

Morgul Player 1.49 documentation

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COLLABORATORS

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Morgul Player 1.49 documentation

[illegible]

- What is Morgul Player?
- Requirements
- Instructions
- Possible bugs
- Tested configurations
- Distribution policy
- List of registered users
- List of distribution sites
- Frequently asked questions
- Contacting the author
- Greetings, history
- Morgul in the press

Morgul is free software, which means you can copy it to your friends, upload it to BBS's and FTP sites, and distribute in other similar ways as long as no money is involved and all the files are included. If you find yourself using this program, you are asked to send me a postcard or a CD(-Rom). My mail address and more specific

info about terms of distribution can be found at the end of this file. For more information, see Distribution policy.
If a company or a Magazine, like PC HOME!, which publishes PD/SW software on CD-Rom or floppies, wishes to include Morgul in their publication, they must send me one copy of the Cd-Rom/floppy they are publishing so I can get a look at how Morgul is being distributed.
Exception: Walnut Creek CD-Rom and Garbo can publish Morgul on any CD without permission.

I am also willing to make special editions for special purposes, contact me for more information.

Currently the following popular sound cards and their compatibles are supported:

- 1 Sound Blaster
- 2 Sound Blaster Pro
- 3 PAS+
- 4 PAS16
- 5 SB16 and SB AWE 32
- 6 general DAC (Covox)
- 7 Aria cards, like Audiobahn
- 8 Windows Sound System & compatibles, like AudioTrix Pro and Compaq BusinessAudio
- 9 Gravis Ultrasound and Gus MAX
- 10 PC Speaker
- 11 Stereo DAC (LPT1 & 2)
- 12 Stereo-on-1 DAC

The following file formats are currently supported:

MOD,NST	Sound/Noise/Pro/Fast/TakeTracker,PT4Gus and so on, also reverse file names (MOD.* NST.*) are supported.
STM	Scream Tracker 2.x 4 channel files
S3M	Scream Tracker 3 1-16 channel files (AdLib channels not supported)
MTM	MultiTracker 1-32 channel files
FAR	Farandole Tracker 16-channel files
669	669 Composer 8-channel files
AMF	Special module format which only DSMI players can play. Other modules converted to this format will be smaller than the originals.

What separates Morgul from other players is the advanced file manager where you can choose files using the arrow keys or tag several files into play queues. You can also COPY and DELETE wanted/unwanted files! The file manager is active always, not only before the actual module playing. All common archive formats are supported, and the archives are searched for module files which can then be played like any other modules. Morgul takes care of calling the unarchiver. Archive formats currently supported are ARJ, ZIP, LZH/LHA, SQZ, RAR, UC2 and HA.

For playing the larger modules, Morgul can take advantage of EMS memory, loading the instruments into EMS.

Digital, user-definable effects makes modules sound even better than they used to! For example, Hall Reverb can make modules sound like they were played in a big hall. Currently available effect types are reverb and filter. The Reverb effects can be edited real-time.

Some or all of the channels can be Surround-Panned.

Because of advanced mixing techniques, the sound quality is generally better on 8-bit cards than with other players, and Morgul is one of the few players to take advantage of the extra sound quality offered by the 16-bit sound cards. Sound quality can be further enhanced by using the 2 available filters.

Because Morgul is very feature-rich, there is a quick help screen, a command menu, and online hypertext documentation (which is actually this file). These can help you take full advantage of Morgul's capabilities.

Morgul can be configured to your tastes by using the configuration file Morgul.cfg. All command line switches can be put to the MORGUL environment variable so you don't have to type them over and over again.

You can try out and play the samples in the modules and then save them in unsigned or signed (Amiga) raw, Microsoft WAVE or Scream Tracker 3 formats. Support for GUS patches is coming.

In the DOS Shell, you can change the master volume and position of the module which is currently playing using the shell hotkeys + and - on the numeric keypad, accompanied with Alt or Control.

An option to use the keyboard LEDs as VU meters!

Special support for the OS/2+GUS-combo, uses some OS/2 features.

4Dos/Ndos description file support. Module names, PCX information and archive content information are saved into descriptions. If a file already has a description, it will not be changed.

Morgul is 100% virus free!

1.3 Requirements for running Morgul Player

386 compatible processor. If you have a 486, Morgul will use some 486-specific optimizations for more speed.

VGA-compatible display adapter. EGA no longer work at all with Morgul.

Mouse and soundcard optional (although a soundcard is highly recommended, the internal speaker doesn't sound too good. If you can't afford a soundcard, build a "Covox" device which is a simple DAC in the printer port.)

If you want real sound quality, get a Gravis Ultrasound board.
(This little advertisement is not funded by Advanced Gravis,

although it certainly would not hurt me if it was :)

1.4 Possible bugs

All comments and bug reports are very welcome! See the contact info.

Some of the bug reports I receive are just about as useful as "Hi! Your program crashes on me!", so if you find a problem for which there is no solution in this document or in Morgul FAQ, please give me at least this information:

Operating system and version (type `ver /r` and give all the info it gives),
What memory manager and what version of it you were running, if any,
your `config.sys` and `autoexec.bat` contents,
what machine you have (processor, chipset, bios, video adapter),
the sound board you are using, including version numbers and everything,
specific instructions for reproducing the error situation:
Telling "Well I started it and soon it crashed." won't help me to find the bug, but if you tell the directory and path you were in, how and with what parameters Morgul was started with, the contents of the Set Morgul environment variable, the contents of the `morgul.cfg` file (you can leave out the comment lines to reduce bug report size ;) and what you did inside Morgul, and if you shelled, what software and commands you ran, I could be able to something about the problem. All error messages are important!

1.5 Instructions

Note: If you find it hard to learn all the keys, just remember this one: Alt-M. It will bring up a menu of functions and also shows the keys for each function.

ÿÿ The file system and startup

When the Morgul starts up, it loads the current directory, searching for module files. When that's done, the file selection screen shows up. Here you can move up and down in the file list with the cursor keys and tag files for playing with space or enter.

If the reading of the directory seems to take forever, like if you have lots of modules on a slow CD-Rom, you can press a key during the directory load to abort the loading of the songnames from the modules. This speeds up dir loading considerably.

There are two ways to work with files in Morgul. The default one is called the Easy mode, where everything works like in normal programs: If you press enter or space on a file, it will start playing right away. However, if you need more flexibility, you can switch off the Easy mode (press Alt-E or use the `-e` switch, or the configfile `Easymode` option.) Without the Easy mode, Morgul acts as follows:

When you tag your first file, Morgul loads it immediately and starts playing it. When you tag more files, they will be added in the playing list, so that when you press N or the currently playing module ends, it will go automatically for the next file and play that. When all files are played, it will go back to the beginning. If you have Random mode on (achieved by pressing ALT-R or using cmdline/environment parameter -o, or the config file), Morgul will play the tagged files in random order.

Because of it's features, Morgul is a good "demo" program for people who run soundcard demonstrations on their machines. They can tag several good module files and let it play through them all over and over again, without having to worry about either the player repeating the same thing all the time or changing the module themselves. If you use Morgul for this kind of purposes, you must send me a postcard from your company, in which you tell me exactly how you use the program, and what kind of company you run, and possibly other information. (You're also welcome to send me any samples of the hardware you sell, I'm always open for bribes :)

Archive support

Morgul needs the correct unpackers if you wish to play modules from archives. The unpackers are searched from the path, with these filenames: ARJ.EXE, PKUNZIP.EXE, LHA.EXE, SQZ.EXE, RAR.EXE, UC.EXE and HA.EXE. If these are not found, you will receive a "File error" message when playing archived modules.

The modules are extracted to a temp directory pointed to by the SET TEMP environment variable. If TEMP is not found, TMP is used, and if that is not found, C:\\$ARCTMP\$ will be used. It is recommended you point TEMP to a fast hard drive or a ramdisk.

Note: Even for READING UC2 files, you will need UC.EXE in your path, because the only possible way for third-party developers supporting UC2 to read the file contents is to execute UC.EXE with a special parameter and then read it's output. This is because even the directory structure of an UC2 archive is compressed! Also, to play UC2'ed files, you will probably run out of memory because UC2 needs lots of memory. If you experience this, you can use UltraStealth. Install UltraStealth into your autoexec.bat file (add C:\UC\US.EXE to the end of autoexec.bat) and enable UltraStealth from the Morgul config file by setting UltraStealth=On.

ÿ The multiple screens

The Morgul consists of 3 different screens (somebody calls them "virtual screens".) The middle one is the default one which you see at the startup: It has the file selector system. The other two ones are the top and bottom screen. You can scroll between them with Page Up and Page Down keys, or by pressing Alt-1, Alt-2, Alt-3 or Alt-4. You can also change the default startup screen with the cmdline/environment parameter -r[1,2,3,4] or in the config file.

The topmost screen is the most interesting one. Here you can see the instrument names, volume bars, and other information about the currently playing module file. It is also possible to do different

operations from here. You can play the instruments of the module YOURSELF on the keyboard! Open extra channels for yourself with the Ctrl-left and Ctrl-Right keys, then press TAB and you can move around in the instrument list with the cursor keys.

```

      2 3   5 6 7   9 0
    q w e r t y u i o p

```

These are the keys you can use for playing the instruments. If you don't want the module to disturb your fine music, press Alt-p to pause the module. If you open several extra channels, you can play several voices simultaneously.

Pressing TAB again gets you back to the normal "file" mode.

Please note that even if you're not in the file screen or in the instrument screen, you can still use all the keys. So you can press Enter anywhere to go to the next module, or play the instruments while looking at the files or the helpscreen.

Drum Machine Mode

Pressing CTRL-D brings you into the drum machine mode. In this mode, if a module is loaded, you can play different samples without first selecting them by pressing the keys from 1 to 0 and from a to z. The instrument will play at it's base frequency. This mode is especially meant for trying out drum instruments in a module. Remember that you need to have opened extra channels for Drum Machine Mode, just like you would have to in the Instrument playing mode.

Instrument saving

When you have activated the instrument playing mode with TAB, you have the red selector bar which you can also use to save the instruments to disk. Move the selector bar to the instrument you want to save (you can of course test it first!), then press Alt-S. You will be asked for the instrument type. Press S for ScreamTracker 3, W for WAV, U for 8-bit mono unsigned raw, or A for 8-bit mono signed raw (Amiga). Then you will be asked for a file name. In the file name asker, you can also see the speed and size of the instrument.

The track screen

Pressing Alt-T will activate the track screen which shows the notes, their octaves and samples go by on the channels as they are played. The track screen will replace the volume bar screen. The tracks are made of 6-character fields, looking like this:

```

E-3-01
$^3$ $^3$ $^3$ $^3$
$^3$ $^3$ $^3$ ÀÀÀÀÀÀÀÀÀÀÀÀ The number of the instrument
$^3$ $^3$ ÀÀÀÀÀÀÀÀÀÀÀÀÀÀ which is currently being played.
$^3$ $^3$
$^3$ ÀÀÀÀÀÀÀÀÀÀÀÀÀÀÀÀ The octave of the note
ÀÀÀÀÀÀÀÀÀÀÀÀÀÀÀÀ The note, and whether or not it is #'ed.

```

Press Alt-T to deactivate the track screen and get the volume bars

back. Note that if you hit alt-t twice, the whole screen will be redrawn. Use it if the screen gets messed up by something.

The graphics mode

This is the standard volume bars/scope with a background picture. While you're in the graphics mode, all the keys will still work, although you can't see much of anything. You can choose between volume bars and a crappy graphical scope by pressing Alt-1, Alt-2 or Alt-3. The colour of the scope can be changed with ctrl-r, ctrl-g and ctrl-b, like in text mode. With F4 you can cycle the colours one step at a time.

The Help Screen

Screen number 3 (the bottom one) is the help screen, accessible via either Page Down or H. There's nothing to do here except look at the instructions. It is very recommended to do so! There are many things that you would miss otherwise. Pressing Alt-H will give you this documentation if it's in the current directory or in the path. If not, it will simply give you the quick help screen. Pressing Alt-M will give you a menu where you can choose commands.

Dos Shell

While in Dos Shell you can change the volume of the music with Alt- and Alt+ (on the numeric keypad) and skip patterns with Ctrl+/Ctrl- on the numeric keypad.

File copying

If you have no tagged files, pressing Alt-C will copy the file under the cursor to the specified location. If you have tagged files, all tagged files will be copied to the location. If you specify a drive or a directory or drive+directory, the file(s) will be copied there, if you specify [drive+][directory+]filename, the file(s) will be copied to that filename.

If you have no tagged files and you are on the "." directory, all files in the directory will be copied.

You can abort the copying by pressing a key while the copy function is running.

To allow flexible pathname handling, your command processor is executed to do the actual copying. Morgul uses the COMSPEC environment variable so users of 4Dos and other command.com replacements will have no trouble at all.

Configuration file

You can change the default settings by putting the appropriate switches into a SET MORGUL=switches statement in your autoexec.bat, but you can also use the Morgul.cfg configuration file. Use any ascii editor to change the values in there, and keep the file either in your path or in the directory you start Morgul from. The configuration file options are explained in detail in the config file itself. Look at the config file before you start demanding me for new features, they might already be there! Config file parameters are


```
\textdegree{}\textdegree{}\textdegree{}$^3$ Alt-M      Menu ←
    F5/F8          Restart/Stop module $^3$\textdegree{}\textdegree{}
\textdegree{}\textdegree{}\textdegree{}$^3$ Alt-P      Pause module ←
    Alt-F          Digital Effects     $^3$\textdegree{}\textdegree{}
\textdegree{}\textdegree{}\textdegree{}$^3$ Alt-J      Shell to Dos ←
    Ctrl-F         Setup Digital Eff   $^3$\textdegree{}\textdegree{}
\textdegree{}\textdegree{}\textdegree{}$^3$ Alt-V      Toggle 80x60 mode ←
    CTRL-P        Panning setup screen$^3$\textdegree{}\textdegree{}
\textdegree{}\textdegree{}\textdegree{}$^3$ Alt-D      Delete current file ←
    PgUp/Pgdn     Scroll the files     $^3$\textdegree{}\textdegree{}
\textdegree{}\textdegree{}\textdegree{}$^3$ Alt-H,F1 ONLINE DOCS ←
    CTRL-PgUp/Dn  Scroll the screen    $^3$\textdegree{}\textdegree{}
\textdegree{}\textdegree{}\textdegree{}$^3$ Alt-T      Track screen ←
    CTRL-V        Change Master Volume$^3$\textdegree{}\textdegree{}
\textdegree{}\textdegree{}\textdegree{}$^3$ Alt-S      Instrument saving ←
    ^R, ^G, ^B    Change box colour    $^3$\textdegree{}\textdegree{}
\textdegree{}\textdegree{}\textdegree{}$^3$ Alt-R      Toggle Random order ←
    Alt-1,2,3,4   Change active screen$^3$\textdegree{}\textdegree{}
\textdegree{}\textdegree{}\textdegree{}$^3$ Alt-E      Toggle Easy filemode ←
    Tab           Switch between Instr$^3$\textdegree{}\textdegree{}
\textdegree{}\textdegree{}\textdegree{}$^3$ Alt-C      Copy files ←
                                   /File Mode       $^3$\textdegree{}\textdegree{} ←
    {}
\textdegree{}\textdegree{}\textdegree{}$^3$ Ctrl-D      Toggle drum machine mode ←
    Ctrl-Left/    Increase/Decrease    $^3$\textdegree{}\textdegree{}
\textdegree{}\textdegree{}\textdegree{}$^3$ Insert      Tag ALL files ←
    Ctrl-Right    channel amount        $^3$\textdegree{}\textdegree{}
\textdegree{}\textdegree{}\textdegree{}$^3$ Delete      UnTag ALL files ←
    ESC           Exit                   $^3$\textdegree{}\textdegree{}
\textdegree{}\textdegree{}\textdegree{}$^3$ Space      In File mode TAG module ←
    Q...P         Play instruments      $^3$\textdegree{}\textdegree{}
\textdegree{}\textdegree{}\textdegree{}$^3$ N          Go to next tagged ←
    Arrows        Move in instrument    $^3$\textdegree{}\textdegree{}
\textdegree{}\textdegree{}\textdegree{}$^3$              module and play it ←
                                   or file list      $^3$\textdegree{}\textdegree{}
\textdegree{}\textdegree{}\textdegree{}$^3$ F2          Save directory ←
    Home/End      Go to beginning /end$^3$\textdegree{}\textdegree{}
\textdegree{}\textdegree{}\textdegree{}$^3$ Graphics mode: ←
                                   of file/instr. list $^3$\textdegree{}\textdegree{} \ ←
    textdegree{}
\textdegree{}\textdegree{}\textdegree{}$^3$ Alt-G      toggle graphics mode ←
    Alt-1         Select volume bars    $^3$\textdegree{}\textdegree{}
\textdegree{}\textdegree{}\textdegree{}$^3$ ESC        exit graphics mode ←
    Alt-2         Select scope           $^3$\textdegree{}\textdegree{}
\textdegree{}\textdegree{}\textdegree{}$^3$ F3          Negative image ←
    F4           Cycle colours 1 step$^3$\textdegree{}\textdegree{}
\textdegree{}\textdegree{}\textdegree{} ←
    AAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAU\ ←
    textdegree{}\textdegree{}
                                Command line parameters

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    textdegree{}\textdegree{}\textdegree{}\textdegree{}\textdegree{}\textdegree{} \ ←
```

[illegible]

The file screen explained

```
\textdegree{} The Morgul 1.49 by Toni Nikkanen 1995.  DSMI (C) Otto Chrons  ←
    1992-1995.  \textdegree{}
\textdegree{} Press CTRL-Pgup for the module screen,CTRL-Pgdn for help or Alt-M  ←
    for menu \textdegree{}
```

[illegible]

```

textdegree{}
\textdegree{}\textdegree{}$^2$ÀDirectory: E:\ ←
MODULEAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAÛ\textdegree{}\ ←
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\textdegree{}\textdegree{}$^2$$^2$$^2$$^2$$^2$$^2$$^2$$^2$$^2$$^2$ ←
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```

The file size means the size of the current file in kilobytes,
patterns means the amount of patterns (the length) of the file,
samples means how many samples (instruments) there are in it, and
Files tagged means how many files you have tagged.

The first column is where the file names will be. In this example
file there are MODULE.MOD and 2ND_SKAV.S3M. In the next column is the
module's song name. The next one (with bb characters) is graphical
display of the file's size. At the lowermost part of the screen is a
volume bar just for fun. The current directory is shown just below
the file names.

If a module with a description like "Inside MODULE.ARJ" or "Inside

MODULE.ZIP" or so on appears, it means it is inside an archive. You can play these just like normal modules, the unarchiver will be called automatically.

1.6 Registered users

[illegible]


```

textdegree{}\\textdegree{}\\textdegree{}\\textdegree{}\\textdegree{}\\textdegree{}\\ ←
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```

The extremely great users:

Lars Naber, Germany	Osku Kannusmki, Finland
David N. Douglas, Canada	Jari Tasanen, Finland
Jussi-Pekka Hmlinen, Finland	Martin Wickman, Sweden
Roland Scholz, Germany	J. O. Jurhill, the Netherlands
Rene Mayer, Austria	Nick Soude, USA
Chuck Browning, USA	Michael Diener, Germany
Dirk Loá, Germany	Esteve Angles, Spain
Olli Aho, Finland	Alex Simakov, (Switzerland) Russia

The very great users:

Tomi Pahula, Finland	Sami Piispanen, Finland
Pietu Pohjalainen, Finland	Kari Sorsimo, Finland
Murad Soter, Norway	Timo Laitinen, Finland
Mika Peltomaa, Finland	Antti Jaatinen, Finland
Robert Kukla, Germany	Mohammad Khan, USA
Tom Grandgent, USA	Auvo Ollikainen, Finland
Juha Niemi, Finland	Tom Goodgame, USA
Antti Mkel, Finland	Jean-Louis Fondre, France
Craig Schofield, Australia	Rob, Great Britain
Stephen Sarasin, USA	Stuart, New Zealand
Richard Keyes, Australia	Niko Etsola, Finland
Petri Harkko, Finland	Juha Nevamki, Finland
Kim & Cyndi Philson, USA	Steve Schowiak, USA
Timo Tattari, Finland	Gavin Mc Donnell, Great Britain
Leo Medellin, Mexico	Michael Schwendt, Germany
Kai Buehler, Germany	Scott Logan, Australia
Antti Seppnen, Finland	Albert Visser, the Netherlands
Oliver Zechlin, Germany	Fabian Boes, Germany
Oliver Wegen, Germany	Sjoerd de Boer, the Netherlands
Jean-Francois Frin, France	Daniel R. Tauritz, the Netherlands
Tim Findlay, Australia	Edo de Roo, the Netherlands
D. van Dromme, Belgium	Peter Capt'n, the Netherlands
Tom Mertens, Belgium	Timon van Rooijen, the Netherlands
Andreas Schmidt, Germany	Konstantin Articus, Germany
Benedict Chngl, Singapore	Jlaho Kaminski, Croatia
Lasse Laurila, Finland	Blade Furnell, Canada
Ron Rayner, Canada	Delaine Gwnal, Bolivia
Jean-Pierre Herman, Belgium	Frans Boekwilder, the Netherlands
Brad Lawrence, Australia	Alvin Chey, Singapore
Jordan Richards, Great Britain	Haraga Bogdan, Romania
John Lim Eng Hooi, Malaysia	Pieter Knoop, the Netherlands
John Duijs, the Netherlands	Ivan Wong, Hong Kong
Matthias Lesch, Germany	Katherine Knowles, USA
Herve Mas, France	David Byley, Hawaii, USA
Romek Stopa, Poland	John Rouvas, Greece
Kimmo Gnther, Finland	

Current status for countries:

Finland	21
Germany	13
Netherlands	10
USA	10
Australia	5
Canada	3
Belgium	3
France	3
Great Britain	3
Singapore	2
Austria	1
Bolivia	1
Croatia	1
Greece	1
Hong Kong	1
Malaysia	1
Mexico	1
New Zealand	1
Norway	1
Poland	1
Romania	1
Russia	1
Spain	1
Sweden	1

Total:	87

1.7 Distribution sites for Morgul

I still need some new distribution sites, especially in countries where I have only one or none. I need more USA sites.

Requirements for new sites:

Speed: at least 14400bps or telnet, rlogin or ftp.
 Operating hours: 24h per day (if you have more than one node, it's enough if only one is 24h).
 Morgul must be available as a free file, or better yet, downloadable without logging in.
 It would be good if your BBS concentrates on music, sound, demos or similar stuff.
 You must upload Morgul to other BBS'es in the same country.

You must have a way of obtaining the latest Morgul releases within 5 days, the best way is via Internet. Or you can call the Finnish core sites. And the sysop should sometimes inform me that they are still alive...

AAAAAAAAAAAAInternetAA

The Morgul WWW site:
<http://www.clinet.fi/~tnikkane>
 here you will find the latest Morgul, some good modules, a 640x480xTruecolor version of the Morgul background picture, and some good background .PCX

pictures for Morgul.

ftp://ftp.wi.leidenuniv.nl/pub/audio/aria/players
ftp://wuarchive.wustl.edu/pub/MSDOS_UPLOADS/modplayers
ftp://ftp.eng.ufl.edu/pub/msdos/demos/incoming/music
ftp://ftp.uwp.edu/pub/incoming/modplayers
ftp://archive.epas.utoronto.ca/pub/pc/ultrasound/submit

You can finger tnikkane@clinet.fi if you want to know the latest news
about Morgul, or finger morgul@kotakk.fi if you want to receive the
latest version uuencoded.

AAAAAAAAAAFinlandAA

Hangar BBBS

+358 51 951 3758236 V.Everything 24h
+358 51 951 3117053 V.Everything 24h

Syndicate SBBS

+358 52 186088 V.Everything 24h

Kaol SBBS

+358 52 274668 V.32bis 24h

Black Lodge

+358 14 769 937 V.32bis 24h Helsinki-area HQ

AAAAAAAAAAUSAAA

The Mach 5 BBS

+1 319 355 7336 V.32bis 24h

BreakAway Point BBS

+1 817 863 5880 V.32bis 24h

Channel 1 BBS seems to carry Morgul as well.

AAAAAAAAAAGermanyAA

Corner

+49-2241-409183 V.32bis 7pm to 10am CET

AAAAAAAAAAIsraelAA

The Busy Town BBS

+972-3-9652831 V.32bis 24h

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MegaLink

+52-14-163-194 V.32bis 24h

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Torps Productions BBS

+61-3-813-3688 V.FC 24h

AAAAAAAAAABelgiumAA

UltraNation PCB

+32 16 535841 V.32bis 24h

The Asylum

+32-59-324094 V.32bis 24h

AAAAAAAAAAGreat BritainAA

Primal Disorder

+44 (0) 628 74179 V.32bis 24h

AAAAAAAAAAThe NetherlandsAA

DySPePSiaN DeSiReS

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+31 (2990) 49376

AAAAAAAAAAMalaysiaAA

Cyber City BBS

V.Everything 24h
+60-3-758-7400

Sosaria BBS

V.32bis 24h
+60-3-732-9322

AAAAAAAAAASingaporeAA

Olloveu BBS

V.32bis 24h
+65 4543293

AA

1.8 Frequently Asked Questions

- P: I'm having inexplicable and random hangup problems with module loading and in Dos shell.
Or: I have the Adapter ASPI drivers loaded, and my system crashes often while loading modules, or while in DOS Shell.
- A: Try the -586 Compatibility switch. This disables some nice quite useless things (including Dos shell hotkeys!), but may reduce or remove crashing.
- P: My computer crashes while Morgul is loading the directory.
- A: If you run QEMM Dos-Up, you should partially disable it. You can accomplish this by removing the dos-up line BEFORE qemm386.sys in your config.sys, but not the dos-up line AFTER the qemm386.sys. You will still have plenty of memory. Besides, Morgul is not the only program that has incompatibility problems with Dos-up. Others include Dos4GW etc.
- Q: Where's the advanced filesystem with tagging and so on?
- A: Because of public demand, the "Easy" filemode is now the default mode, so you'll have to disable the easy mode first. (Alt-E, -e)

- Q: What about an "Working Directory" setting?
- A: I don't think that should be a feature of Morgul at all. If you use 4DOS, use the following batch file (name it MORGUL.BAT or something.)
- ```
pushd
cd E:\modules
mo
popd
```
- If you do not have 4DOS, just omit the pushd and popd lines.
- P: When started, Morgul displays all kinds of freaky text but I don't have enough time to read them before they go away.
- S: Well, read the DOS manual. After you've done that, start Morgul with " mo | more" and you will see the texts after exiting.
- Q: About the "added" Stop function..
- A: Well, it's totally psychological. People have asked for a "stop the music" key, and they refuse to use the Alt-P (Pause) feature. Now there's a separate Stop feature from F8, which is exactly the same as Alt-P but it's "stop", not "pause" :)
- P: When playing UC2'ed files, UC2 displays an error message saying "not enough memory".
- S: Try using something like Vidram, Stretch or some other program which increases your conventional memory to 736kb. The other way is to install UltraStealth. Read the Instructions section for more details. You could also try to upgrade your UC to UC2R3 since it requires less memory to operate.
- P: I can't unpack Quantum compressed files, Quantum displays some odd text and refuses to operate.
- S: Use Morgul with the -586 compatibility switch. Borland's buggy DOS extender, which Quantum uses, won't work otherwise.
- P: There's not enough memory to unpack some HA files, while others unpack just fine.
- S: Some HA files are packed with the ASC algorithm while others are packed with the HSC algorithm. Unpacking HSC packed files needs lots of memory. Read the part concerning UC2 files above for more help.
- P: Morgul is too big and eats up lots of memory.
- S: I'm planning to move Morgul to the 32-bit age completely. If I get things working well enough, 32-bit versions will be the only released versions. See the next question.
- Q: When is XMS going to be supported? I don't like memory managers but would still like to play large modules.
- A: Morgul/32, a 32-bit flat memory model protected mode (add your favourite buzzwords here: multi-threaded, symmetrical multi-processing, multi-user, object-oriented, whatever :) version of Morgul will hopefully available in a couple of weeks. In fact, it has been hopefully available in a couple of weeks for the last 5 months. Chances are it'll appear soon after this 16-bit version is released.
- It will be able to use all the memory in your computer with or
-

without any memory manager software. Also, about 588kb of memory in dos shell is possible. Already, Morgul/32 is so ready it will stay up without crashing for about 20 minutes, if I handle it with care :)

- P: When I try to run MO.EXE, I just get an error message saying:  
"Moverlay initialization failure, expected MOVERLAY but got  
\$!&#\$@%"
- A: Somebody has been tampering with the executable. Delete it, kill the guy you got it from and tell me everything about it.
- P: I'm running Qemm V7.x. Sometimes in DOS Shell Qemm gives an exception message when running a program in the shell, offering to shut it down or to reboot my machine.
- S: This problem is because DSMI seems to be partially incompatible with DIET 1.45f, a public domain executable file compressor. Files compressed with this software sometimes cause this problem. Uncompress these files and compress them with something else, if you like. To uncompress a Dieted executable, use Diet -ra or a program called Unp, which is an excellent executable file uncompressor.
- Q: Why is the graphics mode so slow?
- S: The code itself is not slow at all, it would work even on the slowest computer, but calculating real volume bars continuously on the GUS takes much more power.
- P: My sound board is something else than a GUS, and Morgul just does not work under OS/2.
- S: Morgul/32 will work under OS/2 with other cards than GUS.
- Q: When running under OS/2, screen update is slow. Why?
- A: Because Morgul is releasing time slices to OS/2 so that the rest of the system would not slow down. Use Alt-F9 to toggle OS/2 timeslice releasing.
- Q: Why is the scope in the graphics mode so crappy?
- A: On the GUS, the scope is a graphical presentation of the average of the currently playing samples in GUS memory. On other cards, it's a graphical presentation of the voice mix-buffer.
- P: I'm having troubles with my PAS16. The music is just plain static, what's going wrong?
- S: Problem here is that, for some odd reason, DSMI transfers one single byte before actual music transfer starts, leading to noise, because the bytes are reversed in 16-bit data. This only happens with 8-bit DMA, so you should try 16-bit DMA channels 5,6 or 7.
- Q: What new features are expected to be implemented during the next 2000 years?
- A:

Features to be expected:

Morgul '95, code named Baghdad, will be released sometime in '95, with lots of new stuff, some of which are:

---

Much enhanced sound board code and support for FastTracker 2 and possibly others.

.PNG graphics format support

When the binary mailing list is implemented, you can send mail to: morgul@kotakk.fi, with subject: subscribe Morgul with your name in the message body. Then you will receive the latest Morgul versions uuencoded in your mailbox. Then, later, if you want to unsubscribe, send mail to morgul@kotakk.fi, with subject unsubscribe morgul, message body can contain anything you want. This mailing list will probably work a week or two after release.

Make Morgul work with every sound board under OS/2 ( currently only GUS works.)

Support and building instructions for an external Volume Light System. This is an infinity project, because I don't want to spend nearly \$10 for the parts.

32-bit flat-memory model protected mode version which will be able to use all the memory of your computer, and which also leaves 595kb of memory in shell, and is capable of loading several modules into memory at once.

Easy to use configuration program.

Features YOU suggest.

An even better graphics mode.

WAV playing.

## 1.9 Tested software and hardware configurations

MS-Dos 2.11 (YES!), MS-Dos 5.00, Ms-Dos 6.00, Ms-Dos 6.20, Dr Dos 6.0, PC-Dos 5.0, Novell Dos 7.

OS/2 2.1 and Warp 3 with GUS. Morgul detects OS/2 and sets the correct parameters automatically. When Morgul is iconized or windowed, the icon/window title shows the position of the module. Timeslice releasing is supported.

Quarterdeck DESQview 2.60 & 2.61 work on some computers. On some computers, scrolling does not show and only the first 25 lines of the first screen become visible. Timeslice releasing is supported but untested.

It is possible to make Morgul work under Windows. Under some configurations it will work, and under others it won't. Try and see what happens, and send me info about what happened. Warning: Windows might very well crash. Windows time slice releasing is also supported, but untested.

---

Quarterdeck QEMM 6.0-7.5, Microsoft EMM386, Qualitas 386^Max, Helix Software NetRoom 3.02 (works perfect, but on slow computers the Covox/Speaker support might hang the computer because these protected mode programs slow interrupts. They also decrease sound quality with Covox/Speaker devices.)  
DON'T use Qemm's Vidram, it prevents Morgul from using 80x30 text mode, or if it doesn't, causes crashes.

Novell DOS 7 EMM386: In DOS Shell the music might slow down strangely. If you disable EMM386 or change to another memory manager, the problem disappears.

UMB\_DRV 5.22: works perfectly, except for UMB\_EMS4.SYS

Linux Dosemu and XDosemu 0.60.1: Works, if you have vga console graphics set on, but cannot play anything. I believe it is currently impossible to use sound boards in dosemu.

Windows'95: Somebody reported Morgul will completely crash this new, "reliable" "32-bit OS" from Microsoft.

Somebody could try this under Windows NT, NeXTStep/486, Solaris, InterActive Unix, SCO Unix and the rest, and tell me about the results. Also it would be fun to know whether or not it runs on PowerMacintosh dos emulation or AlphaPC-WindowsNT Dos emulation.

## 1.10 Distribution policy and legal matters

Please see the Disclaimer section.

Morgul is freeware, with a few strings attached. The distributable version is in no way crippled and has no nag stuff. If you use this program for more than 7 days, there are two kinds of registration:

The lighter one involves sending me a postcard (YES, a snail-mail POSTCARD, and e-mail is nice but it's not a postcard, so it doesn't count) from your homeland telling who you are, where you are, what you are, \*where\* you got Morgul from and what you think of this program. If possible, the postcard should have a picture of your home town or you (if your picture looks like Bill Clinton, I won't believe you.) If you just can't find a postcard anywhere, a letter is also OK.

If you want to support this project, you can send me \$5 or 20FIM. This will get you the next MAJOR update via post on a 3.5" HD diskette (I can also send on a 5.25" HD diskette, but I can't guarantee it will be okay when it arrives), and it will say it's registered to your name. I will also fill the disk with good module files so if it's hard for you to get updates or modules (you don't have a modem/inet access), this is the way to go. And when I mean MAJOR update, I mean that. So you don't get the NEXT new version if it's not a major enough update. Please specify what version you were using at that time. You can also say "I want a 1.72MB FDDFormatted floppy" and you'll get that.



Now I am also accepting CDs and CD-Roms as registrations, following the example of Kevin Burfitt. If you send a CD, you only have to send \$3 or 12mk if you want to have the disk mailed to you as well. Although CD's are usually rather expensive, I still have to require money for sending the disks, as I don't want to lose money. (Actually, I don't have any money to lose :)

CD senders get their own VIP section in the Registered Users section of this document, in the same place with the money senders, and a feeling that they are really supporting this project.

And Remember... Stay cool - close the fridge!

## 1.11 Contact information

Product: The Morgul Player 1.49  
Author: Toni Nikkanen / Morgul Software  
Address: Kymenlaaksonkatu 9 D 47  
FIN-48100 Kotka  
Finland, The United States of Europe  
Voice: +358 52 15817  
e-mail: tnikkane@clinet.fi (send uuencoded/MIME files here)  
luovaa@freeneet.hut.fi (avoid this one if possible)

Try to ping the machine wsrl40.kotakk.fi and if it answers, try to send a "talk" request to toni@wsrl40.kotakk.fi or root@wsrl40.kotakk.fi. This machine is usually not connected but sometimes it is.

WWW: <http://www.clinet.fi/~tnikkane>  
Fidonet netmail: 2:221/18  
BBS: Hangar BBBS, +358 51 3758236, leave message to Toni Nikkanen in the Posti conference.

Ja nin lopuksi ilmainen vinkki suomalaisille: Saa minulle lhett postikortteja suomenkielellkin.

## 1.12 Greetings and interesting information

The module playing routines are part of the Digital Sound and Music Interface library by Otto Chrons 1992-1995. Everything else is written by me with Borland C++ 3.1, using C language and a few pieces of assembler. The editor used was Multi-Edit V7.00PN from American Cybernetics. This editor is, by the way, highly recommended and beats even the Semware Editor. The graphics were made by Miska Natunen using Povray 2.2 and DP 2E, with a little aftertouch by me.

The system used was:

386sx20/4MB-->386sx20/5MB-->386dx40/5MB->486dx33/5MB->486dx33/8MB,  
855MB hd,1xspeed CD-Rom, OS/2 3.0, 4Dos, 4OS2/32

Thanks go out for the following:

|                         |                                                                                                                |
|-------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Otto Chrons             | for making DSMI.                                                                                               |
| Pietu Pohjalainen,      |                                                                                                                |
| Rauli Priha,            |                                                                                                                |
| Teemu Koponen           | for making me buy DSMI                                                                                         |
| Juha Niemi              | for lots of suggestions and bug reports                                                                        |
| Robert K Jung           | for very good ARJ documentation and support                                                                    |
| Nico de Vries/AIP-NL    | for very good UC2 support and documentation                                                                    |
| Harri Hirvola           | for perfect HA documentation                                                                                   |
| Kari Tuomainen          | for helping with some messy Pascal sources and several other things                                            |
| Brad Meier              | for competing with my DMPS with his DMPC (keep on going; don't stop now! Where's your registration card, huh?) |
| Kevin Burfitt           | for being the nice author of Cthugha                                                                           |
| Michael Schwendt        | for Sidplay                                                                                                    |
| Edward Schlunder        | BWSB may kick DSMI's butt real soon now                                                                        |
| Zac Schroff             | DocsBoot+ really gets my machine going! And that VGA information was very useful too.                          |
| Miska Natunen           | For the Morgul picture!                                                                                        |
| Miha Peternel           | for the very expensive C64s (with \$80 I could buy a real C64!)                                                |
| Leo Medellin            | for not being a member of the Medellin Drug Syndicate :)                                                       |
| Lars Naber              | for being so supportive                                                                                        |
| Daniel Tauritz          | for Dutch translation, ftp site support, aria bug reports and other things.                                    |
| Petri Harkko,           |                                                                                                                |
| Tomi Pahula,            |                                                                                                                |
| Olli Mnnist,            |                                                                                                                |
| Jari Turkia,            |                                                                                                                |
| Tomi Koivisto           | for finding and reporting lots of bugs                                                                         |
| Maral / KLF             | for pointing out bugs with MTM files                                                                           |
| Ville Voutilainen       | for being a rather fanatic fanatic.                                                                            |
| J-P Hmlinen             | I also happen to understand Finnish :)                                                                         |
| Borland International   | Bugs in the compiler certainly give programmers lots of entertainment!                                         |
| Watcom International    | Thank you for the best C/C++ development system available.                                                     |
| IBM                     | Thanks for developing the best programming environment, OS/2!                                                  |
| Skaven/FC, PM/FC,       |                                                                                                                |
| C.C.Catch/Ren,Heatbeat, |                                                                                                                |
| Moby,HMW, Zodiak        | for making lots of wonderful modules to test Morgul Player with.                                               |
| ID Software             | For DOOM, DOOM2 and LinuxSDoom                                                                                 |
| J.M.Jarre, Vangelis     | for making lots of wonderful music which I could listen to while coding Morgul                                 |
| J.R.R. Tolkien          | for inventing the name of mor-gl Player                                                                        |

## History

"And it came to pass, that I, an unknown programmer in the land of Finland, got tired of the lack of features in the otherwise very

good olde DMP player; so I codeth the DMP Shell programme. And it came to pass, that I attendeth the Assembly'93, and lo and behold! There was a special discount for DSMI; and my friends pressureth me to buy it, which I did. I took the Task of coding the integration of DMP and DMPS; but the project turned out to be much more than a mere integration of the two. And, after a year of development, I decideth to release it, under the name Morgul Player."

It has come to my attention that because of the DMP Shell, some people still think I'm the author of DMP too. That is not the case; instead, DMP is (C) 1992-1995 Otto Chrons.

During the development of Morgul, I've bought 2 motherboards, 4 hard disks, 2 sound boards, 8 SIMM's, one Cd-Rom, 2 keyboards and numerous little pieces of hardware.

## 1.13 Morgul in the Press

Now that the Morgul Player has got some press coverage, I added this section. Here I will add any comments or stories concerning Morgul from the magazines. Since I really can't follow every computer magazine, I'd appreciate if any kind user who sees Morgul mentioned in some publication, would drop me a note about it, or even send me the text from that magazine. I'd also like people to let me know if they see Morgul on a CD-Rom etc.

PC Home March 1995:

Page 54: "You may want to look for something similar to Morgul or Scream Tracker if you can - a user friendly front end, good help system, wide sound card support and multiple effect menus."

"Use the Morgul Mod player on the CD and HD disks"

On page 56 they have several screenshots about Morgul. There's also some quite weird text there, about which I've sent them a letter for a correction to some obvious misunderstandings.

## 1.14 Disclaimer, read this!

### WARRANTY DISCLAIMER

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