

MRBackup

COLLABORATORS

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Chapter 1

MRBackup

1.1 The MRBackup User Interface

MRBackup's User Interface

General Description

Menus

General Parameters Window

Link "MRBackup:Help/MRB_MainWindow.guide/main" }

Options Window

Link "MRBackup:Help/MRB_OptionsWindow.guide/main" }

Filters Window

Link "MRBackup:Help/MRB_FiltersWindow.guide/Filters Window" }

Status Display Window

Link "MRBackup:Help/MRB_StatusDisplay.guide/main" }

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1.2 General User Interface Description

MRBackup employs the Amiga's Intuition graphical user interface to interact with the user. The result is consistent user interaction and concise information presentation. MRBackup can run "on" the WorkBench screen or on its own custom 4-color screen. MRBackup's various windows are presented with a pleasing 3-D appearance. A pull-down menu provides access to MRBackup's many operations.

MRBackup Gadgets

A great deal of the user's interaction with MRBackup is accomplished via Intuition gadgets. There are essentially four types of gadget employed by MRBackup:

Cycle Gadget

Each time the gadget is clicked, a new value appears on its "face". This value represents its current setting. The gadget's surface appears to be raised with respect to the rest of the window.

Command Button

When a command button gadget is clicked, MRBackup will begin some activity such as a backup or restore or the opening of another window. The command button surface appears to be raised.

Text Display Gadget

This gadget type (a read-only string gadget) is used to present textual information such as status and error messages. The contents of the gadget cannot be changed. This gadget type has a recessed appearance with a single border which appears to be recessed, as well.

Text Edit Gadget

This gadget type (a read/write string gadget) is used to accept and present textual information such as filenames. The gadget box appears to be flush with the surface of the window but is surrounded by a raised double border. When you click in a Text Edit gadget, a block cursor appears. You may perform all of the functions defined for an Amiga string gadget. Note: when changing the value of a Text Edit gadget, it is a good idea to hit the RETURN key to complete your change. This sends a special "signal" to MRBackup that the gadget's value has changed. If the value requires verification, it will be done immediately. Failure to use the RETURN key can delay this verification and be a potential cause for confusion.

1.3 MRBackup Menus

MRBackup operations are invoked by menu selection, keyboard shortcuts or command button clicks. MRBackup has three pull-down menus which are accessible whenever the General Parameters window is active. These menus are:

Project Menu

Preferences Menu

Macros Menu

1.4 project menu

The Project menu provides commands which activate MRBackup's primary operations. The commands in this menu are:

About

This command activates an information window which provides program version information and a summary of available memory.

Backup

This command begins the backup process.

Resume Backup

This command resumes a backup (AmigaDOS mode only) which was previously interrupted by user intervention, system crash or power failure.

Restore

This command begins a file restore process.

Rebuild Catalog

This command rebuilds a save set catalog from an existing save set.

Rewind Tape

This command attempts to rewind the tape drive specified in the Backup Path gadget of the General Parameters window.

Scan Tape

This command provides a summary report of the save sets found on the current tape cartridge. The tape drive is specified by the contents of the Backup Path gadget.

Utilities

This command activates MRBackup's file management utilities. See the section titled @{" MRBackup File Utilities " ALink "MRBackup:Help/MRB_Uutilities. ← guide/main" } for more details.

Verify Backup

This command verifies the contents of a save set against a specific hard disk partition. A summary report is created which can be directed to a console window, a file or both.

Quit

This command instructs MRBackup to release all resources and terminate execution.

1.5 preferences menu

The Preferences menu provides commands which allow the user to view, modify, load and save various MRBackup operating parameters. The commands available from the Preferences menu are:

Colors

This command is only available when a custom (non-Workbench) screen has been selected. A color palette requester is activated and the user may then make color changes to suit his/her preference. Colors should be

chosen with care such that the 3-D relief features of MRBackup's windows are preserved.

Filters

This command activates the Filters window, allowing the user to view and change MRBackup's filter file specifications. See the section titled `Filter Files` for more details.

Options

This command activates the Options window and allows the user to view or change MRBackup options related to backup and restore processing.

Screen Type

This command allows the user to select the type of screen that MRBackup will use. A sub-menu contains the choices Custom, Interlace and Workbench. A custom screen allows the user to specify his/her own color preferences but places additional memory demands on the system. Interlace specifies a custom screen in interlace mode. MRBackup does not attempt to scale its windows and gadgets in this mode, so they will appear half-height. The Workbench screen is most economical in terms of memory required but the user is confined to the colors selected for the Workbench screen.

Load...

This command allows the user to load all of MRBackup's operating parameters directly from a file. A file requester will solicit the name of the file.

Save...

This command allows the user to save all of MRBackup's current operating parameters to a file. A file requester will solicit the name of the file.

1.6 macros menu

The Macros Menu provides a mechanism for launching ARexx scripts directly from MRBackup. The first 10 items in this menu are reserved for macro names (ARexx script names + parameters) which the user defines. The other menu items are:

Other...

This command allows the user to select an ARexx script for one-shot execution (its name is not remembered). A file requester will solicit the name of the ARexx Script.

Define...

This command allows the user to define any of the 10 "permanent" Macro menu items. A special requester will pop up and allow the user to view or change any of these entries. Note that these entries may also include command line parameters. Thus, a single macro name might be used with a different parameter (e.g. each disk partition on your system) to define the macro name entries in the menu.
