

AutoStart

COLLABORATORS

	<i>TITLE :</i> AutoStart		
<i>ACTION</i>	<i>NAME</i>	<i>DATE</i>	<i>SIGNATURE</i>
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REVISION HISTORY

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Chapter 1

AutoStart

1.1 main

Welcome to AutoStart 95.3! - ©1995

Ian J. Einman

AutoStart is a utility to automatically load tools when the Workbench starts, replacing the WBStartup drawer. AutoStart can start Workbench tools, Shell commands and scripts, and ARexx programs from any directory. AutoStart can ask upon startup whether to load a tool, and skip certain tools depending on if the mouse button is pressed or not.

Installation	How to start using AutoStart
Program Types	What programs AutoStart can launch
Getting Started	Start with your initial setup
Preferences Window	How to use the Preferences window
Startup Window	How to use the Startup window
System Requirements	AutoStart requires Workbench 2.0 or better
Copyright Information	Legal rights and restrictions
Registration	How to register AutoStart
About the Author	Who and where is the author
Program History	New changes from past versions

1.2 Installation

Installation is handled by the Installer utility.

If you wish to install it manually (which is easily done), here are the files:

AutoStart:	The Preferences editor This belongs in SYS:Prefs
AutoStartup:	The program launcher This belongs in SYS:WBStartup

AutoStart.guide: On-line AmigaGuide documentation
 This belongs in HELP: (optional)

systemplus.library: A required tool library
 This belongs in LIBS:
 NEVER replace a newer version with an older version

You must also create the "plus" directory in your Prefs directory, if it does not already exist.

** If you are upgrading from versions prior to 95.2, do the following:

» Rename SYS:Prefs/AutoStart.prefs SYS:Prefs/Plus/AutoStart.prefs

1.3 Program Types

AutoStart can currently launch four types of programs.

Workbench: AutoStart will execute the program just like you double-clicked the icon, or put it in your WBStartup drawer.

Example: (SYS:Tools/Commodities/NoCapsLock)

DOS: AutoStart will treat this as a command entered from the Shell. You may specify arguments after the command. If there are spaces in the pathname, you must surround it with quotes - just like from the Shell. Additionally, you may specify a sequence of commands by separating commands by semicolons.

Example: (mkdir ram:t; assign t: ram:t)

Script: AutoStart will execute the specified shell script.

Example: (s:user-startup)

ARexx: AutoStart will run an ARexx program.

Example: (WBPattern.rexx)

AutoStart will launch Workbench and ARexx programs in the background. DOS Commands and Scripts must complete before AutoStart will continue.

If a DOS command must run in the background, preface the command with "run".
If a script must run in the background, make it a command and "run execute".

1.4 Getting Started

First, run the AutoStart preferences program, which should be located in your SYS:Prefs drawer after installation.

You may wish to start by replacing your WBStartup tools with AutoStart tools. This will give you easier control over which programs load when, and what

order they load in.

To do this, put the tools currently in your WBStartup drawer back where they came from. For example, put the commodities you have installed back in SYS:Tools/Commodities, and any other third party utilities back in their directories, if they have any. Note that this keeps programs with their respective manuals and utilities, and allows you to AutoStart programs on different partitions. You may wish to create a directory for miscellaneous tools that have no directory on your hard disk already.

After you drag each icon out of the WBStartup drawer, grab it from where you put it and drop it on the AutoStart window. The program, or programs if you select more than one, will be added to the list.

Be sure you do not add a program to the AutoStart list while it is in the WBStartup drawer, or it will be loaded twice.

After this is complete, you may customize the start order, insert delays between tools (with the Wait command), decide whether to load the program always, ask before loading, or skip it, depending on if the mousebutton is held down when AutoStart begins. This makes it easy to skip a tool for the next few sessions, but use it later without needing to move it around.

One suggestion is to select "MouseButton: Skip" for each tool that is not necessary for the functioning of your system, especially tools that use a lot of memory. Then when you hold down the mousebutton while Workbench is loading, those tools will not be loaded - you now have a fast version of your startup that saves memory for certain memory consuming applications. Or, perhaps, insert a Virtual Memory manager, and use "Normal: Skip". When you hold down the mousebutton, you will have virtual memory. You can do anything - be creative, this program gives you the power to do things the way YOU want.

Be sure to click Save, and your changes will take effect the next time Workbench loads.

1.5 Preferences Window

The AutoStart preferences window is designed to be a powerful and flexible alternative to moving icons into the WBStartup drawer and editing their TOOLPRI tooltypes.

To add a program to the list, you may:

1. Drop an icon onto the AutoStart window.
 2. Click the "New" button, and type in the program name.
 3. Click the "Get" button, and select the program from a file requester.
- To remove the currently selected program from the list, press DEL.

To edit a program, select it from the list. Change the type by clicking on the appropriate radio button.

Adjust the priority with the (+) and (-) buttons, and move it to the first or last program in the list with the ([++]) and ([--]) buttons respectively.

There are two pairs of checkboxes corresponding to the normal procedure, and

what to do if the left mousebutton is held down. For both modes of startup, the following combinations are possible.

Ask = NO, Skip = NO: Load the program at startup
 Ask = NO, Skip = YES: Do not load the program at startup
 Ask = YES, Skip = NO: Ask if program should run at startup, default is yes
 Ask = YES, Skip = YES: Ask if program should run at startup, default is no

Press "Save" to save changes and exit, and "Cancel" to exit without saving changes.

Menu: Project / Open : Open program list under different name
 Project / Save As : Save program list under different name
 Project / Quit : Quit AutoStart preferences (same as Cancel)
 Edit / Clear : Clear List
 Edit / Last Saved : Revert to last saved program list

Items with an underlined letter may be selected by pressing that letter.

Keys: ESC = Cancel LEFT = Pri + SHIFT LEFT = Pri Maximum
 DEL = Delete RIGHT = Pri - SHIFT RIGHT = Pri Minimum
 TAB = Edit Tool UP = Go Up SHIFT UP = Go to Top
 HELP = Help file DOWN = Go Down SHIFT DOWN = Go to Bottom

1.6 Startup Window

If you have not chosen to have AutoStart ask you before loading any of your programs, the startup window will not appear.

If you have chosen AutoStart to ask about any programs before it loads them, the AutoStart Launcher window will appear. In this window are two lists. The left list is the Load list: programs that AutoStart will load. The right list is the Skip list: programs that AutoStart will skip.

To move a program from the Load list to the Skip list, or vice versa, simply click on its name. It will move to the other list. When you are done, click "Start These Programs", or press RETURN.

Clicking "Load All" is a shortcut for moving all programs to the Load list. Clicking "Load None" is a shortcut for moving all programs to the Skip list.

Note that any programs AutoStart is not supposed to ask about will be loaded or skipped according to your AutoStart Preferences; they will never appear in either list. Clicking "Load None" will not affect any programs AutoStart is not supposed to ask about.

It is recommended you only ask before loading programs in your MouseButton startup. You may become annoyed having to confirm programs in your Standard startup.

1.7 requirements

Workbench 2.0 or above is required to use AutoStart. Newer versions of Workbench are compatible with AutoStart, which was developed under Workbench 3.1.

You must have systemplus.library to use AutoStart. This library is included.

You must have amigaguide.library to use the on-line help. AmigaGuide is available for all Amigas, and is included with Workbench 3.0 and above.

1.8 Author

Program and Documentation by:

Ian J. Einman
P.O. Box 5711
Bellingham, WA 98227 USA

Developed on:

A3000/25MHz 68030/882 (the Slayer)
240MB+50MB HD, Workbench 3.1

This program was written using:

HiSoft Devpac 3 assembler

Documentation prepared using:

Devpac; GoldED by Dietmar Eilert
AmigaGuide (MultiView)

If you're a trial user, feel free to report bugs or complaints to me. If you don't think it is worth the fee, tell me why.

If you're a registered user, I would appreciate suggestions and requests about what I can do to make the program work better for you. I'm developing it for you - it already does what I want.

If you're a lonely female you can write me for whatever reason.

1.9 copyright

AutoStart is ©1995 Ian J. Einman.

This software is released as shareware. I encourage widespread distribution of this software. I have not disabled the software in any way. If you use the software, you should register it, to ensure technical support and update information.

You may not legally modify the software except by compression or encryption, and you must keep the documentation with the file. You cannot include the software in a copyrighted collection if your copyright infringes on anyone else's right to do the same.

I am not responsible for any harm to your data, computer, dog, or garden that the software may cause. Dammit Jim, I'm a man, not a machine. Contact me if you do have any problems, and I will try to help.

1.10 registration

The development of my utilities is a continuing process, reflecting extensive effort on my part to bring you commercial quality products. I would like to

ensure that all users around the world have stable and powerful utilities that evolve to suit their needs. Unfortunately, it is a financial burden for me to maintain technical support and update mailings.

In order to meet these costs, I have made AutoStart shareware. I only develop software that people will use. If few people register, I assume that the product is unpopular and move on to something else. If you use AutoStart, and you are financially able, I ask that you register it.

Registration entitles you to:

- Technical support
- One free upgrade
- Notification of future upgrades (small shipping fee)
- Discounts on registrations for other products
- Upgrades often include other utilities

Fee: \$10.00 U.S. or \$15.00 Canadian

Accepted payment: U.S. or Canadian cash, U.S. bank check, money order.

Payee: Ian J. Einman

These fees are reasonable and meant only to reflect my costs in creating and maintaining this software, and mailing correspondence and updates.

Please send payment to:

- Ian J. Einman
- P.O. Box 5711
- Bellingham, WA 98227 U.S.A.

Include:

- Payment as described above
- An address so I can mail updates to you
- What Amiga you are using
- The version of AmigaDOS you are using
- The version of AutoStart you are using
- Any comments about the program

1.11 Program History

95.3: «RELEASE THREE»

- Preferences file had been renamed SYS:Prefs/Plus/AutoStart.prefs
- An incompatibility in systemplus.library fixed

95.1: «RELEASE TWO»

- AutoStart uses system default font
- File Requester defaults: Drawer = SYS:Prefs; File = AutoStart.prefs
- Arrow keys keep current item visible under 3.0+
- Scaled checkmarks and MX gadgets under 3.0+
- Fixed scrambled screen title problem

94.11: Minor Internal Fine-Tuning

94.10: «RELEASE ONE»

- Added Startup Window

Changed user interface

94.9: Created AutoStartup startup manager

94.8: Created Preferences Window