

**\_eng**

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# Chapter 1

## \_eng

### 1.1 \_eng.guide

FDB 1.4 - Documentation

\*\*\*\*\*

Read first:

Copyright	Copyright and disclaimer.
Changes	What's new?
Description	What is FDB?
Arguments	Options to set.
Preferences	Arguments often used.
Requirements	What you need!
Installation	How to install.
Limitations	This is limited!

Appendices:

History	History of FDB.
ToDo	What is to do in future?
Examples	How to use and generate databases.
Credits	Thanks are going to ...
Index	Index of this document.

### 1.2 \_eng.guide/Copyright

Copyright

\*\*\*\*\*

FDB (C) 1993-95 kMel, Klaus Melchior

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These programs cannot be used for commercial purposes without written permission by the author. The author can not be made responsible for any damage which is caused by using these programs.

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These programs are GiftWare. If you like them and use them regularly, you should consider to send a small donation to the author in order to honor the work he has put into these programs.  
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### 1.3 \_eng.guide/Changes

Changes

\*\*\*\*\*

Changes since 1.3:

- \* path where to find the databases is defineable, but default is 'FindDB:'
  - \* size of buffer when loading a database is defineable, databases can be loaded in parts
  - \* FDB with faster search routine
  - \* database path, buffer size & options can be stored in an environment variable
  - \* new programm: CDB, to convert databases into ASCII and vice versa
  - \* avoid files during the UDB scan
  - \* LDB lists files matching a pattern
  - \* memory pools
-

\* bugs fixed

## 1.4 \_eng.guide/Description

What is FDB?

\*\*\*\*\*

FDB & UDB are based on find/updatedb-utilities from Larry Phillips and Martin Steppler. If you already have installed them it is easy to use my tools, because they are compatible. I use the same kind of database.

LDB & CDB are new programs, which can be used to change the databases.

UDB	Update DataBase
FDB	Find DataBase
LDB	List DataBase
CDB	Convert DataBase

## 1.5 \_eng.guide/desc\_UDB

What is UDB?

\*\*\*\*\*

UDB generates a database in a path you can specify, default is "FindDB:", which you must first assign to some place on your harddisk. It scans all directories and files specified in the file "FindDB:<db>.config". This file must contain only one line; pathnames are separated by spaces, e.g.:

Filename	Contents
-----	-----
FindDB:find.config	-> Work: Sys:
FindDB:test.config	-> RAM:
FindDB:<db>.config	-> <path> <path> ...

To avoid paths you can define a 'AP=AvoidPaths' pattern in this line. You only have to set a '~' (tilde) at the begin of the pattern. There should be only one 'AvoidPaths' pattern in the line.

If you would scan the "S:" and the "man:" directory, without all "guide" drawers, generate following line:

Filename	Contents
-----	-----
FindDB:test2.config	-> S: ~(#?guide/) man:

---

To avoid files you can define a 'AF=AvoidFiles' pattern in this line. You only have to set a '!' at the begin of the pattern. There should be only one in the line, too.

If you would scan the GoldFish-CDROM without all the "disk.info"s, generate following config line:

Filename	Contents
-----	-----
FindDB:test3.config	-> CD0: !disk.info

<db> is the name of the database. So you can have several databases in your "FindDB:", e.g. one of the last Fish-CD, one of all your Sources, ... . Default of <db> is "find", like Larry's find.

Furhermore, udb provides scanning of several paths without having to create a <db>.config file. You can simply specify the paths in the command line, e.g.:

```
udb db test RAM: SYS:
```

This leads to the consecutive scanning of "RAM:" and "SYS:". The names of all files and dirs are stored in the database "test".

## 1.6 \_eng.guide/desc\_FDB

What is FDB?

\*\*\*\*\*

FDB finds quickly files/dirs by using these databases.

If your are looking for a file on an already scanned CDROM, you only have to specify the name of the database and the filename, e.g. you want to locate 'ToolManager' on the third 'FreshFish'-CDROM:

```
fdb db fresh03 ToolManager
```

If you don't know where to find 'ToolManager' in your databases, select all databases while typing:

```
fdb db #? ToolManager
```

If you don't have enough memory to load the whole database, you can specify the size of the buffer in depend on our free memory.

```
fdb ToolManager db gold1 bs 100000
```

## 1.7 \_eng.guide/desc\_LDB

---

What is LDB?

\*\*\*\*\*

LDB lists the files/dirs in the specified database. If you don't want to see all the entries, specify a pattern.

```
ldb find p #?.a
```

## 1.8 \_eng.guide/desc\_CDB

What is CDB?

\*\*\*\*\*

CDB converts the specified database into a plain ASCII file, which you can edit and then re-convert it. This can also be used to convert simple 'tar' lists into a FDB database.

```
cdb ImportASCII TarLists:backup_001.lst DB backup1
```

## 1.9 \_eng.guide/Arguments

CLI arguments

\*\*\*\*\*

These are the options/arguments, which the following program can be started from CLI/shell.

UDB

FDB

LDB

CDB

## 1.10 \_eng.guide/args\_UDB

UDB arguments

\*\*\*\*\*

Paths/M

paths to scan. If no paths are specified, <db>.config is used

DB=DataBase/K

specify a database, default is "find"

DBP=DBPath/K

---



here you can define a path where the databases are stored

AP=AvoidPaths/K

specify a pattern, which `_expanded_` paths should not be scanned,  
e.g.: use `"#?guide/"` to avoid the `"3.x:s/guide/"` path

AF=AvoidFiles/K

define a pattern, which files should not be stored in the database,  
e.g.: use `"#?.info"` to avoid all icons

V=Verbose/S

while scanning through the database the momentary path is displayed

## 1.11 `_eng.guide/args_FDB`

FDB arguments

\*\*\*\*\*

P=Pattern/A

amiga-pattern, is used between two `"#?"`, so a pattern like `"foo"` is  
really `"#?foo#?"`, seen at Larry's find.

DB=DataBase/K

specify a database, default is `"find"`; if here a pattern is used,  
FDB look into `"FindDB:"` and if the pattern match, these databases  
are scanned.

DBP=DBPath/K

here you can define a path where the databases are read

E=Exact/S

the pattern at `'P=Pattern/A'` is used exactly the way you specified  
it and is not expanded to `"#?<pattern>#?"`.

CS=CaseSensitive/S

the pattern is handled casesensitive

D=Dirs/S

only show directories

F=Files/S

only show files

NH=NoHead/S

no headers are displayed, entries are not sorted

NP=NoPath/S

no absolute pathnames are displayed

PG=Pages/S

the output is handled in pages, `'return'` to continue, other key &  
`'return'` to break

BS=BufferSize/K/N

---

define the size of the buffer the databases are loaded in, at least  
2048 bytes

## 1.12 \_\_eng.guide/args\_LDB

LDB arguments  
\*\*\*\*\*

DB=DataBase/K  
specify a database, default is "find"

DBP=DBPath/K  
here you can define a path where the databases are read

P=Pattern/K  
define the pattern, which is used for matching the entries while  
output

## 1.13 \_\_eng.guide/args\_CDB

CDB arguments  
\*\*\*\*\*

C=Command/A  
these are the available commands you have to specify here

IA=ImportASCII  
the ASCII file is imported into the specified database

EA=ExportASCII  
the specified database is exported as ASCII file

F=File/A  
specify the file

DB=DataBase/K/A  
specify a database, default is "find"

DBP=DBPath/K  
here you can define a path where the databases are read

P=Pattern/K  
define the pattern, which is used for matching the entries while  
converting

## 1.14 \_\_eng.guide/Preferences

---

Arguments often used

\*\*\*\*\*

The preferenes file is stored at "ENV:FDB.prefs".

; Preferences for FDB, UDB, LDB and CDB

DBPath finddb:

;BufferSize 50000

;FDB NoHead

FDB Pages

UDB Verbose

Every valid line must have two words seperated by a space. Every argument in a single line. A ';' in front marks the line as comment.

This data is global for all programs:

- DBPath <path>

- BufferSize <size in bytes>

This is the known keyword for UDB:

- UDB Verbose

FDB knows these:

- FDB CaseSensitive

- FDB Exact

- FDB NoHead

- FDB NoPath

- FDB Pages

## 1.15 \_eng.guide/Requirements

What you need !

\*\*\*\*\*

- Kickstart >= 2.0

- Workbench >= 2.0

---

## 1.16 \_eng.guide/Installation

How to install!

\*\*\*\*\*

You could create a drawer like "FindDB" and set an assign "FindDB:" on it. All tools of FDB are requiring this assign, so you have to create it. Every of the <db>.config and <db>.codes files are stored there.

So you should create these lines in your "user-startup" like this:

```
BEGIN FindDB
"assign FindDB: Work:finddb/"
END FindDB
```

If you don't want this assign, use the argument "DBPath", here you can define where to put/get the databases. This path can be stored in the preferences (see Preferences).

All arguments (see Arguments) can be stored in the preferences (see Preferences), too.

Copy the "bin/" files to a place where you already have a path on, normally this is "C:" or "bin:".

```
copy bin/#? C:
```

The example preferences file can be copied to 'ENV:'.

```
copy env/#? ENV:
```

## 1.17 \_eng.guide/Limitations

This is limited!

\*\*\*\*\*

UDB

===

- commandline in "<db>.config" is limited to 1023 bytes, only one line

FDB

===

- found path & filename are limited to 1023 characters

LDB

===

- path & filename are limited to 1023 characters
-

## 1.18 \_eng.guide/History

### History of FDB

\*\*\*\*\*

- 1.0 12.12.93 \* first public release
- 31.12.93 + FDB: added 'P=PAGES' mode
- 1.1 \* private release
- 07.02.94 + FDB: rewrote find routine in assembler
- 08.02.94 + FDB: mode 'E=EXACT': locating with "MatchPattern"
- FDB: corrected bug, break wasn't recognized at startup (Andreas Harrenberg)
- FDB: corrected template & doc, 'NH=NoHead' (Gottfried Janik)
- FDB: corrected bug, break at mode 'P=PAGES' was recognized too late
- 09.02.94 - doc corrected (Martin Steppler)
- UDB: corrected bug, break wasn't recognized at startup (Andreas Harrenberg)
- 1.2 10.02.94 \* release
- 03.03.94 - FDB: corrected bug with ReadArgs()
- UDB: corrected bug with ReadArgs()
- 08.03.94 + UDB: rearranged source for better error handling
- + UDB: added option 'AP=AvoidPaths', a pattern of paths not to scan (Thomas Kobler)
- > LDB: created
- 19.03.94 + doc rewritten in texinfo
- + release contains now doc & guide file
- 21.03.94 > german documentation
- + FDB: now 'DB=DataBase/K' can contain a pattern to select several databases (a spezi from bavaria)
- 25.03.94 - german doc corrected (Andreas Harrenberg)
- LDB: 'DB=DataBase/K' changed into 'DB=DataBase/A' (Andreas Harrenberg)
- + UDB: 'AP=AvoidPaths' could also be set in the <db>.config (Andreas Harrenberg)
- 27.03.94 - doc corrections (Martin Steppler)
- 1.3 30.03.94 \* release
- 16.09.94 + UDB: 'AF=AvoidFiles', a pattern of files not to scan (Gottfried Janik)
- + UDB: 'AF=AvoidFiles' could also be set in the <db>.config

- 12.07.95 + FDB: assembler search routine, speed increased
  - + documentation changed
  - UDB: bug in AvoidPaths/Files recognition routine fixed
  - + memory pools used
  - UDB: eats memory if breaking the scan, fixed
- 14.07.95 + FDB: ENV:fdb.prefs (Ibi)
  - + FDB: DB=DBPath/K, path of databases
  - + documentation changed
- 15.07.95 + german documentation adapted
  - + UDB: DB=DBPath/K, path of databases
  - + LDB: DB=DBPath/K, path of databases
- 16.07.95 + FDB: BS=BufferSize/K/N, size of the buffer loading in a database (Khamsonh M. Khounlivong)
  - FDB: bug in breaking find routine with BufferSize (Gottfried Janik)
  - + UDB: V=Verbose/S (Khamsonh M. Khounlivong)
- b1 17.07.95 + find routines rewritten, faster
  - \* beta release
  - + LDB: P=PATTERN/K, lists only files matching this pattern (Andreas Harrenberg)
- b2 \* beta release
  - LDB: now DB=DataBase instead of DB=DataBase/A
  - + support of FlexIcons
- b3 19.07.95 \* beta release
- 27.07.95 > CDB: created (Henning Huckle)
  - + CDB: command IA=ImportAscii
  - + CDB: command EA=ExportAscii
  - \* CDB: beta release to Henning Huckle
- b4 28.07.95 \* beta release
- 07.08.95 + documents changed for TexInfoMake
- 13.08.95 + more document changes for TexInfoMake
  - + UDB: change VERBOSE/S output (Khamsonh M. Khounlivong)
  - + CDB: version bumped to 1.0
- 07.09.95 + FDB: xpk support added [Angela Schmidt]
  - + FDB: checks database file contents
- b5 \* beta release
- 16.09.95 - FDB: xpk support removed
  - \* release
- 1.4

## 1.19 \_eng.guide/ToDo

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What is to do in future?

\*\*\*\*\*

- UDB: switch "Append/S"
- FDB: NoHead/K, working 'Dirs'/'Files'
- UDB: softlinks
- FDB: sorted lists
- MDB: MUI-Application, rearrange the databases
- UDB: Option, not to use a temporary file while scanning UDB:  
Option, daß die temporäre Datei während des Durchsuchens nicht  
benutzt wird
- LDB: use BufferSize/K
- define a extended database format to store name, size, date
- CDB: import AmiBack index files
- locale support
- installer script

## 1.20 \_eng.guide/Examples

Example databases

\*\*\*\*\*

You can find several CDROM databases on Aminet: "FDB\_Data.lha",  
"FDB\_Data2.lha", ... and many of them on the "Meeting Pearls"-CDROMs,  
so these are the databases of the "Meeting Pearls II"-CD:

```
17BitA 17BitB amazing aminet1 aminet2 aminet3 aminet4 aplus cats2
CDexchangel demo2 DESKTOPLIB1 euroscenel fresh1 fresh1_virus fresh2
fresh3 fresh4 fresh5 fresh6 fresh7 freshfonts1 gold1 gold2 megahits1
NetworkCD pandoras pearls1 saarl saar2 SoundsTerrific1_2
SoundsTerrific2_2 SourceCodeCDROM_0392 update1 X11R5_GNU_CDROM1292
```

For example, if you are looking for FindPearls on the "Meeting Pearls  
II"-CD, you only have to type in following line:

```
fdb findpearls db pearls2
```

And this is the answer FDB gives you:

```
Directories
```

```
-----
```

```
Meeting_Pearls_II:Contrib/FindPearls/
Meeting_Pearls_II:Contrib/FindPearls/Contrib/
```

---

```
Meeting_Pearls_II:Contrib/FindPearls/Catalogs/
Meeting_Pearls_II:Contrib/FindPearls/Catalogs/français/
Meeting_Pearls_II:Contrib/FindPearls/Catalogs/deutsch/

Files
-----
Meeting_Pearls_II:FindPearls.info
Meeting_Pearls_II:FindPearls
Meeting_Pearls_II:SYS/S/FindPearls.config
Meeting_Pearls_II:SYS/S/FindPearls.prefs
Meeting_Pearls_II:Index/FindPearlsDB
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Meeting_Pearls_II:Contrib/FindPearls/Catalogs/français/FindPearls.catalog
Meeting_Pearls_II:Contrib/FindPearls/Catalogs/deutsch/FindPearls.catalog
```

To create databases of your own CDROMs, generate first a .config file with the real volume name of the CD, not only "CD0:". Furthermore there should be more lines with the name of the CD, the copyright and the manufactor, or other related comments.

```
"Meeting Pearls II:" ~(#?:SetAttribDir|#?:T)
```

```
Meeting Pearls, Ausgabe II
(c) 1995 Angela Schmidt
Stefan Ossowskis Schatztruhe
```

## 1.21 \_eng.guide/Credits

Thanks are going to ...

\*\*\*\*\*

- Martin Stepler, Andreas Harrenberg for testing & doc-corrections
  - Stefan Becker for his TM.texi, Stefan Stuntz, Ibi
  - Gottfried Janik for testing
  - Joerg Gutzke, Thomas Kobler, Dirk Ludwig, Henning Hucke
  - Angela Schmidt, Khamsonh M. Khounlivong for supporting FDB databases on the "Meeting Pearls"-CDs
  - and all I forgot to mention ...
-



## 1.22 \_\_eng.guide/Index

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