

akNAIL_Documentation

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WRITTEN BY		July 31, 2024	

REVISION HISTORY

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Chapter 1

akNAIL_Documentation

1.1 akNAIL : Documentation

akNAIL.datatype V44.4

- SHAREWARE -

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A PerSuaSiVe SoftWorX PRODUCT.

Needs Kickstart V3.x

Release Date : 03.09.1999

Please consider registration - usually less than 1% of the users of a program do register. That's not much.

<Commercial> BTW: What is SViewII ? </Commercial>

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Usage and Notes
Datatype FAQ
68020-68060, PPC
Prefs
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Version-History

_ //
Only \X/ Amiga makes it possible!

Please visit:

WWW Support Site
<http://www.ar-kleinert.de> (AWeb-II)

The CHAOS theory:

"Like finding that bloody butterfly whose flapping wings cause all these storms we've been having lately and getting it to stop." (see "Witches Abroad" by Terry Pratchett)

Ahm...well:

...and thanks for all the fish.

1.2 copyright

The akNAIL.datatype in this version and its documentation files are (C)opyright 1999 by Andreas R. Kleinert. All rights reserved.

The right of using this program is granted to you by paying the SHAREWARE-fee of 15 DEM (10 U\$) or equivalent (e.g. in Euro) to the author.

akDT_Installer by Robert C. Reiswig ©1996-1998.

If you wish to use any part of this installer you must ask. May not be integrated/placed into any other package! Changes, suggestions or problems: akDatatype@vgr.com

WarpUP Elfloader (ElfLoadWOS) code originally by Peter Anuss <paladin@cs.tu-berlin.de>

which it is needed for loading/executing EGCS 2.91.57 WOS PPC binaries under AmigaOS

(see <http://cs.tu-berlin.de/~paladin/> for further information). Has been completely

rewritten and quite somewhat enhanced and bugfixed in the meantime, though.

Prefs GUI design improved by Georg Rottlaender <Georg.Rottlaender@bonn.netsurf.de> under use of a 'NewIcon' graphics by Philip Vedovatti <vedovatt@u.washington.edu> - included with kind permission by the 'Team NewIcons'

The patch files were created using the scompare SAS Binary File Compare Program V6.50 which is copyright © 1992-1993 SAS Institute, Inc. The spatch SAS Binary File Patcher V6.50 is copyright © 1992 SAS Institute, Inc.

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Should any of the listed terms and clauses within this document not be valid in conjunction with the law of certain countries this does not affect the validity of the other clauses.

1.3 disclaimer

The author takes no responsibility for any results of the use of this program.

This software is provided "AS IS" and there is no warranty of any kind, so that you use this software at your own risk.

The author reserves the right to discontinue development of the program.

1.4 distribution

The akNAIL.datatype in this version is freely distributable (SHAREWARE). You may copy it, if the copyright notice is left intact and all of its parts are included in the distribution.

This program may only be included in commercial packages or commercial program collections with my written permission - ask for it.

This program may be put on public domain disks or included in public domain disk libraries - when being distributed that way, it is allowed to take a nominal fee including the costs for copying, without considering that as "commercial" in the above mentioned sense.

This program may also be distributed via electronic mail and may be put into mailboxes as long as the redistribution conditions are respected in all points.

By using or distributing this program you automatically agree to all of the above conditions and terms.

1.5 payment

You may send cash money in an envelope, euro-cheques, or just transfer the 15 DEM (10 U\$) shareware fee to the following account (mention your name): Deutsche Bank Siegen, BLZ 46070090 Kto. 0298174

No foreign cheques, please (euro-cheques or DM-cheques are ok).

1.6 Usage and so on

Installation and Usage

Just install the datatype files to their appropriate directories, and copy the akNAILPrefs command to SYS:Prefs/Datatypes (optionally).

While the datatype itself can be placed elsewhere within a valid search path, the .ppc module HAS TO be placed to SYS:Classes/Datatypes/ - not a problem, if you use the installer script, otherwise please remember...

Program information

akNAIL.datatype is a IFF-NAIL datatype for reading IFF thumbnail files - which have to have the extension .info (not to be mixed up with icon files).

12 and 24 bit thumbnail files are supported (output as 24 bit).C

With V39-V42 picture.datatype it either produces (upto) 256 color palette-based or HAM6/8 output (256 colors exported unmodified, 24 Bit data either dithered or converted to HAM6/HAM8) with picture.datatype V43 as well 24 Bit may be exported unmodified.

There are picture.datatype V43 versions available for both, CyberGraphX and Picasso96, while the one for Picasso96 does work with ECS/AGA, too - simply use the appropriate one.

You must use the included preferences program for best configuration - of course you can also use one of the alternative prefs programs from Aminet, which should deliver the same functionality (but please remember not to send any corresponding bug reports to my address).

akNAIL.datatype is SHAREWARE, the future depends on YOU.

1.7 Datatype FAQ

.info conflicts ?

Whether akNAIL does conflict with other datatypes that do examine .info files does depend on their descriptor files. Since IFF thumbnails and Amiga icon files differ quite a lot, it's possible to supply decent descriptor files. For example, no problems should occur when using this datatype together with Stephan Rupprecht's icon.datatype implementation.

CTRL-E support ?

No, not this way, mate !

Keyfile system

There's a keyfile system used for this datatype - note, that the keyfile actually does not enable any "extra functionality" except making the 68k module fully functional and just replacing that "Registered ?" text in the progressbar. (Unregistered version only will export every 3rd line of a graphics - resulting in stripes.)

I won't send any keyfiles via snail mail. If you want to receive the key, please mention your email address (clearly written) with your registration !

NOTE: keyfile can be placed to either S: or where KEYPATH (env-variable) does point to.

PPC support

There is none yet. All preferences options just are dummies (yet).

More datatypes ?

On Aminet:util/dtype/ you can also find the akPNG, akJFIF and akTIFF datatypes.

No V43 with AGA ?

There's a V43 picture.datatype coming with the Picasso96 RTG package (on Aminet), which works with plain AGA, too.

Crashes ?

The first reason for a crash often is stack size. Not enough stack size.

IPrefs/WBPatterns has this problem, and others as well. Checking this and/or using FastIPrefs (the replacement) is recommended.

For other programs, you may have to increase their stacksize in the program icon or for the CLI/Shell they are called from (e.g. with PPaint).

Using (Fast)IPrefs in PPC mode may not be a good idea at all, but for some people, the following did help in s:startup-sequence:

```
Wait 8 secs
C:FastIPrefs W M L A G
```

For the others, the trick from the Picasso96 FAQ should do the job: put the tool "CPUBlit" (an old patch available on Aminet) to your s:startup-sequence *before* the monitors are started. You must call it as follows:

```
CPUBlit -a -b
```

You may also wish to check out tools like FBlit, FastBlit, CpuBlit98 and related ones from Aminet:util/boot - some may work perfectly on your machines, others perhaps won't at all. But experimenting may be worth it.

No write support ?

Sorry, there won't be write support (DTM_WRITE method), since I think, that datatypes are mainly a system for data exchange and not to do the job of existing conversion utilities.

To explain it even further:

The datatype mechanism certainly is a system to HIDE implementation and data format details. If one does offer too much choices for destination file formats, this would - in my opinion - completely be against this concept. The ideal way of keeping the datatypes' concept cleanly OOP would be to internally handle everything in an amiga-unique IFF format - which BTW is quite essential for clipboard data exchange as well.

Unfortunately IFF-ILBM isn't very suitable for color depths greater than 8 bit. Maybe IFF-RGFX could be a good choice, here.

Why are "interlaced" image files not displayed progressively ?

Because picture.datatype's API (upto V43) relies on complete bitmaps to be returned by a datatype of subclass "picture".

Unfortunately the datatype cannot:

- supply many small bitmaps, one for each line
- give control back to picture.datatype during reading a file
- write into an existing, given bitmap

(to just supply some possible considerations how to solve this problem), so there currently is no way of displaying images progressively.

When running in PPC mode, progressive display BTW would be a bad idea, anyway.

Odd screenmode selection

graphics.library's BestModeID function isn't so well designed. Try Patching to a better one, e.g. with Aminet:util/sys/ModeP.lha

Progressbar and programs (esp. Browsers)

Please note, that the (optional) progress bar will either open on a windows's screen as specified via pr_WindowPtr, or on the default Public Screen, thus if your favoured Web Browser does not set pr_WindowPtr or does not declare its screen as default pub screen, that's not my fault. PDATA_Screen will be checked first, as well - but usually this won't work at all.

Ramlib Crashes

If you get "ramlib" gurus with this or any other program, then try installing Aminet:util/sys/StackAid.lha

Unknown datatypes (V43)

If your datatypes stop working (unknown file format), please don't blame me, but at first check, whether you've still installed an already expired beta version of picture.datatype V43...

And make sure, that you don't use picdtpatch (v39.2) from the Hypertext.datatype archive by Stefan Ruppert.

1.8 Making use of 680x0 CPUs and PPC accelerators

Basically, this program does run with a plain 68000 CPU.

However, if you do own an 68020/030+68881/882 FPU or 68040/060+FPU, or maybe a dual processor board with PPC, you may wish to make use of the extra horse power.

There are certain configuration options, special libraries and/or patches available, so you perhaps should investigate

into that issue a little bit deeper - but carefully.

PPC Support

=====

1. With CyberStorm PPC cards, it may make sense to make use of the "SetFastAvec" and "Set60nsMode" (SetMemMode) tools, which should speed up the system performance somewhat, i.e. by addressing your RAM with 60ns instead of 70ns access time. Newer versions allow to do these settings fromout the card's bootmenu. If you get random crashes, step back to 70ns.
2. Make sure, that you have a lot of RAM on the accelerator, so that the PPC isn't forced to make accesses to the slow motherboard RAM. If you get random crashes, make sure you followed the installation instructions, and did not configure SIMMs of different vendors for a 64 bit access bank.
3. This program does make use of "ppc.library". So: Make sure, that you a) don't have "powerpc.library" installed or b) have a version of "powerpc.library" installed, which does not conflict with "ppc.library" (V7 is said to work together with ppc.library). Don't install ppc.library without having a PPC board plugged in. Always make use of the newest 68040/68060.library plus ppc.library - as available under ftp.phase5.de or Aminet.

(There's BTW now support for powerpc.library V14 as well, so you can decide. Basically, it even does work to run the PPC-Library version under Frank Wille's ppc.library emulation for WOS [V0.6b or higher].)

4. Read the corresponding FAQ pages for more information on PPC support and configuration - especially note, that a keyfile is required for fully functional PPC support within this datatype.

68020/030+68881/882 FPU and 68040/060+FPU Support

=====

Usually, Amiga OS' mathieeee-Libraries do automatically manage the coprocessor support, but for some reasons, these libraries are not used with this datatype:

- they can't be shared between processes
- they are not actually optimized for 68040/060+FPU as with OS 3.1

Unfortunately, the used FFP libraries don't support an FPU at all.

But there are certain patches available on Aminet, to speed up FPU support in general, add FPU support for the FFP libraries or in general allow more efficient use of the 040/060 CPUs, e.g. by avoiding unnecessary emulation of missing instructions through 68040/68060.library.

Make sure, that those patches don't conflict with certain versions of the 680x0 libraries or even are part of these already. If you've carefully read the docs you may wish to check out the following solutions:

1. Fix bugs within the math libraries

This one has nothing to do with the FFP libraries, but since there's also a bug in mathieeesingbas.library (which resides in ROM), you should install a patch for that:

- a) best solution is a newer SetPatch Version V43.x (available from ftp.amiga.de somewhere in "/pub/")
- b) if SetPatch V43 does not work with your OS version, you should try for example "SetMathPatch" (coming e.g. with GhostScript - see Aminet:gfx/show)

Those patches may conflict with some math library replacements - it seems to be logically, that a completely rewritten replacement library of course does not need to be patched any further. At least not for the same bugs...

2. Patching the math#? libraries for better (or introducing) FPU support:

- a) - FMath V40.6 Aminet:util/libs/FMath406.LHA
 - FFPPatch Aminet:util/boot/ffppatch.lha
- b) - HSMathLibs Aminet:util/libs/HSMathLibs_040.lha
 Aminet:util/libs/HSMathLibs_060.lha
- c) various other patches from the "util" area of Aminet

With the 68040/68060.libraries of p5, according to their docs, further patches of the math libraries are not recommended - however may work nevertheless.

3. General 040/060 speedup

For automatic speedup on 68020+ systems, this datatype makes use of utility.library.

This one has nothing to do with the FPU, but if you do own a 060 and OS 3.0 you should perhaps consider to install "Mult64Patch", which claims to implement the 64 bit integer functions UMult64/SMult64 of utility.library V39+ (which have to be software emulated on the 060) two times faster than the patches done by 68060.library and four times faster than the trap emulation. A speed test program is included.

That program can be found under Aminet:util/boot/Mult64Patch.lha - however, it may already be obsolete for newer versions of your 68060.library. Do the speed check, then decide.

4. Better performance on 680x0 and PPC

Here, the following tools work quite fine on a 040/PPC board
(taken in this order from s:startup-sequence):

```
C:FastExec >NIL: <NIL: NOEXEC FASTSSP FASTVBR FASTEXP FASTMEM FASTINT ↔
REBOOT
C:SetPatch QUIET
C:QuickRom >NIL: <NIL:
Run >NIL: <NIL: C:CpuBlit

FastExec V2.9      (Aminet)          -> various speedups
SetPatch V43.6b   (www.amiga.de)    -> OS patches
QuickRom V36.08  (Aminet)          -> ROM to RAM
CpuBlit98        (Aminet)          -> let the CPU do blitting
```

This all runs fine in 60ns mode, together with SetFastAvec,
PPCInstall and CyberGraphX V3.

1.9 correspondence

** General PerSuaSiVe SoftWorX WWW Support Site is <http://wdo.de/ark/>
** - actually redirected to <http://www.ar-kleinert.de>

```
-----|
| You may reach me the following way. |
| Send bug-reports, money or whatever to: |
|-----|
| * SuperView Development & Registration * |
| * DRAFU Development & Registration * |
| * Image Engineer Registration Site Europe * |
| |
| PerSuaSiVe SoftWorX |
| |
| Until 16 Sep 99 | As With 17 Sep 99 |
| |
| Andreas R. Kleinert | Andreas R. Kleinert |
| Sandstrasse 1 | Am Kornberg 48 |
| D-57072 Siegen | D-57076 Siegen |
| Germany, Europe | Germany, Europe |
| |
| +49-271-22869 | +49-271-22869 |
| (also FAX + AM) | (also FAX + AM) |
| |
| Weekdays after 18.00h. |
| |
| When calling via phone you may leave a message, |
| if I'm not available - but don't expect me |
| calling back to USA, Australia, ... since |
| german phone rates are HIGHLY expensive. |
|-----|
```

E-Mail:

Please send binaries via ARK@News.wwbnet.de, and keep them smaller than 16 KB - otherwise ask before. Please think twice before sending them - my postbox is not unlimited in size.

* Do not send binaries via Fido or Fido-Gates ! *

- Fido Andreas Kleinert 2:2457/350.18
- Usenet
 - >>> info@ar-kleinert.de
 - Andreas_Kleinert@gmx.de
 - ARK@News.wwbnet.de
- If nothing else works, try one of these public Fido-Usenet gateways:

In Germany:

Andreas_Kleinert@p18.f350.n2457.z2.fido.sub.org

From USA or elsewhere:

Andreas_Kleinert@p18.f350.n2457.z2.fidonet.org

1.10 thanks

Thanks go to (in order of appearance ;-)

=====

- | | | |
|------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| - Don Paul | - Marko Seppänen | - Georg Rottlaender |
| - Kermit Woodall | - Richard Lane | - Arno Richter |
| - Manfred Kern | - Jon B. Peterson | - Harald Wünsche |

Thanks also must go to:

- ...Nova Design, namely Kermit Woodall
- ...all buyers of the SView Productivity Suite from Schatztruhe
- ...the Cloanto team, namely Michael C. Battilana
- ...the people from phase5, namely Ralph Schmidt and Claus Herrmann
- ...the picture datatype V43 programmers, namely Frank Mariak and Olaf Barthel
- ...the other programmers of datatypes, for information exchange and useful comments
- ...dozens of people I forgot to mention here !

1.11 prefs

akNAILPrefs

akNAILPrefs is the Preferences Program for akNAIL.datatype.

GUI has been designed with StormWizard 2.0, so this program needs "wizard.library" V37+ (you can find a copy on Aminet under "biz/haage/WizardLibrary.lha" or even never versions under

ftp.haage-partner.com).

Icon by Bert Bosma <lmb@wxs.nl> (based on NewIcons).

An alternative MUI prefs program replacement by Alvaro Thompson (originally) and Achim Stegemann (later) is now available as util/dtype/akMUIPrefs.lha - there also are various other replacements.

Task (process) specific settings also can be done - either using the preferences program (which allows to select the corresponding process from a list as long as it actually is running at the same time) or by hand, following the scheme below:

OPTIONAL

----- task specific settings files -----
Settings specific to different caller programs may be created by copying the global settings from "Datatypes/akNAIL.prefs" to an optional task-related prefs file called

"Datatypes/akNAIL.prefs_Tasks/TaSkNaMe"

where "TaSkNaMe" means the name of the program as e.g. shown by a system monitor (for obvious reasons, this does work best with workbench programs, which don't require name patterns as some CLI programs might do, like for example "CLI(3):Work:Browsers/XWebber"). So, with AWeb for example, you would just edit your global settings file and then do the following:

```
MakeDir ENV:Datatypes/akNAIL.prefs_Tasks
Copy ENV:Datatypes/akNAIL.prefs ENV:Datatypes/akNAIL.prefs_Tasks/AWebIP"
```

[... and the same for ENVARC: ...]

After that, AWeb will ignore the global settings and fetch its own from the given file.

You can do the following settings:

- 1) V43_MODE=(NO_DITHERING|V40_DITHERING)
 - 2) V40_24BIT_MODE=(DITHER_ORDERED|HAM_OUTPUT)
 - 3) V40_DEPTH=(3..8)
 - 4) HAM_MODE=(HAM6|HAM8)
 - 5) INTERLEAVED_BM8
 - 6) DISPLAYABLE_BM8
 - 7) PROGRESSBAR=(ON|OFF)
 - 8) SPEEDUP
 - 9) CUSTOM_MODES
 - 10) PPC=(ON|OFF)
 - 11) AUTO=(ON|OFF)
 - 12) PPCLIB_EMU=(IGNORE|USE)
 - 13) CACHEWOS=(ON|OFF)
 - 14) LOADELF_WOS=(ON|OFF)
 - 15) NOASPECT
 - 16) DEBUG
-

That's mostly self-explaining, but as an example, here are the default settings and a short explanation:

```
V43_MODE=NO_DITHERING
V40_24BIT_MODE=DITHER_ORDERED
V40_DEPTH=8
HAM_MODE=HAM6
INTERLEAVED_BM8=ON
DISPLAYABLE_BM8=OFF
PROGRESSBAR=ON
AUTO=ON
PPCLIB_EMU=IGNORE
CACHE_WOS=ON
LOADELF_WOS=ON
```

General Explanation of Options

=====

1) V43_MODE

NO_DITHERING: does output 24 Bit data when running pic-dt V43
 V40_DITHERING: switches to V40 mode settings when running pic-dt V43

2) V40_24BIT_MODE (when running picture datatype V40 or V43 in V40 mode)

DITHER_ORDERED: does ordered dithering of 24 Bit data
 HAM_OUTPUT: does convert 24 Bit data to HAM6/8

3) V40_DEPTH

When dithering to a palette (so: when in V40 mode and ordered dithering being selected) the number of palette colors, which is 256 by default, may be reduced here (e.g. on ECS systems).
 Valid depth values are 3..8 (which results in 16..256 colors, easily calculated by 2^{depth}).

4) HAM_MODE

HAM6: generates HAM6 output for 24 Bit graphics, when running V39-42
 HAM8: generates HAM8 output for 24 Bit graphics, when running V39-42

Note, that HAM8 is native to AGA machines and thus may cause difficulties with graphic boards and won't work with OCS/ECS Amigas. With HAM6 and graphic boards also problems may occur.

5) INTERLEAVED_BM8

ON: will output interleaved bitmaps upto 256 colors
 OFF: will output normal bitmaps (BMF_CLEAR and maybe BMF_DISPLAYABLE only) - you may switch interleaved mode off for specific programs, which cannot handle it, or when AllocBitmap() has been patched for chunky modes by a graphics card software or e.g. EGSPplus

6) DISPLAYABLE_BM8

ON: will output displayable bitmaps upto 256 colors

OFF: will output normal bitmaps (BMF_CLEAR and maybe BMF_INTERLEAVED) - you may turn displayable mode on for specific programs, which want to use datatype generated bitmaps directly as screen bitmap. If they are enabled to do this, this may save some memory (for another bitmap). This is recommended for systems without graphics card and only few chip memory.

7) PROGRESSBAR

ON: pop up percentage display
 OFF: do not pop up percentage display

8) SPEEDUP (hidden option)

Activates some bitmap related optimizations, including a special hack for making image loading with AWeb somewhat faster.

9) CUSTOM_MODES (hidden option)

When the keyword CUSTOM_MODES is set, only viewmodes out of the standard set will be generated:

- LowRes (320x200/256)
- HighRes (640x200/256)
- SuperHighRes (1280x200/256)
- LowRes Lace (320x400/512)
- HighRes Lace (640x400/512)
- SuperHighRes Lace (1280x400/512)

When CUSTOM_MODES=0x##### (e.g. CUSTOM_MODES=0x00000000) is set, the specified hexadecimal viewmode ID will be used always - alternatively, you can specify the viewmode name as plain text, for example "CUSTOM_MODES=PAL:HighRes". Note, that spelling is very critical here.

For HAM output, this is only true, if the mode ID actually is capable of HAM (this usually is indicated by OR'ing it with HAM_KEY), otherwise a different ID will be computed.

11) PPC (hidden option)

ON: If .ppc or .wos modules are installed, they'll be utilized.
 OFF: When the option PPC=OFF is set, the PPC encoder module won't be used, even with a PPC available. Instead the datatype will fall back to 68k mode. Useful e.g. for speed comparisons.

This is a RUNTIME switch. AUTO and PPCLIB_EMU will be processed always.

12) AUTO

ON: Try to find out, which PPC kernel is installed.
 OFF: Simply assume, that it's ppc.library

With AUTO=OFF it's not even tried to open powerpc.library. May cause trouble, if V14+ is installed and gets active sometime (unless we have have a PPCLib emulation running).

13) PPCLIB_EMU

IGNORE: With AUTO=ON and WOS installed, make use of the WOS versions
USE: With AUTO=ON and WOS installed, use the PPCLib emulation

Of course, this only is true for WarpOS' powerpc.library V14+

14) CACHE_WOS

This option is explained in the FAQ.

15) LOADELF_WOS

ON: This will make use of "C:LoadElfWOS" instead of the internal
ELF loader code, to avoid some certain problems e.g. with
the DOpus viewer or the DOpus/WB background pattern tools.
Do not specify CACHE_WOS at the same time (it would be a
waste of memory).

OFF: The internal ELF loader code will be used, CACHE_WOS may
make sense. If you encounter problems with this option,
try increasing the stack of the calling application first
(e.g. increase MultiView's stack to 32768 in the icon).

16) NOASPECT (hidden option)

If x/y aspect generation produces buggy results,
e.g. with PictIcon, this option may be used to
always force 1:1 to be returned.

17) DEBUG (hidden option)

Not implemented yet. Will enable debugging output,
i.e. info requesters.

1.12 history

Known Bugs: - some people reported problems with the installation
scripts in the past. If you encounter any problems or
bugs, please report these directly to the script author
Robert C. Reiswig <akDatatype@vgr.com>

- please use at least V41.101 of wizard.library.
You should find a copy coming with demo versions
of various programs under ftp.haage-partner.com

- viewmode selection may not always be 'perfect'

Hint: - if you use this datatype with a WWW browser, then create
a separate partition (sized 30-70 MB) for temporary data
storage and do assign VMEM: and your browser's cache
directory to it. Also, make sure that it has a decent
AddBuffers setting (128 or more). When partitioning (danger:
data loss), it may make sense to increase the filesystem
block size to a higher value, as well (1024).

And make sure, you're using the latest FFS file system 43.x from www.amiga.de - note, that you may update the FFS without repartitioning, but you have to be very careful when doing this fromout HDToolBox.

- even better: use a faster file system (at least) for your cache partition, like the commercial PFS2 (formerly AFS, now by Schatztruhe - see <http://www.schatztruhe.de>) or the free SFS (see <http://www.xs4all.nl/~hjohn/SFS/>)

Keyfile problems:

People, who did not receive their keyfile within 2-4 weeks after sending their registration should also contact me. (During sommer, please note, that it not always does make sense to call after 2 weeks - some people tend to make holiday sometimes...)

History

=====

- V44.4 (03.09.99): - progress bar was broken in all modes except V43
(-> Richard Lane)
 - added better, quick pre-load "file type check" mechanism
 - V44.3 (10.08.99): - prefs GUI was broken
(-> Christian Sauer)
 - V44.2 (08.08.99): - prefs GUI fixes
(-> Georg Rottlaender, Richard Lane)
 - added new installer script by Rob Reiswig
 - V44.1 (01.08.99): - initial release
-