MDARexx

COLLABORATORS			
	TITLE : MDARexx		
ACTION	*NAME*	*DATE*	*SIGNATURE*
WRITTEN BY		February 24, 2025	

REVISION HISTORY			
NUMBER	DATE	DESCRIPTION	NAME

Contents

Chapter 1

MDARexx

1.1   MDDisk 1.1 © Copyright 1991, 1992 John L. Jones

```
            MDDisk 1.1 © Copyright 1991, 1992 John L. Jones
                        All Rights Reserved.
    ==================================================================
                             Using MDDisk
    ==================================================================


    About MDDisk
            MDDisk is the original Disk Copy/Format utility that
            was included within the original program, MegaD 1.00,
            and MegaD 1.01.  When MegaD 1.10 was released, the
            code to create the internal Disk Copy/Format option of
            MegaD was removed from MegaD and MDDisk was created as
            a stand alone Copy/Format utility.  MDDisk is to be
            distributed with the MegaD shareware archive ONLY.  It
            is not intended to be distributed on it's own.

            There are other Copy/Format utilities for the Amiga
            Computer.  They too can be used with MegaD.  And to be
            honest with you, I use SuperDuper, written by
            Sebastiano Vigna.  It's size is twice as large as that
            of MDDisk, but it's speed is also twice that of
            MDDisk.  The point I am trying to make here is, MegaD
            can work with other Disk Copy/Format utilities.

            I have done very little work this time on MDDisk.  My
            main push was to rewrite MegaD.  MDDisk was only
            upgraded to be a little friendlier with the new
            Workbench 2.0.

            MDDisk is a very strait forward Copy/Format Utility.
            It does not try to do anything fancy to speed things
            up, but it will get the job done.  For this reason, I
            have been told, MDDisk is more reliable than some of
            the other high speed Copy/Format programs.

    @{ " Starting MDDisk " link "Starting MDDisk"}
    @{ " Dual Copy       " link "Dual Copy"}
    @{ " Buffered Copy   " link "Buffered Copy"}
```

1.2   starting mddisk

Starting MDDisk
          MDDisk can be started from the Workbench, CLI, and
          from within MegaD.

          To start it from the CLI, change the current directory
          to the directory MDDisk is installed. Type: run
          MDDisk <return>

          Workbench users should open the drawer to the MDDisk
          icon. Double click the icon with the left mouse
          button.

          MegaDs' defaults are preset to call MDDisk when the
          Copy/Format command is issued.

          By doing any of the above three options to start
          MDDisk, a window with a number of gadgets and options
          to select from.

          The gadgets on the left side of the window select the
          format options, the gadgets on the right selects the
          disk copy options. A large box is drawn around the
          group of gadgets that are active at the time, to show
          if you are in Format or Copy mode.

          To Select Format or Copy mode simply select anywhere
          by or on the gadgets assign to the mode that you want.

          On the format side there are four boolean gadgets to
          turn on and off the drives, the gadgets are titled

          DF0:, DF1:, DF2:, and DF3: for formatting disk. On
          the copy side there are eight boolean gadgets to
          select the target drive(s) and source drive(s).
          Target df0:, df1:, df2:, df3:, Source df0:, df1:,
          df2:, df3:. If you have more than two drives you can
          copy the one source disk to all other free drives if
          you wish, so if you have three drives you can make
          two copies of a disk at a time or if you have four
          drives you can make 3 copies of a disk at a time.

1.3   dual copy

Dual Copy
          If you should have four 3 1/2 drives attach to your
          Amiga, one more boolean gadget will be available. It
          will be titled "D C" for Dual Copy. This gadget will
          be found at the far right of the window towards the

top. By selecting this gadget you will be able copy
two disks at one time. Drive df0: and df1: will be
match, drive df2: and df3: will be match. Each time
you select the D C gadget it will toggle source and
target drives.   Below the main two sets of gadgets
are four string gadgets.

If you are in Format mode the strings will contain
default names (Empty0, Empty1...) to name the newly
formatted disk. The strings can be changed to any
thing that you would like.

If you are in Copy mode the newly copied disk will be
renamed to any strings found in the corresponding
string gadgets for the target drive. If the string
gadget is empty the name of the copy will be
unchanged.

Careful! Two identical disk will crash the operating
system if inserted into the drives while the Amiga
operating system has control of the drives.

Only gadgets that correspond to a mounted drive will
be active, all others will be disabled. Also if copy
is requested on a single drive, it will show the
number of passes the copy will take and if you still
want to continue.

Below the group of string gadgets are three more
gadgets. Exit, Start, and Abort. Exit will quit the
program but not before checking for duplicate disk
still in the drives. If it finds duplicate disk it
will display a message and wait until the disk are
removed. Start will initiate the Format(s) or Copy(s)
that you have set up. The Abort gadget is disabled
until a format or Copy is started. If for some reason
you want to abort the process once it is started, just
select this gadget.

You will be greeted with a Yes or No request to see if
you really do want to abort the process. Exit, Start
and Abort can all be selected from the keyboard by
pressing the first letter of the gadget. The Verify
gadget is located at the top center of the window, it
will read On or Off depending on the status of Verify.
This will work on both Format and Copy. It is your
choice, but be warned that your data is at stake if
verify is off. It will not test if the disk is bad or
if a write error has occurred.

New to version 1.1 of MDDisk is the 'Date' gadget. It
changes the date of the copied disk to the current
system date. This minimizes the chance of crashing
your system, due to two identical disks mounted on
your disk drives. If the gadget is selected MDDisk
will modify the dates during the copy. If it is not
selected the copy of the source disk will be

identical.

At the bottom of the window there will be four grids
with 80 squares in each grid, this represent the
cylinders on the disk. Letters will be written to the
squares as the copy or format proceeds. The letters
and what they represent are:

R = Read
W = Write
F = Format
V = Verify

1.4 buffered copy

Buffered Copy
        MDDisk will buffer a full disk in your systems memory,
        if you have enough available. This way you can read a
        disk once and then make multiple copies of it on all
        of your available drives. The process to do this, is
        not readily apparent. To tell MDDisk to buffer a full
        volume, select one of the available drives as both the
        source and target drive. MDDisk will attempt to
        allocate enough memory from the system to buffer the
        full volume.

        Once the disk that you want to make duplicates of is
        in the source drive, select the Start gadget. After
        MDDisk reads the full disk, you will receive this
        message:

        Multiple Copies Possible Use all available drives for
        target drives?

        Answer Yes, and all mounted drives will turn into
        Target drives. You will then be instructed to insert
        disk into all drives and continue. You will be able
        to keep copping the buffered disk to all available
        drives as often as you want.