

CronTask.guide.eng

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Chapter 1

CronTask.guide.eng

1.1 Contents

CronTask 1.10 1994-10-26, ©1994 JoJoSoft
Written by Johnny Sjöö and Johan Ljunggren
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1.3 important

DISCLAIMER

The authors doesn't take any responsibility whatsoever for any damage caused by CronTask, the user is fully responsible for any changes caused on the system where the program is being (mis)used. By using this program you show that you understand and agree with this.

Though we have of course done anything in our power to make CronTask reliable, and working safely in the background, without causing any problems, and without eating processor time.

1.4 crontask

About CronTask

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1.5 about

What is CronTask?

A Cron utility, a program that allows you to select different actions to be executed at different times. It runs in the background, can be made to execute multiple lines on one time. Can be configured to do something at a special time/date, monthly, daily, or whatever you can think of! It's got anything you might ever want from a utility of it's kind, and if not - contact the authors! :-)

CronTask is to be run at each startup, and should therefore be located in your WBStartup directory, or in your User-Startup. It is configured with the use of the program CronPrefs, which is CronTasks contact with the user. This is from where the user gets to control CronTask and enter what to be executed and when. Read Configuration for more information on how to configure CronTask.

CronTask is released as Freeware, which means that it can be freely distributed, as long as the archive stays intact, and no changes are made to any of the files. It also may not be sold for profit, and only a nominal fee to cover disk costs etc. may be charged.

The contents of this archive are ©1994 JoJoSoft.

1.10 installation

Installation

There are two ways of installing CronTask; manually or automagically. To have CronTask automatically installed, just doubleclick the supplied Installer-script (it is recommended that you use this option). For those of you that still wants to install it by yourselves, follow these simple steps:

To install CronTask, copy 'CronTask' to your WBStartup directory, and copy 'CronPrefs' to your Prefs directory. Then copy the 'cronserver.library' to your Libs directory. Then you can run the CronPrefs and configure CronTask as you want it, se Configuration for more information on how to configure CronTask. Remember to keep the documetation as well, you might need it later on if you'd like to edit your settings but can't remember everything.

If you prefer to run CronTask from your User-Startup, you can copy it to where ever you want to, and then enter the complete search path in your User-Startup instead. CronTask can then take an argument - the CronEvent file. If you don't enter any argument, the ordinary setting-directory will instead be used - ENV:.

If you wish to exit CronTask, without having to enter CronPrefs, you can always use the argument QUIT to end the active CronTask. If CronTask isn't running, nothing will happen if you use QUIT.

You can also start using another configuration, even though CronTask is already running. Just use the new configurations search pat as an argument to CronTask, and it will be informed of what config to start using instead of the current one.

1.11 configuration

Configurating CronPrefs

Menus in CronPrefs	Buttons in CronPrefs			
Project	Change	Times	Actions	
		Save	Use	Cancel
Internal Commands	ToolTypes			

1.12 tooltypes

Tooltypes for CronTask:

Tooltypes for CronPrefs:

1.13 fileop

Save, Use och Cancel

The 'Save' button saves the current configuration with the name that was last loaded. If the default config is chosen it will be saved to EnvArc:Cron/CronEvents, and to the file Env:Cron/CronEvents. If the directory Env:Cron doesn't exist, it will be created automagically. This configuration will then be used by CronTask. If CronTask isn't activated, nothing will happen.

The 'Use' button forces CronTask to use the current configuration, and it will only be saved in ENV:Cron/ (if the default-config is used), but it will not be saved on a physical device (that survives a reboot). So if you quit CronTask the changes will be lost. If CronTask isn't activated, this button will have the same function as 'Cancel'. If so, a requester will show up to warn you about this.

The 'Cancel' button quits CronPrefs and CronTask will continue without any changes.

1.14 times

The Time configuration buttons.

Times - Add

This button lets you add a time when something is to happen. When you press it a window will pop up where you can edit the data for the specifik time.

The wildcard '*' means that all times are valid.

You can also press the 'A' key when the CronPrefs window is activated instead of clicking the button.

- 'Event name' - Is the name of the data, that is to be shown in the list below 'Times'.
 - 'Year' - This is the year the action(s) will be executed. '*' means that the time is executed regardless of the year.
 - 'Month' - To choose a specific month, or '*' for all months.
-

- 'MDay' - This is what day of the month (date) the actions are to be executed. '*' for all days.
- 'Week Day' - Picks a week day to execute the action(s). '*' is for all seven of 'em.
- 'Hour.Minute' - Specifies a time for the execution. '*' here means that it is to be executed every hour/ every minute for an hour or every minute for the hour(s) set.

The 'Ok' button accepts the settings and the 'Cancel' button stops the adding and discards the entered data. The close-gadget in the upper left corner has the same function as 'Cancel'.

Times - Edit

This button works just like the 'Add', but can only be used if a time is highlighted. The same window as for 'Add' will come up, but you can instead edit the time that you've entered earlier. The 'Ok' button accepts the changes, and the 'Cancel' button cancels the editing and discards the changes. You can also press the 'E' key when the CronPrefs window is activated instead of clicking the button. You can also double-click a time to edit it.

Times - Remove

This button can only be picked if a time is highlighted. It will then delete the selected time, and you can get it back only if you saved the configuration before removing the entry. You can also press the 'R' key when the CronPrefs window is activated instead of clicking the button.

Time is Enabled/Disabled

This button allows you to enable/disable a time. There is also an option 'Disabled Once', that disables the time once, and when that time occurs the entry is again activated and will be executed the next time.

1.15 actions

Buttons that configures the actions to be executed at the chosen time.

```
{ }
```

This gadget brings up a requester that displays all the available Internal Commands.

Actions - Add

This button adds a command to be executed at the chosen time. You must enter the complete search path. You can also drop an Icon in the list/window above, and it will be added automatically to the list in WB-mode. You can also press the 'd' key when the CronPrefs window is activated instead of clicking the button.

Actions - Up

This button will move the highlighted action up one step in the list, if there is an action above it. You can also press the 'U' key when the CronPrefs window is activated instead of clicking the button.

Actions - Down

This button will move the highlighted action down one step in the list, if there is an action below it. You can also press the 'o' key when the CronPrefs window is activated instead of clicking the button.

Actions - Remove

This button will delete the highlighted entry. You can only get it back if it was saved in the original configuration. You can also press the 'm' key when the CronPrefs window is activated instead of clicking the button.

Actions - CLI/WB

This buttons displays wether the entry is to be executed as if it had been entered in a CLI window, or as if it had been clicked on in the Workbench. If you select 'CLI', you will also have to decide a stack. The default is 4096 bytes. If an action is executed as a WB-action, the information in the icon will be used.

Actions - Log

When you press this button the line next to it is activated, and you can there enter a filename wherein all CronTasks actions are to be logged.

1.16 commands

Internal Commands in CronPrefs

To use the internal commands, you can either press the "{ }" button in CronPrefs for a list of the available commands, or type them in yourself. In that case you must enter {Command} (with required arguments afterwards) for it to work. Below is a list of the available internal commands:

{BREAK}

Is used to break out of a block that you're currently in.

{COUNTER}[n]

Increases/creates a counter. The result is always what the counter is at when the line is executed. If you only enter {COUNTER} without an argument, the current value will be increased, and the result will be what the counter is afterwards. If you send a number as an argument, the counter adds that value, and the value will be the result.

{DELAY}n

Waits n seconds before the event list will continue to be executed.

{ELSE}

Executes the block if the previous IF failed.

{ENDIF}

Terminates an IF-block.

{EXISTS}filename

Checks to see if a file exists. The result will be 0 if the file doesn't exist, and 1 if it does.

{FAILAT}n

If the return code exceeds n, the script will be terminated.

{IF}

Compares the given argument with the last return value from an execution or from the requester. I.E. {IF} = 2

Workbench programs will return 0 if it couldn't be run, and 1 if it went well. Everything else returns its return code, if nothing else is said (i.e. internal commands).

Example of a conditional block:

```
{IF} = 4      (Starts a conditional block)
»Dopus      (IF-block)
{ELSE}      (starts the ELSE block)
»TrapDoor   (ELSE-block)
{ENDIF}     (Terminates the conditional block)
```

{JUMP}

Jumps to a line in the event list.

{LOGLINE}text

Sends a line to a possible log file. [text] is the text that will be sent to the log.

{OUTPUT}

Selects a device for further output - con: prt: or a file.

{REQ}

Used to display a requester.

example: {REQ}Title/Text/Gadgets/TIMED10

Title = The Title of the requester.

Text = The text of the requesters. '\n' in the text = new line in the requester.

Gadgets = The buttons of the requester. Separated with a '|'. The rightmost button always returns a value of 0. Otherwise, the buttons return values expanding from the left. I.E:

```
gadget: "Option 1|Option 2|Option 3|Option 4"
result:      1      2      3      0
```

```
gadget: "Ok|Cancel"  
result: 1      0
```

OPTIONS:

TIMED = Forces the requester to disappear after the entered time.
The requester will return 0 when the time runs out.
I.E. TIMED10. The Requester will be displayed for 10 secs.

```
{STOP}
```

Exits everything - quits the events of the current time.

1.17 project

The Project menu

Project - Open...

Loads a configuration that's been saved earlier.
You can instead of choosing it from the menu press RAmiga+O.

Project - Save as...

Saves the current configuration, but allows the user to decide
in what file. You can instead of choosing it from the menu
press RAmiga+S.

Project - Save as default

Saves the current configuration as default. In ENV: and in
ENVARC:, that is.

Project - Time info

Shows info about the highlighted time.
You can instead of choosing it from the menu press RAmiga+I.

Project - About...

Shows some info about CronTask/CronPrefs.
You can instead of choosing it from the menu press RAmiga+A.

Project - Quit

Exits CronPrefs without saving the settings. If CronTask is running, a requester will tell you that CronTask will quit as well. If CronTask is running, and also has started tasks, you will have to choose whether you want to try to interrupt the running task(s), or if you wish to wait for the active tasks to finish before CronTask quits. In both cases, CronTask won't start any more tasks. You can instead of choosing it from the menu press RAmiga+Q.

1.18 change

The Change menu

Change - Time...

Runs the program 'Time' in prefs, to allow you to edit the time right from within CronPrefs. You can instead of choosing it from the menu press RAmiga+T.

Change - Action Up

The same thing as the button 'Up' under 'Actions', it moves the highlighted entry up one step. You can instead of choosing it from the menu press RAmiga+U.

Change - Action Down

The same thing as the button 'Down' under 'Actions', it moves the highlighted entry down one step. You can instead of choosing it from the menu press RAmiga+D.

Change - EventNames.

If checked, the timelist in the mainwindow will contain the names of the events, instead of timedata.
