

MRBackup

COLLABORATORS

	<i>TITLE :</i> MRBackup		
<i>ACTION</i>	<i>NAME</i>	<i>DATE</i>	<i>SIGNATURE</i>
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REVISION HISTORY

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Chapter 1

MRBackup

1.1 General Parameters Window

The General Parameters Window contains parameters common to most MRBackup operations. In addition to the usual string gadgets and command buttons, you will also notice several square buttons (raised gadgets), labeled with a question mark (?). These are file requester gadgets. Each of these is associated with another gadget which specifies a device, directory or file name. When you click on a file requester gadget, a file requester window is superimposed on MRBackup's main window. With it, you can navigate your file system and easily select the appropriate name for the corresponding gadget.

The following paragraphs describe all of the gadgets in the General Parameters window. Please take the time to read this information carefully, as several important key concepts are presented here.

Preferences	Home Path	Backup Path
Floppy Disk Icons	Voice	Media Type
Buffer (K)	Listing Path	Log File
Options Button	Filters Button	Backup Button
Restore Button	Utilities Button	
Go to Top Level		

1.2 preferences gadget

This gadget names the file where MRBackup's operating parameters (user preferences) are stored. If MRBackup is started without an explicit "initial file" specification (-i option from CLI, INIT=<name> tool types from WorkBench), the current directory is searched for "MRBackup.init". If the file is not found there, the working directory (default = MRBackup:Prefs) is searched. You may change MRBackup's parameters (including this one), then use Save Preferences to record your new settings. You may also reinitialize MRBackup with another preferences file by changing this specification.

1.3 home path gadget

The Home Path describes the device or directory where your files normally reside. During backup operations, files are copied from the location specified by the Home Path. During restore operations, files are copied to this location. You may type the Home Path value directly into the gadget box or you may use the file requester to assist you. The Home Path must specify a device, volume or directory name (not a file name).

1.4 backup path gadget

The Backup Path describes the destination (TO path) for files during a backup or the source (FROM path) for files during a restore. Normally, the backup path is the name of one of your floppy disk drives. If one or more of the floppy disk icon gadgets is selected, the Backup Path is ignored. See the section entitled Backup Operations for more details on the Backup Path.

1.5 floppy disk icons

MRBackup supports selection of up to four floppy disk devices (DF0: through DF3:) for backup or restore. This allows you to preload your disk drives, reducing the frequency with which you must insert diskettes. MRBackup will cycle through the selected drives and prompt you for more diskettes only when all have been used or an error is detected. When you click on one of these icons, a check-mark will appear, indicating that the drive is selected. Whenever floppy drives are selected in this fashion, the Backup Path specification is ignored.

1.6 voice gadget

This is an ON/OFF button which enables or disables MRBackup's speech capability.

1.7 media type gadget

This gadget selects the type of backup or restore to be performed and cycles through the following range of values:

- AmigaDOS
- Fast Disk
- SCSI Tape

Note: the media types are described in detail in the section entitled The Backup Modes .

1.8 buffer gadget

When MRBackup performs input or output from/to a file, a certain amount of memory is set aside as a buffer (work area). This is done to minimize the number of physical disk accesses necessary to move data from/to a file. The bigger the buffer, the fewer disk accesses that are required to move a file. The default buffer size is 32K bytes (K = 1024, thus 32K = 32768 bytes). If your system has expanded memory, you can take advantage of it by increasing your buffer size. The maximum buffer size allowed is 512K. There is no practical benefit in specifying a buffer which is more than two times larger than the largest file on your system. This will simply waste memory which might be needed by other applications (remember - we can multitask while doing a backup or restore!).

1.9 listing path gadget

MRBackup normally generates a listing during backups. This gadget specifies the file or device to receive the listing. You may type the listing path directly into the gadget or you may use its requester gadget to assist you. To send the listing directly to the printer, you would select "PRT:". To save the listing to a file on the hard disk, simply select the appropriate directory and file name.

1.10 log file gadget

MRBackup will optionally generate a log of all of its activities if the Log File gadget contains a valid pathname. This log will contain time-stamped progress reports and error messages. To disable the log, simply clear this gadget. When errors are detected during a backup or restore, it is good practice to check the contents of the log for the cause and severity of these errors.

1.11 options button

This command button activates the Options window and is provided as a convenient alternative to the equivalent menu command.

1.12 filters button

This command button activates the Filters window and is provided as a convenient alternative to the equivalent menu command.

1.13 backup button

This command button initiates a backup operation and is equivalent to the Backup menu command.

1.14 restore button

This command button initiates a restore operation and is equivalent to the Restore menu command.

1.15 utilities button

This command button activates MRBackup's file utilities. It is equivalent to the Utilities menu command.