct any out of range figures in the preferences window (Leftedge & Linefeeds) as long as Return or Tab is pressed after the data has been entered.
- If you have a custom prefs file in ENV: then Envelope will also save a copy to ENVARC: as well (and vice versa).
- CLI startup should now work properly.
- Removed some OS3.0 only code.

28/02/97    Version 1.11

- Fixed a memory problem (a consequence of transferring from AmigaE to ANSI C). I'm amazed it never crashed.
- Implemented configurable Sender's Address position. This should help those with HP printers. Also renamed Linefeeds & Leftedge to X Pos & Y Pos to match the Sender's Address names (which are probably better suited). Also renamed the appropriate keywords in the Prefsfile
- Partially fixed the Cancel/Test problem. It was much harder than I first thought. Took a complete rewrite of the way preferences are handled internally. Not absolutely perfect though. See Bugs
- Added a Clear button. This clears all of the address fields to make it easier to enter another address. This button won't stay there. It's just there until I get the menus sorted out.
- Finally gave in to all the requests and made the Return button move the cursor down to the next string gadget (only for the address lines)
- Some changes to the preferences GUI

24/04/97    Version 1.12

- Implemented custom initialisation code.
-

- Implemented the Address Book. There are still a few things to do here (search funtions), but it should function pretty well already.
- Added Menus. Moved the Clear & Hide buttons to the Menus.
- You can now load and save different prefs files via the Prefs window menu. Removed the Test button from the prefs window (it never worked properly anyway) and added a Last Saved menu option instead which should do virtually the same job (and was easier to implement).
- Fixed CX\_PRIORITY tooltype which never worked. I doubt anyone would have ever noticed anyway.
- Opening the Prefs window now blocks the main window from input.
- Since most memory allocations are small, Envelope now allocates memory from the top (MEMF\_REVERSE). This should help avoid serious memory fragmentation.
- Envelope now looks in PROGDIR: for a prefsfile FIRST, then in ENV: if none is selected.
- The HPLANDSCAPE preset has now been renamed to HPLandscapeOn and HPLandscapeOff. Envelope will automatically adjust your prefs file for this version, but you have to save the changes.

12/05/97    Version 1.13

- Added a search function for the Address Book
- The save reminder on the Address Book now works properly
- Included "Bubble Up" and "Bubble Down" functions in the Address Book menus so you can move entries within the address book.
- Pressing Return in the Address Book string gadgets now moves the cursor down.
- Added keyboard shortcuts for the Address Book window.
- Empty fields are now handled properly in the Address Book and when printing.
- Fixed some Enforcer hits (at last)
- Fixed a bug in the freeing of menu resources (related to above problem)

## 1.15 Things for future releases

Future

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Ideas for the future. There's really not a lot left to do.

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- A converter program to convert Organiser TSV files for easy use in Envelope. How many Envelope users use Organiser ?
- Extra presets.
- Possible MUI & ClassAct version. To be honest, I don't think this is necessary. I do find writing font-sensitive GUI's very easy indeed (take a look at the prefs window), but if I get enough demands for it, I will certainly consider it.

## 1.16 The Author

Contacting the Author

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If you wish to send me bug-reports, requests, etc. my E-Mail address is  
[jason@albatross.co.uk](mailto:jason@albatross.co.uk)

Other programming projects :-

AminetConverter - available on Aminet

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Converts Aminet INDEX files into files that can be easily imported into database/spreadsheet programs.

Task Control - available on Aminet

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A program that handles task priorities. Whilst there may be other programs available that do this task, because this is the sole function of Task Control, it can be done very quickly and easily.

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