

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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Contents

1	MRBackup	1
1.1	The Options Window	1
1.2	test date gadget	1
1.3	prefix gadget	1
1.4	compression gadget	2
1.5	est. gadget	2
1.6	decompression gadget	2
1.7	formatting gadget	2
1.8	filesystem gadget	3
1.9	force copy gadget	3
1.10	split big files gadget	3
1.11	test arc. bits gadget	4
1.12	set arc. bits gadget	4
1.13	empty dirs gadget	4
1.14	error handling gadget	4
1.15	sort gadget	4
1.16	verify writes gadget	5
1.17	ok button	5
1.18	saveset comment gadget	5
1.19	cancel button	5

Chapter 1

MRBackup

1.1 The Options Window

The Options window presents parameters specific to backup and restore operations only. It can be activated directly via the Preferences/Options menu command and it is also activated whenever a backup or restore is started. You will note that certain gadgets are enabled or disabled depending upon the Media Type setting (General Parameters window) and on how the window was activated.

Test Date	Prefix	Compression
Est.	Decompression	Formatting
Filesystem	Force Copy	Split Big Files
Test Arc. Bits	Set Arc. Bits	Empty Dirs
Error Handling	Sort	Verify Writes
Saveset Comment	OK Button	Cancel Button

Go to Top Level

1.2 test date gadget

The test date is used by backup operations only. If the test date is set to January 1, 1978 (beginning of AmigaDOS time), it has no effect. Otherwise, only files modified on or after the test date will be selected for backup. To change the test date, just click on the gadget box. A date requester will pop up (see Figure 3 - The Date Requester), allowing you to easily change the test date. You may select the new date value either by pointing and clicking on the various date requester gadgets or by typing directly into each of the date fields. For your convenience, MRBackup also supports four (4) date formats (AmigaDOS, U.S., Canadian and International).

1.3 prefix gadget

During a backup, MRBackup normally names each backup volume with the word "Backup", combined with the current date and the disk sequence number. You can customize the backup volume names by supplying your own prefix. In this case, MRBackup will simply append the disk sequence number to whatever prefix you supply.

Example: "DH0:Backup." Yields: "DH0:Backup.1", "DH0:Backup.2",etc.

1.4 compression gadget

This gadget specifies the size of the compression codes, in bits, that are to be used when performing a backup. The values range from 12 bits through 16 bits or None (no compression performed). Smaller code sizes allow faster compression and lower memory requirements while compression with larger code sizes yields larger compression ratios but requires more time and more memory.

1.5 est. gadget

This value is a compression estimate, specified as a percentage. Its range is 0 through 99 and it is only meaningful for AmigaDOS compatible backups. Refer to the section entitled @{" Data Compression " ALink "MRBackup:Help/ MRB_Compression.guide/main" } for details on the use of this setting. ↔

1.6 decompression gadget

The setting of this gadget is only meaningful during a restore operation. It specifies the maximum compression code size (in bits) to be decompressed when restoring files. Files that were compressed with larger compression codes will be restored in their compressed state. Though you would typically choose this setting to match the Compression setting, there may be reasons for setting it to a different value. Refer to the section entitled @{" Data Compression " ALink "MRBackup:Help/MRB_Compression.guide/main" } for details. ↔

1.7 formatting gadget

This gadget only has meaning when performing an AmigaDOS-compatible backup. It selects the formatting method used to initialize each backup disk. Clicking on this gadget causes it to cycle through its range of values which are Normal, Quick and None, described below:

Normal Use this setting for new disks which have never been formatted or when you simply want to completely reformat your backup disks. This method requires the most time.

- Quick Use this method for disks which have been previously formatted for AmigaDOS use. Only the filesystem header blocks are initialized, requiring very little time.
- None This is a special setting which should be used with care. You might wish to use this setting with diskettes which have been preformatted and are known to be empty or when "refreshing" a backup which is known to require only one diskette.

1.8 filesystem gadget

This gadget is a companion to the Formatting gadget and is only meaningful when performing AmigaDOS backups with Formatting set to Normal or Quick. Its value toggles between FFS and Default. On Amiga systems equipped with WorkBench 2.04, you can elect to format your backup disks in Fast File System (FFS) format or the default filesystem for the disk being formatted.

1.9 force copy gadget

The Force Copy gadget is only relevant for restore operations. It is a cycle gadget which can be set to "Never", "Prompt" or "Always". When set to "Never" or "Prompt", MRBackup checks for the existence of each file before restoring it. If the file does not exist, it is restored. If the file does exist and its creation date is newer or the same date as the file in the saveset, the file is not automatically copied. If the "Never" option is selected, the file is skipped and a message is output to the log file. If the "Prompt" option is selected, MRBackup will ask for permission to restore the file.

** NOTE: **

When the "Always" option is selected, no check for existing files is performed. Files are always restored. If you are restoring files to an empty or newly-formatted partition, use the "Always" option since the "Never" and "Prompt" options impose a significant overhead and can noticeably slow down restore operations.

1.10 split big files gadget

This button is only meaningful for the AmigaDOS backup mode. It is a Yes/No switch which enables or disables MRBackup's splitting of big files. A big file is one which is larger than the capacity of an empty diskette. If this gadget indicates Yes, MRBackup will split big files across multiple diskettes. Each diskette will have a special file, MRBackup.bigfile, in addition to its segment of the big file. This special file contains information describing the file segment on each diskette.

1.11 test arc. bits gadget

When this button indicates Yes, MRBackup will only backup files whose archive bits are clear . AmigaDOS clears a file's archive bit whenever that file is modified. Using this option allows you to backup only files which have changed since the last time you did a backup with the Set Archive Bits option (below) enabled. This filtering is done in addition to any other filtering options you may be using. Please note that the AmigaDOS interpretation of the archive bit is reversed from that of the MS-DOS environment where a set bit indicates that the file has not been archived.

1.12 set arc. bits gadget

If this button is enabled, MRBackup will set the archive bit on every file that it backs up. Note that the setting of archive bits is deferred until the backup is successfully completed. This guards against leaving the archive bits in a false state, should the backup fail.

1.13 empty dirs gadget

This gadget toggles between Keep and Omit and governs the disposition of empty directories when a backup is performed. When the Keep state is set, empty directories (directories containing no files or subdirectories) and their attributes are preserved. When the Omit state is selected, empty directories are "pruned" from the backup. If you're not sure which setting is appropriate, choose Keep.

1.14 error handling gadget

MRBackup provides for interactive error recovery or automatic termination upon detection of an error. The range of values for error handling are:

Interactive	MRBackup asks how the error is to be handled
Abort	MRBackup will immediately abort a backup or restore upon detecting any error.

Normally, you will use the Interactive setting.

1.15 sort gadget

This gadget governs the order that files are copied during a backup. If Yes is chosen, files and directories are backed up in alphabetical order, perhaps at a slight penalty in speed but with the advantage of a well-ordered catalog and save-set. If No is chosen, files are backed up in the order that they are delivered to MRBackup by the filesystem.

1.16 verify writes gadget

This setting is only meaningful for Fast Disk backups to floppy diskettes. When set to Yes, each track is read back after it is written and compared to the data that was written. The user is informed of errors immediately. There is an approximate 50% increase in the time required to fill a diskette when write verification is enabled, but it is highly recommended.

1.17 ok button

This button indicates that you are through setting options. If the options window was presented as the result of initiating a backup or restore, the operation will proceed.

1.18 saveset comment gadget

This is a comment which you can store with your Fast Disk or SCSI Tape saveset to clearly identify the nature of the backup. As an example, you might enter the following comment:

```
Special backup of partition XYZ: for Harry Herring.
```

1.19 cancel button

The Cancel button is only active when a backup or restore has been initiated. Clicking it will terminate the process and return you to the General Parameters window.