

patchalert

COLLABORATORS

	<i>TITLE :</i> patchalert		
<i>ACTION</i>	<i>NAME</i>	<i>DATE</i>	<i>SIGNATURE</i>
WRITTEN BY		October 27, 2024	

REVISION HISTORY

NUMBER	DATE	DESCRIPTION	NAME

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Chapter 1

patchalert

1.1 PatchAlert 1.0 Guide

Press the different gadgets to inform yourself about this program !

- About this software
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- Copyrights
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READ THE DISCLAIMER BEFORE YOU RUN PATCHALERT!

1.2 About this software

If you've been using your Amiga for a while, you can't have missed the Guru Meditation - SoftWare Failure requester. When a program, for example, tries to free a memoryblock more than once, you'll get several \$01000005-alerts, and after a while a DEAD END alert. This force the machine to reboot, and you feel that you can throw your piece of garbage through the window, 'cause 4 hours of work is lost in a nano-second...

Here, PatchAlert makes your day! By patching the Alert() function in exec.library, you'll be able to remove the task who failed, view the alert or try to continue.

Some Viruscheckers may protest and say that vector -108 (or -\$6c) in exec.library is infected by some unknown virus. This 'virus' is PatchAlert,

so don't worry!

PatchAlert is **FREEWARE**, so you can use it and copy it as long as the archive remains unchanged. No costs except for disks, copying and distribution may be charged. If you're going to distribute PatchAlert in any way (except for aminet) please let me know.

Donations are welcome, but not needed. If you like this software, please let me know.

1.3 disclaimer

Once you've installed PatchAlert, the responsibility is all yours. PatchAlert is distributed with no special purpose, and in no way can the author be held responsible for any damage caused by the use or misuse of this program.

No warranty is granted in any way by C.Beskow or Cub Arts Software.

1.4 copyrights

Amiga and everything associated with this computer is © Commodore-Amiga Inc

PatchAlert and its code is © C.Beskow - Cub Arts Software - 1994.

You may not disassemble the code and/or change it in any way.

1.5 requirements

You need one or more Amiga(s) to run this software :) , and OS2.0 or higher. You also need at least 2kB of free memory. PatchAlert won't work on preOS2.0machines, so you better upgrade if you're still sitting on KS1.3... KS1.2/1.3-version may come in the future..

(see Future for more details!)

1.6 CLI/SHELL usage

If you start PatchAlert form the CLI/SHELL, you've got 3 different options.

1. PatchAlert <return>

This will activate/deactivate PatchAlert. If you're running PatchAlert for the first time, the Installed requester will appears. When started a second time, PatchAlert removes itself, and displays the Removed requester.

2. PatchAlert NOREQ <return>

This work as PatchAlert <return>, but no requesters will be displayed. This function is good if you put the program in S:user-startup.

3. PatchAlert INFO <return>

This will display some information. If patchalert is installed, the Information requester will display where in the memory that the patch is located.

1.7 Workbench Usage

The tooltypes supported is the same as the supported CLI/SHELL arguments. If you place PatchAlert in your WBStartup-drawer, and set the tooltype to NOREQ, PatchAlert will then perform a silent start. You can also set the tooltype to INFO, which will display the Information requester for you. Only the first tooltype will be used. There's no use to have INFO and NREQ at the same time, as nothing will happen then... :)

If no tooltypes is set, PatchAlert will then behave like this:

If you want to Install/Remove PatchAlert via Workbench, so is this very easy to do :) . Just double-click on the icon for PatchAlert. If PatchAlert isn't already installed, the Install requester will pop up. Otherwise, you'll see the Removed requester.

1.8 If activated..

If a DEAD END alert occurs, sometimes the Software Failure requester pops up. Pressing the reboot-gadget will then invoke PatchAlert as described below (if it's installed..)

If a program fails, and performs an Alert(), the PatchAlert AlertRequester pops up and leaves three options:

- Perform Alert
- Remove Task
- Continue Task

If you want to view the Guru-Meditation requester, so press Perform Alert. If the alert is a DEAD END alert, then this may reboot the machine.

Remove Task removes the failing program from the tasklist. If the program have any screens or windows open, they'll remain open.

Continue Task performs the next instruction to be executed. This may result in another alert or crash!

1.9 Distribution

If you're going to put this program on a compilation in any form, then the archive MUST contain the following UNCHANGED files:

PatchAlert	2336 bytes	-	the main program
PatchAlert.info	465 bytes	-	its icon
PatchAlert.guide	11112 bytes	-	this document
PatchAlert.guide.info	855 bytes	-	my icon
1.xusers.readme	94 bytes	-	textfile for pre2.0users
pics/alertreq.iff	2680 bytes	-	example picture
pics/informationreq.iff	8224 bytes	-	example picture
pics/installedreq.iff	2010 bytes	-	example picture
pics/removedreq.iff	1730 bytes	-	example picture
pics/softfailure.iff	2380 bytes	-	example picture

If you're going to place PatchAlert on any compilation etc. , please let me know! (exceptions : Aminet)

THIS PROGRAM MAY NOT BE SOLD! THIS IS A 100% FREeware PROGRAM!!

1.10 Test configurations:

PatchAlert have been successfully tested on the following configuration(s):

Amiga 2000C equipped with
52 MB SCSI HD
2 MB FASTMEM
1 MB CHIPMEM
2 DD-DRIVES
PLAIN 68000 CPU

If you've got a different configuration, and excellent :) results, please let me know! Thanks in advance..

1.11 Known Bugs:

Known bugs:

Some DEAD END alerts isn't recognised. They still force the machine to reboot. :(

No other bugs known.

1.12 history

PatchAlert 1.0 (27-05-94)

First release.

Bugs: See Known bugs

1.13 future

Bug mentioned in Known bugs will be removed :)

New Options:

- Windows and screens opened by removed program will be closed

1.14 comments

As english isn't my first language, this document may contain several grammatical mistakes.... Sorry..

1.15 address

If you want to contact me for some reason, feel free to do it with...

E-Mail : el9203@utbl.inh.hb.se

SnailMail : C.Beskow - PatchAlert
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 S-510 10 Horred
 SWEDEN

N.B. The E-mail address is active until JUNE 1995

1.16 thanks

Thanks to (in no special order)

F.Fridmar	-	Enchantments on my A2000
Gunther Nikl	-	Help
Sandra	-	Sleeping site
Jörgen	-	Transports
F242	-	Never Stop!
FLA	-	No Limit (NOT 2 (un)limited)
Kollberg	-	Siel Opera 6
Stephen King	-	the books
Skivhugget	-	cheap CD:s
Åbro	-	XPP
the inventor of MIDI	-	I'm connected!
S.P.O.C.K.	-	everything
Big B	-	advices
IBM	-	the Important Bullshit Machines :)
Motorola	-	680x0
DM	-	Violator
Mats	-	more Transports
Pernilla	-	healing
Nina	-	the umbrella
Goff	-	Gnuff

Mr.Bean - Both of u!
You - You're using my software!!

and the rest who I forgot....

1.17 DEAD END

A DEAD END alert occurs when your Amiga crashes as deep as possible. The only way to solve this problem is to reboot...

Example of a DEAD END alert: \$81000005

1.18 alert

Alert is an exec.library function with offset -108 (DEC) -\$6c (HEX)

1.19 PatchAlert

PatchAlert is the SOFTWARE you're reading about.....

1.20 är